

THE WEATHER
Generally fair and slightly warmer tonight. Wednesday increasing cloudiness followed by rain and warmer.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42

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NIGHT EXTRA

TRAIN CREW 151
BLAMED BY JURY
FOR P. & R. CRASH

Men in Charge of Outbound Cars Accused of Negligence in Disobeying Instructions

NO NAMES ARE MENTIONED IN CORONER'S VERDICT

Bryn Athyn Station Agent Says Conductor, After Crash, Said He Misread Order

ACCUSED - MAN SILENT

Attorney for Evans, Named by Witness, Refuses to Go on the Stand

Coroner's Jury at Wreck Inquest

Dr. Willoughby H. Reed, druggist. Elmer Beideman, bookkeeper. Edward Rhoads, retired. John A. Edmondson, manager. James A. Welsh, moulder. H. Jones Brooke, clerk.

The negligence of the crew of Train No. 151, outbound from Philadelphia, was blamed by the coroner's jury at Norristown today for the wreck on the Newtown branch of the Reading Railway December 5, when twenty-six persons were killed.

This "negligence," the jury pointed out, lay in the crew's disobedience of orders given by the train dispatcher to stop on a siding at Bryn Athyn to let Train No. 156, inbound from Newtown, go by. No individual was named in the finding.

The coroner's jury was out only about ten minutes before returning with the verdict. It follows in full: "The coroner's jury finds that Lena George and twenty-five others came to their deaths as a result of injuries received in a head-on collision between Train No. 151 and No. 156 on the New York and Newtown branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, in a cut short distance west of Woodmont, Lower Moreland Township, Montgomery County, Pa., on December 5, 1921, at about 8 A. M.

"The jury finds that the collision was due to the negligence of the crew of Train No. 151 in failing to obey orders of the train dispatcher.

Says "Mistake" Was Admitted

The most sensational feature of the testimony given at the inquest, held in the Montgomery County Courthouse, was the assertion under oath of Russell Clayton, station agent at Bryn Athyn, N. Y., that he had admitted to him, "I read them to him," said Clayton, "I read them to him, and he admitted the order and then admitted he had been confused in the numbers of the trains. He had confused '156' for '154' if I remember correctly."

This is the first admission that has been made, publicly at least, that there was any confusion in the mind of any member of the crew of Train No. 151. The order referred to instructed Train No. 151 to wait at the Bryn Athyn siding for train No. 156 to pass it.

It was believed by many that Evans had confused the numbers, and had taken the milk train was the one for which he had been ordered to wait.

Evans Not a Witness

Conductor Evans was present, but did not go on the witness stand. He was called to testify, but his attorney, Thomas Lane Benn, of Norristown, declined to let him answer questions.

The court, finally, as one of the branches of the Court of Montgomery County, was divided with the friends and relatives of railroad workers, many of the latter named in their blue shirts and peaked caps, just as they came in from runs. There is a strong feeling of sympathy among the railroad men for Evans, the conductor of Train No. 151.

Clayton was recalled to the witness stand just before the case went to the jury to tell why he had failed to see Evans until pulled out of the Bryn Athyn station until it was too late to give warning to the crew that they were taking to sudden death.

Clayton said his view and hearing had been obstructed by a shed which was between the station building and the switch over which the train passed on its siding.

"I cannot understand," he said finally, "why I did not hear or see the train pulling out."

Conductor Is Called

The inquest opened at 10:45 o'clock. L. S. Hagerman, undertaker, who took charge of the bodies, described them as terribly burned. District Attorney Renninger had no questions to ask.

Probing R. R. Wreck



DISTRICT ATTORNEY RENNINGER

Montgomery County official who says his investigation of the Bryn Athyn wreck will be pushed despite the verdict of the coroner's jury, which meets in Norristown today

TEACHER LOCKED UP SAYS IT'S A TRICK

Miss Cheesman, Gloucester City, Imprisoned in School Building Half Hour

JANITOR ACCEPTS BLAME

Miss Helen B. Cheesman, Gloucester City school teacher, who aroused the school authorities three months ago by refusing to obey a transfer order, was locked in the high school building by accident last night.

Miss Cheesman, with Louis J. Morton, clerk of the Board of Education, had been going over the minutes of the board in the board's meeting room and when they tried to get out, about 6 o'clock, they found all the exits locked.

They went to the basement where they found a door with a spring lock. In the yard, however, they found they were still prisoners. The gates of the iron fence surrounding the school had also been locked.

Although she made no direct accusations, Miss Cheesman indicated that the janitor, who "looked up" the lock, was responsible because he appeared to the decision of Commissioner of Education Enright comes before the State Board of Education tomorrow at Jersey City.

The Gloucester School Board had ordered her transferred. She refused and was dismissed. She appealed to Commissioner Enright, who ordered a transfer, but ruled against the dismissal. Then Miss Cheesman appealed to the State Board against the decision of Commissioner Enright upholding her transfer.

Tomorrow night the School Board will hear charges against Superintendent of Schools J. J. Burns brought by the Citizens' Committee on the grounds that he is inefficient and conducted himself unbecomingly as a school official. Those charges are aimed to be an outgrowth of the dispute over the transfer of Miss Cheesman.

Superintendent Burns said today he knew nothing of the lock-up, which he said was a mistake of the janitor, George Huff. Huff said he locked up the building, thinking everybody was out.

HARDING AT HOME 3 MONTHS

Cancels Engagements on Account of Conference and Congress

Washington, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—President Harding is disposed to remain closely in Washington for the next three months and is cancelling all tentative engagements for speeches or trips to various parts of the country. It was indicated at the White House today that this policy would be followed because of the pressure of business in connection with the Armament Conference and the regular session of Congress.

The President has written a letter to Senator Simmons of North Carolina explaining his inability to attend the celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. John's Masonic Lodge at New Bern in that State the latter part of January. Secretary Christian has also been instructed to convey the same news to others who extended similar invitations.

CHILE KEEPS PARLEY OPEN

in ites Peru to Continue Negotiations on Tacna and Arica

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The Chilean answer to Peru's note rejecting Chile's proposal for a plebiscite in Tacna and Arica invites the continuance of direct negotiations in an attempt to reach a solution of the dispute under the terms of the treaty of Ancon, which it says cannot be ignored by the countries signing it.

ANTI-ALIEN LAND ACT UPHELD

San Francisco, Dec. 20.—The constitutionality of the California Anti-Alien Land Law forbidding aliens ineligible to citizenship from owning or leasing agricultural land was upheld last yesterday by a court of three Federal Judges. Several other States have enacted laws patterned on the California act.

JUDGE WARNS JURY

TO GIVE EASTLAKE BENEFIT OF DOUBT

'Evidence Purely Circumstantial and Prejudice Must Not Take the Place of Justice'

COURT GASPS AT CHARGE; PRISONER SMILES IN HOPE

By a Staff Correspondent

Montross, Va., Dec. 20.—Judge Chin, sitting in the case of Roger D. Eastlake, of Philadelphia, accused of the murder of his wife, today charged the jury in words that drew little gasps from the spectators who crowded every inch of space in the shabby old courthouse here.

The Judge bade the jurors remember that the benefit of any doubt must be given to the prisoner and that the evidence offered by the Commonwealth was purely circumstantial; that unless they find it to have been "concise, specific and within the narrow form prescribed by law" they cannot but acquit the defendant and that "justice and not prejudice must determine the destiny of Eastlake."

Charge Gasps Commented

This charge, regarded as distinctly favoring the defense, set about buzzing through the courtroom and brought a gasp to the lips of the pale lips of the prisoner, as he sat straining forward in his chair as if to drink each grave and balanced sentence, spoken by the Judge, as though it were a magic fluid that would save him against doom.

It is carnival day in the little town of Montross, the like of which has not been known in many a year. The school is closed and the "counties round" came here before daybreak so that they might get soonest and at first hand, it might be said, the news that would send their hearts to the "counties round" in a flash.

Courtroom Shadowy

Inside the courtroom there is no light save that which fits through the top of the court house and is known as the "prisoner's light." The other windows are blocked by the bodies of the spectators who stand against them.

But Eastlake would seem almost at the point of prostration. For an hour he has heard himself presented to the jury by the State Attorney, Thomas Hunter, as one "beside whom Judas Iscariot was a saint."

Only occasionally does he seem to relax and then he stands with glassy eyes fixed on the jury and with his mouth limply open.

Prosecutor Goes Bitter

At the close of his bitter argument, the prosecutor said: "You have on trial a man who hangs behind the skirts of a woman, whose counsel would have you believe the woman in this case, Sara E. Eastlake Knox, is responsible and will come before you again to convince you she is insane."

Canal Zone Rent Protest

Justice May Be Sent From U. S. to Hear Employes

Washington, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—Rent collections from the 2000 Canal Zone employes, to be inaugurated on January 1, and against which the Federal Employes' Union has protested, amount to approximately \$75,000 monthly, according to estimates made today.

BEIDLEMAN SEES PENROSE

Call Follows Omission of His Name as gubernatorial Candidate

Washington, Dec. 20.—On the heels of Senator Eyrer's catalogue of candidates for Governor, a catalogue said to have been inspired by Senator Penrose, and a catalogue which did not include the name of Lieutenant Governor Beidleman, Mr. Beidleman arrived in Washington yesterday and had a long conference with Senator Penrose.

COLD CHRISTMAS ON WAY

Abnormally Chilly Weather Is Due to Arrive Thursday

MARY GARDEN IS BETTER

Marchioness a Mother



Daughter-in-law of the former Consuelo Vanderbilt and the Duke of Marlborough. A daughter was born to her and the Duke of Marlborough this week, making the former Duchess, now the wife of Lieutenant Colonel Louis Jacques Balsan, a grandmother.

CONSUERO A GRANDMOTHER

Daughter Born to Marchioness of Blandford in London

London, Dec. 20.—Consuelo Vanderbilt, formerly the Duchess of Marlborough, now the wife of Lieutenant Colonel Louis Jacques Balsan, became a grandmother Sunday.

BROKEN HOSE HAMPERED ALLEN ST. FIRE FIGHT

Gorges-Pierle Company Badly Damaged by Flames

The bursting of two lines of hose caused firemen a great deal of difficulty in checking a fire which started about 8 o'clock today on the third floor of 144 East Allen street, occupied by the Gorges-Pierle Company, manufacturers of coconut oil.

The blaze had gained considerable headway by the time the fire engines arrived. The first line of hose burst midway between the connections, while the other burst at a joint. After running twelve lines of hose into the building the blaze was put under control. The damage was estimated at \$5000 by the firemen.

FIND HAZLETON ALDERMAN MURDERED IN HIS YARD

Peter Fallon, Democratic Leader, Stabbed and Blackjacked to Death

Hazleton, Pa., Dec. 20.—Peter Fallon, sixty-nine years old, a Democratic leader and known as the "Trade Union" man, was killed early today. He was found with three stab wounds in his abdomen and his head crushed with a blackjack.

Letter to Employes Says Demand for Lower Rates Necessitates It

Wage reductions of from five to fifteen cents an hour in the maintenance of way department of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway are proposed by the union, according to a letter posted in Reading today by General Manager F. M. Falek.

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Will Give "Salome" in Ten Days if Her Health Permits

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Mary Garden, who suffered a bronchial attack, passed a comparatively restful night. Miss Garden's illness forced the temporary withdrawal last night of "Salome," which was to have been revived after eleven years. "Faust" was substituted.

OPPOSE BUS COMPANY JITNEYS

Harrisburg, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The Pennsylvania Street Railway Association has joined in the protests filed by the city against the issuance of Philadelphia authorizing jitney service in Delaware, Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia counties by the Montgomery, Blue and Main Line Transit Companies. The cases were set for argument yesterday and were continued until January 9.

MODIFIED FRENCH OFFER INSISTS ON DEFENSIVE FLEET

Grants Concessions on Capital Ships, but Not on Submarines or Auxiliaries

BRITISH REQUEST PLENARY SESSION ON SUBMERSIBLES

By the Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 20.—The modified proposals of the French Government as to the naval ratio to be allotted France under naval limitation agreement were presented to the naval Sub-Committee of Fifteen of the Washington Conference today by Albert Sarraut, head of the French delegation.

The French plan as presented, it was understood, proposed a fleet proportion in the several classes of craft so as to give France a navy that could be devoted largely to defensive purposes.

BRITISH RAISE SUBMARINE ISSUE

Prior to the meeting of the naval sub-committee a spokesman for the British delegation announced that a request had been made by his delegation for a plenary session of the Conference either tomorrow or Thursday to allow the representatives of Great Britain to state their views on the question of submarine tonnage. The British view is that submarines should be abolished entirely. So far as could be learned, however, no steps had been taken to call a plenary session of the Conference.

AGREEMENT HINGES ON SUBMERSIBLES

It is expected that the plenary session requested by the British will be held Thursday. Lord Lee, it is understood, as head of the British Admiralty, will probably deliver a general prepared statement dealing largely with technical features. Arthur J. Hailford, head of the British delegation, probably will deliver a general prepared statement dealing largely with technical features.

LANCASHIRE SHOOLBOY KIDNAPPED

James Alwell, twelve years old, of Lancaster, Pa., was kidnapped today while on his way to school. The boy had been living at the home of Mrs. EREN FETROW, by whom he had been adopted. His mother, who lived in Detroit, married again after giving him to Mrs. Fetrow. The police say the mother has sought the boy's possession for the last two years without success.

POLICE START NEX PHILADELPHIAN SAW FOR 'PARKING HOGS' 12 ARMY HANGINGS

Occasional Violators to Be Little George H. Taylor Unable to Say Affected by New Ordinance Whether Any Were Convicted

MILLS SAYS IT'S FLEXIBLE ONE MAN WAS LYNCHED

Police are starting a card index of machines that daily park in areas prohibited by the new regulations. The department hopes to be able to bring regular offenders before the Courts.

By the Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 20.—George H. Taylor, of Philadelphia, who served as a National Army man overseas, told his own eyes today that he saw soldiers hanged around Is-sur-Tille, France, from April to June, 1919. He was unable to say whether any of them had been convicted by court-martial.

STARVING, YEARNED PRISON

So He Threw Brick Through Camden Window—Was Answered

Richard Croker Sits Up

Recovering From Chill Contracted While Returning From U. S.

Dublin, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—Richard Croker, former Tammany chieftain, who has been ill at his home, Glenmar, continued improvement today as showing signs of recovery.

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British to Launch Final Drive Against Submarines

Plan Public Appeal for Support of America in Plenary Session of Arms Conference Tomorrow or Thursday

By CLINTON W. GILBERT

Washington, Dec. 20.—The plenary session of the Arms Conference, which will probably be held tomorrow or Thursday, will be the final big effort of the British to swing American popular sentiment against the submarine. Either Mr. Balfour or Lord Lee will ask publicly for the abolition of submarines as a weapon of naval warfare.

stand play of tomorrow or the next day will be a reduction of the submarine allowance from the 60,000 tons maximum proposed by Mr. Hughes to 60,000 or perhaps to 45,000 tons. But the abolition of the submarine is not a serious possibility.

Chinese Action Tardy

So far as weakening the treaty is concerned, China's raising of the issue of the twenty-one demands comes a little late. The more radical of the Chinese wish to see the treaty rejected, but it is uncertain whether their counsels will prevail to the extent of inducing the Chinese delegation to reject the decision of the Conference.

Likely to Reduce Maximum

England might have beaten the submarine in the Conference had she stood as resolutely against it as Japan stood against the scrapping of the Matsui. But Britain gets so much out of the Conference that she was unwilling to imperil her gains by obstinately opposing any feature of the American program.

HARDING HOLDS 4-POWER PACT DOESN'T COVER PRINCIPAL ISLES OF JAPANESE EMPIRE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—President Harding, it was said today at the White House, does not regard the four-Power Pacific treaty as covering the principal islands of the Japanese Empire. This view, which is contrary to that voiced repeatedly by official spokesmen of the American delegation, was described at the White House as the President's personal opinion, not based on consultation with other members of his Administration.

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GIFFITH CLASHES WITH DE VALERA IN HOT DEBATE IN DAIL

Two Members of Irish Parliament Speak in Favor of Treaty—Three Oppose

IRISH PRESS FEARS PACT MAY FAIL OF RATIFICATION

Britain Halts Withdrawal of Troops From Ireland

Queenstown, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—Removal of the British troops from Ireland, which was to have been begun today, has been suspended and they will not be withdrawn unless the treaty is ratified, it was stated here.

A transport which was to have taken on board troops at Queenstown today has been recalled to England and the special trains to convey troops from various places in Southern Ireland, which had been arranged for, have been canceled for the present.

By the Associated Press

Dublin, Dec. 20.—Just before adjournment of the Dail Eireann for luncheon today, after a session at which debate on the Anglo-Irish treaty had been continued, an angry exchange occurred between Eamon De Valera and Arthur Griffith over the question of the Dail holding a brief session at the afternoon meeting to hear a statement by the Minister of Defense.

Griffith asked if the people were to be fooled by more private proceedings. It was unworthy of Mr. Griffith to suggest that the Dail desired privacy, the republican President responded.

Mr. Griffith demanded to know the meaning of this loud cry of "Withdrawal," addressed to Mr. De Valera.

Charles Burgess, the Minister of Defense, explained that anybody "knowing the business end of a gun" must know the necessity for secrecy in military matters. He desired to reply privately to charges that he was "covering up."

When it became clear that the statement of the Minister of Defense would deal only with military affairs, Mr. Griffith withdrew his objection to a secret session, and harmony was restored.

Five more members of the Dail, including the first woman to be heard—Mrs. Kate O'Callaghan, widow of the assassinated Lord Mayor of Limerick—presented their views on the treaty at the morning session. Two of them spoke in favor of the pact and three against it.

Mrs. O'Callaghan concluded her appeal for rejection of the treaty by urging those members who had not yet made up their minds how to vote to follow the lead of the majority and "vote for the morning session. Two of them spoke in favor of the pact and three against it.

Finian Lynch, one of the secretaries of the London delegation, argued strongly for the treaty. He declared the issue before the Dail would be to decide between the Dail and a republic. Mr. Lynch's mention of a compromise was taken as a reference to President De Valera's alternative proposal, which it was announced today would be placed before the Dail when Mr. De Valera moved rejection of the treaty.

Secretary Lynch said he supported the treaty on four grounds. It gave an Irish army, it gave evacuation by the British troops, it gave control of finances and, best of all, gave control over the treaty, declared Lynch, as they had been intimidated.

Griffith to Move for Vote

It was announced this morning that Arthur Griffith would move in the Dail Eireann today for a vote on the question of ratifying the Anglo-Irish pact. Eamon de Valera, the republican President, would move its disapproval.

The confidence with which the supporters of the Irish peace treaty have heretofore awaited action by the Dail Eireann has given way to uncertainty as the result of the developments at yesterday's open session. All the morning sessions show material anxiety over the outcome.

"Will the treaty be rejected?" asks the Irish Independent in a seven-column headline today. The newspaper declares that, according to information received by the paper, the result of the debate may not be ratification. The Independent adds:

It is stated that a few members who are well informed as to the terms of the treaty and at the same time consider they cannot in honor repudiate the plenipotentiaries will probably abstain from voting.

"Commenting on the delegates' speeches yesterday in justification of the agreement, the Freeman's Journal says:

"That they should be called upon to defend and even struggle to save their work from destruction at the hands of persons calling themselves representatives of the Irish people, is one of the most amazing tragedies in a tragic history."

Irish Times Warns Dail

The Irish Times, warning the Dail of its responsibility and urging ratification, declares:

If the Dail rejects the agreement the last word will not have been said for the nation will have the controlling voice in the settlement of its destinies.