You're SURE to Get Limerickitis; You MAY Get ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS—See Page 2

THE WEATHER
Generally cloudy tonight and Friday with lowest temperature tonight about 32 degrees.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
35	37	39	40	42	41	41			

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA

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PAUL MURDERED AS HE OFFERED TO SHIELD JAMES

Prosecutor Quotes Confession to Show Bank Runner Begged for His Life

STOLEN MONEY WAS USED IN WILD ORGY IN PHILA.

Schuck and Prisoner Came Here After Hiding Body in Marsh, Is Charge

WOLVERTON OPENS CASE

Details of Brutal Crime Given After Completion of Jury Before Noon

Facts in Paul Murder and Trial of James

Victim—David S. Paul, aged Camden bank messenger.

Defendant—Frank J. James, autotruck salesman, of Lawndale, N. J.

Trial judges—Justice Katzenbach, of the Supreme Court, and Criminal Court Judge Kates.

Place of trial—Camden Courthouse.

The crime—Paul was murdered October 5 in James' automobile, in which he was riding with James and Raymond W. Schuck, who is under indictment also. The motive was robbery.

David S. Paul, after he had been struck repeatedly on the head with a leaf from an automobile spring by Frank J. James and Raymond W. Schuck, pleaded for his life and begged to be taken to Cooper Hospital, promising to say that he had been attacked by bandits and found by James and Schuck.

Prosecutor Wolverton made this charge today in opening the commonwealth's case against James, at the second day of James' trial in Camden courthouse, for Paul's murder. This additional and brutal detail of the story of the murder had not been revealed by the prosecution in its preliminary statements concerning the crime.

"Paul asked James and Schuck to take him to the Cooper Hospital," said Mr. Wolverton dramatically, "and promised them he would say that he had been held up at Delaware avenue and Market street, and that James and Schuck had found him and taken him to the hospital."

Finally Beaten to Death

Instead of complying with his plea, the prosecutor declared, the two men drove with their victim toward the country. At an out-of-the-way spot, between Marlton pike and the Baird avenue bridge leading into Forrest Hill Park, the car was stopped.

"Paul seems again to have recovered his senses," said the prosecutor, "and begged them to let him go, and said if they wanted the money to take it, but to let him go.

"Instead of heeding his cry to be released he was again beaten over the head, first by James and then by Schuck, with a piece of an iron spring about ten or twelve inches long and two and one-half inches wide and one-half inch thick."

The authorities have not given out before that the aged victim had begged for his life twice instead of once. Nor had the positive assertion been made that Schuck had taken part in administering the beating which caused Paul's death.

The jury was completed at 11:40 o'clock, and Mr. Wolverton at once began his address.

James Loses Composure

During the selection of the jurors and again during Mr. Wolverton's address James was extremely nervous.

When at length the twelfth man had been chosen and the spectators and witnesses who crowded both floor and gallery of the courtroom sat a little tenser in their chairs as they waited for Prosecutor Wolverton to begin his opening address, Justice Katzenbach cleared the air by ordering a short recess.

James asked and received permission to leave the courtroom. Outside he smoked three cigarettes in quick succession in the brief ten minutes' breathing space allowed by the court, fairly "eating them up," those who saw him said. He exhaled the last long puff as he was summoned back to face the hardest ordeal thus far, the arraignment by the prosecutor.

The courtroom quickly settled itself to hear Mr. Wolverton's speech. The men and women—women again were in the majority among the spectators—sat forward in their chairs expectantly. There was a brief pause while Mr. Wolverton stood almost by the side of the prisoner making ready to begin.

James was pale and twitching, as he had been all morning. Behind him sat his wife, Mrs. Maude James, and his sixteen-year-old son Harold. His father, John James, was also almost within touching distance. Mr. Wolverton, with erect carriage and serious mien, towered above the prisoner and his wife.

Cowed by Tongue Lashing

As Prosecutor Wolverton told his story, the prisoner and his family made no sound, and the wife remained dry-eyed. But she sat bent, as though the

Continued on Page Twenty-Column One

J. C. Biddle Finds Love After 20 Years as Monk

Former Father Alberic, Long Silent Trappist, Takes Cultivated Virginian for Wife After Losing Heart at First Sight

Love at first sight with a charming Virginia woman of distinguished ancestry was the sequel to twenty years of austere monastic life, spent by James Cornell Biddle, of this city, a former Trappist monk.

Miss Mary Lena Gaines, of Warrenton, Va., a member of one of the first families of the Old Dominion, was married to Mr. Biddle in Washington yesterday.

The couple are now at the Cairo Apartments, Washington, and plan to go to "Paradise," the bride's old colonial homestead, near Warrenton, after New Year's Day. Mr. Biddle is fifty-two years old; his bride is forty-eight.

This afternoon Mr. Biddle said he may enter the ministry. He intimated that it would be that of the Presbyterian Church.

In his exquisitely furnished apartment in Washington, a striking contrast with the bare, straw-palleted cell where he spent his sleeping hours for twenty years, Mr. Biddle today talked freely of his marriage and of the religious life he had left.

"I was a convert to the Catholic church," he said. "The monastic life appealed to me and I entered the Trappist order, passing through the probationary stages until I was ordained a priest.

"As the years went on my studies in church history convinced me that the Protestant form of church government was the form favored by the early Christian writers. I was influenced in particular by the writings of St. Paul. I also became convinced that celibacy was not obligatory on the clergy.

"About two years ago I left the monastery and the church. Since then I have passed my time in Washington and in Warrenton with occasional trips to other cities.

"My plans now are rather indefinite. Mrs. Biddle and I probably will go to Warrenton after the first of the year. We probably will spend Christmas Day in Washington. Sir Auckland Geddes, the British ambassador, and Lady Geddes have been very gracious to me. I would like to state here that I believe the good of the world depends on firm friendship between America and Great Britain.

Tells of Studies

"I entered the Catholic church in California when I was about of age. Later I went to Gethesemane at the

Continued on Page Two, Column One

ELEANOR MAY GUGGENHEIM
New York girl who today became the bride of Viscount Stuart, son and heir of the Earl of Castlestewart

'SUBMARINE THIEF' RAIDS 12 HOUSES

Only First Floors of Germantown Homes Ransacked. Loot Obtained Is Small

ENTERS BY WINDOWS

The "submarine thief," so called by the police because he operates only on the first floor of house entered, worked in the Germantown section last night, and ransacked twelve homes, all located within a small radius.

He worked several hours and secured only $57 in money, jewelry worth $115 and a fountain pen worth $2. In three of the twelve houses nothing was stolen.

In every instance the thief obtained entrance by an unlatched window, or by forcing a window. Then he ransacked all rooms on the first floor of each house. No efforts to operate in the upstairs apartments were made.

Not a single sleeper was awakened by the thief and in every case first knowledge of the robberies came to the owners when they found a first-floor window opened at the time they came down stairs today.

The list of houses entered and plunder obtained follows:

Charles Heffner, 75 East Duval street, fountain pen worth $2; Emily Lindsay, 85 East Duval street, jewelry worth $10; Katharine Tohlig, 151 East Duval, $50 in money; M. L. Hubbs, 145 East Washington lane, nothing; J. A. Hunt, 52 East Washington lane, nothing; Samuel Ashmead, 149 East Washington lane, $1 in postage stamps; E. R. Sorber, 121 East Pomona avenue, watch worth $50; C. W. Mattis, 125 East Pomona avenue, $1 in money; Robert Calhoun, 5325 Baynton street, nothing; W. J. Boyd, 6330 Baynton street, $2 in money; J. W. Bradshaw, 6324 Morton street, watch worth $55; Charles Derbyshire, 6330 Morton street, 4.

This was the second raid in the Germantown section by a "submarine thief," and about two weks ago half a score of houses in West Philadelphia were entered in one night.

GETS 6 PRISONERS, ALL BUTT

That Is, Dog Catcher Rounds Up Germantown Goats

A raid which caused wild excitement among the foreign residents in the vicinity of Chelten avenue and Magnolia street this morning, resulted in the capture of six prisoners.

The disposition of the six prisoners is causing Acting Lieutenant Ireland, of the Germantown police station, considerable anxiety and the absence of the captives from their native haunts has caused sorrow in the hearts of several families.

The prisoners are six goats that were captured by the city's dog catchers on the open lot at Chelten avenue and Magnolia street in answer to complaints from residents of the neighborhood who object to the lunches that the goats frequently enjoy from their gardens and washlines. The goats were taken to the pound at Thirty-first and Clearfield streets. They will be returned to their owners if a claim is put in for them to the police.

List of Jurors Selected to Try James for Murder

No. 1—Richard E. Newman, Merchantville, upholsterer. Foreman.
No. 2—John Daly, Atco, farmer.
No. 3—William B. Steele, 1246 South Third street, Camden, watchman.
No. 4—John R. S. Doughty, 425 Spruce street, Camden, machinist.
No. 5—Henry Altenbrand, 2032 Federal street, Camden, retired.
No. 6—George Cummins, 1022 South Fifth street, Camden, haberdashery dealer.
No. 7—Thaddeus Andrews, 504 Chambers street, Gloucester, retired patternmaker.
No. 8—Edward Adams, Barrington, N. J., farmer.
No. 9—Millard F. Deitz, Winslow township, farmer.
No. 10. Henry Schwanker, Haddon Heights, retired business man.
No. 11. William Ashton, 918 North Eighth street, Camden, a wood-working foreman.
No. 12—Joseph Murray, forty-two years old, farmer, Blackwood.

CITY IS FLOODED WITH BOND BIDS

Great Number of Offers Sustain Credit, Though "Big Bankers" Stay Out

P. R. T. WANTS $250,000

One of the largest numbers of bids ever received for a municipal bond issue were opened today in Mayor Moore's office. Although they were for a $7,000,000 issue, none of the members of the so-called "big bankers' group" made an offer.

The failure of the big banking houses to bid recalled a statement made recently by E. T. Stotesbury, a financier, at the first public meeting ever held by the city's Sinking Fund Commission.

Mr. Stotesbury asserted that unless criticism of the bankers should end the financiers would withdraw their support from municipal financing.

Important banks, however, were represented in the bids received today, which totaled $5,310,000. The city sinking fund bid for $2,000,000 of the bonds at par, which will absorb most of the fund's surplus.

After the bids had been opened the Mayor conferred briefly with Ernest T. Lowengrund, assistant city solicitor, who was present at the opening of bids at noon sharp. The Mayor then announced that awards had been made to all the bidders.

City's Credit Sustained

"The big banking group has not bid," the Mayor stated, "but the bids of the others were entirely satisfactory and the city's credit has been sustained. It is always a good thing to have a large bond issue distributed among a number of holders."

The Mayor called attention to a statement he made at the last meeting of the sinking fund commission. At that time he advised against immediate investment of the sinking fund surplus, on the ground that the surplus should be held until the $7,000,000 bond issue was floated.

After the bids had been opened the Mayor received assurances from private individuals and banks that the entire issue would be absorbed. It will be necessary, however, to readvertise for bids for the remainder of the issue.

Today's Bids

The bids received today were:

John Eiseley, Trenton, N. J., $500 at par and interest; Second National Bank of Philadelphia, $40,000 at 101; P. R. T. sinking fund, $250,000 at 100 and interest; Frankford Trust Co., $100,000 at 103.7778; Thomas M. Fitzgerald, 619 Market street, $25,000 at $25,105; Fidelity Trust Co., $100,000 at 101.25; Hemingway Co., $10,000 at 101.50.

Estate of John B. Parsons, $25,000 at par; George E. Snyder & Co., $2000 at 100⅛; Integrity Trust Co., $200,000 at 101.50; John E. Owens, $15,000 at 101; Peoples Trust Co. of Philadelphia, $125,000 at par and interest; James E. Lennon, $2000 at 100; Harper and Turner, $25,000 at 101.

Boenning, Garrison & Co., $100,000 at 100; Henrietta Tween, $1000, no price stated; West End Trust Co., $100,000 at 100; commissioners of city sinking fund, $2,000,000 at 100; Commercial Trust Co., $100,000 at par and accrued interest; Harrison & Co., $250,000 at 100.0123; Harrison & Co., $125,000 at 100.101; Harrison & Co., $125,000 at 100.201.

Girard estate, $500,000 at 100; Corn Exchange National Bank, $200,000 at 101⅜; Corn Exchange National Bank, $200,000 at 101½; Corn Exchange National Bank, $200,000 at 101¾; Corn Exchange National Bank, $200,000 at 101⅞; Corn Exchange National Bank, $200,000 at 102; Third National Bank, $30,000 at 101; Brooke, Thomas, Stokes & Co., $50,000 at 102.1; Charles J. McNulty & Sons, $5000 at 100⅜; Charles J. McNulty & Sons, $5000 at 100½.

SURPRISE STORE INTRUDERS

One Man Escapes Camden Police. Other Held for Court

Police Sergeants Horner and Matlack discovered two Negroes in the store of Jacob Grear, at 3514 Federal street, Camden, early today.

One was captured after an eight-block chase, in which several shots were fired. He said he was John Jackson, Thirteenth street near Washington avenue, this city. Recorder Stackhouse held him in $1500 bail for court. The other man escaped.

SEVEREST EARTHQUAKE IN 2 YEARS RECORDED

Seismographs Record Disturbance About 2800 Miles From Washington

Washington, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—An unusually severe earth shock, estimated to be 2800 miles in a direction east or west from Washington, was recorded early today on the seismograph at Georgetown University.

The recording of the shock began at 7:25 a. m., the maximum intensity was reached at 8:07 a. m., and it still was in progress at 9:50 a. m.

The disturbance was described by the Rev. Father Francis A. Tondorf, director of the Georgetown Seismological Observatory, as the worst recorded here in two years.

The distance of 2800 miles from Washington estimated by Father Tondorf would indicate the location of the disturbance to be in the United States, near the Pacific coast, if to the west, or in the vicinity of the Azores if to the east.

The seismograph at Chicago University records the disturbance as having its center 3080 miles from that city. As the observatory at Washington reported the same quake was 2800 miles from there, in an east or west direction, the quake apparently is centered in the Atlantic ocean, being farther from Chicago than from the capital.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 1.—(By A. P.)—An earthquake that was termed a "smasher" was registered on instruments at the Harvard University seismographic station today. The gong in the station that is rung by a shock in far off China or in nearer places was started before 8 o'clock, and the seismograph was still recording shocks of unusual intensity two hours later.

In the absence of definite knowledge regarding the scene of this seismic disturbance recorded its exact location must be left to conjecture. Within the last fortnight heavy earthquakes have occurred in Central and South America, while about the same time Albania suffered a similar shock.

OPIUM-SMOKING EPIDEMIC REPORTED IN 'CHINATOWN'

Vice Squad Head Testifies and One Denizen Is Held

Opium-smoking has become so common on Race street, between Ninth and Tenth, the remnant of the city's Chinatown, that Charles Lee, head of the vice squad, has been forced to assign ten men there night and day.

This was testified today at a hearing in Central Station before Magistrate Renshaw. Charlie Young, sixty-five years old, a Chinese, who was arrested early today at 923 Race street, was then prisoner.

Detectives testified they discovered Young on a lounge with an opium layout by his side.

Detective Lee said he had selected men for the Race street assignment trained to detect the odor of opium. Within the narrow confines of the picturesque block, he said, traffic in opium and its consumption has grown so rapidly in the last few weeks that it has been necessary to keep a constant watch on every house.

In spite of the vigil, he said, opium is smuggled in and smoked.

Magistrate Renshaw held Charlie Young in $500 bail for court.

TAXI STRIKER HELD

Man Accused of Throwing Brick Placed Under $2500 Bail

Magistrate Renshaw, in Central Station today, held William R. Jones, a striking taxi chauffeur, in $2500 bail for court, charged with having thrown a brick through the door of a cab owned by the Quaker City Taxicab Co.

Raymond Wilson, of 309 North Sixtieth street, driver of the taxi, testified he was carrying a man and woman as passengers last night when the brick was thrown.

Magistrate Renshaw cited the case in which Dr. A. A. Cairns narrowly escaped serious injury at the hands of a militant striker, and told Jones he would make an example of him.

Wilson was held in $500 bail to keep the peace, after it was testified he carried firearms.

Day's Developments in National Capital

Representative Mondell, Republican House leader, urged rigid economy in government expenditures and reduction in estimated appropriations, especially those for the army and navy. He declared the Treasury plan for a $4,000,000,000 tax unjustified.

The House ways and means committee held under advisement a plea for prompt action on the Edmonds resolution providing that no penalties except interest shall apply until after sixty days for nonpayment of federal taxes due yesterday.

Service men today filed charges that the War Department is taking no action looking to the prosecution of draft evaders and deserters with the House judiciary committee.

American Legion representatives appeared before the Senate finance committee to support claims of former service men to a grant from Congress.

MONDELL ATTACKS HOUSTON ESTIMATE; DEMANDS ECONOMY

Hits Administration's Inconsistent Request for Big Outlay While Pleading Thrift

WOULD CUT $1,400,000,000 FROM APPROPRIATIONS

By the Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 16. — Urging "rigid economy" in appropriations for government expenses during the next fiscal year in order to lighten the tax burden, Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, Republican leader, declared in the House today that the total estimate of $4,653,800,000 submitted by the secretary of the treasury should be reduced by approximately $1,400,000,000.

This reduction, he said, must be effected chiefly by a drastic scaling down in estimates for the army and navy and also for sundry civil expenses, the total of which he pointed out, exceeded current appropriations by more than $914,000,000.

Criticizing the administration for the "unfathomable inconsistency" in the estimates submitted to Congress and the "pleas for economy made by the President and the secretary of the treasury," Mr. Mondell declared he would "leave it to others to properly characterize these estimates."

Criticizes Military Estimate

"Two years after the war," the Republican leader added, "when the world outside our borders is largely bankrupt and everybody is praying for reduction of armaments, the administration asks for an appropriation of more than $1,414,000,000 for the army, navy and fortifications, or five and a half times the highest peace-time appropriation of 1916."

Pointing out that current deficiencies were not included in this total, Mr. Mondell declared these "may be swollen indefinitely" if the War Department continued its policy of recruiting the army up to full strength, contrary to the "understanding" that it should not be increased above the "total of 178,000 men contemplated by the appropriations."

Declaring this action was "in entire harmony" with the attitude which the "war and some other departments had assumed toward Congress in this administration," Mr. Mondell said it had become the duty of Congress to take action that would prevent "such squandering of the people's money by creating deficiencies in violation of law."

Asserting that if the economy in appropriations advocated by him was carried out the tax burden for the calendar year 1921 might be "substantially lightened," Mr. Mondell said he believed continuation of a tax program designed to raise a minimum revenue of $4,000,000,000 for two years, as recommended by the secretary of the treasury, was "unjustified." It is not justified, he adde, "even for one year."

Opposes Houston Plan

The Republican leader said he was opposed to Secretary Houston's plan for retiring with current revenues more than $3,600,000,000 of the country's floating and bonded war debt, including a half billion of Victory notes, by January 30, 1923, as placing an "unnecessary burden upon the people and business."

With 44 per cent of the net cost of the war, excluding foreign loans, already paid, he said, it was unnecessary to "keep up war rates of taxation for the purpose of reducing the public debt at a rate greatly in excess of the sinking fund rate applied to the entire debt."

"By the end of the fiscal year," Mr. Mondell added, "we shall have reached a point in the reduction of our war debt where further reductions, except through the sinking fund operations, should not continue to impose wartime burdens."

While he favored repeal of the excess profits tax and reduction of the higher income surtaxes, Mr. Mondell said he thought it unnecessary at this time to consider alternative revenue provisions, because "no one can tell what increased revenues may result from the passage of a tariff bill along protective lines."

SHIP CIRCUITS GLOBE

Vessel Arrives Here After Making Trip in Nine Months

The S. S. Chesswald, with barnacles from the "Seven Seas" clinging to her sides, arrived in port this morning after completing a circuit of the world in nine months. She tied up at the Reed street wharf.

Nine months ago the tramp steamer left for Port Arthur, Korea, bound for the Far East and passed through the Panama canal. Boating from port to port of many countries she carried odd cargoes and took on her last, composed of sugar and heavy merchandise, at a Javan port. This last leg of the long journey took seventy days.

Nine months is considered good time for a vessel to make in going completely around the globe.

AUTOIST PRAYS FOR VICTIM

Man, in Tears, Kneels in Street Beside Unconscious Boy

With tears streaming down his cheeks Matt Goldberg, forty-nine years old, of 1808 North Franklin street, knelt down in the street beside the unconscious form of a schoolboy who had been struck by his automobile, and offered prayers for his recovery. He then rushed the boy to the Germantown Hospital.

The injured boy was Joseph McCracken, eight years old, of 422 West Price street, who is a student at the Harmer School, next door to the Germantown police station on West Haines street.

The boy had left school and, while on his way to his home, had stopped to play with several chums who started to chase him. He ran into the street directly into the path of the machine driven by Goldberg, who stopped at once. After praying over the boy he took him to the hospital where he is suffering from a possible fracture of the skull.

Goldberg surrendered to the police.

TODAY IT'S A SAILOR ASHORE

You get the picture?—the gates at the League Island Navy Yard, a "gob" all washed-up and shiny, "coming ashore" for the evening—money in his pocket and not much idea what he wants to do.

LIMERICKITIS

That's the thing to solve the problem for him. You fans can give him the idea he needs.

And, for yourselves, you can get the prize of

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS

SEE THE LIMPING LIMERICK ON PAGE 2

Lucky Limerick Fan Wins a Hundred Today

Judges Choose Best Line About the Leopard's Spots and Name Will Be Announced Next Monday

There's one limerick fan who is lucky today. He or she—we won't say which it is—won the first contest, about the leopard out at the Zoo.

Next Monday everybody will know who this lucky person is. That's the way we will do all through this contest—publish the name of the winner one week after the day on which the incomplete limerick appears.

And the prize of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS goes with the announcement EACH DAY.

You'd be surprised at the variety of things the fans made that leopard say. A very fair percentage of them were mighty clever, too.

And you would be equally astonished if you could see the number of well-known names that were signed to some of the coupons.

It just proves that limerickitis is the most democratic disease in the world. It hits everybody. Some of the people who sent in answers most evidently were not after the prize for its cash value. They themselves could give away a hundred dollars without missing it. It was the pure fun of the thing that made them try—the joy of matching their wit and their cleverness against all comers.

And then there were others who obviously would look upon the prize as a God-send at any time—and especially now, just before the Christmas season.

We honestly hope the winners will be the people to whom the money will be a genuine blessing. We like to scatter blessings.

But if John D. Rockefeller or J. P. M. should send in the best line he would get the prize. There cannot be any favorites in a limerick contest. The hobo who scribbles his line loafing on a park bench must have have just the same chance as the millionaire making his chauffeur stop his Rolls-Royce while he jots down one he's happened to think of.

That's the whole spirit of a limerick contest—absolute fairness and impar-

Continued on Page Two, Column Three

LEGION OPPOSES DELAY IN BONUS

Leaders Tell Senate Committee Congress Should Find Means to Compensate Veterans

SLACKERS ESCAPE TRIALS

By the Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 16.—Claims of former service men to a grant from Congress were supported today by representatives of the American Legion at Senate finance committee hearings on the House bill to adjust the compensation of world war veterans.

Major Frederick U. Galbraith, Jr., national commander of the Legion, and Gilbert Bettman, chairman of the Legion's legislative committee, said the Legion sought to present and demonstrate the "validity" of the claims of the men, and that Congress should find the means of meeting the obligation.

Their statements were made in response to questions by senators regarding the difficulty the treasury would have in bearing the financial burden involved in the cash bonus plan. Senator McCumber, acting chairman, raised the question of postponing action until 1922 or 1923, whereupon Mr. Bettman said that while the Legion would "defend" the tax plan of the House bill it would not defend postponement.

No Overseas Distinction

Major Galbraith presented arguments of the service men to adjusted compensation. He declared that most of them were drafted, while others "properly" claimed exemption, but with the privilege of earning high wages as compared with the $30 monthly pay of the service men.

Commander Galbraith said the Legion makes no distinction between men who served overseas or in camps in this country. "All were willing to go," he

Continued on Page Two, Column Four

U. S. ENVOY SNUBS GERMAN DIPLOMAT

Ambassador Wallace Refuses to Meet Berlin's Representative in Paris

By the Associated Press

Paris, Dec. 16.—Hugh C. Wallace, the American ambassador, last night refused to meet Wilhelm Mayer von Kaufbeuren, the German ambassador, because the United States still is technically in a state of war with Germany.

The incident occurred at an official dinner to the diplomatic corps given by Raoul Peret, president of the Chamber of Deputies, and his wife. Ambassador Wallace, dean of the diplomatic corps in the absence of the Italian ambassador, and Mrs. Wallace were the guests of honor.

Pierre de Fouquieres, of the foreign office, known as the "introducer of ambassadors," approached Ambassador Wallace in the reception room before the dinner and said:

"The German ambassador desires to be presented to you."

"Can't you forget it?" inquired Mr. Wallace, who knows M. Fouquieres very well.

"He is standing just behind me," replied M. Fouquieres. "He was very persistent. I did not wish to embarrass you."

"Tell him," said Mr. Wallace, "that I refuse to meet him."

The German ambassador was standing so near that he heard Mr. Wallace's reply and M. Fouquieres repeated the response to him.

News of the incident spread rapidly among the 115 guests, who included many of the most notable men in the public life of France. Ambassador Wallace was surrounded by persons congratulating him, among whom were Philippe Berthelot, political director of the French foreign office, and Baron Hardinge, the new British ambassador to France.

786 CONNELLSVILLE COKE OVENS CLOSED

CONNELSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 16.—A net decrease of 786 in the number of active coke ovens in the Connelsville coke district was reported today in the weekly coke review of the Connelsville Courier. This does not include about 300 others which will be closed for an indefinite period at the termination of the week's run on Saturday. This condition is brought about, the Courier adds, because fully fifty per cent of the merchant blast furnaces are idle, and others operating only on part time.

ANTI-STRIKE BILL PASSED BY SENATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Poindexter anti-strike bill was passed today by the Senate without debate or a record vote. The measure, which now goes to the House, provides that interference with interstate commerce shall be a felony.

TWO DIE IN PAINT SHOP FIRE

Body of One Victim Blown Through Building by Explosion

Pittsburgh, Dec. 16.—Two men were burned to death and two others seriously injured early today when fire, followed by a number of explosions of oil and paint, destroyed the paint shop of the H. H. Robertson Co.'s plant at Ambridge, near here. The fire is believed to have been caused when a pot of paint boiled over.

David Dickson, aged fifty years, one of the dead men, was blown through the building. Stanley Zell, the other man, died at a hospital in Rochester. The property damage was estimated at $10,000.

BOY RUN OVER; DIES

Mother Faints When She Sees Son's Life Crushed Out

Frank Forman, five years old, of 4156 Carpenter street, was run over by a milk wagon yesterday and instantly killed. His mother was a witness of the accident, but was powerless to help her child.

The driver of the milk wagon was Harry Sussman, who was delivering milk to Mrs. Forman, when the child started to climb into the wagon. The horse became frightened and started to run off as the little boy fell under the wheels. Mrs. Forman fell unconscious on the steps of her home as she saw her boy's life crushed out.

HARDING MAY USE LEAGUE SKELETON IN HIS PEACE PLAN

Republicans Intend to Make Mere Conference of Nations From Present Body

WORLD COURT HEART OF MARION SCHEME

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger
Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co.

Marion, O., Dec. 16.—From Senator Fall's statement to the press yesterday, after a long conference with President-elect Harding, it became apparent that what the Republicans are arriving at is a modification of the present League of Nations into a conference of nations and the erection of a world court, probably on the basis of the Hague Tribunal, which shall have compulsory jurisdiction over international disputes.

The League of Nations is likely to be preserved, but modified into a body having no executive authority whatever. It will become a mere parliament of nations. The fate of the present league is not settled. What it will be will depend upon its own attitude toward this country's proposals.

If it consents readily to the modification of its functions it is likely to survive as the new international association. If it does not, the new President will be likely to attempt a new association for purposes of international conference, formed around the Hague Tribunal. Senator Fall expressed no doubt that the present league would readily agree to become, as he phrased it, "the skeleton organization" for the future association of nations. He thought from the league itself would come a proposal that a meeting should be held in Washington for the development of the new association of peoples out of the present association. This meeting, he thought, held under these circumstances and for this purpose, would restore the prestige of this country and its leadership in international affairs.

Bitter-Enders Milder

A better idea of what is under consideration was obtained from Senator Fall than from any of Harding's previous visitors. He talked more fully and frankly to the press than had any of his predecessors. He gave his interview in the presence of Senator Harding, and while he described the views he expressed as personal, he said that he was in entire agreement with the President-elect.

Fall's opinions are interesting because they show that even the irreconcilables do not oppose the use of the present league as the basis of the coming association of nations. Fall is an irreconcilable.

The difference between the association Harding would set up and the present one, Fall indicated by emphasizing the contrast between what he called "a league for conference" and the present league. A league for conference would meet and discuss international questions, but its decisions would have no binding force. They could go to the nations for acceptance or rejection, without any obligation, moral or legal, resting upon the nations to accept them.

In such a league for conference a representative of this country, or of any other, would have exactly the status of an ambassador. He would present the views of the country he represented, but unless specially authorized he could take no action binding upon his country.

Nearing An Agreement

One may understand how near together the Republicans are upon the general aspects of their league policy if one realizes that these views of Senator Fall, a strong irreconcilable, do not differ in any essential respect from those of ex-Senator Root. The clearest thinking of the so-called pro-league Republicans, Root has been insisting upon an international court with compulsory jurisdiction of justiciable disputes and a league in which the status of a nation's representatives would be that of a diplomat.

There seems little doubt that the first step will be the passage of a resolution similar to the Knox resolution declaring the war with Germany to be at end. Harding announced this as his policy in his speech of acceptance last July, and he has steadily adhered to his program. His party is almost unanimously with him. Whether Root still is of the opinion he expressed in his cablegram against peace by resolution is not known. But this question is mere detail. Upon the general aspects of the program indicated by Fall, namely the setting up of an international league for conference which shall spring out of the present league, and together with it a world court with compulsory jurisdiction, irreconcilables and men as favorable to the League of Nations, as is Root, are substantially agreed.

League Splits on Court

The compulsory jurisdiction feature of Root's court was rejected by the council of the present league, but accepted by the assembly at Geneva. It may meet some opposition in the United States Senate, but Fall said that this country favored it at the time the Hague Tribunal was erected and that it would probably have been a feature of that court except for the opposition of Germany.

The fate of the treaty itself as apart from the covenant is in doubt. Fall appeared definitely against ratification. Some of Harding's advisers feel that the treaty will be ratified after being much amended. Fall expressed the opinion that the European powers themselves would enter into new negotiations, change the boundaries fixed by the Versailles agreement and greatly modify the present treaty's terms; that, in short, there would be a new peace conference and a new treaty.

He did not disclose any basis for this opinion. It goes rather against the known facts regarding France's, England's and Italy's attitude toward the existing treaty.

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