

THE WEATHER
Showers tonight; Saturday: Increasing southerly winds.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 10 12 2 3 4 5
60 62 64 66 67 70 72

Philadelphia Evening Ledger

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PRICE TWO CENTS

ARON BILL DIES IF IT SNEAKS BY TO GOV. SPROUL

Too Busy to Discuss "Such Legislation," Which He Won't Approve
POINTS TO HIS STAND ON "NO CHARTER TINKERING"

Vares Skidded, but Street Cleaning Amendment May Trick Way Through House
ENDANGERED BY DELAY Backers of Measure Were Drowsy and Put Scheme Across Late

By a Staff Correspondent
Harrisburg, April 22.—Should the Aron bill by any evil chance sneak a devious way through the House and go before the Governor for approval, Mr. Sproul would refuse to sign it.

This is the understanding here today, although the Governor himself says, for the public ear, that he "will not discuss" the Aron bill, which would give the Vares a new grip on the street-cleaning business in Philadelphia.

Mr. Sproul is emphatic that he has too many important things on his mind to bother about "such legislation" as this, and he refers to his message to the Legislature, in which he said there should be "no tinkering" with the new charter.

The Governor plainly means this.
By GEORGE NOX McCAIN
Harrisburg, April 22.—It is an axiom in Philadelphia politics that "the organization never sleeps."

It is equally a fact that it sometimes gets drowsy and overlooks things that are the case with the Aron bill.
It was just thirty-eight hours from the time the bill was introduced by Senator Aron, who comes from "Uncle Dave" Lane's district, till it was rushed through the Senate yesterday afternoon.

JOHN W. PATTON DIES

Former Penn Professor Served in Council and on School Board
John W. Patton, formerly professor in the law department at Penn, died last night at his home, 2223 De Lancey street.

COOL WOMAN THIEF BOSSES ROBBERY OF COUPLE IN VINELAND

Attractive Burglar, Armed and Crafty, Directs Crippled Man to Bind, Gag and LooT
HER MOTHERLY INSTINCT ROUSED BY CRIES OF TOTS

A woman burglar accompanied by a man who had a peg leg attacked Mr. and Mrs. L. Ashton in their home in Vineland, N. J., early today, and after binding and gagging them, stole \$127 and jewelry and escaped.

RALLY TO WHIP ARON IN HOUSE

Bill Contractors' Plot to Restore Contract Street Cleaning.
Caven Says

MAKES HASH OF CHARTER
The Aron bill is a plot by contractors to force the city back to cleaning its streets by contract, said Director Caven today.

Should this measure, which has passed the Senate and now goes to the House, become a law, it would wipe out one of the vital provisions of the city charter, Mr. Caven went on.

"The city today is cleaning the district bounded by Columbia avenue, South street, and the two rivers for less than a cent a square foot," said Mr. Caven. "The city charter provides that the city shall clean its streets for a cent a square foot."

Lawyer Dies

M. TAYLOR PYNE DEAD
Prominent N. Y. Attorney, Well Known Here, Was 85 Years Old
M. Taylor Pyne, prominent New York attorney, active in the affairs of Princeton University, of which he was a trustee, and well known in this city as a director of many large corporations, died this morning at 263 Madison street, New York, of pneumonia.

BULLETS WHISTLE AS BANDITS LEAD POLICE WILD CHASE

Three in Motorcar Captured After Thrilling Dash Down Broad Street
COLD LEAD PIERCES COAT OF ONE; EACH IS HELD

Three armed men in a motorcar led police a chase on Broad street early today in which many salvos of shots were fired.

Two Boys Killed by Autos

Two Other Lads Injured When Struck by Machines
Two small boys were killed by automobiles and two others seriously injured yesterday.

W. A. L. LAUGHTON DIES

Insurance Man, Long Prominent Here, Born in Orkneys
W. A. L. Laughton, an insurance man, died yesterday at his home, 252 West Johnson street.

TICKLED LADY ASTOR

She Tells of Delicate Sheets in Luxurious Country Home
London, April 22.—Sir Shirley Benn, who was married to the late Mrs. Astor, told an amusing story when the Earl of Plymouth was presented with the freedom of the city.

FALLS INTO BRUSH FIRE

Aged Woman Trips Over Branch and Plunges Into Flames
Harrisburg, April 22.—(By A. P.)—Mrs. Mary Sheehy, eighty-three years old, a retired school teacher of Dauphin, may die from burns received today when she tripped on a branch of a tree and pitched head foremost into a brush fire.

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INDICT NEGRO'S LYNCHERS

Nine Georgians Must Answer Charge of Murder
Camilla, Ga., April 22.—(By A. P.)—Nine indictments have been returned by the county grand jury in connection with the lynchings last January of Jim Roland, a Negro, said to be the first such findings in the state under what is known as a "mob violence act."

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U. S. REJECTS BERLIN PLEA; SEEKS TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW REPARATION PARLEY

America's Stand May Cause Entente to Alter Its Proposed Course
PREMIERS NOT LIKELY TO IGNORE SUGGESTIONS

French Regret That Hughes' Reply to Teutons Was Not Categorical Refusal
By the Associated Press
London, April 22.—Dramatic efforts on the part of Germany to induce the United States to arbitrate the reparations question between Berlin and the Entente governments, and the refusal of the Washington government to sit in judgment on the merits of the vexing problem, have lent new interest to the conference at Lyons on Sunday in the United States note to Berlin that further negotiations should be commenced.

Military Plans Complete
It is known that military authorities of France have perfected all plans for the occupation of cities and towns in the industrially important Ruhr district of Germany, and have formulated economic penalties that will be put into operation when occupation of these places has been completed.

Valuation Cut Down
The Germans originally asserted that 4,600,000 tons of shipping, valued at 7,000,000,000 gold marks, had been turned over, but she has notified the Entente that an alternative valuation on a lower basis will be submitted soon.

Paris, April 22.—(By A. P.)—French official circles expressed disappointment today that the American reply to Germany's request for mediation was not a categorical refusal, as had been expected here.

ARMED ROBBERS STEAL \$5000 FROM CHAUFFEURS

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 22.—Seventy-five chauffeurs were held up in their clubrooms here early today by four armed men and robbed of \$5000. The robbers escaped in an automobile.

U. S. MAY PARTICIPATE IN PERU'S CENTENNIAL

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The United States would be represented by a commission at the coming centennial celebration of Peruvian independence under a resolution reported favorably by the Senat foreign relations committee on recommendation of President Harding.

SMALLPOX SHIP QUARANTINED AT NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 22.—The French steamer Rousillon from Havre was held at quarantine today after the ship's officers had reported death of a child from smallpox April 20. The 178 steerage passengers were transferred to Hoffman Island for vaccination and observation.

14 HORSES ARE RESCUED

Man Aided by Patrolman Takes Animals From Burning Stable
Fourteen horses were saved from death last night in a fire that partially destroyed a stable at the rear of the house of Alexander Medley, 704 North Forty-fifth street.

Secretary Hughes' Note Replying to Berlin

The text of Secretary Hughes' answer to Germany's reparations plea follows:
"This government could not agree to mediate the question of reparations with a view to acting as umpire in its settlement. Impressed, however, with the seriousness of the issues involved as they affect the whole world, the Government of the United States feels itself so deeply concerned with the question of obtaining an early and just solution. This government strongly desires that there should be an immediate resumption of negotiations and reiterates its earnest hope that the German Government will promptly formulate such proposals as would present a proper basis for discussion.

BELIEVE 'BIG BILL' IS HIDING IN U. S. FOR MAY DAY PLOT

Federal Agents Comb Radical Center for I. W. W. Secretary
Chicago, April 22.—(By A. P.)—Federal officers today announced they were conducting exhaustive investigations of headquarters of radicals in various cities throughout the country in the belief that "Big Bill" Haywood, I. W. W. chief, reported yesterday to have fled to Russia, was being concealed in this country in connection with alleged plans for a May Day demonstration.

NO AGREEMENT BY JURY

Fail to Decide in Conspiracy Case Involving Three Men
The jury that yesterday heard the testimony in the case of three men accused of conspiracy to rob a tailor shop at 1220 West Moyamensing avenue reported to Judge Shull in Quarter Sessions Court this morning they had been unable to reach a verdict and were discharged from further consideration of the case.

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Harding, Refusing to Mediate, Stresses "Just" Solution in Suggesting New Discussion

ALLIES MAY STRIP FORMER ENEMY OF HER ASSETS
Victors Likely to "Throw Germany to Wolves" for Own Restoration

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger
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Washington, April 22.—The United States, in a prompt reply to Germany's appeal to President Harding to act as mediator between Germany and the Allies on the question of reparations, refused the request, but expressed the hope that the German Government would present proposals as a basis for the renewal of negotiations.

The American note is taken here to indicate not only the government's desire to see the reparations question reopened, but a wish to participate in a conference with the Allies and with the German Government upon it. Mr. Hughes speaks of obtaining an early and just solution.

The adjective "just" has repeatedly been applied by both President Harding and Secretary Hughes to the subject of reparations. But there has been no disclosure of what this government regards as just reparations, what criticism it makes, if any, of the sum which the Allies are now trying to collect from Germany by the military measures which they are now planning and which involve an advance and occupation of the Ruhr coal region and of the industrial cities of which it is the base.

For the sake of a better understanding of the situation it is necessary to recall that the treaty fixed a certain basis of reparations to be worked out in detail and applied later by the reparations commission. At a conference held in Paris some months ago the Supreme Council, using the figures prepared by the reparations commission, demanded of Germany the payment of about \$56,000,000,000 over a period of forty-two years, plus a levy of 12 1/2 per cent yearly upon Germany's total exports.

Could Not Legally Collect
Germany at a conference held in London refused to agree to pay this amount. As the treaty made reparations payable in thirty years, and as the Allies spread them over forty-two years, the amount fixed at Paris and subsequently demanded at London could not legally be exacted.

Therefore, the Allies fell back upon the basis which Germany agreed to in the treaty, which involves a larger sum than that fixed at Paris and rejected by Germany, to be paid in thirty years. In place of the export levy of 12 1/2 per cent, both England and France have, by domestic legislation, laid an import duty of 50 per cent upon all German goods coming into their territories.

This creates an impossible situation. Germany is asked to pay an enormous amount of money and at the same time a prohibitory tax is levied upon German goods imported by her creditors. As the treaty contemplated an adjustment of reparations by the reparations commission, in the light of its investigations, in a sense reparations still remain to be fixed, although the Allies have legal authority in the treaty for proceeding as they are proceeding.

Mr. Hughes' words, "a just solution," are not, therefore, to be taken as a criticism of the work of the Paris and the London conferences which fixed \$56,000,000,000 plus the 12 1/2 per cent levy so much as a criticism of the failure to agree upon an equitable basis of settlement such as the Versailles "Twenty five" contemplated.

No Definite Opinion on Total Sum
As to the amount of reparations which Germany can and should pay it is doubtful if Mr. Harding and Mr. Hughes have a definite opinion. During the latter part of the Wilson administration Norman Davis, who was undersecretary of state, had been one of the economic advisers of the American delegation to the Peace Conference. Mr. Davis had settled views. He regarded the \$56,000,000,000 fixed at Paris and London as excessive and beyond Germany's ability to pay. He regarded the 12 1/2 per cent levy as improper, since it tended to close the markets of the world to German goods.

His influence upon the present administration was nothing more than to suggest certain doubts in Mr. Hughes' mind. In general it is believed here that Mr. Hughes inclines to place at a higher figure both Germany's obligation to pay and Germany's capacity to pay than did Mr. Davis and the Wilson administration. But as Mr. Hughes expects that the

Continued on Page Twenty, Column Six

Today's Developments at National Capital
Naval bill appropriating \$200,000,000 for construction of capital ships and reducing personnel of navy reported to House.
Representatives of importers attacked currency revaluation provisions of emergency tariff bill before Senate finance committee.