# MAYOR SMITH'S SECOND YEAR MOST COSTLY

## Large Tax Increase, but Singular Lack of Municipal Improvements

### PLEDGES UNFULFILLED

Municipal accomplishments in 1917 form a continuation of the remarkable financial history started in 1916 by loan authorizations of $114,525,000 and a twenty-five-cent increase in the tax rate on realty. This year the city tax rate was boosted fifty cents, a new permanent loan was authorized, a temporary loan of $1,200,000 was negotiated and the pay-as-you-go act was forgotten for the easier method of creating deficiency bills and getting supplies on "donations."

Although the progress of the Smith administration is most noteworthy when referred to in millions of dollars, there is a singular lack of anything like real progress along lines of either permanent or temporary improvements. The outstanding pieces of work are the Parkway and progress on the Frankford Creek intercepting sewer.

Midway in the Smith official term, observers say, it is entirely safe to predict that this administration will cost Philadelphia many millions more than any administration that has ever gone before. In this one particular Mayor Smith and his financial advisers stand supreme. Another claim to distinction won in the closing months of the present year was the almost unheard of increase in taxes. Two increases such as the ones that jumped the old dollar rate to old-time low-assessment figures create a record that in fifty years stands as unique.

Financial conditions resulting in part from wartime prices and in part from a desire to keep the municipal payroll loaded down with political workers, have interfered in many instances with municipal improvements. Salary items have always been cared for, but repair items and supplies have not been given the same attention.

Pledging himself to municipal improvement projects calculated to cost the city more than one hundred millions of dollars, Mayor Smith finds himself half way through his administration, with only the Parkway far enough under way to predict completion during the third or last year of his officeholding. This $20,000,000 dream of the last thirty years is fast nearing completion.

In November Councils' Finance Committee held eighteen meetings at which approximately $40,000,000 in salaries and maintenance items were approved, while supplies carried the total far in excess of any provision ever made for a single year in the city's history. This action was taken in the face of repeated demands that useless positions be abolished and that salary items be cut where it was virtually certain that the hardest task for the beneficiaries would be the drawing of their pay warrants.

At one of the meetings Joseph P. Gaffney, chairman of the all-powerful Finance Committee, the man more than any one else in the confidence of the Mayor on financial questions, forecast the need for floating a new long term loan in May, 1918, if the Department of Public Works is to be supplied with funds needed to make repairs to streets, pave streets and roads and otherwise perform its usual functions. No mention was made at this time of including in a loan provision for badly needed improvements and extensions to the city's $68,000,000 water system.

PLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE

The big projects to which Mayor Smith was pledged included rapid transit for all sections, the erection of many new piers and wharves along the Delaware River water front, a new Blockley, a sewage-disposal plant, the completion of League Island Park, many improvements in South Philadelphia, the completion of the Parkway, the erection of a convention hall, an art museum and other structures along the Parkway, an economic government, the construction of many new bridges, the paving and improving of many highways and many other ordinary projects, such as street cleaning and garbage disposal.

Taking these subjects up in their relative importance leaves his economic government" pledge standing uppermost in the minds of taxpayers. How well or how ill he has carried out this pre-election promise is best understood by a comparison of municipal finances now with those of a few years ago under former Mayor Blankenburg. In making such a comparison, it is of course necessary to make a liberal allowance for wartime prices and salaries.

Director Twining, of the Department of Transit, has succeeded in getting under contract more than $11,000,000 worth of work. Progress on these contracts, the most of which are held by the Keystone Construction Company, necessarily will be slow because of transportation rules laid down by the Government and the slow filling of orders for steel. Most of the contracts call for work on the Broad street subway. The City Hall sections of this work has progressed during the year, but is not nearly completed. Sections of the Frankford elevated line are completed, but as yet missing links prevent its being made a working part of the Rapid Transit Company system, even if the municipal authorities should finally agree to a separate operating lease for this line.

Next in importance to the questions of finance and transit are improvements to the port. During the year Director Webster, of the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries, has made much progress on new municipal piers and bulkheads along the Delaware River front. One of the most important projects under way is the new pier at the foot of Cherry street, the cost of which is in excess of half a million dollars. Repairs to roadways, to river piers, to bulkheads and work on new piers along the upper end of the water front have furnished work for the department throughout the year.

Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, during the year put under contract street repairs and paving projects which, together with repairs to bridges and country roads, ate up the inadequate loan funds provided for these important purposes out of the $42,000,000 general loan authorized in 1916. Many members of Councils complained bitterly that out of a million dollars set aside for street repairs their wards received no improvements. Provision in a loan item for bridges was made for a new structure at South street to replace the present antiquated structure now crossing the Schuylkill River. Despite the fact that the money was available for this, the project was allowed to lag until another year. Work on one of the sewage disposal plant continued and satisfactory progress is reported. The same is true of League Island Park.

Improvements had much to do with the starting work on the City Hall, for which loan money was available. Slow work on the foundations for the new municipal building at Broad and Market streets, which was started under the Blankenburg administration, continued to be a source of annoyance to the Smith administration because of the failure to start work on any of the more important public or semipublic structures that are finally to line the Parkway, from City Hall to Green street entrance to the park.

Under this Administration the prices charged by street cleaning, garbage and ash-removal contractors has mounted by leaps and bounds until the contract prices for next year total well over a million dollars more than the record-breaking prices charged this year. This one class of work has effectually accounted for a seven or eight-cent increase in the tax rate.

Director Krusen, of the Department of Health and Charities, during the year, let a number of contracts for the further completion of dormitories and other necessary buildings for the housing of insane patients at Byberry and for the construction of a power plant and other improvements at the long condemned institution at Thirty-fourth and Pine streets. Every building completed at Byberry makes possible the removal of more patients from the antiquated group of buildings comprising what is generally known as Blockley. Director Krusen planned asking many millions more of loan funds for a new Blockley, but this scheme like the needed improvements to the water system has been held in abeyance, for a time at least.

Part of the tremendous increase in the cost of operating the municipal government is due to salary increases and additions made to the Bureaus of Fire and Police under the control of Director Wilson, of the Department of Public Safety. In this department slow progress is being made in the scheme to abandon all horse-drawn vehicles and apparatus, and at the present rate Philadelphia's horse-drawn fire engine bids fair to become as historic as New York's horse cars on the cross streets.

## *Lease Approved by Common Council*

Continued from Page One

is no justification for passing the lease at this time. The profits of the P. R. T. Company, he said, are all paper profits, and there is no reason why they should be guaranteed.

William McCloskey, of the Sixteenth Ward, asserted that much of the company's present profits are derived from hauling freight, and that the company does not have to depend solely upon passenger traffic for its income.

In making his motion to postpone action until the lease has been looked over carefully by the City Solicitor, Councilman Conn quoted numerous legal opinions and decisions to show that the measure must be referred to the city's law official before it could be legally passed. So far, he said, Mr. Connelly has only passed on the form of the proposed contract, and not on the legality of any of its provisions.

CONN'S STATEMENT

Conn issued a lengthy statement giving his reasons for opposing the passage of any lease at this time, and attacking the revised measure.

"The whole basis of the contract between the city and the company," he said, "is that the carfares shall be increased from time to time to any extent necessary to pay the entire operating expense, fixed charges, including taxes, etc., of the unified system, and to yield, in addition thereto, 5 per cent return on the city's investment and 5 per cent on the P. R. T. Company's stock.

"Before this proposed contract and lease becomes effective, it must be submitted to and approved by the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, and the commission having approved this provision, would thereby appear to surrender the power of the State as to the regulation from time to time of charges of the P. R. T. Company.

"Under the proposed lease, City Councils would not only give up their right to determine whether and to what extent carfares shall be increased from time to time, but the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company would be given full authority to increase carfares from time to time to any extent necessary to cover its increasing taxes, operating expenses and other charges, and also the 5 per cent dividend on its stock.

"The serious nature of these provisions is made apparent by the following facts:

"The company is experiencing heavy increases in the costs of operation and is confronted with the payment of war taxes, including excess profit taxes on dividends of underlying companies which exceed 9 per cent on the capital paid in by them.

"The excess-profit tax is levied on the income of the underlying companies, but owing to special provisions contained in many, if not all, of the leases the stockholders of the underlying companies claim to have been relieved from paying the excess-profit tax and maintain that the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company has made itself liable to pay the same.

"It appears that, after charging street-car passengers a rate of fare sufficient to pay from 10 to 50 per cent on the capital of underlying companies, the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, under the proposed lease, would be authorized to increase their carfares for the purpose of paying the excess-profit tax on the excessive dividends which are paid to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company's underlying companies.

Mayor Smith, Transit Director Twining and William Draper Lewis, the Mayor's special adviser on transit matters favor the lease, and it is generally agreed that the Mayor, having the support of the Vare majority in Common Council, will see the measure acted upon favorably, despite the fact that A. Merritt Taylor, former Transit Director, and several business men's organizations have opposed it.

In Select Council there is some question regarding the passage of the lease. There, too, the Mayor presumably will have the support of the Vare Councilmen, but since the Vare majority is so narrow the lease in order to pass must be supported by one or more Penrose-McNichol or independent Councilmen. No effort to pass the lease in Select Council is expected to be made before Thursday, and it is said President James E. Lennon, of Select Council, will not then call the measure up until he is satisfied that the Vare strength is sufficient to pass it.

If the lease is adopted the Mayor and President Mitten, of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, will sign it, and it will then go to the State Public Service Commission for its approval.

## BABY JIM'S FUNERAL HELD UP

### Casket for 800-Pound Negro Not Yet Completed

Burial services for James ("Baby Jim") Simons, the 800-pound negro "fat man," were held up today at his home, 1111 Rodman street, because carpenters had not finished the extra large casket that will be required.

Simons, who was advertised in circus sideshows as the fattest man on earth, will be buried tomorrow or Wednesday, according to whether the casket is finished tonight or tomorrow at the undertaking establishment of R. S. Weaver, 1158 South Eighteenth street. Simons, who died Friday, was thirty-seven years old and is survived by his widow and two children.

### Six Wills Probated

Wills probated today included those of Thomas McCleary, who died recently in the Episcopal Hospital, leaving to relatives property valued at $2000; Rollins M. Braithwait, 628 North Seventeenth street, $41,000; Joseph N. Piersol, 5004 Pulaski avenue, $7000; Ida Brill, Women's Homeopathic Hospital, $5000; [illegible]

# EXPLOSION ON WALNUT STREET DUE TO INTENSE COLD

An explosion of the steam heater in the building at 1632 Walnut street this morning wrecked the three-story structure as completely as though it had been struck by a shell from a howitzer. The picture shows one of the rooms on the lower floor blasted into a chaotic mass of plaster and boards. Philip Dorsey, fireman in the building, was probably fatally injured by the concussion, which is believed to have been due to frozen steam pipes.

## NEW YEAR SHAKE-UP OF POLICE SCHEDULED

### Five Lieutenants to Be Transferred Tonight for "Good of the Service"

Five police lieutenants are slated to be transferred tonight "for the good of the service," according to authentic information at City Hall today.

The scheduled changes were said to be as follows:

Lieutenant William McBride, from the Fourth and Race streets station to a police boat, probably the Stokley; Lieutenant George Bausewine, from the police boat Stokley to the Fourth and Race streets station; Lieutenant Benjamin Savage, from the Twentieth and Buttonwood streets station to the Thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue station, from which he originally was transferred; Lieutenant Charles Kunkle, from the Thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue station probably to the Twenty-sixth and York streets station, and Lieutenant Charles Boyer, who is ill at the present time, from the Twenty-sixth and York streets station to the Twentieth and Buttonwood streets station.

## GREAT VALLEY LOSES PASTOR

### Rev. L. Williams Allowed to Go to Lower Providence Church

At a meeting of the Chester Presbytery, sitting in special session this morning in Witherspoon Building, pastoral relations between the Rev. L. Williams and the congregation of the Great Valley Presbyterian Church were dissolved, the action becoming effective immediately. It is stated that this was done in order that Mr. Williams may accept a call tendered him by the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church, of the North Philadelphia Presbytery.

Next Sunday Dr. William H. Heberton will preach at the Great Valley church and will declare the pulpit vacant. This session will be presided over by the Rev. William H. Fishburn, of Frazer, who will act as moderator of the session.

Today's meeting of the Presbytery was presided over by the Rev. William R. Houston, of Clifton Heights.

### WOMAN HIT BY AUTO

Mrs. Mary Schaeffer, 2020 North Fifteenth street, is in the Hahnemann Hospital in a serious condition with a fractured skull received when she was struck by an automobile driven by Joseph Hoppler, 745 Wellington street, this morning. The accident happened at Eighteenth and Market streets. Hoppler was held under $500 bail for a further hearing January 5 by Magistrate Tracy.

## BUILDING OPERATIONS DECLINE $15,000,000

### Tremendous Falling Off This Year Due to Scarcity of Materials

Building operations fell off $15,000,000 during the last year and dropped nearly $800,000 for this month, according to the report of the Bureau of Building Inspection.

Permits issued during December were 251 as compared with 587 last year; operations were 265 as compared with 1080, and valuation was $684,720, compared with $5,461,065.

During the year 6490 permits were issued compared with 8838 in 1916; operations were 8977 compared with 15,613 and valuation was $33,961,120 compared with $49,896,570 in 1916.

The scarcity of materials due to the war is blamed for the falling off.

### COSSACKS QUIT FINLAND

PETROGRAD, Dec. 31.—A vast exodus of Cossacks homeward from Finland is reported during the last few days. Six thousand were said today to have already departed.

Russian troops are also dispersing from Esthonia. Twenty thousand have already abandoned the trenches and gone home.

## TRANSFER MEASURES KEEP MAYOR BUSY

### Signing of Salary and Other Financial Bills Mark Year's End

Mayor Smith was kept busy today signing bills providing transfer salary items and measures affecting next year's finances. One transfer bill approved carries a salary item for the Bureau of Fire, making it possible to pay all salaries in the bureau down to today.

The last day of the year is always one of the busiest on the municipal calendar and today, with its session of Common Councils to pass the $2,500,000 loan bill and its transit lease, is no exception to the rule.

Departmental heads employed their time in passing finally on contracts for 1918. Among the contracts that were executed today by the Mayor were those for street cleaning, garbage collection, ash and rubbish collection, electric lighting, gasoline lighting and all classes of supplies.

Other duties that devolved today on the city officials included the signing of warrants to pay for work done in the closing month of the year. Unused warrant blanks must be returned to the City Controller before midnight.

Controller Walton countersigned warrants in excess of $3,000,000, while Receiver of Taxes W. Freeland Kendrick had his entire corps of clerks at work attending those anxious to pay taxes to avoid being placed on the delinquent lists next year.

The Common Council meeting today was called to consider, beside the transit lease, the passage of a $2,500,000 thirty-year loan from which to pay mandamus items. There apparently is no doubt of its passage.

This bill will finally be passed by Select Council early next Monday morning just before the present Councils die and new ones are organized. As the new Councils must convene at 10 o'clock, the final session to raise money probably will be called for 9 o'clock in the morning.

The financial record of the present Councils will be rounded out by the last-minute passage of a loan bill. The action will leave the present body supreme in furnishing money for municipal expenses and permanent improvements. During the two years of its existence a total of nearly $120,000,000 loans will have been authorized, while the sum of $86,000,000 will have been provided for two years' expenses.

## WADE GETS TAX OFFICE POST

### Receiver Kendrick Appoints His Opponent in 1913 a Deputy

Daniel Wade, of 1514 Westmoreland street, a manufacturer, today was appointed a deputy Receiver of Taxes and detailed to the Germantown avenue and Tioga street office by Receiver of Taxes W. Freeland Kendrick. The position carries with it a salary of $2500 a year.

Wade is a Democrat. He was the Fusion candidate who ran against Kendrick in 1913. He takes the place of James F. Herron, a Penrose-McNichol worker. Wade lives in the Thirty-eighth Ward, which recently gave a 3000 majority to the Town Meeting party.

## ALLEGED ROBBER HELD

### Man Said to Specialize in Chinese Laundries Held Without Bail

At the further hearing of Robert Johnson, of 929 Lombard street, a negro who specializes in robbing Chinese laundries was held without bail this morning by Magistrate Wrigley. Johnson was caught last Sunday night after he had looted the shop of Henry Sing, Methodist minister and laundryman, of 5521 Germantown avenue.

Later developments showed that Johnson had also robbed the shop of Frank May, laundryman, of 621 South Sixteenth street. Johnson had stolen several [illegible]

## PHILA. ORCHESTRA TO PLAY AT CAMP DIX

### Tschaikowsky Program Will Be Given Next Wednesday Night

Camp Dix men will hear the Philadelphia Orchestra Wednesday night. The orchestra, especially extended to 105 musicians in order to render the Tschaikowsky program given at the Academy of Music two weeks ago, will leave this city early in the afternoon of that day.

The Tschaikowsky music was selected because it gives full play to all departments of the orchestra and presents the greatest opportunity for expression in its widest extent, as well as allowing delicate interpretations. Alexander Van Renssaeler, president of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and a dozen directors will accompany the party. Leopold Stokowski will direct the program.

### Municipal Appointments

City appointments today include Harry K. Wister, 228 West Thompson street, clerk, Bureau of Water, salary $1000, and Margaret D. Sweeney, 1728 Spring Garden street, city nurse, Bureau of Health, $75 a month.

### TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES

Walter Morris, 2217 Garrett st., and Mary Loney, 412 S. 15th st.
Philip Berkowitz, 814 N. Marshall st., and Gittell Sanbat, 814 N. Marshall st.
Isadore A. Rupertus, 7035 N. Judson st., and Marie R. Miller, 2003 N. 20th st.
Roch Wojciechowski, 3169 Almond st., and Wronsko Adamska, 2172 Mercer st.
Samuel Siller, 608 Moffin st., and Gussie Gordinsky, 837 S. 2d st.
John D. Notham, U. S. S. Connecticut, and Anna Preston, 620 S. 26th st.
John Steimach, 2032 Newcomb st., and Anna Matuszak, 2032 Newcomb st.
Samuel A. Lawson, U. S. S. Chicago, and Mary Bilbey, 4009 Dexter st.
John H. Fuller, Jr., Richmond, Va., and Anna M. Cassidy, 4352 N. 15th st.
Karl W. Mattack, Camden, N. J., and Clara Keller, 726 Wayne ave.
Harry Thomas, 527 Belmont ave., and Hannah McCloskey, 2821 Folsom st.
Frank B. Haig, 4078 N. 15th st., and Emily R. Brown, 445 Woodlawn ave.
Raymond V. Mahoney, 1303 Divinity place, and Gertrude D. Purvis, 2638 Poplar st.
Louis T. Stanger, 2229 N. 6th st., and Mary A. Humphreys, 1936 Albert st.
Fred A. Lee, Coatesville, Pa., and Viola McGaw, Arondale, Pa.
Marion Zeybakowski, 117 New st., and Marya Tereskiewicz, 760 Passyunk ave.
Lamdrum Taylor, 915 S. 17th st., and Annie Mills, 215 W. Walnut lane.
Daniel H. Hughes, League Island, and Mary L. Russell, Lancaster, Pa.
Czeslaw Chojnacki, 2453 Letterly st., and Josephine Sieracka, 2715 Monmouth st.
Harry J. Leary, 4724 Hawthorne st., and Florence MacPherson, 7122 Tulip st.
Alexander Barlow, 2858 N. 11th st., and Jennie Claughton, 2836 N. Marshall st.
Henry Hunold, 333 S. 6th st., and Anna Rehermann, Addingham, Pa.
Michael Boutemp, 6139 Woodstock st., and Jennie C. Lauro, 6105 Lambert st.
Clarence R. Reed, Downingtown, Pa., and Elsie Suttis, Reading, Pa.
John M. Hurf, U. S. Navy, and Manda L. Patzold, 5047 Addison st.
William C. Dunlap, 3146 N. Franklin st., and Elsie Volt, 1501 Womrath st.
Herman Wederman, 630 N. Marshall st., and Sarah Kuperman, 823 N. Franklin st.
William C. Heinecke, 3638 N. 6th st., and Katherine L. Jackson, 114 Albanus st.
Virgie L. McMurren, Douglas, Ariz., and Marie A. Ennis, 2623 N. Jessup st.
Harry C. Kaepplinger, 3405 Haverford avenue, and Irma M. Harvey, 5420 Kingsessing avenue.
Sylvanus C. Rockman, 2844 West Lehigh avenue, and Catharine A. Donnell, 4351 Lauriston street.
John G. Bennett, 418 Tasker street, and Elizabeth Dorsey, 2033 Pierce st.
William J. Teisch, 2237 Seybert street, and Wanda J. Guenther, 2327 North Camac street.
Cornelius Price, 417 Spruce street, and Bessie Wize, 417 Spruce street.
Albert E. Langsdorf, 3144 North Twenty-fifth street, and Ruth M. Bauer, 2962 North Taylor street.
James Shore, 2336 West Harold street, and Mary M. Fronick, 2340 West Harold street.
Peter Mach, 223 Fitzwater street, and Anna Nietal, 16 Fitzwater street.
Charles Smith, 3626 Warren street, and Mary L. Connelly, Shamokin, Pa.
Jan Skaladzien, 128 Catharine street, and Maryanna Gill, 221 Monroe street.
Louis H. Siegel, 2220 North Sixth street, and Mary A. Humphreys, 1936 East Albert street.
Abraham M. Goldberg, 2302 Christian street, and Jennie Crade, 246 DeLancey street.
Will A. Burrows, 2028 South street, and Edna M. Lake, 2452 North Thirty-second street.
James Steward, 748 South Mole street, and Elsie Martin, 213 North Tenth street.
Stanislaw Gocul, 148 Grape street, and Mary Mygala, 172 Levering street.
Adam Borski, 2219 Vine street, and Caroline Byerkorker, 2219 Vine street.
John P. Hurley, 1219 South Twenty-second street, and Annie Dripp, 2006 South Twenty-third street.
President Williams, 1918 North Warnock street, and Brosia Davis, 1919 North Warnock street.
Lester Cyrill, 3240 North Second street, and Mae Thoburn, 3505 North Front street.
Herbert Booker, Holmesburg, Pa., and Anna Brown, Holmesburg, Pa.
Garvis G. Littlejohn, Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, and Pauline Marshall, Bristol, Pa.

## FROZEN INK GUMS WHEELS OF JUSTICE

### Thermometer Showing 34 Degrees Below, Cairo Then Ties Up Bull's Head Bazaar

The celebrated grinding of the wheels of justice, so well known in song and story, was halted by the cold in the office of Magistrate Stevenson, 3947 Lancaster avenue, this morning. Having committed several men for a few days for some petty offenses, the magistrate dipped his pen in the fatal ink. The fluid was frozen. He tried the red ink. It also was frozen. So the magistrate had to wait for his clerk, Isador Fischer, to go out to a warm drug store for more ink.

In front of Magistrate Harris's office some wag put some imitation mercury in an old broken thermometer, making it register 34 below Cairo. An honest, steady-going thermometer at the Bull's Head Hoss Bazaar nearby registered 5 above, which was the approximate truth.

However, the people in the vicinity preferred to believe the Harris' indicator. It made them feel 39 degrees colder than they really were, and they scurried to cover to keep from freezing to death. All the hoss traders went into the bazaar and refused to march the horses up and down in front in any 34-below atmosphere.

Not far away from the Bull's Head bazaar is a restaurant. The chief clerk in that restaurant declares he threw a a dipper full of hot water out on the pavement and it froze so fast the ice was still warm.

In the Thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue police station there was no coal this morning, so somebody went out and got a gas heater weighing about a pound and a quarter. It was set up in the big roll room and a flock of policemen trying to warm themselves around the diminutive thing was an amusing sight. Coal came and ended the joke.

### POISON FATAL TO WOMAN

#### Dose Taken by Mistake Friday Kills Mrs. Albright

Mrs. Winifred Albright, forty-two years old, 11 East Willow Grove avenue, died today at Germantown Hospital after having accidentally taken poison on December 28. She is survived by a husband and five children.

Mistaking a cup containing a mixture of poison for one in which she had prepared some home-made cough syrup, Mrs. Albright swallowed a tablespoonful. She was hurried to the Germantown Hospital by her husband, but efforts to counteract the effects of the dose were unavailing.

### LIEUTENANT IS WEDDED

#### Bride's Father Officiates at Schellenberger-Lincoln Nuptials

Announcement has been made of the marriage of Lieutenant Charles Schellenberger and Miss Elizabeth Lincoln, 707 West School House lane, Germantown, on Saturday, December 29. The wedding was very quiet, owing to the recent death of the bride's mother, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. George Lincoln, the bride's father.

The best man was Clarence Rogers, of this city. Lieutenant Schellenberger is stationed at Camp Greene, North Carolina.

### Accused of Violating Liquor Law

Margaret Clark, a well-dressed woman, who gave her age as fifty-six years and her address as 326 North Eleventh street, was held in $500 bond today in the Tenth and Buttonwood streets court on a charge of selling liquor on Sunday and without a license. The arrest was made by Lieutenant Lawson on complaints made to him by residents of the neighborhood. Members of the vice squad testified to having made purchases of liquor and the testimony was that 171 bottles of beer and thirteen half-pints of whisky were found [illegible]

## RED CROSS DRIVE APPROACHES 1,000,000

### Campaign, Ending Tonight, Will Find This District Far Ahead of Quota

### DOLLAR MEMBERS RALLY

#### Spurt of Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter a Splendid Finish

The Christmas membership campaign of the American Red Cross ends today.

The concluding spurt of the Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter's campaign teams is sending the grand totals for new "dollar" memberships in Philadelphia, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks and Delaware Counties far above the 540,000 quota set for the district. Tabulation of the returns will show a total of nearer 1,000,000, it is believed.

House-to-house canvasses and expeditions to big industrial plants have marked the last week of the drive, which was extended from Christmas Eve, the original finish, to New Year's Eve to give every one who had been overlooked an opportunity to become a member of the army of mercy that supports the nation's armies in the field.

New "dollar" memberships reported today showed almost invariable overtopping of quotas by big margins. Auxiliaries and branches, with their chairmen, quotas and memberships, reported as follows:

Auxiliary No. 4, West Philadelphia (Mrs. Constance Aiken Jones), 3500-9127; Lansdowne (Mrs. E. Wager-Smith), 800-1698; Main Line Branch No. 1 (Mrs. Alexander Brown), 3000-9153, Autocar Company employes contributing 1200 of the memberships; Old York Road (Mrs. W. P. Fiegert), 2000-1273; Light House Auxiliary No. 151 (Miss M. G. Payne), 200-1500; Kynett Auxiliary No. 73, Nicetown (Mrs. Byron E. Wrigley), 200-369.

A final drive for Red Cross members will be made tonight in the Adelphi and Lyric Theatres and the Chestnut Street Opera House.

At the Lyric, Raymond Hitchcock, star of "Hitchy Koo," will make one of his famous curtain speeches—this one with the definite object of enlisting members.

A group of society girls also will be at the three theatres and will aid the stars in enrolling members. Among them will be the Misses Agnes Brockie, Rebecca Thomson, Katherine Hunter, Hannah Wright, Margaret Dunlop, Mary Thayer, Marian Frazier and Corinne Freeman.

### FEDERAL "DOPE" RAID LANDS THREE IN NET

#### One Prisoner, Already Facing Peddling Charge, Is Caught in Latest Round-Up

Three more alleged dope peddlers, one of whom was already facing a dope peddling charge and out on bail, were held for court by Acting United States Commissioner Maxwell Stevenson in the Federal Building as a result of a night's activity on the part of inspectors and deputies of the narcotic division of the United States Internal Revenue Department.

Colonel W. J. Beach, Inspector Ralph Oyler and Deputy Inspector Leo Crosson arrested Sam Yaffe, of Eighth and Wallace streets, at 614 North Eighth street, a house occupied by Dean Martin. Yaffe had many bottles of cocaine and heroin, according to the testimony. Yaffe was taken in a dope raid two weeks ago and held in $2500, but obtained a reduction of bail to $1500, which he was able to provide. Today he was held again, this time under $2500 bail.

The others held were Joseph Bernstein, of Seventh and Callowhill streets, and Sam Citrin, of Sixteenth and Wallace streets, who were arrested in a cigar store at 303 North Eighth street. The raiders said they saw the men trying to hide dope in the store. They were held in $2500 bail each for court.

### WEDDED TWO DAYS AGO, MAN SHOOTS HIMSELF

#### Thomas Larson Fires Bullet Near Heart—Bride at His Bedside

Two days after having been married Thomas Larson, twenty-six years old, 119 West Allegheny avenue, shot himself near the heart with a .32caliber revolver this morning at his home. He was taken to the Episcopal Hospital, where his wife, who lives at 3349 Lee street, is constantly at his bedside.

According to friends, this is Larson's second marriage. Larson still boarded at the Allegheny avenue address, but expected to go to housekeeping with his wife soon.

### DISCHARGED SOLDIER HELD

#### Artilleryman Slow in Returning Uniform; Shows Poor Memory

Because his memory was bad, William Bubbles was discharged from the 108th Second Pennsylvania Field Artillery, and because he was tardy about returning his uniform he was held in $500 bail today for court by Acting United States Commissioner Renshaw, at the Federal Building.

Assistant United States District Attorney Stettitt asked that Bubbles be held after he had been arrested on complaint of Sergeant George V. Young, of the artillery regiment, now at Camp Hancock, Ga. Bubbles asserted that the uniform was en route to Camp Hancock, that he had not received a letter demanding it and that he had forgotten Sergeant Young's address here.

### Captain Drexel Biddle Recovers

Captain A. J. Drexel Biddle, U. S. M. C., who has been ill for several days past, is now sufficiently recovered to be out.

### MARRIED

THOMPSON—HATHAWAY.—On Dec. 29, at Germantown, Pa., by Rev. Gilbert P. Pember, MARGARET VANDERVEER, daughter of Mrs. Nathaniel Hathaway, to LESLEY P. THOMPSON, of Boston, Mass.

### DEATHS

SMITH.—At Westville, N. J., Dec. 30, MARTHA CORSON, wife of Clarence N. Smith, M. D., aged 31. Services, Wed., 1 p. m., at residence of her mother, Mrs. Winfield S. Corson, Paterson, N. J.


TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

HELP WANTED—FEMALE

TELEPHONE OPERATOR to take charge of private branch exchange; must be thoroughly experienced and first class; state age, experience in full and salary expected. Lock Box 41, Phila., Pa.

HELP WANTED—MALE

CARPENTERS—Union wages. Apply F. W. Mark Construction Co., Tacony Ordnance Works, Milnor and Bleigh, Tacony, Phila.

CARPENTERS WANTED FOR INTERIOR FINISH WORK; UNION RATE; TAKE 36th or 37 CAR. CROWELL-LUNDQUIST-LITTLE CO., 52D & GRAY'S AVE.

SANATORIUMS

SPACIOUS GROUNDS, [illegible]


## TWO-PLATOON PLAN FOR FIREMEN LAGS

### Eligible List Inadequate to Comply With Legislative Mandate Effective Tomorrow

### PUBLIC APPEAL BY MEN

#### Attaches of Bureau Will Repeat Plea for Fair Working Hours and Pay

The two-platoon system which was to go into effect tomorrow in the Bureau of Fire, thus enabling the men to lead almost normal lives, is still off in the distance. Although an act of the last Legislature provided that this system should take effect January 1, 1918, there is not enough available men on the eligible list to make the change. At the present time the firemen are greatly overworked and underpaid and they will make an appeal to the public.

At the Department of Public Safety today it was learned that efforts would be made to start the new system as soon as possible.

On the present eligible list there are 100 names, and it is said another list will be received from the Civil Service Department next week. Another examination for candidates for the department will be held soon, and there is no hope of getting more men.

Assurance has been given the Department of Public Safety by Councils, it is said, that an appropriation will be made providing for 400 additional hosemen. They will increase the department to a total of approximately 1500, including officials, of all kinds. It is the hope of the city officials to enforce the two-platoon system by February 1.

Under the present system the firemen work twenty-four hours continuously except three hours allowed at home for meals and have one day off in six. Under the proposed two-platoon system they would work on fourteen and ten-hour shifts and have every night home one week and every day home the next.

## OPEN FOOD AGENCIES FOR NATIONAL SURVEY

### Questionnaires to Be Sent to All Grocers, Hotels and Restaurants

Agencies have been established in Philadelphia for the purpose of assisting in the national food survey now being conducted by the food administration. One of these agencies is at Room 578 Bourse Building, in charge of L. Duval, and the other at Rooms 309-315 Insurance Exchange Building, in charge of L. I. Weil and E. M. Seifert, Jr.

Questionnaires intended to elicit full information as to the amount of food held in stock in every grocery in the United States have been sent out to the trade, but on account of the magnitude of this undertaking it is certain that a considerable number of those within the classes sought to be reached by the survey have been overlooked or otherwise omitted, and it is to remedy this trouble that the agencies have been established.

Besides grocers, all hotels, restaurants, schools, institutions and commissaries of industrial establishments having on hand food valued at more than $250 are required to answer the questions contained in the questionnaire. This document must be returned to the national food administration in Washington, verified under oath, not later than January 10, under penalties prescribed by the act of Congress providing for the food survey.

Efforts to further systematize the work of the local and State food administrations are being made by Jay Cooke and Howard Heinz, in charge of the two branches of the work here. Complaints that sufficiently vigorous steps have not been taken to enforce price regulations have been met with the statement that there is not power in the local authorities to punish violations of the regulations. Moral suasion has been relied on, and the administration is now circulating a New Year's pledge for the purpose of getting all citizens lined up on the conservation plans of the Government for the coming year.

## HEATER EXPLODES SHATTERS STORE

### Fireman Expected to Die From Injuries in Wreckage

### BLAST DUE TO COLD

#### Business Building, 1632 Walnut Street, and Doctor's House Damaged

A steam heater in the three-story business building at 1632 Walnut street exploded early today soon after being fired up, knocked all the windows out, twisted the stairways, shattered the plaster from nearly all of the rooms and so seriously injured Philip Dorsey, the fireman, of 1636 Walnut street, that his death is expected momentarily. He is at the Polyclinic Hospital.

It is thought some parts of the heating system froze during the night and that, when Dorsey stirred the fire this morning there was no means of circulation. The explosion was so violent that he was blown against a stone wall. The back of his head was crushed in and it is thought he is injured internally.

The rear of the building looked like the wreck of a munition blast. Some of the bricks were knocked out, every window was thrown completely out and the woodwork was sprung and twisted. The rear of the residence and office of Dr. John B. Deaver, at 1634 Walnut street, was also damaged. The windows were shattered and the wooden window and door frames twisted and sprung. The front of Doctor Deaver's house was not damaged, but the front bulk windows of the house at 1632 Walnut street went into Walnut street like shrapnel. The stairways were so badly twisted that even the firemen hesitated about climbing them.

People for two or three blocks either heard or felt the explosion. Help soon reached Dorsey, who had been seen to enter the building earlier in the morning. Patrolman Hawley, of the Fifteenth and Locust streets police station, brought him to the first floor. A fire alarm had been turned in immediately after the explosion and Fireman Catavesta, of Engine Co. No. 4, and the policeman took Dorsey upon the engine and hurried him, unconscious, to the Polyclinic Hospital.

The ground floor of the building is occupied by Lindberg and Kohout, tailors, and the second and third floors by Adler's gown shop. The damage to these concerns will be considerable from dirt and steam.

## AWARDS FOR EXTENSION OF HAVERFORD AVENUE

### Board of Viewers Announces Damages to Be Paid Property Owners

Charles W. Boger, Louis Saller and J. Parker Norris, Jr., comprising the board of viewers appointed to assess damages for the opening of Haverford avenue from 68th street to City Line, Thirty-fourth Ward, have filed their report in Court of Common Pleas No. 2, making the following awards:

A. H. Reid Creamery and Dairy Supply Company, $12,000; Mary E. Sunderland et al., southwest corner Sixty-ninth street and Haverford avenue, $8500 and $3500; trustees of Jeremiah Carroll, deceased, $750 and $50; John Carroll, $800; Thomas F. Devine and wife, $1150; Mary Coyle, $1150; Mary E. Devine, $225; Joseph Kennedy, $200; Mary P. Dixey, $350; Nancy Cromwell et al., $75; Antonio Cervino, $1750; Huldah D. Welch, $1400; Frank B. and Stanley B. Crosland, $2300; Amanda R. Rhoads, three properties, $900 each, one property $2500 and another $250; William J. McGranaghan, $900; William J. Funston, $900; Ernest L. Tustin et al., $1000; Elizabeth B. Hall, $250.

The awards will bear interest at 6 per cent from December 30, 1915, the time of taking. No benefits were assessed.


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COUNCILS MEET THIS WEEK
Jan. 2—Arcanian, Ger'town & Cumberland.
Jan. 2—Geo. Chandler 1315 Columbia Ave.
Jan. 3—Bridesburg, Kautter's Hall.
Jan. 3—Norristown, Trust Co. Hall.
Jan. 3—Oakdale, Germ'town & Cumberland.
Jan. 4—Germantown, Vernon Hall.
Jan. 4—Frankford, 4510 Main St.
Jan. 4—Haverford, Rittenhouse Hall.
Jan. 4—Pottstown, P. O. S. of A. Hall
Jan. 5—Assoc. Councils, Parkway B. 9th Fl. Lecture—Russian Observation and Experiences by Chas. E. Beury.

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