THE WEATHER
Washington, Feb. 19.—Partly cloudy and colder today.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
33	30	28	28	29	27				

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA FINANCIAL

VOL. VI.—NO. 135 | Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Postoffice, at Philadelphia, Pa. Under the Act of March 3, 1879. | PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1920 | Published Daily Except Sunday. Subscription Price $6 a Year by Mail. Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Company. | PRICE TWO CENTS

RECEIVER SOUGHT FOR MOTORS FIRM HEADED BY BERLET

Petition in Involuntary Bankruptcy Filed Against Stability Company, Truck Concern

LIABILITIES NEAR $200,000, WHILE ASSETS ARE $150,000

Organization Admits Insolvency and Inability to Pay Debts, Petitioners' Statement Says

A petition in involuntary bankruptcy was filed today in the United States District Court against the Stability Motors Co., whose president, E. J. Berlet, has been conspicuous in business and civic affairs here for years. The appointment of a receiver is sought.

Liabilities of the company, which was organized two years ago by Mr. Berlet, are said to be nearly $200,000, while the assets are about $150,000.

The petitioning creditors are the Northwestern National Bank, the Commonwealth Finance Corporation and Harris J. Latta, an insurance and surety bond broker.

The Stability Motors Co. was capitalized at $250,000, although only a small fraction of that amount of shares was taken by persons other than Mr. Berlet. He is said to have held a controlling interest.

Other stockholders, not identified with the company's management, are Mr. Latta, Theodore Seifert, a furrier; Daniel J. Murphy, Jr., member of a firm of stevedores, and H. Graham English, a publisher.

Mismanagement, Is Complaint

Those four shareholders hold about $7500 of the stock.

Shareholders and creditors who discussed the bankruptcy petition asserted the company's affairs were mismanaged and that the overhead expenses were exceedingly large in comparison with the amount of business done.

The company deals in motor trucks of various types, and has headquarters at 1720 North Croskey street.

The petition follows:

"The petititon of the Northwestern National Bank, Harris J. Latta and the Commonwealth Finance Corporation of New York respectfully represents:

"That the Stability Motors Co., of Philadelphia, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware, has for the greater portion of six months next preceding the date of filing of this petition had its principal place of business at 1720-1740 North Croskey street, and owes debts in the amount of $1000 and upwards.

"That your petitioners are creditors of said Stability Motors Co., having provable claims amounting in the aggregate, in excess of securities held by them, in the sum of $500 and upwards.

Claims Are Set Forth

"That the nature and amount of your petitioners' claims are as follows:

"Northwestern National Bank, money loaned, amounting to approximately $28,004.69.

"Commonwealth Finance Corporation, unlawful conversion of property to the amount of $25,722.83.

"Harris J. Latta, $559.97.

"Your petitioners represent that said Stability Motors Co. is insolvent and that within four months next preceding the date of this petition the said Stability Motors Co. committed an act of bankruptcy in that it did heretofore, to wit: On December 19, 1919, it conveyed and transferred certain property belonging to the said corporation, to wit, automobile trucks, with intent to hinder, delay and defraud your petitioners and other creditors.

"That the said Stability Motors Co. has in writing acknowledged and admitted its insolvency and its inability to pay its debts, and that it is willing to be adjudged a bankrupt on that ground.

Signers of Petition

"Wherefore your petitioners pray that the service of this petition with a subpena be made upon the Stability Motors Co. as provided in the acts of Congress relating to bankruptcy, and that it may be adjudged by the court to be a bankrupt within the purview of said act."

The petition was signed by James Moore, assistant cashier of the bank; George B. Squire, district representative of the finance corporation, and by Mr. Latta.

Accompanying the petition was a letter, dated February 7 of this year, and signed by Mr. Berlet, A. W. Norman, vice president of the Stability Co., and E. R. Underwood, secretary.

The communication, addressed to Linford C. Nice, cashier of the Northwestern National Bank, follows:

"The Stability Motors Co. admits that it is this day indebted to you in the sum of approximately $38,000 and that it is unable to pay the whole or any part of this debt. It regrets also to inform you that its outstanding liabilities are far in excess of its assets, and that the Stability Motors Co. is insolvent, and that it is agreeable that it shall be adjudged a bankrupt."

Company Officials Meet

The petition filed with Theodore L. Cobaugh, chief deputy clerk of the court, was prepared by Ruby R. Vale, attorney for the petitioning creditors.

Officials of the motor company met at 9 o'clock this morning in the office of the company's attorney, Otto R. Heiligman, in the Crozer Building.

Mr. Berlet was a director of the Chamber of Commerce, but resigned recently. His home is in Ridley Park. For several years he was president of the Walnut Street Business Association. He also was a member of the jewelry firm of Maxwell & Berlet, but left this business two years ago to enter the motor truck field.

Mr. Berlet is a former president of the Rotary Club and the Business Science Club, and at one time was secretary of the United Business Men's Association. He was a member of the suburban metropolitan planning commission during the terms of Governor Tener and Governor Brumbaugh.

Mr. Berlet resigned last night as president of the Motortruck Association of Philadelphia. His letter of resignation was read at the monthly meeting and dinner of the association in the Hotel Adelphia, by Thomas Quirk, who presided.

E. J. BERLET

SHIP WORKERS TO RESUME

7500 Hog Island Men Back Tomorrow After Enforced Layoff

More than 7500 shipyard workers will return to work at Hog Island tomorrow morning after an enforced idleness of four days.

Work at the shipyard will be resumed in full, as the breakdown at the Christian street plant of the Philadelphia Electric Co., which furnished most of the power to Hog Island, has been repaired.

The Christian street plant of the electric company furnishes most of the 15,000 kilowatts of electricity used daily at Hog Island, in the operation of air compressors, by means of which rivets are driven.

During the layoff of the 600 riveting gangs and their allied workers, the erectors and bolters-up placed in position several thousand tons of steel plates on the thirty-six hulls on as many ways. The riveters will have more work than usual following their involuntary idleness, officials say.

CHINESE GREET NEW YEAR

But Celebration Isn't What It Used to Be

The Chinese New Year, and this is it, isn't what it used to be.

Race street, even with its few flags flapping dismally in the breeze today, is perhaps a little sleepier than usual because most of its people are taking their holiday rest.

All the restaurants are closed, but that is mainly for business reasons, so the proprietors can make necessary repairs and straighten out their affairs. Many of the stores are open.

The only joss house open to the public is a rather framed-up affair. It has a fine old Chinese shrine and elaborate oriental decorations, with lots of joss in the air and all sorts of delicacies laid out on tables, but it is all the dying echo of the old Far East New Year. The wizened caretaker takes only a half-hearted interest in his sanctuary and its day is done.

Except for the words "Quong ho sun ning," the Chinese New Year is remarkably like ours.

ARREST TONIC MAKER

Charge Wood Alcohol Used in Hair Preparations

Following an investigation made by Fenton Hayes of the state Health Department, Louis F. Berndt, manufacturer of hair tonics and perfumes, was arrested today charged with using wood alcohol in his preparations.

Berndt was held in $1000 bail for court at a hearing before Magistrate Rooney in Central Station. The prisoner gave an address on West Seymour street, Germantown.

The state Health Department is making a crusade against all manufacturers who use wood alcohol in preparations for the skin or hair.

G. A. R. MAN FALLS DEAD

Papers in His Pocket Lead to Belief He Was John W. Kilsby

An aged veteran of the Civil War fell dead from heart disease today on Thirty-fourth street near Pine. Papers found in his pockets led to the belief that he was John W. Kilsby, eighty-eight years old, 246 South Ninth street.

The papers also showed he possessed a considerable amount of money both in this city and in New York.

The veteran is believed to have relatives living in Bartonsville, Pa., and Dingmans Ferry, Pa. It is believed the man was on his way to the Philadelphia Hospital when he was stricken.

WILSON AT DESK EVERY DAY

Will Soon Resume Use of Typewriter, Says Grayson

Washington, Feb. 19.—(By A. P.)—President Wilson has improved so much, Rear Admiral Grayson, his physician, said today, that he goes to work at his desk in his study every morning at half-past 9.

Doctor Grayson said the President had not yet resumed using his typewriter, but that he probably would do so soon.

DOWN TO 20 TONIGHT

But Tomorrow Will Be Fair and Warmer

A crisp night, with the temperature down to at least 20, is forecast, but tomorrow, says the weatherman, will be fair and warmer.

The thermometer stood at 33 degrees at 8 o'clock this morning, 30 at 9, 28 at 10 and 27 at 11 o'clock. There were snow flurries early in the day.

W. S. DILLBROUGH FALLS DEAD

William S. Dillbrough, fifty-three years old, of 1203 South Milton street, who has been a customs inspector for twenty-four years, dropped dead as he was reporting for duty this morning at McCahan's sugar refinery, the foot of Tasker street. Heart disease is believed to have been the cause. Mr. Dillbrough is survived by his widow, six sons and one daughter.

Fire Scare in Thomson Home

An overheated electric motor in the cellar of the home of Walter S. Thomson, 1722 Spruce street, filled the house with smoke and caused much excitement early this morning. An alarm was turned in and water was thrown on the motor. The damage was negligible.

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI FIGHT MOVE TO CUT STUDENT NUMBERS

Report of Welfare Committee Classed as Undemocratic by Opponents

SUGGESTION TO REFUSE STATE AID IS ATTACKED

New Football Coach Promises No Factionalism in Athletics. Education Put First

By a Staff Correspondent

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 19.—Recommendations in the report of the committee on welfare of the University of Pennsylvania were characterized today as an attempt to destroy the traditions of the University and rob it of the democratic reputation which it has always enjoyed.

The report was submitted before the second session of the fifth annual meeting of the federated clubs of the alumni.

Would Cut Number of Students

The report recommended drastic changes in the educational policy of the University, including the cutting down of the number of students and faculty, making the entrance examinations more strict, and the refusal of the financial aid of the state, which at present amounts to nearly half a million dollars.

Still another recommendation was to do away entirely with the present coeducational system, isolating women students in a separate building.

Theodore J. Grayson, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., who led the attack against the proposal contained in the welfare committee report, was particularly incensed against the recommendation to reduce the number of students at the University.

Defends Faculty Standard

Mr. Grayson, who is director of extension and night schools, denied that the university was harboring young and immature instructors because of its fiancial condition. He said there was not one immature instructor, and that most of the men who were instructors at the university could be professors at other institutions.

"The university is growing in response to a great popular demand," he said. "It has been its policy, as engendered by Provost Smith several years ago, to be ready wherever, and whenever, it can to aid the city, state and nation."

Mr. Grayson explained that the war had made unusual demands on the University, but denying that there had been any laxness in the manner of admitting students, he said the University could have had 20,000 students, instead of 10,000, if it had so desired.

Penn's Ideals High

Touching on that section of the report which reflected on the ideals of Penn, Mr. Grayson said: "Penn has the best ideals today it has ever had. From my own knowledge, this feature of the report is an unfair implication. Penn's ideals are those of general and increasing service to the poor as well as to the rich.

"It's all very well to say, 'teach a small number for leadership and scholarship,' but investigate the cold facts before even making such a suggestion. Are we not a public utility? Do we not owe something to the city, state and nation? Are we not bound by certain great public trusts?

"We have been taking the support of the state for years, and it has not been a mere question of accepting it, either. Either you will have to accept state aid or you men must be willing to raise $15,000,000 or $20,000,000 by next summer."

Mr. Grayson said that in the paring down of the students, recommended in the welfare report, Wharton School and the night school would be the first to have their heads chopped off.

"Fraught With Danger"

"You may object to mass education," he added. "But, you'll be in a much worse position if you ever favor class education.

"Do you know what the real objection to the large number of students is? —it's on the grounds of social objections. This report is fraught with danger to the University we all love. It is not a representative report. It proposes a limitation to the University's educational influence. Let it never be said we have refused an obligation within our proper field."

Doctor Cousins, of Maine, a member of the committee which framed the report, arose at the conclusion of Mr. Grayson's heated speech, and announced that he had had no hand in the formulation of the report's recommendations.

"If we adopt this report," he said, "we will be taking the authority delegated to the trustees, and acting more like a mob than an organization." He moved that the report be tabled, but withdrew this later, to enable a continuance of the discussion of the report's recommendations.

Comptroller Raps Report

"Why should you just put it on the table?" asked W. O. Miller, comptroller of the university. "You should not just put it on the table. You should eternally squash any policy founded on this information.

"Instead of recommending a radical destructive program, we should recommend a survey of the university's educational faculties. The report is not founded on a thorough, candid, earnest investigation in which the faculties of the various schools have been consulted."

Albert R. Brunker, of Chicago, president of the Federated Alumni Clubs, then arose and said that the committee on the University's welfare had realized in framing the report that it was "charged with dynamite."

"We approached the subject simply with the idea of making it a forum for full discussion," he said. "This is a suggestion only, and meant to be helpful, not critical."

Must Consider Financial Side

Thomas W. Hume, president of the general alumni society, said that the financial side of the question had to be considered. He said he doubted if it were possible to raise funds to support an institution that would take care of 20,000. "This is the time to stop, look and listen," he said.

George Wharton Pepper, of Philadelphia, a member of the board of trus-

Continued on Page Two, Column One

Two Slain in Duel, Started by Girl Who Threw Pepper

Ten-year-old Boy, Sole Witness of Tragedy, Says Men Began Shooting After Daughter's Act

A handful of red pepper thrown by a little girl into a man's eyes, it is believed, led to a revolver duel in Port Richmond last night, in which two men killed each other.

Charles Seif, thirty-five, of 1852 East Wensley street, and Elmer F. Twining, fifty-six, who lived next door, at 1854 are the men who are dead.

A family feud of three years' standing was brought to head by the red pepper incident, it is said, arousing the neighbors into a white heat of angry passion.

A ten-year-old boy, after tossing in his bed all night, this morning told his mother that he had passed the scene of the tragedy and had not only seen the shooting, but had also seen Seif's daughter throw red pepper at Twining's head. The boy is William Baily, of 1816 East Wensley street.

Seif must have fired first, the boy witness asserts.

Boy Describes Tragedy

As told to his mother, the boy's story is that he was skating along in front of the two homes. About 5:30 o'clock Twining came out of his house, and as he reached the steps leading to the sidewalk Louise Seif, fourteen-year-old daughter of Charles Seif, threw a quantity of red pepper in Twining's face, the boy says.

Twining went back into his home, the boy asserts, and the next thing the boy heard was an argument between Twining and the girl's father.

"Put your gun down and fight like a man," Twining said, as Seif whipped out a forty-five-caliber automatic, is the boy's assertion. The next instant Seif began pumping shots at Twining, according to the boy.

The first shot, it is said, hit Twining just under the left arm. The other three shots all took effect in the man's breast. As he reeled and fell toward the vestibule of his house Twining, dying, managed to level a 32-caliber revolver which he used in his capacity as a night watchman, and fired at Seif. The bullet penetrated Seif's heart. Dropping his revolver the man pitched headlong down his porch steps and was found dying by neighbors, lying in a pool of blood.

Pennies Clutched in Twining's Hand

When they found Twining in the vestibule of his house five pennies were clutched in his hand, which he had intended using for carfare, to go to work at the St. George Building, Fifteenth and Arch streets.

The five shots, in rapid succession, brought scores of neighbors to the scene. Fourteen-year-old Louisa Seif was found crying beside her dying father. Josephine Sheetz, Twining's half-sister, was imploring him to speak to her when neighbors reached the scene.

Charles Ryan, of 3115 Memphis street, who was passing in an auto-truck shortly after the shooting, hurried Twining and Seif to the North-eastern Hospital. Twining was dead, according to Ryan, but Seif did not die until the truck had almost reached the hospital.

Twining and Seif both worked at night, Seif as a ticket-chopper and usher at the Alma motion-picture theatre, at Kensington avenue and Ontario street. His daughter, Louise, worked at the theatre as an usher.

According to Josephine Scheetz, half-sister, who lived with Twining, a bachelor, the feud between her half-brother and Seif had dated from three years ago and had become more bitter as time went on.

She is quoted as having said that once, following a bitter quarrel, Seif threatened to put her "in the cemetery and your brother in jail."

According to the half-sister of Twining, Seif had her half-brother in court three times over quarrels, although, she said, Twining had never had Seif arrested.

'WOMAN IN BLACK' ROBS LOGAN HOME

Gets $400 in Jewels—Believed to Be Perpetrator of Other Burglaries

SEVERAL "JOBS" REPORTED

A veiled woman, dressed in black, robbed the home of Harry B. Huft, 4514 North Marvine street, of jewels valued at $400.

She is believed to be the "woman in black" blamed for many similar robberies in that district during the last two weeks.

Neighbors saw the woman mount the Huft porch yesterday afternoon and ring the bell. No one answered. Then they saw her go around to the rear of the house.

Some time later she emerged from the front door. The neighbors took it for granted that she had found some one in the rear of the house and had been invited in.

Family Returns Later

Later, when the Huft family returned, the jewels were missed. Then the neighbors found no other person had been in the house with the mysterious woman.

Police say the woman has been operating boldly. If her ring at the door is answered, she tries to sell the householder something. If not, she forces an entrance in the rear.

Neighbors of the Hufts gave a good description of the woman.

Cloth and jewel robbers made four successful raids in various sections of the city early today, gaining loot valued at several thousand dollars.

A mysterious robbery at the home of Henry C. Hood, an electrician, 2133 North Van Pelt street, also is puzzling detectives today.

Dog is Chloroformed

The thieves slipped into the house, chloroformed the dog and locked it in a sideboard, ransacked the house and made their escape with jewelry valued at $350. It is supposed they used a pass key in unlocking a door, as all of the doors were found locked after the robbery.

The robbery was committed about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, while Mrs. Hood was out for a few minutes to do some shopping. The police think that the thieves climbed the rear fence and opened the back door, but this is merely theory, as no one saw the robbers when they entered and left the house.

When Mrs. Hood returned she met a neighbor in front of the house and stood there conversing for a few minutes before opening the door. The thieves must have heard her voice. When she went into the dining room she found some of her silverware scattered about, as though dropped in hasty flight.

Carry Off Jewelry

The thieves had carried off two diamond rings, two bracelets and other jewelry. They also took a gift set of silverware. Throughout the house, the rooms had been ransacked and the contents of drawers had been pulled out and thrown about.

Mrs. Hood, failing to find her pet dog, "Topsy," concluded that the thieves had carried off the animal or that the dog had become frightened and ran from the house.

But a few hours after the robbery the sound of whining coming from the sideboard caused her to open the drawers. In one she found the missing dog. It had been placed there by the thieves, after it had been chloroformed to silence its barking.

Upset by the robbery, Mrs. Hood is carrying a revolver in her apron pocket today as she goes about her household duties.

She says that several months ago, while she was on a visit to Reading, two diamond rings were stolen in a mysterious way, but were returned in just as mysterious manner as they were taken.

The store of M. Shumsky & Co., 152 South Third street, was entered by robbers who forced the door and cloth valued at about $1500 stolen. The intruders had an automobile or a wagon to cart away the cloth, according to the police.

A bulk window in the store of Max

Continued on Page Two, Column Five

CAUCUS WILL PICK INDEPENDENT WHIP

Administration Councilmen to Meet Tuesday to Discuss Question

VON TAGEN A POSSIBILITY

Administration councilmen will meet before the Council session Tuesday to discuss the question of having an active floor leader to handle all routine details of parliamentary procedure.

Majority councilmen, in most instances, frankly concede the need of a floor leader. In sessions held so far the impression has been created that only members of the minority, the so-called Vare unit of ten, are "on the job" every minute of the session, ready to expedite business and smooth the parliamentary ways.

In this field of work Charles H. Hall and Joseph P. Gaffney have been conspicuously active.

As a counter to their facility in matters of routine, Richard Weglein, president, has frequently been obliged to serve as floor leader by voluntarily giving decisions on points without the preliminary of having the question raised.

Regular Methods Better

It has been urged that such rulings would be accepted with better grace were some one member of the majority delegated to raise the question in the usual method of parliamentary procedure.

In acting upon the question of the floor leadership, administration councilmen also hope to help in the solidification of their forces. A start in this direction was made two weeks ago, when the majority members met and formed the Councilmanic Association, with Councilman Charles H. Von Tagen as president.

Some of the effect of this was nullified, however, because Councilman Develin did not appear at the caucus until the meeting was about over. And last week the majority members did not meet in advance of the session at all.

The association will be revived next Tuesday, and an effort made to put a punch in the effectiveness of the administration members.

Councilman Von Tagen, president of the Councilmanic Association, said that generally speaking his election as president of the association carried with it the obligation to serve as floor leader, but that nothing important enough had arisen to call him into action.

Not Bothering With "Minnows"

"I'm supposed to be the man for floor leader," said Councilman Von Tagen. "But I'll bring up the idea more definitely at next Tuesday's meeting. It would be a good idea to have some one to handle details and not allow the impression to go abroad that we do not know how to act."

Mr. Von Tagen said that the reason he had not paid much attention to small and routine details was that he was holding himself ready for the big fish and was not bothering about "minnows and goldfish."

Meanwhile, he said, he had been content to let Councilmen Gaffney and Hall enjoy themselves. However, he added, "they will find that we will be ready when anything real has to be taken care of."

Mr. Weglein said he would be glad

Continued on Page Two, Column Two

BAKER TELLS OF DEMOTIONS

Only 3000 Officers Now Hold Temporary Grades, Secretary Says

Washington, Feb. 19.—(By A. P.)—In response to a resolution regarding the War Department's demotion policy, Secretary Baker informed the Senate today that its plan was "to demote officers when they become surplus in their temporary grades." On November 11, 1918, about 7600 regular officers were holding advanced grades, but this has been reduced to about 3000, with demotion continuing, the secretary said.

The resolution asked for a list of officers demoted and other information, but Secretary Baker said this would require four months' work and cost $20,000.

MAYOR CONDEMNS BAD CONDITION OF STATE HOUSE GROUP

Old Supreme Court Building in Deplorable Shape, He Says After Inspection

URGES LEGISLATION AND RAPS COMMISSIONS

Wants Old Pictures of Declaration Signers Restored—Resurrected From Refuse

The deplorable condition of one of the buildings in the Independence Hall group, and the lack of proper attention to the others, aroused the ire of Mayor Moore today, when he made a careful inspection of the shrine of liberty before going to his office.

Not only is the old Supreme Court building, at the southwest corner of Fifth and Chestnut streets, a disgrace, he said, but an effort should at once be made to place all the authentic portraits of signers of the Declaration of Independence in their proper places on the walls.

"The subject is one which requires immediate attention," said Mayor Moore. "The old Supreme Court building is in a disgraceful condition. It is not open to the public, and has not been for several years.

"Inside there, where the first Supreme Court of the United States met, with Jay, Rutledge and Ellsworth presiding, it is dark, dingy and forlorn. Evidently some preparations were made to restore the interior of this building. There is nothing now but bare walls, torn floors, exposed brick and mortar work and rubbish.

Home of First Supreme Court

"And yet this was the home of the first Supreme Court of the United States."

The Mayor searched out the discredited portraits of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, in Congress Hall, and found many of them dusty and out of their frames.

As a result of his visit Mayor Moore said he would recommend legislation, if legislation be necessary, to put Independence Hall group under some safe general direction, free from entangling commissions.

"It was evident," said the Mayor, "that there had been a conflict of jurisdiction, resulting in indifference and neglect. The main building, where the Liberty Bell is exhibited, and the national museum, were found to be in good condition."

Hits "Artistic Temperaments"

According to the Mayor, all the buildings should be put in order, be better protected against fire and made more attractive by the exhibition of authenticated historical relics.

He said he was inclined to think that while the city itself is partly responsible for not having provided funds with which to keep the building in proper shape, there also seems to be some "distracting artistic temperaments involved."

The Mayor drew attention to the fact that the old Supreme Court building was Philadelphia's first city hall.

THINK 25 MISSING ARE SAFE

Search Providence, R. I., Hotel Ruins to Remove Doubt

Providence, R. I., Feb. 19.—(By A. P.)—Unable definitely to locate twenty-five guests of the Hotel Lorraine, which was burned yesterday with a loss of three lives, police and fire officials today made further search of the ruins.

It was their opinion, however, that the missing ones had escaped, but had not found it convenient as yet to send word of their safety. In several instances other guests have said that they saw on the streets after the fire persons who are listed as missing.

City Has $5,992,688 Cash on Hand

The city treasurer's report for the week ending yesterday shows that the receipts were $7,240,958.51 and the expenditures $1,248,269.73. The cash balance on hand is $5,992,688.78.

Wilson's First Note 4000 Words, Not 8 or 10 Lines

President Wilson's first note to the Allied Supreme Council on the Adriatic settlement, protesting against the proposed agreement, contained 4000 words.

It was first stated in Washington that it was a memorandum containing eight or ten lines. Later it was referred to as a note of two or three pages prepared from a memorandum, dictated by the President. Today it was revealed as a 4000 word note.

WILSON UNYIELDING AS ALLIES "STALL"

Britain and France Win Political Advantages in Adriatic Stand

NOW PLAYING FOR TIME

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent of the Evening Public Ledger

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson today, with the aid of a stenographer, wrote his reply to the latest allied note. He is described as in a fighting mood," but he has not yet withdrawn the treaty and probably many more notes will be exchanged before that step is taken, if it is ever taken. Mr. Wilson's efforts will be directed to forcing France, England and Italy to yield.

The practical threat to withdraw the treaty and the Franco-American alliance has not made them yield. The allied note is described as "conciliatory," but in it the Allies have not backed down. They have done this time, when Mr. Wilson threatens to withdraw from participation in European affairs, just what they did when he sent the George Washington to Brest, thereby threatening to withdraw from the Peace Conference. They stand firm, professing the utmost consideration for Mr. Wilson and the earnest desire to please him, but finding no way of acceding.

It is possible to gather this from the English and French dispatches with regard to the allied reply. For reasons which are easy to guess, and which have to do with political conditions in Italy the French Government has been keeping the world informed.

French Versions Accurate

Its versions of notes hitherto have been accurate and there is reason to believe that its version, appearing in the Paris dispatches, of the latest allied note is truthful.

If it is, this note may be described as a "stall." The Allies are polite to Mr. Wilson. They disavow any intention to ignore Mr. Wilson in settling the Fiume problem. They defend their own settlement of it. They urge Mr. Wilson to better that settlement if he can, emphasizing the desirability to have peace established in the Adriatic.

And they remind him of their treaty obligations to Italy, which Italy is showing great forebearance in not insisting upon. All this is conciliatory enough, but does not get Mr. Wilson anywhere. It amounts to this:

"We won't press our settlement. If you can arrange something better, by all means do it." That is apparently allied Europe's reply, to judge from the inspired dispatches from Paris.

The advantage of a "stall" is this: The Allies have time. Wilson has only one year left. At the end of the year either the League of Nations will be definitely dead or Mr. Wilson will be succeeded by some one more favorable to Italy than he is.

Political Objects Attained

Meanwhile the political objects which allied Europe had in mind when England and France shifted sides and deserted Mr. Wilson, going over to Signor Nitti, have all been accomplished. The Nitti administration in Italy has been made secure. The people of Italy, who are obsessed on the subject of Fiume, have been assured that England and France stand for Italy's virtual possession of Fiume.

What matters Mr. Wilson's opposition? He will last only one year longer. And the Republicans who will succeed him will take a more realistic view of

Continued on Page Two, Column Seven

WOMAN FIGHTS EXTRADITION AS COMMUNIST

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feeb. 19.—Mrs. Margaret Prevey, of Akron, Ohio, has not yet abandoned here fight against extradition to Chicago to answer a charge of being a member of the communist party. Governor Cox has ordered her return to Chicago.

WILL TELL VIRGINIANS ABOUT STATE POLICE

HARRISBURG, Feb. 19.—In response to request from the Virginia state authorities Harry S. McDevitt, secretary to the Governor, and Major Lynn G. Adams, deputy superintendent of state police, will go to Richmond next week to speak before the House of Delegates committee in charge of a bill for establishment of a state police force. Mr. McDevitt was at Albany and other state capitals during the pendency of similar legislation.

GAS LEAK NEARLY FATAL

Man Finds Wife Accidentally Overcome by Fumes

A leak in a piece of rubber tubing connecting two gas jets nearly proved fatal to Mrs. Molly Park, twenty-five years old, 846 North Eleventh street, shortly after 3 o'clock this morning.

Mrs. Park's husband discovered his wife unconscious in a room filled with gas, and called the patrol of the Eleventh and Winter streets police station.

Dr. Vischer, of the staff at Hahnemann Hospital, worked over the young wife for some time before she returned to consciousness. Her condition is serious.

20 POLICEMEN KEPT AT BAY

Janitor Barricades Himself in Basement of Apartment House

Chicago, Feb. 19. — (By A. P.)—Otto Denice, janitor of an apartment building, early today was in possession of a basement flat in which he had barricaded himself last night and with a shotgun held off twenty policemen who attempted to arrest him.

Tenants of the building complained yesterday that Denice had asserted he was owner of the apartment and had shut off the heat and menaced the tenants with a revolver. It is said the delusion was due to an attack of influenza.

Cardinal Gibbons Urges All Catholics to use THE MANUAL OF PRAYERS.—Adv.

WILSON DICTATES REPLY TO ALLIES; FIRM ON ADRIATIC

President Answers Contention of Supreme Council Point for Point

MESSAGE TO BE CABLED TO EUROPE BY TONIGHT

Executive Completes Statement in Two Hours, Adhering to Note of February 10

By the Associated Press

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson today completed his reply to the allied Supreme Council's note on the Adriatic question and sent it to Acting Secretary Polk, who is putting it in form for transmittal to the council. It is expected to be on the cables before night.

There was no indication as to the note's contents or its length. The President began drafting it early this morning and completed it in two hours. The council's communication was received only yesterday and the speed with which the reply was prepared here was said to constitute something of a record.

The President went to his study at 9:30 a. m. and, summoning his stenographer, immediately began dictating the reply. He was understood to have answered the council's contention point for point and to have adhered to the position taken in his note of February 10.

Said United States Might Withdraw

It is now pretty well established that in that communication the President informed the allied countries that if they proceeded to a settlement of the Adriatic question without the consent and participation of the American Government the United States might have to decide whether it could become a party to the treaty of Versailles and the Anglo-French-American pact.

The note received from the council yesterday was sent to the White House immediately after it was deciphered and the President studied it very carefully during the afternoon and the evening. When he was ready to begin work today he was understood to have had his reply well outlined in his mind and consequently was able to dictate it in a short time.

The President was represented as being perfectly willing for the exchanges to be given to the public after he had "completed his case," which was done with the drafting of the note today. However, no decision as to making the communications public will be reached until the allied premiers have been heard from. They have been approached as to their wishes.

First Note of 4000 Words

The Allies' note received yesterday is "about as long as the President's first note," it was said at the White House. Reports from London said the allied reply contained about 4000 words and this figure was accepted by White House officials as being approximately correct.

Cable dispatches indicated that the allied note was conciliatory and that the whole question of Fiume and the Dalmatian littoral was at least reopened to negotiation. There was a suggestion also that the allied premiers had asked the United States to indicate the practical steps that could be taken to carry out the original agreement as to the Adriatic under which Fiume was to be erected into a free state under the League of Nations and the principle of self-determination followed in disposing of the Dalmatian coast. It was said to be the European view that the seizure of Fiume by D'Annunzio and his Italian troops had brought about such a delicate situation that any attempt to restore the status quo might bring about more war.

President Wilson, it was learned, has taken the position that this country is interested in the Adriatic settlement as a co-belligerent in the war, despite the fact that the treaty of Versailles has not been ratified here. On similar questions, such as those affecting Armenia and Turkey, this country likewise is prepared to keep in close touch with decisions reached by the premiers at their London conference, at which the United States is not represented. All such decisions have to be approved by the Supreme Council in meetings which probably will be attended in future by an American representative to keep this government in quick touch with what is going on.

Paris, Feb. 19.—(By A. P.)—The reply of the supreme allied council to President Wilson's memorandum relative to the Adriatic opens with a long dissertation which is intended to point out mistakes made by Mr. Wilson in the parallel he drew between the Adriatic solution adopted in December and the terms of the ultimatum sent to Jugo-Slavia in January, says "Pertinax," political editor of the Echo de Paris.

"France and England," he says, "would certainly have liked to have held to the December solution, but events prevented them, and they were unable to reconcile rival interests on such a basis.

"Could President Wilson have done better? Let him kindly show what he would have done had he been in the place of the negotiators of the January compromise. Such are the general lines of the document handed to John W. Davis, American ambassador in London, night before last."

AGED PAIR IN DIVORCE SUIT

G. A. R. Veteran's Wife Produces Evidence That She Hasn't Temper

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 19.—"Any woman who can chase chickens around a yard for one hour, as I have seen Mrs. Beemer do and not lose her patience, is what I would call a perfect lady," Mrs. Catherine Newbold told Judge Newcomb in divorce court today.

She was a witness for Mrs. D. S. Beemer, former state and national officer of the ladies' auxiliary of the G. A. R., opposing divorce proceedings of her husband, a Civil War veteran. Beemer alleges his wife has a temper that drove him from home.