



THREE SCHOOL BUILDINGS SET AFIRE ON HILL

Flames in Vernon, Shimmell and Forney Buildings Cause Property Loss of \$15,000 and Leave Nearly 800 Pupils Without Place to Study; State and City Police Trying to Run Down Incendiary; "Indisputable Evidence of Incendiarism," Says Expert

Oil Poured Over Woodpile at Shimmell; Think Firebug May Have Been Demented Person or Juveniles "Tired of Going to School"; Firemen's Leg Fractured in Fall; School Directors Planning to Assign Youngsters to Other Buildings

Fires in three Allison Hill schoolhouses this morning between 2 and 7 o'clock—the Shimmell, Vernon and Forney buildings—caused damage amounting to about \$15,000.

That all three fires were the work of an incendiary or incendiaries is the belief of the police. Every effort is being made to-day to learn the identity of the firebugs.

Acting State Fire Marshal Charles D. Wolfe, co-operating with the city authorities, deputized two trained men to assist in running down the one whose hand started the fires.

Nearly 800 pupils will have to be assigned to other buildings. It is believed the 400 youngsters in the Shimmell building can be back at their books within a short time. The 360 boys and girls in the Vernon building will likely have to be assigned to some other building for the rest of the year. The damage at the Forney building will not interfere with the studies there.

One theory held by the city police is that the three fires were started by boys tired of going to school, who imagined they would get a good long vacation if they burned down the three big buildings near their homes. Juveniles of known criminal tendencies in the district where the fires occurred are few, but the authorities will make a thorough investigation to learn if this theory might be correct.

Another possibility is that some demented person committed the arson. The first fire was in the Shimmell building, Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, shortly after 2 o'clock this morning.

While this fire was underway, flames were discovered at the Vernon building, Fifteenth and Vernon streets. Shortly before 7 o'clock this morning, Edward Sheetz, janitor at the Forney building, Eighteenth and Chestnut streets, returning from the Vernon building fire, noticed a blaze in the boys' toilet in the basement of his building. He extinguished the fire with a small hose stream.

Vernon Suffers Most The worst damage was at the Vernon building, which was gutted, and part of the roof fell in. The flames had gained considerable headway before they were discovered, and the furniture is a total loss. At the Shimmell building the greatest damage was done to the floors and steam heat plant. The woodwork in the toilet at the Forney building was destroyed.

All Three Fires Start in Basement The belief of the police that all fires were the work of an incendiary, is strengthened by the fact that the flames started in the basement of each building. At the Shimmell school the fire was discovered in a pile of lumber in the rear of the basement, 30 feet away from the boilers. At the Vernon building also the flames started in a woodpile in the basement. At this building the glass in the front door was broken, allowing an opening large enough for a man to crawl through. The door is located in a different part of the building from that in which the fire was discovered.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Unsettled, probably light rain to-night and Friday; somewhat warmer to-night; warmer to-morrow; temperature about 36 degrees.

For Eastern Pennsylvania: Rain to-night and Friday; warmer to-night; warmer Friday in eastern portion; increasing south winds.

River The Susquehanna river and all its branches will probably remain generally icebound and nearly stationary. A stage of about 5.9 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Friday morning.

General Conditions The center of the western disturbance that was located near Salt Lake City, Wednesday morning, has moved northward to Alberta (Canada) and the pressure has decreased decidedly over the Plains states, the central valleys and the lake region; it has increased in the Atlantic States and remained nearly stationary in the East Gulf States and Eastern Tennessee.

Light rains and snows have fallen generally in the central and north districts from the Plains States eastward, except along the Atlantic coast, where the weather is cloudy. Scattered rains and snows have occurred over the Pacific slope. A general rise of 2 to 30 degrees has occurred in the temperature over practically all the country since last report, except in Idaho, Utah, Nevada and California, where it is from 2 to 30 degrees colder.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 32. Sun: Hines, 7:23 a. m.; sets, 5:09 p. m. Moon: Full moon, to-day, at 3:29 a. m. River: Stage: 5.1 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 32. Lowest temperature, 16. Mean temperature, 24. Normal temperature, 28.

THREE OIL CANS USED BY FIREBUG TO START FIRE IN SHIMMELL BUILDING AND YOUNGSTERS, O, SO SAD! BECAUSE THERE'S NO SCHOOL



The one photograph shows the corner of the Shimmell building basement where the fire was started after oil was poured over a wood pile. The three oil cans are within the black ring. The other picture shows a crowd of Vernon school youngsters who gathered for the ringing of the bell only to find there was "no school."



CHILDREN SAVED FROM FLAMES; 3 FIREMEN INJURED

Father in Excitement Rushed by Bedroom Where Children Slept

Two small children were rescued from a bed enveloped in flames and three firemen were injured during a blaze last night which destroyed three houses and a storeroom at 1113-15-17 North Seventh street causing a loss of at least \$1,000.

The children who were carried out of the burning houses were: John, aged 8, and Mary, aged 7, son and daughter of Peter Lechiter, of 1115 North Seventh street. The firemen who were injured: Michael Conway, Cumberland and Current streets, Shamrock Company, fractured left wrist in fall from ladder. Treated at Harrisburg Hospital. James Connors, 1820 North Fourth street, Rely Company, fractured

[Continued on Page 9.]

CLAIMS MURDERS "LOGICAL FRUIT" OF U. S. POLICY

Representative Asserts Administration Has Lost Confidence by Stand

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.—The Santa Isabel murders were declared to be the "logical fruit" of the administration's Mexican policy in a speech in the House to-day by Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, (Republican) reviewing at length outrages committed against Americans in Mexico since the overthrow of Madero.

By following, not a policy of "watchful waiting" but of mischievous meddling," said Mr. Mondell, "coupled with base betrayal and callous indifference to the welfare and safety of American citizens, has the administration lost the respect and confidence and earned the contempt of

[Continued on Page 13.]

ALLIES' ACTIONS ARE DENOUNCED BY GREEK KING

In Interview Denies Necessity For Occupying Corfu and Blowing Bridges

The King of Greece on last Thursday summoned the Associated Press correspondent in Athens for the purpose of making a protest through the press of the United States which he said was the only forum of public opinion open to him against the recent actions of the allies in their operations at Saloniki in blowing up the bridge at Demir Hissar, in occupying Corfu and other islands which Greece claims.

He said the situation is as if a foreign power had occupied that part of the United States which had been won from Mexico after the Mexican war and that the plea of military necessity advanced by the allies was like that given by Germany for in-

[Continued on Page 9.]

One Killed, Four Hurt When Train Jumps Track

Trenton, Mo., Jan. 20.—Louis Collier, engineer, was killed and four trainmen were injured near here early to-day when a double-header on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railway, made up of the Golden State Limited and a Chicago passenger train, was derailed. All the steel coaches left the track, but no passengers were injured. Coming into Trenton at forty-five miles an hour, the train, which had two engines, was derailed in passing a curve. The second locomotive turned over and crushed Engineer Collier to death. The mail car, baggage car and smoker also turned over.

[Continued on Page 12.]

HOSTILITIES ARE AGAIN RESUMED BY MONTENEGRO

Rejects Peace Terms Offered by Austria and Is Again Fighting Along Front

INTEREST IN GREECE

Numerous Reports From German Sources Say Allies Have Adopted Aggressive Action

From Rome to-day comes the definite announcement that hostilities between Montenegro and Austria have been resumed, Montenegro having officially notified Italy to this effect, the dispatch stated.

A note presented to the Italian foreign office by the Montenegrin premier declared that Montenegro had rejected the terms offered by Austria and that hostilities had been resumed along the whole front, King Nicholas remaining with his army to organize his country's defense.

Greece again is a point of signal interest on the war map, although her territory has not been the scene of hostilities.

There has been a paucity of direct news from Athens and other points in Greece during the past few days, but there have been numerous reports from German sources of further aggressive action on the part of the

[Continued on Page 12.]

Action of Blockade Will Be Rushed by British

London, Jan. 20.—It may be taken as certain that the question of repealing the orders in council and establishing by declaration an actual blockade of Germany and Austria is now under consideration. The Government probably will give facilities for a debate in the House of Commons on the projected blockade of Germany and Austria before the prorogation of Parliament the first of next week. The declaration of the government policy is anxiously awaited.

CAPITAL CITY REPUBLICAN CLUB "BOOSTER" RALLY

Senator Beidleman's Campaign For Renomination Launched at Meeting Last Evening

Harmony was the keynote of the rally at the Capital City Republican Club last evening. James B. DeShong, one of the oldest members of the club sent out invitations to a large number of well-known Republicans to attend a "booster meeting" of the organization, and the gathering soon developed into a "get together" session at which the campaign of Senator E. E. Beidleman for renomination and election was launched by DeShong and the

[Continued on Page 9.]

ASHTON D. PEACE TO BE APPOINTED CLERK TO LYNCH

Last President of Common Council Slated For Thompson's Job, Is Report

Ashton D. Peace, 1217 Chestnut street, the last president of Common Council, under the old bicameral system of government, will be appointed to succeed James C. Thompson, as chief clerk in the department of streets and public improvements, ac-

[Continued on Page 13.]

EAGER HUNDREDS AWAIT OPENING OF CHARITY BALL

Finishing Touches of Detail For Big Social Event Added Today

Hosts of people won't really care to-night whether the weatherman misbehaves or not. To-night's the night of the Charity Ball.

By early afternoon the decorators will add the finishing touches to the adornment of the smaller hall of the Chestnut Street Auditorium. By the time the workmen are ready to quit for the afternoon, that little hall will have blossomed into a wistaria-trel-

[Continued on Page 5.]

Decision of Umpire Is Disappointing to Miners

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 20.—Certain contract miners in the service of the Delaware and Hudson Coal Company were disappointed to-day in a decision by Charles P. Neill, umpire of the anthracite conciliation board, in their demands for 91 cents per lineal foot for rock yardage in the Dunmore vein of the White Oak colliery.

Umpire Neill says that the language of the rate sheet was ambiguous, but that the evidence shows that the 91-cent rate was never heretofore applied on the work in question.

COFFEE SCALDS BABY

John Boy, 18-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Boyd, of 1003 Berryhill street, was seriously scalded last night when he pulled a pot of boiling coffee from the stove, the contents spilling over his face.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.— Senate: Met at noon. Senator Smith, of Georgia, attacked as illegal Great Britain's blockade of neutral commerce. Secretary of Agriculture submitted report on private owners of water power sites asked for by Sixty-third Congress.

House: Met at noon. Naval and military affairs committees continued hearings on national defense. Hearing on literacy test section of Burnett immigration bill began by immigration committee. Began debate on "further urgent deficiency" bill.

Four Groups of Derby Recruits Called Out

London, Jan. 20.—Groups 2, 3, 4 and 5 of recruits who enlisted under the Earl of Derby's plan were formally called to the colors to-day, in accordance with the proclamation of December 13. These groups, the first Derby recruits to be called out, are composed of unmarried men from 19 to 22 years of age.

In order to prevent congestion at the recruiting offices and to cause the smallest possible inconvenience to the men, only the first drafts will actually begin training at once. The other drafts will be summoned on succeeding days.

The men have been warned of the necessity of reporting for duty immediately. The recruiting committee has stated that anyone who is summoned and does not appear will be treated as a deserter.

The number of men in the first four groups, after subtracting exemptions and postponements of service, is estimated roughly at 100,000.

FIRE IN GARAGE

The Washington Chemical Company shortly before noon to-day responded to a telephone call from 10 North Court street. The fire was at the Willard Service Station and Garage, owned by the J. G. Duncan, Jr., Company, and caused about \$35 damage. It was caused by hot metal overflowing from a melting pot.

DIES FROM INJURIES

William Steely, aged 27, of Enola, brakeman of the Pennsylvania Railroad died this afternoon in the Harrisburg Hospital from injuries he received last night when he slipped and fell under a shifting engine. The locomotive passed over both of Steely's legs, which were amputated later at the hospital.

Police Charge Man With Assault Upon Woman in Hospital

William Leo Lusard, aged 40 years, was arrested last night on a charge of felonious assault and battery with intent to kill. Lusard, it is said, was the last person seen with Lena Brennan, the young woman, who is in the Harrisburg Hospital with a fractured skull. Lusard admits that he had been drinking with the woman, but says he has no knowledge of a quarrel.

Sight Burning Steamer but Find No Survivors

New York, Jan. 20.—The British steamer Penitence arrived to-day from Havre and reported having sighted on the night of January 2 a vessel on fire. The Penitence steamed around the burning ship during the night in a vain search for lifeboats. Soon after daylight, the officers said, they made out the burning craft to be a sailing ship which had a Norwegian flag painted on her starboard side. The Penitence again steamed around the vessel which had almost burned to the waters edge, but failed to find any trace of lifeboats or rafts.

WARMER AND RAIN

Warmer weather with the possibility of rain is forecasted for Harrisburg for to-night. The thermometer at 8 o'clock this morning registered 32 degrees with the mercury rising slowly all day.

STILLWELL HEADS THIRD BRIGADE

Harrisburg. — Colonel Frederick W. Stillwell, Scranton, commanding the Thirteenth Infantry, Third Brigade, was appointed to-day by Governor Brumbaugh as Brigadier General and assigned to command the Third Brigade, succeeding Brigadier General C. N. B. Clement, who recently was appointed Major General. The appointment was announced by Adjutant General Stewart.

WOMAN CLEARED OF MURDER CHARGE

Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 20.—After being out almost forty-five hours the jury in the case of Mrs. Annie Eisenberger, charged with the murder of her husband, this afternoon, returned a verdict of not guilty.

MAN HIT BY JITNEY DIES

Harrisburg. — Noah Maulfair, 1725 Fulton street, who was struck recently by a jitney driven by Augustus Wildman, Jr., died this afternoon in the Harrisburg Hospital. A post mortem was held late to-day to determine the cause of death. Coroner Eckinger is investigating the case.

4,000 MALCONTENTS THREATEN AMERICANS

El Paso, Tex., Jan. 20.—About 4,000 malcontents are operating near Torreon shouting for Felix Diaz and declaring Carranza adherents and Americans are to be killed, and all property stolen according to reports of arrivals from Torreon to-day. About 300 Carranza troops are centered at Torreon. A week ago they had not taken the field against the malcontents, it was said.

BRITISH SUBMARINE GOES AROUND

London, Jan. 20, 4:30 P. M. — A British submarine has gone ashore off Holland according to an announcement by the official press bureau to-day. There was no loss of life.

SOLDIERS UNINJURED IN MEXICAN FIGHT

Washington, Jan. 20.—Major General Funston reported to-day that in the fight between a detachment of United States cavalrymen and Mexican bandits near Doyle's Wells, N. M., none of the soldiers was injured although they were fired upon by Mexicans and one of their horses was killed.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Adam, John Schaffer and Margaret Stefan, city.