

FIND HALF A MILLION, FINAL ORDER OF MAYOR

Smith, Off for Another Vacation, Tells Cabinet to Make Transfer

Before leaving for a two weeks' vacation in Florida, Mayor Smith today instructed his cabinet members to "find" by searching his cabinet members to pay bills transferred during his administration without Councilman approval.

The task set the department heads is a difficult one, as when the annual appropriations were made up for 1917 it was declared that the same allowed by Council would be barely sufficient to cover needs.

At the present time there is a surplus in the city treasury of more than \$500,000, but bills incurred by departments will exhaust the money, which was first planned to be used in salary increases this spring.

Under the revised schedule which the Mayor plans putting into effect upon his return, but which first has to be approved by Council, the following increases are provided for:

Filter attendants, \$900 to \$960; filter attendants, \$800 to \$860; street cleaners, \$200 to \$260; uniform attendants, \$100 to \$160; and uniform attendants, \$100 to \$160.

The wages of per diem laborers in all of the bureaus are advanced under the new schedule as follows: Those now receiving \$2 to be paid \$2.50 a day; those receiving from \$2.25 to \$2.50 a day to be paid \$2.75 a day.

MAY MOVE TO ABOLISH HANGING IN DELAWARE

Bill to Be Introduced Today, It Is Said; Legislators Go to See Return of Troops

DOVER, Del., Feb. 7.—Only a few members of each house attended the sessions, which were immediately adjourned to give those present an opportunity to catch the train for Wilmington to attend the reception given to the returning Delaware troops.

It is reported a bill will be introduced in either the House or the Senate today to abolish the hanging in the State of Delaware. At the present time the penalty in Delaware is hanging for first degree murder and other capital crimes, and the bill will provide that the capital punishment be imprisonment for life.

COAL FAMINE THREATENS SOUTH JERSEY RESIDENTS

Dealers Endeavoring to Make the Scanty Supply on Hand Go Around

GLASSBORO, N. J., Feb. 8.—Coal bins throughout South Jersey have been nearly emptied by the severe weather, and this region is threatened with the most serious coal famine of the winter.

Many dealers report that it is now almost impossible for them to get shipments of coal in the cheaper grades, such as buckwheat and pea, and only a limited number of carloads of chestnut and stove are being received. Along the river front, where most of the coal supply is shipped in by boat, the ice has halted all shipments.

DIES TRYING TO SAVE CHUM

Lad Falls Through Ice and Drowns With Friend

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Joseph, the eleven-year-old son of Clarence Garris, sacrificed his own life at Hackensack, N. J., yesterday as he endeavored to save his chum, Otto Baar, Jr., aged nine, who had gone through the ice on the Hackensack river.

One Hundred Linemen on Strike

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Feb. 8.—One hundred linemen and groundmen employed by the Delaware and Hudson Company between Parson and this city declared a strike for an increase of four cents per hour. The men deny that the strike is in support of the freight handlers and others of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad who are on strike.

DARES DEATH ON BATTLEFIELD WITH BRAVE FRENCH AUMONIER

Correspondent Crawls to Mouth of German Guns With Unarmed Soldier-Priest on Mission of Mercy

By HENRY BAZIN

Special Correspondence Evening Ledger

PARIS, Jan. 10.—This story of a recent personal experience in France must, for obvious reasons, contain neither the names of places nor the names of men.

I have spent the entire day with an ambulance corps behind the front. At 7:15 in the evening I obtained permission to ride with an automobile driver to a point where his suffering load would be transferred to the care of a horse ambulance with destination closer behind the front line.

"You may have to walk back," said the driver, "provided my load needs all the room, including your seat."

As he turned to his work at the end of our destination, I saw standing before me one of the admirable types in the admirable French army—an aumonier—the unarmed soldier priest, of all the brave men in the valiant army of France, he aumonier and the brand carrier or ambulance bearer are in the front rank. For they work unarmed, under fire, sometimes a fire of hell, succoring the wounded, bearing them on back or in stretcher from where they have fallen to the poste de secours, often falling themselves in the act of their noble work.

THE FRENCH AUMONIER My aumonier, a "fine figure of a man," was about to go to the front-line trenches. Obtaining his permission, I exchanged my hat for the helmet of the soldier, "the best umbrella ever made," and followed.

Upon our walk through the communicating trenches in the faint light of the moon's first light we were joined by two officers. In a few moments we were in an unceasing fire from the Boche lines. Now and then we crouched in the trench to escape fragments from a shell breaking close by. Every few minutes, three times in three, or once in five, "150" or "220" sang its death song as it passed high over our heads.

From the front-line trench we clambered to the shell-cratered, muddy ground above, standing in a group for a moment ere advancing to the nearby observation post that was our destination. It was fifty feet away and about 900 from the invader's front line. Suddenly, out of the near black darkness behind it came a sweeping light, swinging from the northeast in a slow, steady circular movement to the west. It was a German searchlight.

The range was too high and would escape us. But suddenly it lowered and struck us fair, stopping instantly. My three companions yelled to me to follow, and covered the few feet to the trench to scramble down its side before I started. But realizing on the instant, I followed, too, neither walking nor running; for I just threw myself in a heap through the air to land in the mud of the trench's bottom as a wicked fire of mitrailleuse spat harmlessly over me.

SAVED BY A HAIR The light had not moved since landing upon the spot where we had stood. The searchlight, in fact, had begun within thirty seconds after we had left its full glare. Since we were in a perhaps twenty-eight seconds in reaching the cover of the trench depression, it was the miss that was good as a mile. We crouched and waited for the fire to cease. For a full space of three minutes its crackling rain of lead sang over our trench, then the fire ceased as suddenly as it had begun, and the searchlight continued its slow journey toward the west.

After a cigarette in an underground shelter, for no one smokes at night in the open at the front, we began our journey back, with always an intermittent fire passing over our heads. We were quite safe, for it was heavy shell fire. We were always within 1000 feet of the Boche line, and at times 700. Now and then we left the communicating trench for by trenches leading in and out, covering thus a distance perhaps four times the straight journey, only it is never a straight journey, only a mere direct one.

About one-third the way we had to pass through the absolute ruin of that which had been the village of — on reconnoitered territory. The trench wound through its black, desolate destruction, mostly a mass of crumbled stone, was here and there a piece of jagged standing wall. Over these enormous shell craters filled with muddy water, within the village ruin, a footbridge had been built.

"They have this range," said my soldier-priest companion, "but it's a short cut and we take a chance, as it saves a bit of distance. So, when they destroy it, we rebuild it. Be careful. We are close to them."

As he spoke, the faint moon had drifted under a cloud, and it grew very dark. But as two of us were still on the bridge, near the objective end, an officer and I, there floated out of the darkness a Boche star shell.

HARMLESS STAR SHELL Now, a star shell is a harmless thing in itself, carrying neither death nor destruction. It breaks in the air with the sound of shrapnel, releasing a bright, vivid white calcium light that in breaking is automatically suspended from a small silk parachute, which slowly descending, illumines as the full light of day the area about it for a space of five minutes.

Its whiteness showed the head of our soldier-priest, the head and shoulders of the officer descending into the trench behind him, and the full silhouette of two figures on the bridge, myself and the second officer, in the order named.

At the cry of "Vite" from one of us we threw ourselves upon our stomachs, and crawled in a quick scurry to a piece of jagged wall about thirty feet away, reaching its shelter from the trench itself. Behind me I lay flat, close together, under an immediate "fire de barrage" from Boche 77-centimeter gun that before a moment had passed tore the bridge to splinters.

The "fire de barrage" is a method of artillery fire the Boche has copied from the French, who are driving him out of holy land, the only difference being that the "75" has it "all over and some more" the enemy 77.

It consists in shifting the radius of a given range so that shells fired at the rate of twenty a minute drop each one after the other at from ten to more yards apart within

COLD BLAMED FOR FIRE

Expressman Loses Motortruck, Touring Car and Garage

HADDON HEIGHTS, N. J., Feb. 8.—The cold weather caused the destruction of an automobile truck, a touring car, a garage and the damaging of another truck.

When Mr. Benson tried to start the motor of the truck a backfire set fire to the machine and the greasy boards of the garage. The firemen responded in a few minutes, but because of the oil-soaked wood in the building the water had little effect. The larger truck was saved with only slight damage, but the other was destroyed. The loss will reach several thousand dollars.

MERCER COUNTY DRY BY COURT'S DECISION

Judge McLaughry Tells 21 Applicants That Intoxicants Are Not Needed

MERCER, Pa., Feb. 8.—Judge J. A. McLaughry in Mercer County License Court refused all liquor license applications, and for the second time decreed that the sale of booze in this county is not necessary.

We are of the opinion that no public good can come from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. From the testimony before us in the two license courts over which we have presided, we are led to believe that this is the opinion of fair-minded persons.

WIFE OF ALLEGED 'MOONSHINER' TRIES TO DECEIVE OFFICERS

ROANOKE, Va., Feb. 8.—John Smallwood, alleged moonshiner, is being sought by revenue officers following a raid upon his home in the mountains near here yesterday. Several gallons of "mountain dew" were discovered and Smallwood was placed under arrest. While the officers were searching other parts of the house, however, he escaped.

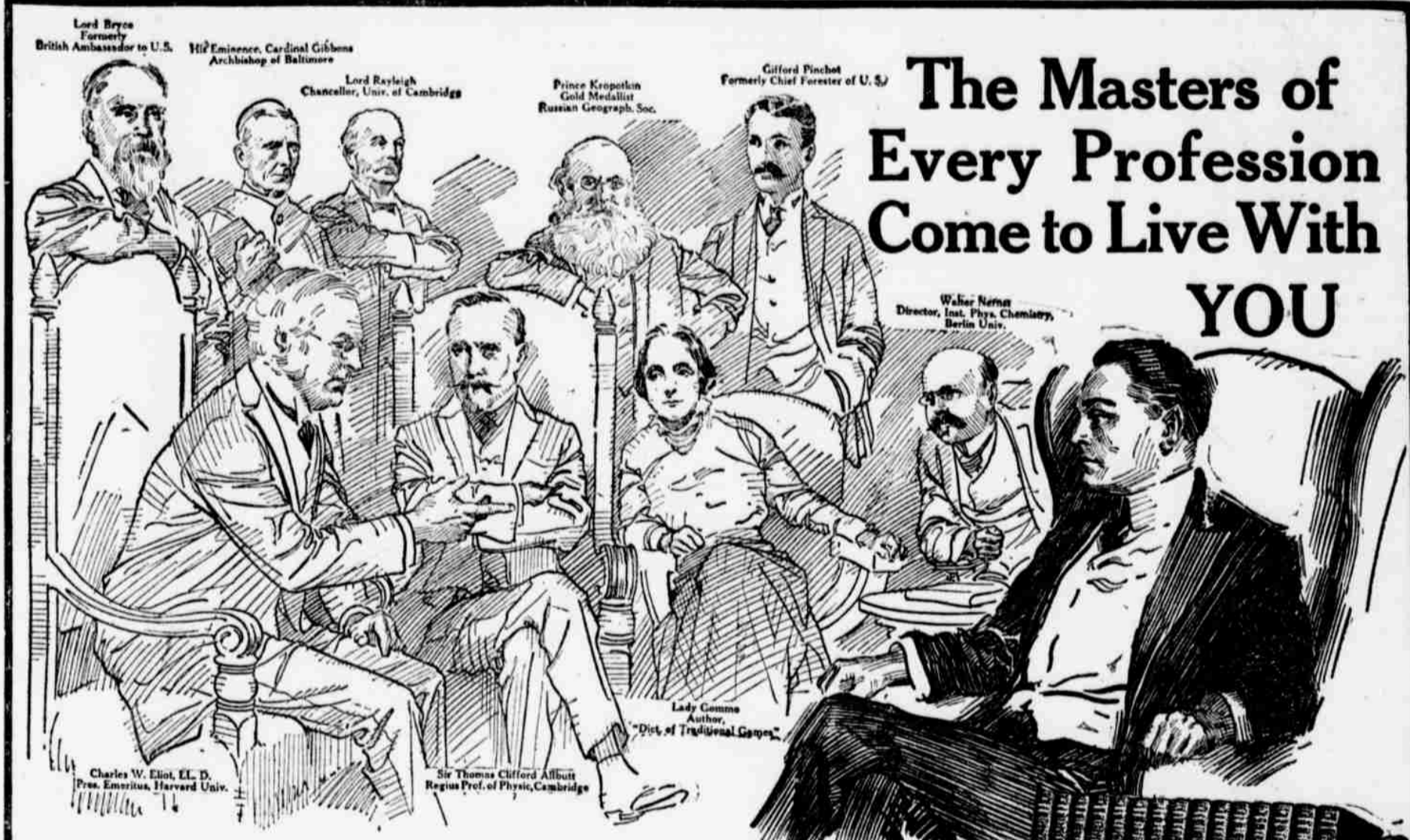
Smallwood's wife, who had been sitting quietly in her chair, was asked to unlock a door for the officers. When she arose it was found she had several pints and half pints of whisky concealed under her skirts.

HER SKIRTS HIDE WHISKY

Wife of Alleged "Moonshiner" Tries to Deceive Officers

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