

MANY TROOPS HOME FOR XMAS

Thousands Arrive at New York and Newport News

New York, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The United States army transport Henry H. Malloy arrived today with 148 American soldiers from Bordeaux. Nine hundred and one of the men were sick or wounded. The units aboard were headquarters, sanitary and ordnance detachments, headquarters company, supply company, band and detachments of batteries A and B of the 143rd Regiment Field Artillery, comprising ten officers and 492 men; and headquarters of the Sixty-fifth Field Artillery Brigade, comprising three officers and fifty-five men.

The transport Manchuria from Brest, carrying 158 officers and 4903 men, also arrived today. She carries thirteen officers and fifty-two men of the Fifty-sixth Field Artillery; sixty-four officers and 881 men of the 114th Field Artillery; fifty-one officers and 1452 men of the 117th Field Artillery; ten officers and ninety-eight men of the Thirty-third Cavalry; ten officers and fifty-six men of the 16th Ammunition Train; eighteen men headquarters company; Sixty-second Infantry Brigade; ten casual officers, and 966 sick and wounded.

The United States transport Bullen-zong arrived in port shortly after noon from St. Nazaire with sixty-five officers and men.

Another arrival was the White Star liner Megantic from Liverpool, among whose 310 passengers were a number of American, Australian and Canadian army and naval officers and Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross workers.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 20.—The transports Martha Washington and Mercur came into port today bringing home from France 3720 officers and men including 400 wounded.

Death Increases Laid to Skip-Stop

Continued from Page One today's meeting would deal only with fatalities. Coroner Knight's testimony was the first offered which had direct bearing on the subject. After he had stated that thirty-one deaths had occurred since the inaugura-

tion of the skip-stop, Archbishop Dougherty asked: "Were any of these deaths directly due to skip-stops?" "There has not been any inquest held where deaths could be directly charged to the skip-stop system, but there seems to be an epidemic of accidents. The company's death rate is very high for the three months."

Asked by Mr. Lennon if this might not be due to greater traffic, Mr. Knight said: "No, the company has not as many cars running now as it had a year ago. I do not believe that motormen, chauffeurs and drivers generally are up to the standard necessary to operate vehicles on our streets."

In regard to the case of Mrs. Sallie Smith, who was killed three weeks ago at Sixth and Catharine streets, a former skip-stop point, the Coroner said this was not a skip-stop death.

The case of a man named Heck was also mentioned by Mr. Knight. He was killed at Girard and Montgomery avenues, November 15. This was the first case, the Coroner said, on which the newspapers aroused public opinion over the skip-stop.

Mr. Mitten did not dare to have the "real truth" of the skip-stop system presented to the committee of thirteen this afternoon, and his eagerness to stifle a bulk of incriminating evidence caused him to convene the committee today, says John A. Moore, president of the Southwest Business Men's Association.

"Need More Time For Probe," the committee, said Mr. Moore, "is composed of high-class citizens, and no man can criticize its personnel, but to do justice to the citizens of Philadelphia the committee should be given time to get at the real facts. The committee, as I understand it, will endeavor to determine whether the fastest and absurd skip-stop system is responsible for a number of deaths. I think it is, but it is not an easy thing to prove, and Mr. Mitten knows that."

"What Mr. Mitten should do, if he is anxious to get at the truth, is to give business and improvement associations an opportunity to make an exhaustive investigation of all accidents that have been reported since the establishment of the skip-stop system. Such

an investigation made by men representing all parties in the controversy would reveal a mass of conclusive evidence against the system."

Blame Skip-Stop Mr. Moore conducts a business at Twentieth and Federal streets and asserted that several serious accidents have occurred at the intersection of those streets.

"Cars do not stop at Federal street," said Mr. Moore, "and several serious accidents have resulted. But I am not foolish enough to go before the committee and deal in generalities. To present a case worth while evidence it would be necessary for me to collect data on those accidents and have witnesses at the hearing."

"Mr. Mitten knows that, but is not in favor of a real probe. He is also aware that merchants vitally interested in this subject are now in the midst of the holiday business and have no time to gather evidence against his system. I hope the committee will give the people more time to prepare their case."

The assertion is made that the Rapid Transit Company's proposed new system of skip-stops will increase, instead of abating that nuisance. The plan to establish the skip-stops at an average of six stops a mile means a stop on an average of every two blocks throughout the city. Apparently, instead of modifying the skip-stop, the plan would increase it almost two-fold.

U. S. Army May Be Back Within Year

Continued from Page One indication that the Americans purposed tightening their grip on local affairs. The regulations governing the press were formally made public, but which apply to theaters, were communicated verbally by Colonel B. H. Williams, chief of the intelligence department, who also explained personally to the newspaper owners what was expected of them. The managers of the theatres, ranging from opera to moving picture productions, were informed that there was no objection to their giving

performances except in cases where attempts were made to inject propaganda or criticism, either directly or by insinuation into the productions. Not even apparently friendly comment, if it were otherwise undesirable, would be tolerated, it was explained.

To the newspaper owners it was pointed out that the question of whether they offended or not, lay with them—that the Americans would not be bothered with censoring the publications before they were issued, but that the first six copies from the press should be delivered to American headquarters. Meanwhile the running off of the edition could be continued. If it were then discovered that the regulations had been violated prompt punitive action would be taken.

A further indication of the intention of the American authorities to curb any abuse of their leniency was afforded by a round-up of discharged German soldiers who had failed to secure civilian clothes and by the arrest of a merchant who had been found profiteering in money exchange.

The merchant made the mistake of boasting that he had sold some marks for francs at twenty points below the rate of exchange fixed by the army and

had then further increased his profits by reselling at the bank. There has been little of this sort of thing, however, and so far the public appears disposed to conform with the order that prices must be the same to the Americans as to the Germans.

The foregoing dispatch is significant in view of the fact that three French divisions are now sharing in the occupancy of the Coblenz region, which was originally placed under the charge of Americans. Dispatches have indicated that the French army officials were not altogether satisfied with the leniency which the American troops have shown toward the Germans.

PROPOSES AVIATOR MEET

Lord Weir Submits Suggestion for International Convention

London, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The British air board has drafted articles for an international air convention which will be submitted to the Allies. It was announced today by Lord Weir, secretary of State for the air force. The draft is accompanied with the suggestion that an international air conference be convened.

REV. DR. J. H. TWICHELL DIES

With Sickness at Gettysburg and Accompanied Mark Twain Abroad

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The Rev. Dr. Joseph Hopkins Twichell, pastor emeritus of Asylum Hill Congregational Church, over which he was installed in 1853, died today after a period of feebleness. He was eighty years old.

Mr. Twichell was an intimate friend of Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) and was with him on a foreign journey described in "Innocents Abroad." From Yale Mr. Twichell was graduated in 1839, having been struck out in the Yale crew that year.

All the crew went into the army at the outbreak of the Civil War. Mr. Twichell becoming chaplain of the Seventy-first New York, which Daniel Sickles had recruited. When General Sickles was struck by a cannon ball at Gettysburg, Chaplain Twichell rode with him in an ambulance to the hospital.

After the war Mr. Twichell completed his theological studies. He had written much and had membership in many societies.

WOULD CURB PACKERS

Washington, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—Retail and wholesale groceries on a competitive basis will be wiped out within a few years unless present tendencies in the meat packing industry are eliminated, Chairman Coker, of the

Federal trade commission, told the House Interstate Commerce Committee today at hearings on the administration bill to regulate the packing business. The cause, he contended, was that the packers had obtained control of numerous industries not directly related to the packing industry.

Pictures are Attractive Gifts Standing Photograph Frames Large Variety Otto Scheibal, 20 N. 9th St. Est. 1878 Picture framing ordered now guaranteed for Xmas delivery Our Picture Framing is Done by experts at very reasonable prices. As we are manufacturers, we can save you money.

STORE ORDERS ACCEPTED Hirsch's 923 MARKET STREET Startling Reductions on Winter Coats January Prices Now! Two Wonderful Big Groups at \$16.75 & \$25 Values up to \$29.75 Values up to \$42.50 XMAS SALE OF FURS \$30.00 Red Fox and Natural Wolf Sets \$22.50 \$17.50 Natural Coney Fur Sets \$12.75 \$69.50 Point Wolf Fur Sets \$45 \$25.00 Kit Coney Fur Sets \$16.75 \$2.98 to \$9.98 Children's and Misses' Fur Sets

Specially Reduced for Tomorrow! 154 LOVELY NEW DRESSES Formerly Priced \$27.50 to \$35.00 Street dresses in serges, velvets, wool jerseys and silks. \$19.75

Lovely Silk Crepe de Chine Envelope Chemise \$1.98 and \$2.98 Silk Georgette Waists In Most Exquisite Beaded and Hand-Embroidered Models \$4 & \$6 Values, at \$3.00 The loveliest silk waists we have ever seen to sell at such a popular price. Heavy quality crepes de chine are also included. A number are in tailored models. \$5.00 Poplin SKIRTS \$3.00 Another special group of those wonderful dressy wool poplin skirts. Several very popular, models for choice. Blue or black. All sizes.

In Our Bargain Basement A Big Reduction—Winter Coats \$10 & \$12.98 Values Up to \$25.00 Women's and Misses' Serge and Silk Dresses \$9.98 Values to \$15.00 Children's DRESSES, 98c Children's COATS, \$3.98 & \$5.98 Infants' Apparel & Novelties For Xmas Gifts Very special prices. Girls' Winter Fur-Trimmed COATS \$9.98

Girls' \$8.50 Corduroy & Serge Dresses at \$4.98 Trimmings with contrasting color collar and cuffs—some neatly embroidered. Sizes from 6 to 14 years. Children's DRESSES, 98c Children's COATS, \$3.98 & \$5.98 Infants' Apparel & Novelties For Xmas Gifts Very special prices. Girls' Winter Fur-Trimmed COATS \$9.98

VERY SPECIAL GLOVE ITEMS Women's \$1.75 \$1.59 GLOVES Two-clasp, Duplex. In white, gray, sand, mode, pongee and brown. Misses' & Boys' Chamoisette \$85c Gloves. In white, gray and sand. Men's \$5 Mocha \$3.98 Gloves. One-clasp. Wool lined. Lit Brothers—First Floor, South

Fine Stocks of Shoes & Slippers With Some Remarkable Values to Claim Attention Now Women's Smart Shoes Regular \$6 Kinds \$4.79 Gray, brown, tan calf and black kidskin, also patent collared. Kid or fabric tops. Women's \$2.50 Spats, \$1.29 Men's \$6 Black Lace Shoes, now \$4 Regular stock reduced. Real up-to-date styles with English or broad toe lasts, blind eyelets and welted soles. Men's High-Grade Shoes, \$5 Tan or black calf, patch collared and glazed kidskin. English and broad toe styles. Young Women's \$6.50 to \$7.50 Lace Shoes, \$5.95 Tan Russia calf and brown kidskin. Men's \$2.50 Comfy Slippers, \$1.98 Boys' & Girls' Puss in Boots, \$1.29 Doigeville Slippers Women's \$2 \$1.69 Juliets. Fur and ribbon trimmed. Women's Comfy Slippers, \$1.59 & \$1.98 Misses' & Children's Juliets, \$1.98 Fur trimmed. FIRST FLOOR, NORTH

Men's Furnishings of Correct Style And Thoroughly Dependable Qualities—The Kinds That Scores of Men Hope to Receive for Christmas—Many Are Wonderful Bargains! \$8.50 Tub \$6.49 Silk Shirts. Product of a well-known maker. Heavy tub silks with self-satin and colored stripes. Turn-back cuffs. All-Wool Shaker Knit Sweaters, \$8.98 Woven-in pockets and sleeves, full-fashioned shawl collar and reinforced buttonholes. In Scotch green, navy and Oxford. Blanket Bath Robes, \$5.49 Striped and figured effects. Shawl collar, pockets and rope girdle. Silk Accordion Scarfs, \$3.98 Two-tone patterns in black-and-white, navy, purple, green and red. Pretty borders; long silk fringe. Pure Silk Half Hose, \$1.79 Colored stripes. Soft cuffs. \$2 & \$2.50 Madras Shirts, \$1.79 Colored stripes. Soft cuffs. Lit Brothers—First Floor, Seventh Street.

HATS TRIMMED FREE \$6 Fur & Satin HATS In Beautiful Ultra-Smart Styles \$2.65 Hats That You Will Take Pleasure in Wearing for the Holiday Season—Any One of Them Would Make a Charming Gift. Too! One of the Many Styles Sketched. One of the greatest millinery values of the season, combined with seal, nutria or moline fur in a way that is altogether captivating. Russian Turbans, Toques and Rolled Brim Styles—A Variety Sufficiently Great to Afford a Becoming Hat for Every Face. Better news just at the beginning of the Holiday season could not be desired—five hundred of them ready for bright and early choice tomorrow, morning. No Mail or Phone Orders Filled Lit Brothers—FIRST FLOOR, NORTH

Little to Pay for Fine Table Linens \$1.50 Heavy Mercerized Damask, yd. \$1 Two yards wide. Beautiful floral designs. \$3 Hemstitched & Scalloped Table Cloths, \$2.35 Two yards long. Mercerized Damask, yard, \$1.79c Two yards wide. Pretty designs. Scarfs, Shams & Centerpieces, 98c to \$2.98 Lit Brothers—First Floor, North

MARKET & PHONE ORDERS FILLED STORE OPENS DAILY 9 A. M. AND CLOSSES AT 5:30 P. M. HATS TRIMMED FREE OF CHARGE Lit Brothers One Yellow Trading Stamp With Every 10c Purchase All Day Filbert Seventh PHILADELPHIA The Last Saturday Before Christmas—the Busiest Day of All the Year! We're Prepared With Wonderful Holiday Stocks in Endless Variety.

The Tempting Values Make This a Most Favorable Time for Buying Women's Stylish Apparel And consider the satisfaction of having a spic span new \$29.75 outfit for holiday wear! Misses' Velour Coats \$16.75 Belted styles, with graceful folds, side slashed pockets and prettily finished with band of litonette. Others of thibet, cheviot and manish weaves have rich fur or plush collars. One sketched. Misses' Top Coats, \$29.75 Velour, silvertone, Bolivia, cheviot, broadcloth and plush. Have handsome kit coney collars, breast pockets and loose-hanging panels edged with fur to match collar. Lined to waist with satin. One pictured. Women's & Misses' Tailored Suits \$25 Of serge and poplin in navy blue and black. Plain tailored, plaited or braid trimmed. Satin lined. Women's Plush Coats, \$25 Belted style with loose back. Long roll collar and deep cuffs of Beaver plush. Satin lined throughout. One pictured. Women's Velour de Laine Coats \$42.50 Smart style with back, shirred at waistline under plaited belt, patch pockets, beautiful kit coney collar and neu de cygne lining. Also others of velour with fur collars. Lit Brothers—SECOND FLOOR

Gift Choosing in the Jewelry & Silverware Sections Has Never Been Better! \$25 Beautiful Octagonal Bracelet WATCHES, \$22.50 Gold dial; 15-jewel movement. Extension bracelet, gold-filled; 20-year guaranteed cases. One sketched. \$20 Round Bracelet Watch \$16 Plain polished case, gold dial and 7-jewel movement. Gold-filled, 20-year guaranteed cases. \$5 to \$25 Quadruple-Plated Shaving Stands, \$3.50 to \$22 With French plate mirrors, cups, shaving brushes, powder and bottle holders. About 200 pieces. \$2.75 to \$10 Solid Gold Scarf Pins, \$1.98 to \$7.50 Hundreds with pretty stones. Women's & Misses' Solid Gold Stone Set Rings, \$1.98 to \$12.50 Elgin & Waltham Watch Bracelets, \$20, \$25, \$35 to \$55 14-karat and gold filled with gold or white dials. 7, 15 and 17 jewel movements. New thin models. \$8 Pearl Necklaces, \$4.98 Perfectly matched, lustrous beads; opera length; graduated. \$3 French Pearl \$1.59 Neck length. Gold catches. Dorothea Pearls, \$3.50 Lit Brothers—First Floor, South

VICTOR Records for Christmas Had Best Be Bought Today! And Choosing Here From Philadelphia's Largest Stocks, Will Be Most Satisfactory. \$10 Worth of Records: \$1 a Month No Trading Stamps With Victor Records Lit Brothers—FIFTH FLOOR

Extraordinary Holiday Clothing Items! Opportunities That Men Who Know Clothing Values Will Be Quick to Take Advantage of—For Every Suit, Every Overcoat Represents a Genuine Saving of Several Dollars. Men's Winter Overcoats \$14 to \$30 Newest double breasted knit and ulsterette models in handsome materials. Men's Winter Suits \$13.75 to \$30.00 Cheviots, cassimeres, worsteds, etc. Extra smart models. Boys' Fine Serviceable Suits and Overcoats \$7.50 Suits—Norfolk models in cheviots, cassimeres and mixtures. Sizes 6 to 18. Also Junior Norfolk and Billy Boy Suits for younger boys. OVERCOATS—Double-breasted styles in popular fabrics. Sizes 12 to 18. Lit Brothers—SECOND FLOOR, 7th Street