

WOMEN'S DEFENSE JOINS RED CROSS

State Preparedness League Now Under U. S. Supervision in Merger

FOR BETTER WAR SERVICE

Organization Proceeds for Motor Brigades and for Replacing Men in Industries

The Pennsylvania Women's Division for National Preparedness officially went out of existence today at the Red Cross house, 221 South Eighth street. It becomes a part of the American Red Cross, under the direct supervision of the United States Government.

Thousands of Pennsylvania women automatically become a part of the National Red Cross organization.

At the meeting this afternoon Dr. Charles Hatfield, of the American Red Cross, will tell the president and officers of the twenty-two chapters of the Pennsylvania Division for National Preparedness in Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Chester and Delaware counties what is expected of their organizations now that the merger has been made.

Mrs. Elmer E. Melick, who has been in charge of the State work of the Pennsylvania Division for National Preparedness and who has now been appointed extension secretary of the American Red Cross, will speak to the women. Mrs. Melick now will report directly to the Government, for by the merger the Preparedness chapters, the old organization, instead of being a supplying agency for the Red Cross becomes a Red Cross itself under Federal jurisdiction.

UNDER U. S. DIRECTION
"Personally I think that what we have done was and is the best possible thing for us to do," said Mrs. Melick, the newly appointed extension secretary. "Of course, as the Pennsylvania Women's Division for National Preparedness we were doing good work as good and perhaps better than the Red Cross. But before the merger we were simply a supplying agency. We were not under Government direction. By the merger we became part of a great national body—all working for a common cause. Many of the women did not want to give up their individuality—their little chapter branches, but now they are beginning to understand. This is a time of sacrifices, and they are willing to make sacrifices that we may help the Government in every way possible."

With the adjustment of the morning as planned for the meeting this afternoon, the old organization becomes just a name and all the preparedness chapters will become Red Cross chapters.

The women of Philadelphia are mobilizing. A messenger motor service has been started by patriotic women in this city, and registration for lines of national service is being made from motor-traveling to agricultural work has begun at the women's mobilization headquarters, 1428 Walnut street.

MOTOR SERVICE PLANS
The motor service is the latest emergency activity. Many women owners of automobiles have been asked to join. The organization is designed to make available a corps of fast motor cars in which supplies can be rushed to points needed either for hospital service or to meet the requirements of the Naval Coast Defense Reserve. Among the first to register for the messenger motor service squad were Mrs. Thomas L. Elwyn, 1616 Clinton street; Miss Letitia McKim, 1508 South Rittenhouse square, and Miss Nancy Coleman, 1530 South Rittenhouse square. They volunteered as inspectors in automobile driving. Both Miss McKim and Miss Coleman have been given service in French hospitals.

It is designed to make the service both volunteer and professional. If the demand for workers in munition factories should cause a shortage of chauffeurs, women could take their places in driving motor trucks. Mrs. J. Willis Martin, acting chairman of the Emergency Aid, is urging a general enrollment of all women in the city willing to serve their country in any capacity that may be assigned to them.

TO REPLACE MEN
Women who are capable of working in the industries are wanted especially, Mrs. Martin explained. These women, she said, could in an emergency replace men who might be forced to leave factories and stores in case of war.

Many telephone operators have offered their services to the Government. Some asked to be put on the volunteer list, while others wanted to be put on the paid list. It was announced that through the courtesy of the Retail Druggists' Association more than 500 drug stores throughout the city will act as receiving stations for the Red Cross.

Twenty-five girls from the McCall Public School, Sixth and De Lancey streets, have offered their services to the Red Cross. Led by Miss Ethel French, the girls applied at the Independence Square Workroom, 608 Chestnut street. They announced they had come to work, and proved so adept that Mrs. Benjamin Rush, chairman of the advisory board, asked them to continue. It was decided that the girls will work one afternoon each week for the organization. They will also contribute a small sum each week.

Miss Edith Sharpless Dead
Miss Edith Sharpless, sister of Josiah C. Sharpless, died this morning at her brother's home in London Grove, Pa., after an illness of more than a year. Suffering from a complication of diseases, her condition had been serious for some months past. The end, however, came very unexpectedly. She was sixty-seven years old. Miss Sharpless was a cousin of Dr. Isaac Sharpless, president of Haverford College. She was a prominent member of the Society of Friends. Funeral services will be held next Saturday. The arrangements have not been announced.

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast
WASHINGTON, March 28.
For eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Fair tonight; Thursday fair and warmer; moderate west to south winds. Rains covered the Atlantic States and the Lake Region during the last twenty-four hours under the influence of a storm that is over the Lower St. Lawrence Valley this morning and is moving eastward. The storm was followed by a cooler area that has restored normal conditions in the Middle and North Atlantic States and has caused a moderate deficiency in the Southern States. A general reaction to warmer is reported from the Plains States and from the Rocky Mountain districts. The barometric pressure is low along the northern border and high over the Southern States.

Lamps to Be Lighted
Autos and other vehicles..... 6:20 p. m.

The Tides
PORT RICHMOND

High water..... 5:34 a. m.
Low water..... 5:39 p. m.

CHESTNUT STREET WHARF
High water..... 5:29 a. m.
Low water..... 5:47 p. m.

REDDY ISLAND
High water..... 5:18 a. m.
Low water..... 5:23 p. m.

High water..... 5:13 a. m.
Low water..... 5:28 p. m.



Photo by Bachrach.
WORKER FOR PREPAREDNESS
Mrs. Elmer E. Melick, who has been made extension secretary of the American Red Cross for Pennsylvania. She assumes her duties April 1.

MATINEE MUSICAL CLUB

Women Musicians Give Program of Varied Interest

The Matinee Musical Club gave a spring concert yesterday in the Rose Garden of the Bellevue-Stratford. This was the annual occasion for the presentation of the miscellaneous program which this sterling organization of women musicians, vocal and instrumental, includes in its year's work. The program was varied, distinctive and interesting, and some of the best known of the club members contributed to its success. Among those who participated were Camille Plaszchert, violinist; Dorothy Johnstone Busler, harpist; Mary Miller Mount, pianist; Mary Brock Thompson, Emily Stokes Hagar, May Farley and Muriel Magerl, sopranos; Mrs. John P. Leino and Mary Newkirk, contraltos. The program was in charge of Mrs. John Dunn, Jr., and Mrs. Samuel W. Cooper.

Features were Frances Buterworth's suite for piano and violin, "A Day in the Desert," played by Florence Haene, violinist, and herself, and the spirited singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the artists and audience.

Sharp Fighting in Macedonia
BERLIN, March 28.—"On the Macedonian front northwest of Monastir the French renewed their attack," says an official statement today. Several strong attacks were repulsed in hand-to-hand fighting.

PAWN TICKETS MAILED TO VICTIM BY ROBBER

"Conscientious-Thief" Puts Suits "in Hoek" and Sends Checks to Owner

Somewhere in Philadelphia there is a "conscientious thief." There are, of course, thieves and thieves, but the conscientious one who pawns things and sends the pawn tickets back to the owner of the stolen goods is a new species to the police of the Nineteenth and Oxford streets station.

His deeds, although his identity is still shrouded in mystery, came to light today. The victim, Clarence Scott, 2117 Sharswood street, is poorer by two suits, but richer by two pawn tickets today as a result of the weird workings of the conscience of this thief.

This is how it all happened: On March 15 some one entered the home of Mr. Scott and when that some one left two suits, a fine dark-blue one and a nobby gray one, accompanied him. Those suits, according to Mr. Scott, are worth \$50.

From that day to this the owner of the suits has been unconsciously watching every man he has passed in hopes of recognizing his suits. But in vain.

Today's mail brought him the first inkling of the whereabouts of those suits. In the form of two pawn tickets. Now Mr. Scott has turned the tickets, which are from shops in widely separated sections of the city, over to Detective Taggart, of the Nineteenth and Oxford streets station, and he, with his assistants, are attempting to trace the "conscientious thief."

Mr. Scott, of course, values the tickets, but he finds that it will cost him \$10 or more to get those suits out of "hoek"—and he does not like the idea.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES PLEDGED TO PRESIDENT

Loyalty and Service of 30,000 Assured in Resolution Adopted by Federation

Thirty thousand members of the Catholic societies of Philadelphia County have pledged their support, and offered their services to President Wilson in the present crisis. At the annual meeting of the federation of the societies the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we pledge our staunchest support to His Excellency, the President of these United States of America, and our Government in the crisis now pending; and we offer the services of all our members in any exigency which the times may demand; and that we assure him that we are, soul and body, loyal Americans, irrespective of racial origin or sympathy."
(Rev.) JOHN J. WHELELER, "Spiritual Dir."
THOMAS MacFARLAND, "President."
SAMUEL J. KAMPSON, "Secretary."
JOHN H. O'GORMAN.

WOMAN IDENTIFIES MURDER DEFENDANT

Mrs. Elsie R. Smathers Testifies Iraca Fired Shot That Killed "Cranberry King"

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J. March 28.
Mrs. Elsie R. Smathers was the principal witness at the trial of Giovanni Iraca for the murder of Henry D. Rider, near Atsion, on October 5 last. She positively identified the defendant as the man who fired the shot which killed Rider, although the highwaymen at the time wore masks. She also told how she grabbed the wheel of the automobile when Mr. Rider was killed and succeeded in getting away from the scene with the \$4000 which Rider was taking to his cranberry bog to pay off his help.

In the machine at the time besides Rider and Mrs. Smathers were A. J. Rider, a brother, and John N. Rigby. Mr. Rider was driving the automobile when the masked men appeared on the road and tried to hold up the car. The highwaymen knew that the party was on its way from the bank to the bog and that there was considerable cash with them.

Rider shot past the men, several of whom fired at the vehicle, and he was shot in the back of the head and died in a few minutes. Mrs. Smathers, seated alongside him, grabbed the wheel and sped on with the machine and managed to get away from the highwaymen.

She said she had a good look at Iraca and positively identified him in court, as did also Rider's brother and Rigby. The claim of the defense is that the whole thing was done so quickly and there was so much excitement that the witnesses could not identify the highwaymen for the reason they were all masked.

PARKESBURG HOTEL LICENSURE IN BALANCE

Court May Hand Down Decision on Gable's Application Without Delay

WEST CHESTER, Pa., March 28.—The fate of R. Parke Gable, proprietor of the Parkesburg Hotel, whose license was under fire all of yesterday in court here in proceedings to revoke his privilege to sell intoxicants, is now in the hands of the court. The testimony was completed for both sides yesterday, and the attorneys summed up. It is possible that a decision may be handed down immediately by the court, not only upon the proceedings, but upon the application of Gable for license for the year starting April 1. There is no remonstrance against the latter.

Ready Money
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FUEL SAVER For the Home Price \$3.00
CUTS COAL BILLS ONE-THIRD
Ask for Booklet
I. D. BERGER CO., 50 N. 2d Street
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HANSCOM'S
FINEST PEANUT BUTTER, 16c lb.
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Peerless EIGHT
\$1890
F. O. B. CLEVELAND
GIRARD AUTOMOBILE COMPANY
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LEXINGTON
"Minute Man" Six \$1185
THE HOGERS-LEXINGTON MOTOR CO.
292-294 North Broad Street

Men's Hats
remodeled into latest styles, cleaned, bleached, dyed and returned equal to new.
Jefferson Hat Co., 125 S. 10th St.

John M. Bradley
SUITE 300
WIDENER BUILDING
Makes Announcement of Spring Suitings
Particularly Interesting to YOU SO MEN
Made the "BRADLEY WAY"

INDIANA WORM-DRIVE Trucks
can be bought under "PAY-IN-A-YEAR" PLAN
C. G. A. SCHMIDT, JR.
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It wasn't Luck but Pluck, that put Robert Bruce on the top of the heap!

Perry's
"WAIST-FITTING" MODEL FOR SPRING
Snug, form-fitting waist, close skirt; very narrow shoulders and sleeves, silk-lined; long soft-rolling lapels. An ultra fashionable coat for young men.

Perry's
"KIMONO-SLEEVE" COAT FOR SPRING
A new adaptation of our popular kimono-sleeve coat. Moderately deep armholes, moderately full back; slashed side pockets; straight front, soft-rolling lapels.

¶ You remember the story in the old Third Reader—or was it in the Fifth—how he made up his mind to "try, try again!"

¶ Just so with Perry's. We never let up, in season or out of season—always on the job, and only one job at that—Men's Clothes! YOUNG Men's Clothes—for every man who wears a new Perry Suit or Overcoat of this Spring's making is young of heart and looks!

¶ There are our new Trench Overcoats with their business-like belts all around, some with slashed vertical pockets, or slanted outside patch pockets with flaps—new snug-fitting Overcoats both single-breasted and double-breasted—new touches to box-back Coats; new improvements in lines of our conservative models!

¶ And as for Spring Suits—colors and combinations of colors that will delight you! New double-breasted Suits that are one of our top achievements this Spring—double-breasted with belts all around, with snug half belts, tucks and pleats—double-breasted with slanted outside patch pockets, with vertical side-slashed pockets, with pockets cut like the new moon!

¶ In single-breasted Suits—another whole story in itself that we can tell you much better face to face, with the assortments and models to do their own talking!

J. E. Caldwell & Co.
Chestnut—Juniper—South Penn Square

DIAMOND FINGER RINGS
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Men's New Oxfords

Styles that determine the footwear for the season. Lasts, and leathers distinctive in appearance and of our original standard quality, secured by contract before the present advances.

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Thursday Only
Special Sale of Spring Dresses
Taken from Higher \$10 Priced Assortments

Starting off Easter selling with a rush—a sale of the prettiest and most useful frocks—taken from our regular assortments and made a special Wednesday offering.

Georgette Combinations
Taffetas in New Effects
Crepes de Chine
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Embracing dozens of new models in novelty and sport silks—afternoon dresses of straight or barrel silhouette, coat dresses, and pretty evening frocks in latest shades.

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Portrays the Vanguard of the famous Easter Parade

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\$15, \$18, \$20, \$25, \$30
for New Perry Spring Suits
New Perry Spring Overcoats