

COAL LACK MAKES PNEUMONIA JUMP

Physicians Plead in Person for Patients' Fuel Supply

BLAME ADMINISTRATORS

Seventeen new cases of pneumonia were reported to the Board of Health today, in addition to 103 reported yesterday, many of which are attributed to the scarcity of coal.

More than forty physicians personally visited the offices of the local fuel committee yesterday and many more went there today to plead for coal for their patients.

In cases where physicians were unable to make their appeals in person coal was refused. This action, according to Fuel Commissioner Francis A. Lewis, was due to many abuses of physicians' certificates.

Many physicians expressed their disapproval today of the action of the commission compelling them to plead the cases of their suffering patients in person.

"It is too much to ask," said Dr. J. D. Albright, who has offices in the Perry Building. "I was besieged all day yesterday with patients, but it was physically impossible for me to personally appear before the committee."

"It is a most unreasonable request," declared Dr. Bayard Kner, a throat and lung specialist, of Twelfth and Spruce streets. Dr. Raymond J. Harris, of 134 South Broad street, declared that it is wholly impracticable to keep physicians coming to the fuel office. It cannot be done without great inconvenience and often jeopardizes the lives of our patients."

Action was taken by Mr. Lewis today to decrease the waste in the overheating of hotels and apartment houses by petitioning the Federal Administration at Washington to fix a standard temperature of 68 degrees which the hotel and apartment house owners must not exceed.

"Anything above this is hampering ourselves," Mr. Lewis said, "and this wasting of coal by hotels and apartments and the shifting of windows must be stopped."

Many persons in South and West Philadelphia visited the fuel office today and complained about the scarcity. While everything possible is being done to relieve the situation, Mr. Lewis declared, the relief will have to be obtained temporarily from the corner grocery store after Saturday, when the graded scale of prices for coal in bags goes into effect.

Grocers and small dealers will then be able to sell the consumer twenty-five-pound bags for fifteen cents and eighteen-pound bags for eleven cents.

The latter size bags will be sold by peddlers for thirteen cents, and Mr. Lewis said today that the peddler should be encouraged in the present situation because of the scarcity of drivers.

Dealers are evidencing great anxiety over the future, it being declared that unless some form of relief is obtained at once there will be intense suffering in January and February. "If I got 500 tons daily for the next month I would still be forty-five weeks behind in my orders," one dealer declared today. Government action is being urged by the dealers in the hope of obtaining better shipments to the city.

The work of Government experts in Washington, who are now engaged in ascertaining the costs to retail coal dealers, may frustrate a move by Philadelphia dealers to increase prices about fifty cents a ton to the consumer.

TALK AS WELL AS KNIT DEAN THOMAS ADVISES

Bryn Mawr College Head Councils New Century Club Women Against Pro-Germanism

The women of America must be talkers as well as knitters. They must talk down every piece of pro-German doctrine which comes to their attention. Only in this way can German terrorism be ended.

This is the assertion made this afternoon before the New Century club, at the clubrooms at 115 South Twelfth street, by Dr. M. Carey Thomas, president of Bryn Mawr College. Miss Thomas, who has just been made chairman of the department of education of the Pennsylvania Division of the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense, spoke on "Patriotic Education."

"The war is lost if we do not understand what we are fighting for," said she. "It is every woman's duty to see that every man, woman and child understands why we entered the war and why we must stay in it till it is won."

"How are women to help to crush nihilism, this awful thing? How can we best fight it? Not by hitting for our soldiers and the Allies, not even by relief work for the abjectly wretched victims of German greediness. Better that all our husbands and brothers and sons should shiver in the trenches and all the women and children of the ravaged countries perish from the earth than that German propaganda should rear its Hydra head unchecked in this country, as it has in Italy and Russia and Spain and Scandinavia and Holland. We women must set our teeth against the dragon, open our mouths to falsehood, and speak the truth to falsehood."

"If a whole great people can be educated by its criminal Mohammedans by way of its infidels, negroes, and other races, then the great democracies of the world can be educated to see that justice and right are dearer than life itself."

Miss Thomas closed by asking all the women in the audience to assist in the work of the College Women's Patriotic Speaking Bureau which is to be organized.

U. S. TO STIMULATE SILVER PRODUCTION

Price to Be Fixed Sufficiently High to Encourage More Mining

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—A price is to be fixed for silver which will be sufficiently high to encourage increased production of that metal.

Raymond T. Baker, director of the mint, adopted a policy looking toward stimulation of the western silver miner to vigorous efforts to build up the American silver stock.

The price of silver is now around \$6, and it is quite probable that the price to be fixed will be between eighty-five and ninety cents per ounce. Recently the price was fifty cents.

The United States has been short of silver during the last two years, while the mint is using greatly increased quantities of silver because of the greater demand for silver coins, due to the stimulation of business.

On December 14 there will be a conference in Washington on the price fixing of silver, which will be attended by representatives of western mining interests and by Senators and Representatives from the western States. They will confer with Director Baker on the cost of production of silver and other elements entering into the price fixing.

1500 DEAD AT HALIFAX, OFFICIAL LISTS SHOW

Situation Rapidly Improves as Supplies Arrive—Explosion Inquiry Starts Today

HALIFAX, Dec. 12.—Fifteen hundred men, women and children died in the Halifax disaster, according to official estimates based on recovery of bodies and thorough checking up at all identification stations. A big percentage of the recovered dead have not been identified.

Halifax will bury its dead next Friday. There will be a general funeral for all bodies taken from the ruins up to that time.

Three of the five cemeteries in Halifax will be entirely filled with victims by Friday night. In Fairview Cemetery, hundreds will be laid alongside persons who lost their lives in the Titanic and Burgoyne disasters.

Every minister at Halifax and nearby towns will be called into service. Services will be held over groups of castaways. From early morning until dark funeral services will wind through the streets. There are not enough hearse; many coffins must be borne on wagons.

Justice Brydson, of the Supreme Court, expected to start his investigation into causes of the catastrophe today.

Witnesses of the collision between the French munitions ship Mont Blanc and the Belgian relief steamer Imo said that the Mont Blanc flew to red flag, as prescribed by regulations, when she entered the harbor.

Relief work is going ahead rapidly. Threatened distress from lack of food has been averted. The homeless are all being sheltered and warmly clothed. Supplies are coming in steadily. Additional surgical volunteers and nurses are being organized.

Reconstruction of buildings needed for shelter has begun. Military, naval and civilian parties are continuing the search for bodies, but snow is hampering them.

The situation in Halifax hospitals is much improved since many of the injured have been taken to outside points.

"CAP JOE" IS DEAD

Head Waiter at Green's Hotel Succumbs to Paralysis

Diners at Green's Hotel today, wondering how it was faring with "Cap Joe," the big negro head waiter, who had been sick, found out that he was dead.

"Cap Joe," as Joseph R. Underhill was known to hundreds of persons, died Monday at his home, 2117 Lombard street, of paralysis, after seven weeks' illness. He was sixty-three years old and had been a waiter at Green's for thirty-three years, working his way up from a cake baker. He was a familiar figure at the hotel, where in his time he had served many notable men. Arrangements are being made for the funeral and the burial, which will be at his old home, Port Clinton, Pa. He was unmarried.

\$5000 Damage Verdict Against City

A verdict of \$5000 against the city was obtained by Mrs. Mary Ryan today from a jury before President Judge Barratt in Court of Common Pleas No. 2, for injuries sustained when she tripped over an upturned flagstone at Fifteenth and Master streets, in December, 1916. Mrs. Ryan was permanently injured internally. It was testified that the city had previous knowledge of the dangerous condition of the pavement.

Cost of Food Takes New Jump

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The following are fair prices for foods in Philadelphia today as determined by a committee of representative wholesalers and retailers in conjunction with the Federal food administration.

Prices consumer should pay are based on the "cash and carry" plan. Credit and delivery prices will be proportionately higher. If your dealer charges, on the terms above mentioned, more than prices quoted below, buy elsewhere and report him by letter to the Federal food administrator, Morris Building, Philadelphia.

Table listing various food items and their prices, including flour, sugar, and other staples.

Badly Burned Trying to Save Child

Forty-two-year-old Ernest Blum, of 1814 South Seventh street, is in a critical condition in the St. Agnes Hospital suffering from burns received when he caught on fire this morning.

The child's mother had left him alone in a room while she went out to do some shopping. The child crawled over to a gas heater and disconnected the rubber piping. There was a burst of flame and the child's clothing caught fire. The agonized screams brought Samuel Greenfield, an upholsterer whose workshop is in the same building, to the rescue. He tried to beat out the flames with his hands. Then he rushed to a nearby drug store with the child still in flames. In his arms, there, with assistance, he beat out the flames enveloping the child and himself. A passing automobile was hailed and both were taken to the St. Agnes Hospital. Greenfield's burns were not serious but it is doubtful if the child will recover.

Norristown Coal Supply Adequate

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Pa., Dec. 12.—The Montgomery County Fuel Commission, after a conference with local dealers, announced that all families without coal had been reached and were assured by the dealers that the supply is equal to the demand.

CRAIG BIDDLE ENTERS ARMY AVIATION SERVICE

Philadelphia Athlete and Clubman Enlists as Private and Goes to San Antonio

Craig Biddle, prominent athlete and clubman of this city, enlisted this morning as a private in the aviation section of the signal corps of the army and has been assigned to duty at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Tex.

Mr. Biddle, tried for a commission at the officers' training camp at Fort Niagara, but because of a deficiency in mathematics failed to pass the final examination. He later tried to get into other branches of the service and could have obtained a commission in branches of the service which did not require active service. He wanted to get to France and see real service and so declined these opportunities.

Familiar with motors and automobiles, Mr. Biddle is well fitted for work in the aviation service. His work in the aviation section will be in the repair and upkeep of airplanes, one of the army of mechanics necessary to keep the planes turned up for instant service. In time he may have an opportunity of learning to fly, and, if he becomes a pilot, he will get a commission.

Kelly Field, where he has been assigned, is the largest aviation field in this country. More than 10,000 men are on duty, and in addition to many American aviators, Canadian and British members of the Royal Flying Corps are training there.

FIRST AMERICAN SHOT IS FIRED AT AUSTRIA

Congressman Tinkham Pulls Lanyard of Italian Gun Trained on Invaders

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—America's first shot at Austria, now formally recognized as an enemy, has been fired.

Representative Tinkham's secretary this afternoon received word that the Massachusetts Congressman, who has been witnessing the titanic struggle of Italians to hold back Teuton invaders, has visited the first-line defenses and there was recorded the privilege of pulling the lanyard of one of the big Italian guns sending a shell into the Austrian positions across the Piave.

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ALL AUXILIARY FORCES IN FIELD TO BE ARMED

Casualties Among U. S. Engineers at Cambrai Lead to New Recommendation

LONDON, Dec. 12.—Because American engineers suffered casualties in the fighting around Cambrai on November 30 it has been decided to recommend in the future that all such auxiliary forces be armed, according to a Reuter dispatch received this afternoon.

The recommendation, it was said, would cover all auxiliary forces, non-combatant or otherwise, who operate near the firing line.

WAR'S DEMANDS PARAMOUNT

Army Officer Says They Should Have Precedence Over City Improvements

American cities should stop beautifying their parks and making other municipal improvements and urge their resident workmen to seek employment in the different munition plants, declared Major W. A. Garrett, general manager of the Remington Arms Company, who spoke this afternoon at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Railroad Women's Division for War Relief. The meeting was held in the auditorium of the Pennsylvania Railroad Young Men's Christian Association, Forty-first street and Westminster avenue.

"The war situation is becoming graver all the time," said Major Garrett, "we should cease making improvements on our parks and elsewhere and also stop building theatres. Let us give all our help to the great factories which are turning out merchandise and other things that will be required with which to win the war."

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SHERLEY IS ELECTED TO SUCCEED FITZGERALD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Representative Sherley, Kentucky, was today elected chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. He will not take office, however, until January 1, when Chairman Fitzgerald's resignation becomes effective.

The committee appointed the following subcommittee to supervise drafting of the several big appropriation measures referred to them.

Sundry civil—Sherley, Howard Byrnes, Elliot and Mondell. Legislative—Kroger, Evans, Buchanan, Stafford and Good.

Fortifications—Borah, Egan, Good and Blump. Pensions—Callahan, McAndrewson and Davis.

Permanent appropriations—Borah, Evans, Howard, Mondell, Vane and Wilson and Davis.

Deficiencies—Sherley, Egan, Cannon and Vane.

As the big House committee sits at work drafting the appropriation bills for their several departments, it seems little likelihood that President Wilson's recommendation that the return to the practice of making all appropriations through a single committee will bear fruit during the present session.

Advertisement for Brown Brothers & Co. featuring "Funds for Officers and Enlisted Men" and "Jewelry for Christmas Gifts".

Advertisement for Cadillac cars, showing three models: Victoria (Closed), Limousine, and Landulet (Open).

Advertisement for S. K. Miller Leather-lined Educator Shoes, featuring an illustration of a shoe.

Advertisement for S. Kind & Sons, 1110 Chestnut Street, featuring jewelry for Christmas gifts.

Large advertisement for Cadillac cars with the slogan "When the Mercury drops around Zero— you should buy your Cadillac Enclosed Car NOW." and listing the Cadillac Automobile Sales Corporation at 144 North Broad Street.