

THE WEATHER
Fair and warmer tonight; lowest temperature 25 degrees; Wednesday cloudy and unsettled; warmer.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5

Evening Public Ledger

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STATE REGULATION OF HOTELS TO CURB PRICES, BILL'S AIM
Effort to Cut Costs May Put Hostelties Under Service Commission
TRAVELING MEN ACT TO PREVENT NEW GOUGING

By GEORGE NOX McCANN
Harrisburg, Feb. 1.—Several bills, in various stages of preparation for presentation at the present session.

One proposes to regulate the hotels of the state by placing them under the Public Service Commission. The other, which has been prepared by the Traveling Men's Association, proposes regulation of hotels, but does not contemplate placing them under the Public Service Commission.

It is possible that only one of these measures will be presented, but at present it is impossible to say which it will be. Hotels, from their very nature, are public utilities, and, as such, they are in a class with public utility concerns.

So far as known no such regulation exists in any state. The question is of course a legal proposition, and it is interesting to compare the various interesting and difficult complications.

At many hotels there are additional demands in the way of "cover charges," which often put a premium on the night. There have been rumors in Harrisburg for a week now that a bill will be introduced making it punishable with heavy fine to fix or demand any such charge for which no real service is rendered.

P. R. R. Man Wins Lim'rick Prize

LIMERICK NO. 38

"I'm going out shopping," said Vi; "I've only some satin to buy— And some cotton and thread—"

But the neighbors all said, "All that she'll spend is time with some guy."

There's Another Limpin' Lim'rick Printed Today— See Page 2

TRAFFIC DELAYED BY P. R. R. WRECK

Twelve Loaded Freight Cars Are Piled Up on Tracks at Plainsboro, N. J.

A freight wreck on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Plainsboro, N. J., at 9 o'clock last night, has seriously interfered with traffic on the New York division.

Five trucks were covered with wreckage when twelve cars of an eastbound freight train "piled up." Wrecking crews, on duty the entire night, had only two trucks available for clearing traffic by 2 o'clock today. No one was injured.

Wreckage had been removed from another track earlier, but this did not materially benefit the messenger service. It enabled the wrecking crews to hurry the work of clearing the three other tracks.

Passengers to and from New York arrived at their homes or hotels from two to five hours late. The cause has not been determined, and officials of the company are at Plainsboro today, making an investigation.

Early today these engines were parked at the Broad Street Station, New York. "All eastbound trains to New York subject to two and one-half hours' delay."

BRIBE SOLICITED TO EFFECT ESCAPE, BERGDOLL SAYS

Fugitive Draft Dodger, Now in Germany, Declares Giboney Wanted \$100,000

Declares Army Guards Took Orders From Him

Gover Cleveland Bergdoll, Philadelphia draft dodger who has found asylum in Eberbach, Baden, Germany, asserts that when he escaped last May, during a visit to his home here, on the way to look for his "pot of gold" in the mountains of West Virginia, the sergeants in charge of him really were under his orders.

Bergdoll, sitting with "The" Stocher, his friend and partner, in a little hotel in Eberbach, lent his relatives, told his story to Ralph Nicholson, special correspondent of the Public Ledger. The draft dodger, there, of course, I had been acting under written orders delegating all authority to Bergdoll's attorney, Dr. Clarence Giboney, since dead. The house had turned his authority over to Stocher, telling the sergeants to do anything he wished.

Waits Political Amnesty Bergdoll has returned to Eberbach, where he is living comfortably, waiting for a political amnesty which he hopes will make it possible for him to return to the United States. He told the correspondent he was longing for home, and denied the story he had become a naturalized German citizen. Stocher, however, who was born in Germany, has resumed his citizenship and will remain there.

Bergdoll added many details to his earlier narrative of the escape. He said he had paid \$11,000 to Mr. Giboney for his defense, and the latter had distributed in the proper quarters in Washington to effect Bergdoll's release on the ground that the court martial which tried him had been without jurisdiction.

Giboney had been in Washington, Bergdoll said, and was in touch with the sergeant there, who was generating false reports to the army, which was the man among whom he was to distribute the \$100,000.

Bergdoll told the correspondent that he said that the money was hidden in the mountains of West Virginia where no one could find it but two hundred thousand dollars actually were buried there. The money was the slightest idea of paying those grafters a single cent of it. I have no doubt but that they could have obtained my release, but I had been completely abandoned by Stocher and had no escape all planned.

Girl Dies of Burns While Fiance Prays at Bedside

Man Tells of Efforts to Save Life of Intended Bride—Tipping of Alcohol Stove Is Fatal to Young Stenographer

Philadelphia, Feb. 1.—A young girl, Miss Ada Frederick, died of burns this morning while her fiance, a young stenographer, prayed at her bedside. The girl, who was 23 years old, was burned to death by the tipping of an alcohol stove in her room.

Miss Ada Frederick Who died from burns after her fiance made a heroic attempt to save her life

Runaway Girl Caught With Youth in Station

Says Companion Planned Robbery to Get to Florida

A youthful couple, sitting alone in the waiting room at Broad Street Station last night, were arrested and taken to City Hall, the girl charged with carrying a "stick-up man's" outfit, with which the police think he was about to attempt a hold-up.

They are Samuel Leinbach, seventeen years old, of Reading, Pa., and Bessie Reber, sixteen years old, of Hamburg, Pa. The girl confessed she had run away from home with Leinbach and the two were planning to go to Miami, Fla., but had found that lack of funds—only four dollars—would be a serious obstacle.

REAL WINTER ARRIVES Snow, Coasting, Snappy Air, Groundhog, n' Everything

Clear, cold, windy weather, the real, snappy, winter type, prevailed today, following the snowfall of yesterday. Tomorrow the temperature will rise again, and moderate snow is to be expected for several days, says the weather bureau.

FERRY DANGEROUS; NEED BRIDGE NOW, MAYOR TESTIFIES

Present Service Inadequate, Moore Tells House Committee. Fares on Span Lower

Wants Tolls Question SET ASIDE FOR PRESENT

Washington, Feb. 1.—Immediate passage of the Delaware river bridge bill was urged today by the Senate majority, as reported by the Senate floor manager, Mr. Moore, who testified before the House committee on the bill.

The Mayor asked that the bill be passed so that it might conform to the terms of an agreement passed on by the general bridge act. The bill would add to the tolls on the bridge, which was a matter about which members of the committee showed much interest.

World Decide Tolls Later The bill's passage, he said, "is one that should not be taken up here now. The bill is reported by the Senate floor manager, Mr. Moore, who testified before the House committee on the bill."

CHORUS GIRLS FACE BURGLARY CHARGE

Young Women Accused of New Mexico Senator Combines Breaking Into Another's Room for Lingerie

Managers Also Complains Subtlety to Be Avoided

Favor \$35,000,000 Bond Bill for Soldier Bonus

Find Body in Firebox

Mayor Moore Imprisoned in Elevator at Capitol

Miss Ada Crozer Dies

Asks for Senate Meeting