

HOLIDAY RECORD AT POSTOFFICE

Biggest Christmas Mail Ever Handled Delivered on Time

PRaise FOR EMPLOYEES

Remained on Duty That Work of Distribution Might Not Be Delayed

"It was the biggest batch of Christmas mail ever handled by the Philadelphia postoffice and every letter and package was delivered on time.

"We have reports from all the sub-stations and every one makes it plain that the great volume of Christmas matter that piled in to the stations on Christmas morning was delivered before evening."

This statement, concerning the efficient handling of the city's Christmas mail, was made today by Thomas P. Johnson, superintendent of mails. John E. Lister, assistant postmaster, was warm in his praises for the thousands of postal employees and asserted that a majority gave over their entire Christmas holiday to the work of distributing mail.

The only mail undelivered is that which was destroyed in Trenton, N. J., on Tuesday. A car containing 600 sacks of mail from points in New England and New York caught fire at Trenton, and 430 sacks were damaged. Mr. Johnson believes that a bulk of this matter was destined for Philadelphia. Ninety per cent of the matter will be delivered, he says, when postal officials establish ownership.

"We are pleased beyond measure," said Mr. Lister when commenting upon the activities of the postal employees. Anticipating an unusual bulk of mail and parcel post we organized an extra force of motortrucks and this solved the problem, for it prevented congestion at railway stations. Once the mail matter had been delivered, the station employees, the force of clerks and carriers, took care that it was delivered promptly. To do this the clerks and carriers sacrificed many hours of their own time.

"This year's parcel post business was the greatest in volume since the inauguration of the system five years ago."

RING OFF! RING OFF! RING OFF YE AFTER-CHRISTMAS BELLS

What "Morning After" Mourning, What Wringing Load of Sorrow Your Ringing Voice, Truth-Scorning, Upon This Yuletide Morrow Into Our Tired Ears Tells

7:10 a. m. Our telephone girl calls to say she's very ill, but hopes to recover. Promises to be in tomorrow.

7:15 a. m. Weary voice announces the presence of Margaret, our office girl, on the wire. Brother desperately sick and going to hospital. Margaret must accompany him. Promises to be in tomorrow.

7:45 a. m. One of our best hired men puts wife on wire to tell us husband had temporarily succumbed to nervous strain and overwork. Under care of three specialists, but will be in tomorrow.

8:00 a. m. Telephone bell rings again and yawning voice of another slave tells us wife was taken suddenly ill. Slave

must remain home to wash dishes and act as nurse. Promises to be in tomorrow unless wife dies. Very mournful.

8:15 a. m. Office boy calls with sad news that he has Asiatic cholera, his mother spinal meningitis, his three brothers the flu, his sister the diphtheria and his "old man the peach of a hangover." Promises to be in tomorrow.

8:16 a. m. Another hired man on wire. Child has mumps, and father feels it would be extremely thoughtless to expose office to contagion by coming in today. Mumps takes unusual form, as it will last only one day. Father promises to be in tomorrow.

8:17 a. m. Telephone disconnected. P. S. It's the day after Christmas.

MAY INTRODUCE BILL FOR PURER POLITICS

Dr. James J. Heffernan Suggested to Offer Police and Firemen Measure

Dr. James J. Heffernan, member of the Legislature from the Forty-fourth Ward, may introduce in the next House a bill which will be drafted by the charter revision committee to take the police and firemen out of politics.

Two weeks ago Doctor Heffernan introduced the police and firemen bill prepared by the charter revisionists. It passed the House, receiving 82 votes, but fell because it was 22 votes short of the 104 required for a constitutional majority.

Suggestions are understood to have been made to the charter revision committee to draft the proposed new bill in such a manner as to make material changes in the present system of conducting the police and fire departments. One of these suggestions is said to be that the police and fire departments be governed by a commission appointed by the Governor.

This plan would take entire jurisdiction over the police from the hands of the city authorities and place it in a small State body. A commission of five members is said to have been proposed as the governing body for a metropolitan police system.

Governor Sproul in his address at the charter revision conference declared that he favored the creation of a metropolitan district for Philadelphia which would afford city police and fire protection to the scores of suburbs adjacent to the city.

TWO SAILORS ACCUSED OF JEWELRY THEFT

New Yorker Missed Valuables After Entertaining—Bond Robbery Laid to Boy

Two sailors and a boy were given hearings today in connection with two robberies. The sailors are charged with the theft of more than \$500 worth of jewelry and the boy is accused of stealing a wallet from an automobile.

Christmas spirit led Arthur Conover, wealthy Texas banker, stopping at the Ritz-Carlton, to entertain several sailors and a civilian, and the party almost cost him \$500 in jewelry.

Shortly after Conover woke up and missed his valuable two sailors appeared at a jewelry store at 213 Market street and offered a collection of diamonds, necklaces, pins and bracelets for sale at a low price. The jeweler called the police, and Henry Meischer, twenty-eight years old, of Dickinson, and Stewart Dunn, of Brooklyn, were arrested. They said another man gave them the jewelry to sell. They were given a hearing today at the City Hall and held in \$3000 bail each. The jewelry was recovered.

A fifteen-year-old lad has been arrested as the result of the theft of \$5000 worth of bonds from the automobile of Dr. George F. Pfahler, son-in-law of Justice Alexander Simpson, Jr., 1221 Spruce street.

After the theft was reported to the police a fake wallet was placed in the car in an attempt to trap the bond thief. The boy under arrest, who gave his name as William Wilson, was caught as he leaned into the automobile. He denied any knowledge of the bonds.

Not Promised Education "It should, however, be clearly borne in mind that no man induced into the student army training corps was promised an education at Government expense. He was inducted into the army for the purpose of receiving special additional military training, always with a view to the needs of the service."

This sum represents the proportional tuition of 629 S. A. T. C. men at Penn. Smith announced that they will withdraw from the University now that their expenses are no longer paid by the Government.

Condemned Action Doctor Smith condemned the Government's action. "The contract with the University was to last nine months," he pointed out. "If Penn had broken its contract it would have lost the entire amount."

"These men were sworn in on the campus," said Doctor Smith, "but Washington says it has no record of their enrollment. Other Pennsylvania colleges have not had their enrollment papers received at all, and do not know whether the Government will reimburse them for the work they have done and the money they have spent."

The provost said that the S. A. T. C. as worked out in 500 American colleges, had not been satisfactory to educators.

Jewish Women to Present Play The Council of Jewish Women will present its annual play, "Aladdin and His Lamp," this afternoon at Mercantile Hall. The production was written and directed by George Jacobs, and the proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to charity. Miss Julia Kind will play the Princess and Harold Hess will be Aladdin. Other members of the cast include Mrs. Leon Hagedorn, Jacob Goldsmith and Paul Stern. There also will be several vocal numbers by Miss Adeline Jason.

ARMY SURGEONS MAKE RECORD Penn Doctors Perform Five Operations Daily—No Deaths Five operations daily for four months with no deaths is the record of two army surgeons, graduates of the University of Pennsylvania, who have charge of Camp Hospital 29, "somewhere in France."

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Just before hostilities ceased the hospital inmates received a scare. A severe storm arose and the roof was blown from a building in which were housed five soldiers who had been operated on by Major Kelton. Lieutenant Armstrong and several Red Cross nurses struggled into the wrecked building, rescued the patients and carried them to safety.

POSITION OPEN FOR HEATING, POWER AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER Give qualifications, reference, age, married or single, salary. G 548, Ledger Central

TO PAY SCHOOLS FOR S. A. T. C. LOSS

War Department Promises Penn and Others "Equitable Adjustment"

COST U. OF P. \$62,000

Announces That Many Soldier Students Have Suffered Because of Corps

Equitable financial adjustments will be made by the War Department with educational institutions which have suffered loss by reason of the demobilization of the student army training corps. The announcement that such an arrangement had been reached was contained in a letter from Major Ralph Barton Perry, secretary of the committee on education of the general staff.

"The War Department," Major Perry said, "is fully aware of the force of the argument in favor of continuance of the students' army training corps. The demobilization will, in some cases, doubtless result in inconvenience to the institution. The committee on education has, however, been authorized to make equitable financial adjustments. It is also recognized that in many cases the individual students will suffer hardships."

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ZIONISTS CLASH OVER TELEGRAM

Question of Reading Message in Hebrew and Yiddish Stirs Delegates

COMPROMISE EFFECTED

Care of Jewish Immigrants After Peace Conference Is Considered

A telegram from Jerusalem to the Jewish Socialist Poale Zion, in connection at the Continental Hotel today, precipitated a clash between the Yiddish and Hebrew factions.

The telegram was in Hebrew, but the advocates for Yiddish as the national tongue for Palestine insisted that the wire be read in translation.

After much argument Dr. Israel Applebaum, chairman of the session, was able to enforce his ruling that the message from the Palestinian school, wishing the convention success, be read both in Hebrew and in Yiddish.

The 150 delegates, representing Jewish labor interests from every important city in the United States and Canada, who are meeting here in the interests of an ambitious program.

Included is the creation of an organization to take care of the large Jewish immigration to this country which, it is expected, will come here after the Peace conference. The newcomers are to be directed to settle in centers where they are most needed and their entrance into trades is to be regulated so as to avoid unseemly competition.

The Jewish Socialist Poale Zion were among the first organizers of the American Jewish Congress, which met here recently. They contributed 1000 soldiers to the Jewish legion which fought with the British on the Palestinian front.

A co-operative bank for the establishment of colonies in Palestine, a fund of \$25,000 for a Jewish daily, a fund which \$100,000 was subscribed at yesterday's session; the creation of a Socialist republic in the Holy Land, and a world congress of Jewish labor, are among the aims of the convention.

ACTOR TO BE SPEAKER Cyril Maude to Address Chamber of Commerce Friday

Cyril Maude, now playing here, will address the Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel tomorrow. His subject will be "Women's War Work in England."

Since the beginning of the war Mr. Maude has done valuable service for the British cause by addressing audiences throughout the United States and in Australia. On Tuesday afternoon of next week Mr. Maude will address members of the Drama League at the Broad Street Theatre on the subject of "The Player and the Play."

20,000 LISTED FOR RETURN

Pershing Cables Early Sailing of Large Contingent of Troops Washington, Dec. 26.—Lists of units of the expeditionary force assigned for early convey home cabled today by General Pershing comprised 600 officers and nearly 20,000 men.

They include the Forty-fourth, Sixtieth and Sixty-fourth Coast artillery regiments and the Forty-ninth and 53rd Infantry.

Other organizations on the lists were headquarters and companies C, D, E, and F, Twentieth Engineers; mobile hospital companies 100th to 105th inclusive; mobile surgical units 100th to 105th inclusive; First anti-aircraft headquarters; twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth battalions; machine gun battalion of second anti-aircraft service; nineteenth balloon company and medical detachment; thirtieth balloon company; nineteenth aero squadron and medical detachment; 109th aero squadron; twenty-third, fourth and fifth signal battalions; signal corps casual company No. 1; base hospital No. 2; sixth company, second air service mechanics regiment; ordnance casual companies 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10; balloon companies Nos. 35, 36 and 46; mobile hospital No. 35; first battalion headquarters of the seventy-fourth engineers; balloon company No. 30; 42nd and 43rd telegraph battalions with medical detachments; seventh and nineteenth trench mortar batteries; chemical warfare service casual company No. 2.

BAKER URGES NEW ARMY LAW

Asks for Legislation Permitting Voluntary Enlistments Washington, Dec. 26.—(By A. P.)—Immediate legislation authorizing re-emption of voluntary enlistment in the army, and the repeal of provisions of the selective service act limiting enlistments to the period of the war, was urged today by Secretary Baker in a letter to Chairman Dent, of the House Military Affairs Committee.

Without the legislation, Secretary Baker said, the army, after the proclamation of peace, would not have sufficient forces to perform essential military duties, including the policing of the Mexican border.

"This legislation is urgently necessary," he wrote, "because as soon after the proclamation of peace as the existing emergency will permit those who have enlisted or been drafted to serve during the emergency must all, in accordance with the law, be discharged. Demobilization of these men, who are being rapidly made and it is expected soon to release them at a rate of more than 30,000 a day or 200,000 a week."

U. S. DESTROYERS START HOME

Whistles Shriek as Squadron of Ten Leaves Queenstown Queenstown, Dec. 26.—(By A. P.)—Ten American destroyers, flying their long "homeward bound" pennants, steamed out to the harbor today amid the roar of whistles from shipping. Sea planes dipped over them as they disappeared in the fog.

In the returning flotilla were the destroyers Stockton, Wilkes, Beale, Dunham, Rowan, Kimberly, Ains, Downs, Davin and Simpson. They were accompanied by the tug Genesee.

With the departure of the squadron the harbor of Queenstown was cleared of all American vessels except the flagship Melville, the trip home will be by way of the Azores.

HELD AFTER FATAL FIGHT

Man's Skull Fractured by Fall Following Blow, Witnesses Say Eugene Lawless, 1511 North Fifty-second street, was held to await the action of the coroner today by Magistrate Meclary at Central Station in the death of Anthony Oster, forty-three years old, of the same address.

According to witnesses the two men engaged in a fight at the house last night, during the course of which Lawless struck Oster with a brick. In falling Oster's head struck the floor with great force fracturing his skull. He died shortly after being removed to the West Philadelphia Homeopathic Hospital.

Funds for Officers and Entisted Men

In the U. S. Army and Navy and with Red Cross or Y. M. C. A. The Safest Way To carry funds is by Traveler's Letters of Credit which we issue free of commission To send funds is by Mail or Cable Transfer which may be made through us.

WE HAVE OUR OWN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE IN FRANCE WITH HEADQUARTERS AT THE OFFICE OF CREDIT COMMERCIAL DE FRANCE 20 RUE LAFAYETTE, PARIS

BROWN BROTHERS & Co. FOURTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS PHILADELPHIA

Your Best Asset—A Skin Cleared by—Cuticura Soap

650 POOR CHILDREN FEAST

Turkey and Fixins' for Youngsters at Bedford Street Mission At the annual Christmas dinner this afternoon at the Bedford Street Mission, 619 Carter street 650 poor children were given turkey dinners.

The custom was instituted in 1852. Present at the dinner today were many "boys and girls" of mature years who attended these dinners when they were youngsters.

The provisions used sound like the ration of an army. They include 600 pounds of turkey, 400 pounds of candy, ten bushels of potatoes, ten bunches of bananas, four barrels of apples, 1500 oranges, 210 pies and 100 dozen rolls. Four rooms were devoted to the dinner and were divided according to the size of the children. The tables and chairs were brought from those for adults to those for the smallest babies.

Prof. Calvin O. Althouse, of the Boy's High School, spoke briefly. He declared that he favored the creation of a metropolitan district for Philadelphia which would afford city police and fire protection to the scores of suburbs adjacent to the city.

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BAILEY, BANKS & BIDDLE CO. Jewelers

ENGAGEMENT RINGS Diamonds of Exceptional Brilliancy

Exquisitely Mounted in Platinum

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PROF. CRET COMING HOME

French Soldier-Architect Due at Penn Next Month Paul Cret, who has been fighting in France for some years, will return in January to the University of Pennsylvania as professor of design in the school of architecture. The announcement is made by Professor Warren P. Laird, who is head of the school.

Professor Cret was the designer of Rittenhouse Square improvement plans and has been mentioned recently as designer of the city's proposed war memorial.

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A COLLECTION OF SILVER TEA, COFFEE AND DESSERT SERVICES WITH ACCOMPANYING FLATWARE, WHICH WILL ESTABLISH NEW STANDARDS OF ARTISTIC INTEREST. PRICES ARE NEVER EXCESSIVE.

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Here it is! Starting Tomorrow Morning at Nine o'Clock Philadelphia's One Big General REDUCTION SALE of PERRY WINTER OVERCOATS and PERRY WINTER SUITS. The announcement of a Perry General Reduction Sale has to use the same words and phrases that are free to any other "sale" announcement, but there the similarity ends. For, a Perry season-end Reduction Sale is an Event apart on three important counts, namely— 1. The Character of the Clothes in point of workmanship, finish, fit, and style 2. The already low selling prices on which the reductions are made 3. The Comprehensiveness which takes in every kind of garment for Men's Outer wear. Specifically, Overcoats of every description—Single-breasted conservatives, fly-fronts, button-through fronts, velvet collars, cloth collars, loose backs, form-fitted backs, box backs, well-draped Raglans—Double-breasted Overcoats with full backs or with snug waist lines; Ulsters, Ulsterettes, Storm Coats, Great Coats, muff-pocket Overcoats, slashed-pocket Overcoats, out-side pocket Coats—Fur-collar Overcoats, Fur-lined Overcoats, Fur-outside Overcoats, sheep-skin-lined Overcoats, Reversible leather and cloth Overcoats, Military Overcoats! Specifically, Suits for every need, occasion and size! Conservative Suits, cut-off-waist Suits, military back Suits—Worsteds, cassimeres, chevots, flannels! All now at Substantial Reductions from their already low Regular prices! OVERCOATS SUITS The finest \$70 and \$75 Overcoats are reduced! The Sixty-five-dollar Suits are reduced! The finest \$60 and \$65 Overcoats are reduced! The Fifty-five-dollar Suits are reduced! The finest \$50 and \$55 Overcoats are reduced! The finest \$45 and \$50 Suits are reduced! The finest \$40 and \$45 Overcoats are reduced! The \$38 and \$40 Suits are reduced! The \$30 and \$35 Overcoats are reduced! The \$30 and \$35 Suits are reduced! The \$25 and \$28 Overcoats are reduced! The \$25 and \$28 Suits are reduced! Even the \$20 Overcoats are reduced! Even the \$20 Suits are reduced! Evening Dress Suits are reduced! Tuxedo Suits are reduced! Cutaway Coat Suits are reduced! Fur-lined Overcoats are reduced! Fur-outside Overcoats are reduced! Fur-collar Overcoats are reduced! Sheep-skin-lined Overcoats are reduced! Reversible leather and cloth Overcoats are reduced! Fleece-lined waterproof Coats are reduced! Separate Trousers are reduced! Dress Vests, Fancy Vests, all-wool comfort Vests are reduced! Corduroy and leather Vests are reduced! A Great, Big, Comprehensive Reduction Sale of Men's Clothes that were already big substantial Values at their low, regular, all-season Perry Prices! Sale Starts Tomorrow Morning at 9 o'Clock PERRY & CO., "N. B. T." 16th & Chestnut Sts.