

PLANE GET GUARDS  
TO PROTECT BUYERS

Spread of Crime in Central Section Causes Business Men to Engage Detectives

SEE RELIEF UNDER MOORE

Business men in the central section of the city have been forced to hire plainclothes men to protect their patrons from the crooks who have been operating on Chestnut and Walnut streets in spite of the police.

"This lawlessness seems an extraordinary state of affairs in such a community as Philadelphia," said Mr. Hutchins today.

"I believe Mr. Moore will make a special effort to clean the city of crooks. I have great confidence in him. It has been necessary to employ private detectives to protect customers. This increases the overhead expense of doing business, naturally, and the business men are not pleased with the new administration offers the remedy."

Ellwood Chapman, president of the Chestnut Street Business Men's Association, said that it had been necessary to hire plainclothes men.

"We have them," said Mr. Chapman. "It has been necessary because there has been a great increase in such a opening. They are on duty in our store constantly, and as soon as they see a crook warning his way into a crowd, they tell him to get out and turn him out again."

"I have never known robberies to be so numerous as they are in this section. Why? I know of one instance here in broad daylight, at 10 o'clock in the morning, and in a crowded store, that the plainclothes officers of a public phone and carried away coin box and instrument."

"The Chestnut Street Business Men's Association will continue to watch the new administration goes in, and then our action will be entirely a friendly one."

"The trouble is that these crimes can be perpetrated so quickly that it is hard for the police to prevent them. With a motor waiting at the curb with engine running, it is not difficult for a crook to make his getaway."

No Fault of Policemen  
"We have no fault to find with individual policemen. The traffic squad and the reserves are a fine set of men and are doing their best under the circumstances."

William Spicer, secretary of the Walnut Street Business Association, said today that no answer has been received to a request made by the association some months ago, and recently reiterated, that the city should establish from the south side of Walnut street to the north side of Arch street and from river to river.

No such decision has been reached, and Mr. Spicer suggests that there be established, according to Captain Souder's office.

The police have just put a special squad of twelve men, in six sidecar motorcycles, on duty in the central part of town. Their job will be to run down motor bandits. This is the first of the "biking squadrons" authorized by Councils.

MAIL RUSH SETS RECORD  
4,000,000 Pieces Is Day's Handling at Postoffice Here

Mail handled at the Philadelphia postoffice yesterday broke all records and still better achievements are being made today. This was the statement of Superintendent of Mails Johnson this afternoon.

Parcel post packages handled at the postoffice yesterday totaled 200,000. But that was only one item. The total number of pieces of mail handled was 4,000,000.

"Despite this great volume of business," said Superintendent Johnson, "there was no congestion. Every piece of mail is being sent promptly on to its destination or delivered here. We will make all deliveries in time for Christmas if they reach our hands in time."

Long lines stand at the postoffice windows waiting to buy stamps. It was estimated today that 25,000 persons visited the postoffice yesterday and that even more persons will transact business there today.

BARS 'MERCHANT OF VENICE'  
Newark School Board Drops Play for Sake of Children

Newark, N. J., Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" is to be dropped from the Haddonfield school play because of its effect on the minds of non-Jewish children.

Man Ends Life in Clubhouse  
Albert Heber, sixty years old, of 561 North Fifth street, committed suicide early this morning by hanging himself. Heber's body was found in a bathroom of the Comet Club, 557 North Fifth street, by Gustave Ansen, steward. According to Ansen, who was a friend of the dead man, Heber attempted suicide by gas poisoning a year ago. He was despondent, the police say, on account of lack of work. He was a patternmaker.

NEW ENGLANDERS  
RAP BOLSHIEVISM

Address and Patriotic Tableau Stir Members of Penna. Society at Annual Dinner

PLEA ENTERED FOR RUSSIA

Patriotic tableaux and stirring addresses raised enthusiasm to the highest pitch last night at the annual dinner of the New England Society of Pennsylvania at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel.

Princess Cantacuzene  
Granddaughter of General Grant, who for twenty years has been living in Russia. She pleaded for aid for the Russian sufferers in an address at the annual dinner of the New England Society of Pennsylvania.

COUNCILS TODAY  
TO CLEAN SLATES

Both Branches Plan Action on Pending Measures, Including Transit Ordinances

WATER RATE BILL UP

A general "clean up" of outstanding measures is planned for both branches of Councils today. Most of the bills awaiting action are of a financial nature.

The financial bills include transfers and authorizations of bills incurred by departments without any specific financial provision having been made for the same.

Previous to the meeting of Councils, members of the street railway committee will decide what action, if any, the city shall take in connection with the fight of the business men along Passyunk avenue to prevent the Rapid Transit Company from removing its tracks and service from that thoroughfare.

The most important bill outside the financial bills is the one providing for a decrease in the city's water rate. This measure is being urged by a number of councilmen, but strong opposition is being made by the water department.

SHERIFF'S JOBS DISCUSSED  
Moore and Lamberton Confer—Coles May Have Choice of Position

Appointments to various posts in the sheriff's office were discussed today at a conference between Mayor-elect Moore and Sheriff-elect Lamberton.

After the meeting Mr. Lamberton said that George W. Moore, secretary of the Town Meeting party, could have any position in the sheriff's office that he desired.

SMOKE CAUSES FIRE ALARM  
Faulty Draft Gives Man a Scare and Engines Futile Run

James Foster went into the parlor of his home, 4452 North Colorado street, this morning to build a fire to warm the room while he arranged the Christmas decorations. Soon after he applied the match, the room filled with dense smoke. This spread to all parts of the house.

WALDRON DEFENDS BILL  
Water Charge Reduction Not Meant to Hamstring Next Administration

Select Councilman Alfred M. Waldron, Thirty-first ward, sponsor of an ordinance designed to reduce excess water charges from forty to twenty cents per 1000 cubic feet, denied his bill was meant to "hamstring the incoming municipal administration."

WOMAN CUT BY WINDSHIELD  
Miss Sarah Manley, of Clifton Heights, was cut about the face when she was thrown through a windshield in an automobile accident near Media.

Arrested in Jewel Robbery  
Arrested an hour after he is alleged to have committed a robbery early this morning, Theodore Burton was held without bail for court by Magistrate Meclary. According to the police, Burton was arrested in a vacant house at Carlisle and Duncannon streets.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS" TOKEN  
HANGS IN HOME OF POVERTY

"Mother" Dougherty, Crippled Widow, Cheery Though Five Children Face Hunger in One-Room Shack

In the room that serves as kitchen, dining room and living room for the Doughertys, 1724 Wood street, there is one window. And somehow that window today symbolizes the spirit of the little household.

One pane in the lower sash is gone, but the landlord has been so good about letting "Mother" Dougherty pay the rent in installments that she fates to ask favors of him. A much faded newspaper keeps out the cold. Above the patched pane hangs a cheery red wreath with the slogan: "Merry Christmas."

War has left us the strongest, richest and most untroubled nation in the world, said the Rev. Hugh Birkhead, one of the speakers. "Why? Are we exempt from suffering? Our very power is a prophecy. At no distant day we shall be called upon to place our resources at the disposal of the world."

CADDIES LA VASIDE  
STICKS FOR 'FIXNS'

Wives of Members Serve Christmas Dinner to 200 Philmont Attendants

OTHER CLUBS ENTERTAIN  
Calls at Rotan's Office

Caddies substituted knives, forks and spoons for niblicks, mashes and brassies this afternoon at three country clubs, at the turkey and "fixns" they could hold, said vaudeville shows and received cash and other prizes.

No Immediate Action  
As Mr. Rotan is out of town and will not be back until after the holidays, there will be no immediate action taken.

Party at Hospital  
Hahnemann Institution to Entertain Mothers and Their Babies

There is to be a Christmas party at Hahnemann hospital this afternoon for the mothers and babies who usually attend the Well baby class each week.

SAYS AUSTRIA IS DESPERATE  
Polk Urges Allies to Unite in Sending Financial Aid

Washington, Dec. 23.—(By A. P.)—United action by the allied and associated powers in re-financing Austria is the only way of saving that country from utter chaos and economic wreckage, said Mr. Polk, under secretary of state and head of the American peace delegation at Paris, today on his return to Washington.

TO LAUNCH RELIEF  
ATNAVY YARD HERE

Wife of Rear Admiral Braisted to Christen Hospital Ship Today

VESEL CARRIES 500 BEDS  
The Relief, said to be the first vessel in the world to be built as hospital ship, will be launched today at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Grand Jury Probe  
of Prisons Asked

Dunlap Formally Demands Investigation of Conditions at Eastern Penitentiary

Miss Elizabeth C. Stone to Christen American Press

HOG ISLAND LAUNCHING

Party at Hospital

Says Austria is Desperate

Waldron Defends Bill

Smoke Causes Fire Alarm

Woman Cut by Windshield

Arrested in Jewel Robbery

Vaughan Sails Today

Highways Are Reported  
Slippery in Some Cases

Condition of Highways this morning as reported by the United States Weather Bureau co-operating with the State Highway Department:

Lincoln Highway (Trenton to Chambersburg), mostly fair, slippery in parts of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties where covered with hard packed snow.

Philadelphia and Reading pike, no information received.  
Lancaster and Harrisburg pike, no information received.

U. S. Explains Why Reds Are Exiled  
State Department Tells Foreign Capitals Deportees Are "Undesirable"

ENEMIES OF GOVERNMENT  
By the Associated Press  
Washington, Dec. 23.—An explanation of the deportation of the 249 radical Russians on the transport Buford was called by the State Department today to "various foreign capitals."

Situation Appears Deadlocked  
In the meantime, there seems to be a deadlock. The decision of the property committee, after two meetings which were held on the case, was that the janitor was on probation and would be transferred as soon after the holidays as possible.

Janitor Pleads Vindication  
"Resign? Well, a man doesn't like to resign when he feels that what he has done is not wrong, and the board has not asked me to resign. Their action vindicates me," declared Mr. Welsh today.

Jeweled Bar Pins  
FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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Vaughan Sails Today

THE HOUSE THAT HEPPE BUILT  
C. J. Heppe & Son  
A Last-Minute Suggestion—a Victrola or Victor Records from HEPPE'S  
What better symbolizes Christmas than music—and what better musical gift than a Victrola or Victor Records? Below are three Heppe Victrola suggestions. Settlement may be by cash or charge account—or by our Rental-Payment Plan, by which all rent applies toward the purchase price. Call, phone or write at once.

Victrola IV with four records \$28.40	Victrola VI with five records \$39.25	Victrola VIII with six records \$55.10
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Downtown: 1117-1119 Chestnut Street  
Uptown: 6th and Thompson Streets  
C. J. HEPPE & SON  
Founded in 1865  
One Price System adopted in 1921

STUTZ  
One car may be more powerful than the Stutz, another may be prettier to look at, but no car today possesses such a perfect combination of all the necessary requirements to motoring pleasure and satisfaction as the Stutz.  
S. R. BLOCKSOM MOTOR CO.  
667-9 N. BROAD ST.