

THE WEATHER

Table with weather forecast: Rain tonight and possibly Tuesday; colder; Tuesday: Increasing; easterly winds becoming westerly Tuesday.

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SOME ASSESSORS LOST THEIR HEADS, SAYS SIMON GRATZ

Head of Tax Revision Board Promises Relief From Flagrantly Advances

AMAZED AT WEGLEIN PLAN FOR SLIDING SCALE RATES

Simon Gratz, head of the Board of Revision of Taxes, today said he did not doubt that some of the assessors had "lost their heads" in making appraisements which resulted in an undue increase in the assessed value of taxable property throughout the city, and brought a storm of protest upon the heads of the assessors.

Gratz declared that the board "no doubt may be able to reduce some of the new tax assessments, especially in the case of small houses, where the increase is excessive." The president of the revision board expressed amazement at the plan for a graduated system of assessments proposed by Richard Weglein, president of city council.

Weglein Good at Job "I am surprised," Mr. Gratz said, "that President Weglein should make such a suggestion. He, himself, was a very good real estate assessor for many years. His plan would be to put a low assessment on a \$4000 house that has greatly increased in value, and put a high assessment on a \$2500 house which has decreased in value."

"I do not think the people understand the position of the Board of Revision of Taxes. While the assessors are of course responsible to us, the law provides that these assessors change the assessments every year if necessary."

"We, the Board of Revision of Taxes, merely review the assessments after they have been made by the assessors. I do not doubt some of the assessors lost their heads. And I can say that the Board of Revision of Taxes undoubtedly may be able to reduce some of these new assessments, especially in the case of small houses."

"For example, a \$4000 house whose assessment was increased as much as \$1500, will be reduced, at least in part. However, where increases were but a few hundred dollars, they cannot be reduced, unless, of course, it is plain the increases were uncalled for."

25,000 Persons Protest It was learned today that approximately 25,000 property owners are protesting against assessments for 1921, as against from 1800 to 2000 in other years.

Hundreds of taxpayers from the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth wards today formed long lines at City Hall to make protest against what they termed an "unjust" increase in the assessed value of their properties.

These words embrace the action taken by the board of revision, the City Hall, South street and Vine street. Council's finance committee will hold a public hearing this afternoon at 2 o'clock in City Hall to give taxpayers opportunity to complain against the unprecedented increase in assessments for 1921.

The hearing is to "sound public sentiment" on the assessment question. Gratz Declines Invitation Mr. Gratz today sent a letter to Francis F. Burch, chairman of Council's finance committee, declining Mr. Burch's invitation to members of the Board of Revision of Taxes to attend the councilman's hearing this afternoon.

Mr. Gratz's letter explained that the presence of members of the board is unnecessary, follows: "Dear Sir: I have received your letter of the 20th instant, requesting the members of the board of revision to attend a public meeting, for the purpose of considering a resolution of request to the Board of Revision of Taxes to fully examine all increases in the assessment of real estate, and where inequities exist, to equalize the same."

"In response to your letter, I am sorry that the board will not only take this action, but that it will also see that increases in the assessment of real estate, as far as possible, be reduced."

McFadden Estate Guards Fight Midnight Gun Battle

Watchman Mistakes Barclay McFadden for Jewel Thief, Fires at Him and Is Himself Attacked by Detectives—No One Hurt

Barclay McFadden, polo crack and First City Trooper, was fired upon and nearly hit in a prelude to a midnight battle—revolvers barking and bullets flying—which took place on the estate of George McFadden, Jr., his brother, at Villanova, three weeks after Mrs. McFadden's \$300,000 pearl necklace was stolen.

The gun shot at young McFadden and the hot battle which followed were all due to the jumpy nerves of the McFadden night watchman, who mistook Barclay for one of the pearl thieves returning for another raid.

After Mrs. McFadden's necklace was stolen October 9 the estate was closely guarded by private detectives, state and Radnor township police and the nervous night watchman, who was on the alert for the slightest out-of-the-way noise or suspicious circumstance.

Watchman Became Excited About 1 o'clock on the night of Barclay McFadden's misadventure the night watchman heard the roar of an approaching motor. He had a cluster of trees. When the automobile swung into the McFadden drive from the road he drew his revolver, stepped into the drive and challenged the driver, who failed to stop. Not knowing who the driver was and believing it to be the necklace thief returning, the watchman fired. The car stopped, the center of the watchman pumping bullets after it.

The detectives and police, hearing the shots, ran to the scene of the shooting. Seeing the watchman with smoking revolver in hand, they mistook him for a robber and fired at him.

Brisk Battle Follows The watchman, finding the fusillade of shots too hot for him and believing the center of the watchman pumping bullets after it.

The private detectives and police got behind rocks and trees, and a brisk battle followed. Barclay McFadden had driven his automobile to the door of his brother's home when the firing was going on and was immediately surrounded by thirty-five very much armed servants, scantily dressed and armed with various weapons, such as fire pistols and even blades.

They asked Mr. McFadden whether he had been held up and whether robbers were on the estate, and before he could reply the scattered to protect various sections of the home from the supposed thieves.

Barclay McFadden, still dazed from his experience, was finally admitted into the house by his brother and then told of being shot at by some one he believed to be a hold-up man.

Captain Sweeney, of the Radnor police, was notified by George McFadden that the pearl thieves had returned. Sweeney got an automobile and with three policemen started for the scene of the disturbance.

"Desperate Robber" Captured The revolver battle was still in progress when this was going on. Here and there a detective dodged a bullet from the night watchman's revolver. A Radnor policeman narrowly was missed and dropped to the ground to get out of the way of other missiles.

Slowly the guards crept along the ground to where the watchman was ambushed. They surrounded him. One of the state policemen got in back of the watchman, and with revolver pointed at him, told him to drop the weapon and lift his mitts to the sky.

The watchman, believing that he had been beaten by the robbers despite his valiant efforts, did not attempt to fight. The policeman shouted to his comrades, who ran to the spot with smoking weapons.

Taking no chances with the supposed criminal, they were him in the center of the group and paraded him to the house in the dark they could not see the face of the prisoner.

At the house the servants and the McFadden family were alerted to see their robber, and were astounded to see their watchman.

MAN'S BODY FOUND; CLUBBED TO DEATH

Market St. Manufacturer Slain in Office—No Clue to Murderer

HEAVY WRENCH WAS USED TO SEE MAYOR WEDNESDAY

H. T. Pierce, manager of a small manufacturing concern on the third floor of 2009 Market street, was found this morning murdered and robbed on the floor of the place. He had been beaten over the head with a Sillson wrench.

When the body was found this morning, it had evidently been dead for at least twenty-four hours. No clues to the murderer were found.

The body was discovered by an workman and a policeman whom he had called from the street when he was unable to enter the place. The workman found the door locked and summoned Patrolman Samuel Keating, of the Fifth and Vine street station. Together they forced the door.

They found the gas still burning and the shutters of the windows closed. On the floor lay the murdered man with his head battered almost shapeless.

There were no signs of a struggle. It looked as though one or more intruders had crept up on him from behind and had felled him with the heavy wrench. Then, apparently not sure that he was dead, they had battered his head as their victim lay on the floor.

The man's pockets had been turned inside out. His watch, money and everything of value had been taken.

DISSTON HALL ON FIRE Blaze Damages Building Attached to Beacon Presbyterian Church

Diston Hall, attached to the Beacon Presbyterian Church, Cumberland and Cedar streets, was damaged by fire at 11:25 o'clock this morning.

The fire is thought to have started from faulty insulation on crossed wires on a stage in the auditorium of the hall. The building was badly burned and damaged by water.

The church building was slightly damaged by water thrown on the adjoining hall.

NO INTEREST IN VANDERLIP France Not Worried About American's Deal in Russia

Paris, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—The foreign office announced today that the French Government was not interested in the concessions recently reported to have been granted by the Russian Soviet government at Moscow to Washington.

The Russian government, because so far as France is concerned the Bolshevik Government is nonexistent.

EX-KAISERIN VERY WEAK Heart Specialist Rushed to Bedside of Augusta Victoria of Germany

The Hague, Nov. 22.—The condition of Empress Augusta Victoria of Germany grows increasingly serious. Prince Adalbert and his wife arrived at Doorn castle yesterday. The temperature of the patient was announced as 104, and it was said she was very weak.

Dr. Vandenberg, a heart specialist of Leiden, is being rushed to the bedside of the ex-empress.

ICEBERG IN STEAMSHIP LANE Boston, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—An iceberg in the steamship track east of Newfoundland was reported in a wireless dispatch today. The appearance of ice in mid-Atlantic at this season is unusual. Its location was given as latitude 48.42, longitude 50.27.

FARMERS DEMAND OPENING OF TRADE WITH FORMER FOE

Commerce With Germany and Possibly Russia Held Only Way to Restore Prices

MANUFACTURERS ARE ALSO ANXIOUS FOR RESUMPTION

By CLINTON W. GILBERT Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger (Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Company)

Washington, Nov. 22.—Unless President Wilson finds a way to reopen trade with Germany, a big effort will be made in Congress by representatives of the farmers of the West and South, the wheat growers and the cotton growers, to get access to the German market with their products. A similar effort will be made by the manufacturers of this country to induce the failure of the Versailles treaty to open Russia to American trade.

As the market stands now this country has a surplus of farm and manufactured products. Wheat, corn, hogs, beef and cotton are down below the pre-war prices. Many factories are closing down or limiting production because of lack of raw materials.

Manufactured goods are in short supply. At the same time Germany needs American wheat and cotton, and Russia needs American cotton and American manufactured goods, especially agricultural tools, railroad supplies and footwear.

The southern planter ever since the failure of the Versailles treaty has been thinking that the only thing which would restore cotton to a price at which it would be profitable to raise was the resumption of trade with the southern cotton grower who was responsible for the tendency of southern senators last spring to break away from President Wilson and his acceptance of the Lodge reservation.

West Wages Market The western farmer's demand for peace with Germany is of more recent birth than that of his southern brother. Wheat did not start to tumble seriously in price until the Versailles treaty was finally returned to President Wilson.

But the sentiment for entering the German market is just as strong in West as in the South. The farmer, as well as organized, the farmers of the West and South see the only hope for American agriculture in the reopening of trade with Germany.

The demand for establishing at least business relations with Russia is not so well organized, nor as far advanced as that for peace and trade with Germany. The farmer, however, is in the interest who did not feel the slump in demand so soon as did the agricultural interests. But it will be stimulated by the revival of the Russian market.

And in the Republican party there are several influences working toward the reopening of trade with Russia. The Pacific coast senators are generally for it, for the Vandenberg commission looks to a development of the Pacific coast and the way of the Vandenberg commission is through the Pacific coast senators like Nebraska, and Borah will be for it. And a powerful influence in the Republican party probably is the fact that the Vandenberg commission is the way of the Vandenberg commission.

Director Has Ideas Which Will "Work Wonders" in His Department

Director Cortelyou has in mind "several big things that will work wonders" in the Department of Public Safety, and he hopes he will be able to execute them.

He made this statement today after declining any intention of resigning, though he said that conditions in his office were not altogether congenial.

Mr. Cortelyou said he would see Mayor Moore, possibly Wednesday, and over the entire situation with him. The director is confined to his home with a cold. He recently moved from Glenstone to 6501 Lehigh avenue, in the Overbrook section.

Silent on "Kitchen Cabinet" Director Cortelyou was asked his views on the "kitchen cabinet" of the President, an inner clique of critics said to exist in several departments.

"I do not at this time care to discuss the so-called 'kitchen cabinet' or the affairs of the Department of Public Safety," he replied.

"I am confined to my home with a nasty cold and my system is much run down. I shall remain indoors for a few days. I hope to get to my office no later than Wednesday."

Refuses Specific Criticisms "In some respects, yes, and in others, no," he answered. "I have tried at times to carry out the instructions and wishes of the Mayor and I shall continue to do so. I have no objection to things that will work wonders in the Department of Public Safety, and I hope to be able to put them into execution. We'll get going again as soon as the world permits and then we'll have to stop and take a rest."

SUICIDE UNIDENTIFIED Subway Victim Wore World War Discharge Button

The world war veteran who committed suicide yesterday by hurling himself under the wheels of a subway car at Eleventh and Market streets has not been identified.

The man, whose body is now at the morgue, was about thirty years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall, about 140 pounds and had light hair. He wore a dark blue suit, Oxford gray overcoat and a cap.

The dead man, who wore a bronze service button on his left breast, was bound by a subway train approaching the station. The motorman, Adam Leary, saw the man and applied the brakes. The man passed over the body. He was killed instantly.

NIGHTLY BUDGET HEARINGS Council to Sit Evenings to Speed Up Work

City Council will hold hearings on the 1921 budget every night this week except Sunday, the city treasurer said today. The hearings will be held Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

LEAGUE ADOPTS MOTION FOR ARMY TO AID ARMENIA

GENEVA, Nov. 22.—A resolution presented by M. Viviani, inviting the council of the League of Nations to confer with the various powers with the view of constituting a force sufficient to put an end to hostilities in Armenia, which was joined to Lord Robert Cecil's resolution along the same lines, was adopted by the assembly of the league this afternoon.

FISTICUFFS IN COMMONS OVER IRISH ISSUE LONDON, Nov. 22.—A violent scene occurred in the House of Commons this afternoon during the period of questions regarding the situation in Ireland. Joseph Devlin, Nationalist, and a Unionist member, came to blows. The sitting was suspended.

NEWBERRY CASE TO BE HEARD JANUARY 5 WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—The supreme court today advanced to next January 3, arguments in the case of Senator Newberry of Michigan, and others convicted of violation of the corrupt practices act.

Bandits Rob Train, LEAGUE SEEKS U. S. HELP FOR ARMENIA

Detective Shot When Bandits Are Repulsed at Metuchen, N. J., by P. R. Guards

Save Eastern Nation Is Strongly Supported

By the Associated Press

Dublin, Nov. 22.—Twenty-six persons were dead and seventy others are dying in hospitals as a result of Sunday's orgy of assassinations and the wholesale shooting in Croke Park where soldiers fired on the crowd which had gathered to witness a football game between the Dublin and Tipperary teams.

Dublin's apprehensions that reprisals would follow last night proved unfounded, and it is believed that government reports of three or four killings in the city after midnight were due to their confusion with outrages near Dublin.

Aside from military activities and searches, including Mansion House, armored cars passing through the streets and the fact that all thoroughfares leading out of the city were closely watched, Dublin and its vicinity were quiet today. It appeared that yesterday's outbreak, following the lines of other Irish disturbances, was being contained.

The shooting in Croke Park, which was described today by some of the newspapers as another Amritsar, is defended by the authorities on the ground that they had reason to believe that men from the provinces had participated in yesterday's murders and were present at the football match. The design of the military, it was said, was to prevent their exit and search each individual as he passed out through the turnstiles.

The plan failed because the general stampede of people seeking the exits of the park, and many going into houses across the road, from which they were dragged by the military. It is possible that in resisting search and arrest some shots were fired at the military in the park, but no general firing preceded the discharge of volleys by the military.

London, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—Murder stalked through the streets of Dublin on Sunday and reports received here today indicated that at least twenty-six persons had been killed and upwards of seventy more or less seriously wounded.

The day's disorders, which added an appalling chapter to the tragedy that has been enacted in Ireland for several months, began with the apparently deliberate shooting to death of fourteen men, who for the most part were military.

During the afternoon Irish constabulary, or "Black and Tans," raided Croke Park, where a football game was in progress, and in the melee which resulted at least twelve persons were killed.

The sending of additional troops to Ireland is being seriously considered, it was stated by the War Office this afternoon. London was waiting anxiously and fearfully for further news from Dublin, but up to early afternoon only meager dispatches had been received.

Several policemen were killed in other parts of Ireland, the Irish office announced.

City Temporarily Quiet A brief telephone message at 8 o'clock this morning, however, was that at least temporarily quiet. Then came a gap in the reports, up to the noon hour, but whether this indicated a censorship was not known.

Mr. Balfour says an appeal must be made to the League of Nations for a united effort to save Armenia.

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"It is not the fault of France if the league today is disarmed before the situation in Armenia is righted," said Mr. Balfour.

Mr. Balfour presented a resolution, inviting the council of the league to consult the powers with a view to the constitution of a force sufficient to put an end to the hostilities in Armenia.

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, of Norway, estimated that 60,000 men would be a force sufficient to deal with the situation. He thought that if the assembly appealed to the whole world the United States, although it had refused the mandate, would do its share.

Delegate Jonsen, of Rumania, supported Mr. Viviani's proposition and also thought the United States might be counted upon for help.

All Hint at Intervention The debate gave the impression of every one thinking of a resort to intervention and yet not wishing to call it by that name. C. J. Doherty, of Kentucky, urged the United States to take action.

WILSON'S TURKEYS FIGHT

Birds for President's Thanksgiving Battle on White House Grounds

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—The White House grounds were the scene today of a spirited battle between the turkey gobblers sent President Wilson for Thanksgiving by South Trimble, Kentucky, and the Chamber of Commerce of Cairo, Tex.

The turkeys were released from their crates and Texas leaped upon Kentucky, but in the fighting the big from Kentucky emerged victorious, and was not unscathed. Then, with bloody comb and bedraggled feathers, it engaged in a struggle of pride over its victorious battle with the Lone Star state representative.

Members of the gang are all foreigners and no names or addresses were available at Broad Street Station this morning.

House Committee Begins Work on Bills for Next Fiscal Year

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—Work on two of the regular 1922 appropriation bills, the sundry civil bill and the legislative branch bill, began today by the House appropriations committee, coincident with the return here of Representative Good, of Iowa, chairman.

Every effort to economize in government expenditures consistent with actual needs will be made, said Representative Good.

The War Department is heading for a deficit of from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 at its present rates of expenditure, said Mr. Good, "and has been reduced to the size of the standing army as required under the last army bill. Instead the army is spending thousands of dollars in advertising for recruits."

Several of the new regular appropriation bills, Mr. Good said, may be consolidated during the coming session.

OPPOSE ARNSTEIN RELEASE

Write Filed by Bankruptcy Trustee

Washington, Nov. 22.—(By A. P.)—Henry A. Gilder, trustee in bankruptcy in the Jules W. "Nicky" Arnstein case in New York today filed in the Supreme Court a petition for reopening the appeal proceedings which resulted in the Supreme Court ordering Arnstein's release on a writ of habeas corpus.

The petition set forth that the trustee, "the real party in interest," had not been given an opportunity to be heard, and for that reason asked that the order of the court be withdrawn pending reargument.

26 DIE, 70 SHOT IN DUBLIN IN AN ORGY OF MURDER

Comparative Quiet Restored in City After Assassinations and Armed Clash

"BLACK AND TANS" FIRE UPON FOOTBALL CROWD

British Soldiers Are Slain in Hotels During Bloody Sunday

TROOPS TO BE RE-ENFORCED

England Stirred by Killings. Hospitals Busy Caring for Wounded

By the Associated Press

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The shooting in Croke Park, which was described today by some of the newspapers as another Amritsar, is defended by the authorities on the ground that they had reason to believe that men from the provinces had participated in yesterday's murders and were present at the football match. The design of the military, it was said, was to prevent their exit and search each individual as he passed out through the turnstiles.

The plan failed because the general stampede of people seeking the exits of the park, and many going into houses across the road, from which they were dragged by the military. It is possible that in resisting search and arrest some shots were fired at the military in the park, but no general firing preceded the discharge of volleys by the military.

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During the afternoon Irish constabulary, or "Black and Tans," raided Croke Park, where a football game was in progress, and in the melee which resulted at least twelve persons were killed.

The sending of additional troops to Ireland is being seriously considered, it was stated by the War Office this afternoon. London was waiting anxiously and fearfully for further news from Dublin, but up to early afternoon only meager dispatches had been received.

Several policemen were killed in other parts of Ireland, the Irish office announced.

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