

CENTENARY FUND GATHERING SPEED

"Going Like Prairie Fire," Says Bishop Berry

HOPE FOR \$105,000,000

"One Million Tithers in Methodism," Slogan Urged on Methodists

"One Million Tithers in Methodism" is a slogan of the Centenary Missionary Campaign of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which, according to Bishop Joseph F. Berry, is "sweeping the Church like a prairie fire."

The Philadelphia area, in which Bishop Berry has charge, is enlisting hundreds of men and women to give one-tenth of their incomes to the church. In many churches every member of the official board has enrolled as a tither, giving a great impetus to the movement to secure recruits in the congregations.

With 1,000,000 tithers on the job, Methodism will have no difficulty in raising \$105,000,000 in its great centenary campaign during the next five years, is the opinion of Bishop Berry. Of this amount \$5,000,000 will be spent annually on reconstruction work in this country and abroad.

The Rev. Dr. George H. Bickley, executive secretary of the Philadelphia area, which embraces the Philadelphia, New Jersey, Wyoming and Delaware conferences, says Philadelphia is swinging into line.

At the Church of the Advocate, Germantown, H. A. Romberger, president of the board of trustees, told his fellow trustees that he had decided to become a tither and asked them to do the same. All nine trustees immediately swung into line.

In the Sarah D. Cooper Memorial Church, of which the Rev. W. Gray Jones is pastor, the nine trustees signed a pledge to become tithers. Immediately 120 members of the congregation took the same pledge.

The centenary campaign asks for 25 per cent of the church membership to become tithers, which means that 25,000,000 tithers will be enlisted in the Philadelphia area.

Calvary Church, of which the Rev. Dr. Elmer K. Heilmann is pastor, was given a five-year allotment of \$75,000 in the centenary campaign. "Show the other churches what can be done," Bishop Berry told the Heilmanns, and the pastor went to it. They made an every-member canvass in Calvary Church and last returns showed \$93,000, with pledges still coming in.

The Rev. E. W. Rushton, pastor of the Methodist Church at Wayne, Pa., is going to France to represent the Pocket Testament League, so his congregation made its canvass in advance. Mr. Rushton reports nearly \$4000 pledged, which more than covers his quota.

Reports from all parts of the Philadelphia area show the centenary "prairie fire" is warming up the churches. Fifty thousand pieces of centenary literature were sent out by Doctor Bickley from the Philadelphia area headquarters in the Wesley Building last week. Each of the nineteen other area headquarters throughout the country sent out about the same number of pamphlets and leaflets.

NEIGHBORS FIGHT SKIP-STOP

Woman's Death and Other Accident Cited in Protest

Residents in the neighborhood of Fifty-third and Spruce streets, where a skip-stop was established, say that elimination of a car stop at that point held an element of danger which they would bring to the attention of the Rapid Transit Company.

Mrs. Anna James was killed at the intersection on Saturday night, and this fatality was urged as a final reason why the skip-stop should be abolished, as the residents say it endangers the lives of the poor of the Samuel J. Huey School, at Fifty-second and Pine streets.

The residents also say that there have been three automobile collisions at Fifty-third and Spruce streets since the stop was eliminated, and that if it were re-established it would mean the auto-accident would proceed with greater caution and less speed.

More than 1000 of the residents signed a petition to have the stop restored prior to the time that the Public Service Commission set to hear the skip-stop issue recently. The majority of these say they would like immediate action by the trolley company.

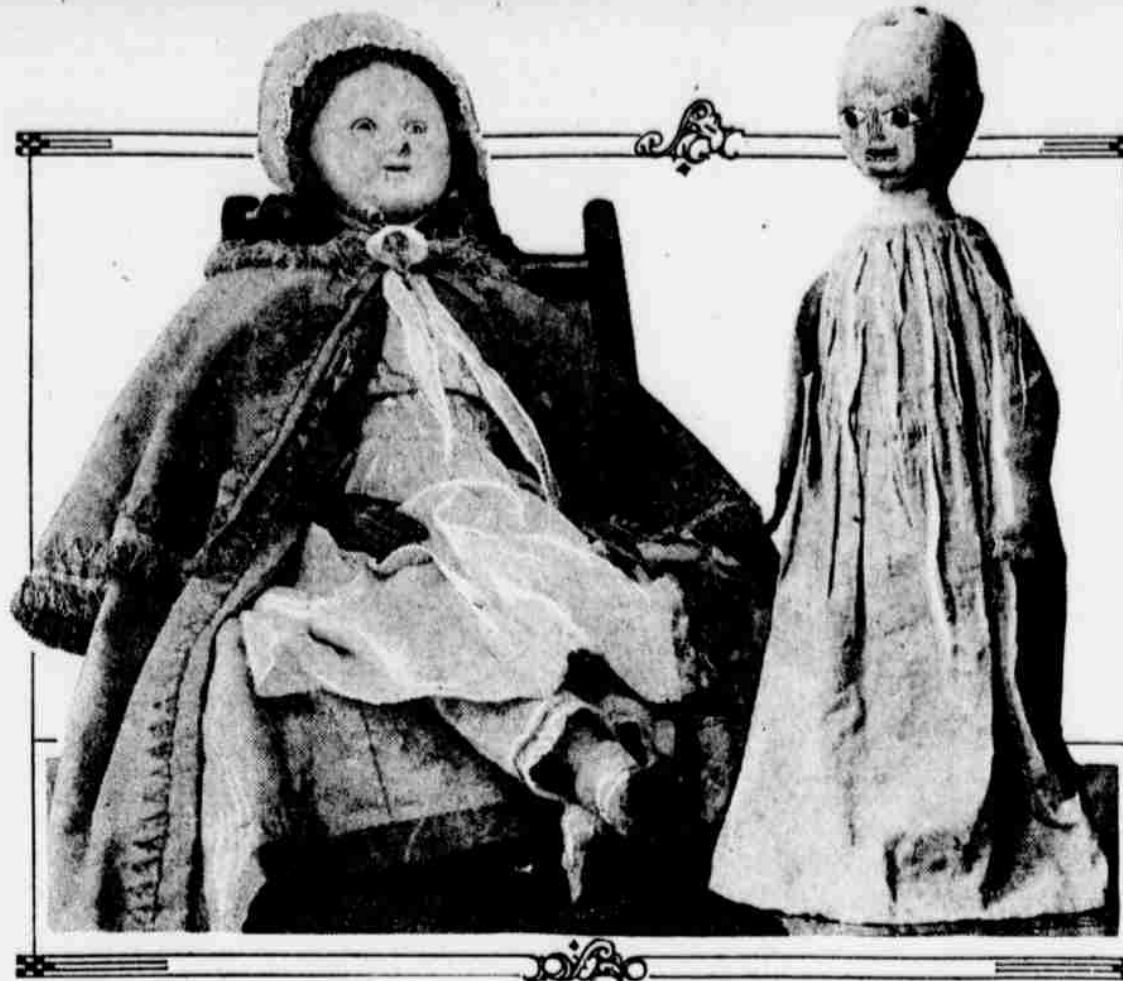
TEN CITY CRAFT RELEASED

Shipping Board Frees Eighty-Three Vessels From Requisition

A list of eighty-three steamships released from requisition on various dates between the early part of January and the first of March was made public by the United States shipping board today.

Ten of the steamships are in this port as follows: The Walter D. Munson, Francis L. Skinner, Severance, Cacique, Pelades, Clara, Santa Clara, Bantui, Munro, Newton and Easton.

A QUEEN'S PLAYMATE AND "POLLY CAWTHROPE"



An exhibit of famous dolls opened today at the Emergency Aid shop, 1501 Walnut street. On the left is Alice, once the playmate of Queen Victoria, and at the right is Miss Polly Cawthrope, more than 130 years old, two of the many dolls shown

"NUT" OR "CRACKER," POLICE DOUBT WHICH

Mysterious Youth, Carrying "Toy" Burglar Tools, Held for Observation

The police are holding Oscar Smith, twenty-three years old, no address given, to learn whether he is a graduate of a hitherto-unsuspected correspondence school for burglars or whether he is a subject for Dr. John H. Egan, police surgeon.

Smith was found wandering about Broad Street Station early this morning with a small grip in his hand. The grip wasn't half so suspicious as Smith's adjoints. Smith wandered about the train shed peering about mysteriously; so much so that Pennsylvania Railroad Detective Urian questioned him.

To all queries Smith answered only with a shrug of his shoulders. He wouldn't tell where he came from or where he was going. Finally Urian took him over to police headquarters in City Hall.

There it was found that the contents of the grip he carried were very polyglot indeed. There were about 200 pieces of all sorts and sizes, a home-made mask, a pair of automobile goggles, a searchlight of the two-bit pocket variety, a revolver which would go "click" if one pulled the trigger, but nothing else, and a small chain which might pry open a child's savings bank.

Smith was very mysterious. To all questions by the police he was mute, contenting himself with a shrug of the shoulder, which might mean anything or nothing.

The police do not think he has had any hand in the numerous robberies in the city, which have been the terror of householders and citizens and the distress of the department for the last several months.

WAIVE CIVIL SERVICE LAW

Death of Crews for City Iceboats and Dredges Cause Waiver

Because of the difficulty encountered in obtaining crews for city dredges and iceboats, directors are employed for varying periods each year. The positions to be exempted range from captains and engineers to cooks and laborers. The hearing by the Civil Service Commission has grown to be a matter of form, and is merely to comply with the law.

In the iceboat service men are required but a few months each year and dredge work has few attractions to river men. In recent years so much trouble has resulted from civil service regulations that they have always been set aside for these classes of city employees. Annually a hearing is held by the Civil Service Commission, but no objections to the scheme have ever been made.

In the iceboat fleet and on city dredges several hundred men are employed for varying periods each year. The positions to be exempted range from captains and engineers to cooks and laborers. The hearing by the Civil Service Commission has grown to be a matter of form, and is merely to comply with the law.

'BOAT HOUSE ROW' NO LONGER EYESORE IN PORT RICHMOND

March of Improvements Along Delaware River Front Routs Last Fishermen Today and Police Lieutenant Brings About City Ambition of Many Years Standing

Port Richmond's "Boathouse Row" is no more. The "row," as it has been called for over seventy years, extended along the Delaware River front, north of Allegheny avenue, but like many other old features of the northeast section of the city, it has finally passed away and hereafter will live only in memory.

Antedating the Mexican War (in 1847), the history of the "row" goes back far different from the community it is today. Then fine old mansions sat far back from the river, and where busy industrial plants thrived with life were fields of waving corn, while the air was charged with the fragrance of roses and honeysuckle. Ships with tall masts anchored off what is now Allegheny avenue, and on that account landings were attached to the shore, and these landings grew and multiplied into the row of a hundred or more boathouses that have now passed away forever.

With the passing to their fathers of the landed gentry of old Port Richmond, the entire character of the row changed. The ships with the tall masts anchored no more in the river, but in their stead came the shad fishermen with their acres of nets, and, alas, an over-abundance of strong drink. Many a boat these hardy men had when luck went with them and butchers of quarts were to be had almost for the asking. In the boathouses along the row their families were born, lived their lives and died.

With the march of improvements along the Port Richmond riverfront the city authorities early saw that the boathouses would have to go, but how to get rid of them was a question. They had been there so long that they claimed a kind of title to the ground, and one city administration after another failed to dispossess them. The occupants of the houses wielded no uncertain political influence, and when about to be removed never failed to reach the ear of some one in authority.

After several efforts had failed to get them away from the riverfront the task was finally put up to Lieutenant Charles Schweiker of the Belgrade and

Clearfield streets police station. Just how the lieutenant managed to clear them out is a mystery. The last one departed this morning, loaded upon a flat boat, for a new site somewhere on the Jersey shore.

Schweiker says he only used a little diplomacy instead of roughhouse methods that were resorted to before. "I said to them: 'Boys, you'll have to go; business is here to stay and the city boathouse has seen its day,'" the lieutenant explained when asked this morning how he had accomplished what a score of city administrations had failed to bring about.

MAYOR REPORTED BETTER

Rheumatic Swelling Decreasing and Lower Temperature Is Noted

Mayor Smith, though still confined to his bed, is reported much improved today. He has been ill for ten days with acute inflammatory rheumatism.

Joseph Smith, the Mayor's brother and secretary, reported today that the Mayor had enjoyed a pleasant Sunday with a good night's rest. The rheumatic swelling is decreasing and his temperature is lower, with the pain much lessened.

Secretary Smith will call on the Mayor today to tell him about municipal affairs. It is expected the Mayor will soon be well enough to sign the routine bills that have accumulated during his illness.

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"MISS POLLY CAWTHROPE" IS WELL PRESERVED AT 130

Polly Is a Doll and Will Be, With Many Other Antique Toys of the City's Smart Set, on Exhibition This Week by Emergency Aid, and All Have Interesting Histories

DESPITE her 130 years of existence, "Miss Polly Cawthrope" retains such a youthful figure and childlike features that hundreds of Philadelphia's elite are expected to visit her this week in an effort to discover her elixir of life.

"Miss Polly" is just one of the many antique dolls that will be on exhibit at the Emergency Aid workshop, 1501 Walnut street, beginning today. She was given by Miss Polly Cawthrope in 1784 to Mrs. John Montgomery.

Mrs. Charles Ingersoll is going to allow "Ethel Newcomb" to enter the exhibit, too. "Ethel" was bought by Mrs. Newcomb's father, Robert Sturgis, at the Sanitary fair held in 1864 at Logan Square. She was dressed by Miss Mary Cadwalader, who later became Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell.

There are rich dolls and poor dolls, some with several trunksful of clothing, others in rags. All of them have interesting histories and associations. They are exceedingly valuable and have been specially insured for the exhibit.

Miss Mary Comover is in charge of the show. Assisting her are Mrs. S. M. Wright, Mrs. John C. Groome, Mrs. E. Burd Grubb, Miss Kate Forrester Hol-

terson, Mrs. J. Willis Martin, Mrs. Reed A. Morgan and Mrs. George Wharton Pepper.

Crippled Belgian soldiers will be the beneficiaries of a sale which also will be held at the Emergency Aid shop. There will be postage stamps from Europe and buttons from uniforms worn by the Belgian soldiers among the articles for sale.

Each button is mounted on cardboard, which contains data concerning the battle in which the wearer fought.

There will also be some Belgian lace for sale. Two Belgian refugees, the Mademoiselle DeLionne, have been sent here by the Belgian consul at New York to bring this lace. The proceeds of the lace sale will be used to help the peasant women rebuild their homes. Mrs. May and Henry is directing the sale for the Belgians.

Boys Accused of Theft

Three boys, Leonard Levy, eleven years old; his brother Samuel, fourteen, and William Calper, fifteen, were sent to the House of Detention for a hearing, charged with having stolen \$130 from the cash register of John Joergens, a meat dealer, 2417 Germantown avenue, late Saturday night. The police recovered \$110 of the money from beneath a brick in the pavement near the store.

AND MEAN- While, what does Scandinavia want—what are her vital issues? These questions are answered by our correspondent in Stockholm in this week's issue of

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