

# INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE FIREBUG CAUSED 7 BLAZES

## State Fire Marshals Investigating School Fires Discover New Clues

Seven incendiary fires within a year in a district less than a half mile long and four blocks wide is causing the police and State Fire Marshal's Department much concern. Efforts are being made to place the seven torches in the hands of one man or one gang of men.

Investigations thus far in connection with the fires at the Shimmell, Vernon and Forney school buildings have brought no results. It is believed it became known that an attempt had been made to burn the Forney school at two places. The newest evidence was discovered in the room of a toilet in the boys' side of the cellar. There a quantity of charred waste was found. This had burned itself out before it had a chance to ignite the woodwork. A track of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad runs a half block away from the school and it may be possible that the waste was taken from the journal boxes of some freight cars. Greasy fingerprints were found to-day on the window and window sash through which entrance to the building was gained.

There is some supposition, too, that a man and a woman may be implicated in the fires but all efforts to substantiate this theory thus far have failed. It was learned, too, that besides the two men seen loitering about the Vernon building Wednesday night, a man and a woman with an automobile were also seen. An automobile, carrying a man and a woman, was also seen near the Shimmell building the night of the fire. That the real aim of the firebugs was the destruction of the Vernon building is the belief of investigators now. They point out that any person familiar with the building would know that a fire started in the woodpile would not lead to the destruction of the building. They say the fire there was only intended to get the fire companies of the district in action at some other point so that the fire in the Vernon school would be given a chance to grow. Their belief continues that the fire at the Forney was intended to take some of the companies away from the Vernon building but that at that place the plan of the firebugs miscarried.

Within a year, between Fourteenth and Eighteenth streets and between Market street and the Reading "cut," four other unexplained fires have occurred. One was at Boll Bros. manufacturing plant, another at John E. Dore's coal elevator and two attempts were made to destroy the warehouse of the Oliver Chilled Plow Works. No arrests have been made.

# BURLESQUE AT ORPHEUM OBSCENE

[Continued From First Page.]

that information had been made by him against the theater management and said: "I know nothing about it."

Surprise was expressed at Windsor's denial of the responsibility for making the information, in view of Horner's statement and the fact that Detective Windsor brought the complaint.

Mayor E. S. Meals this afternoon was called on the telephone and asked if the information against the theater people was in line with his announced policy for a clean city. Mayor Meals said: "I know nothing about the charges. If Detective Windsor has made the information, he has done so because of a violation of the law. One of my purposes in establishing the bureau of detectives was to place the work of keeping the city clean in the hands of the police. Detective Windsor is carrying out his instructions."

Asked if it was the intention to stop burlesque shows, Mayor Meals said: "We will stop no shows that come within the law. That matter is with the bureau of detectives. We want clean shows, and if a production is found otherwise, it is the duty of that department to know what to do."

# Hetrick and Geistwhite Renew Former Partnership

Lawrence A. Hetrick who was formerly associated with George W. Geistwhite in merchant business, has again joined forces with Mr. Geistwhite and the new firm with an old clientele has resumed business at 19 South Fourth street. Since retiring from the firm two years ago, the business was continued by Mr. Geistwhite at 22 South Fourth street until the recent fire destroyed the building then owned by Mr. Hetrick. The temporary quarters were secured at 23 South Fourth street, but the new store at the corner of Fourth and Blackberry is one of the best lighted stores in the city and is equipped with the most modern glass cases which are stocked with the latest in fabrics for the Spring styles.

Mr. Hetrick was for twelve years associated with the Baltimore Evening Clothing Store, six years as manager and a member of the firm until he retired ten years ago to go into business for himself. Mr. Geistwhite, who was an associate in the same store, joined Mr. Hetrick and for eight years the two conducted the merchant tailors' establishment in South Fourth street. They were well known to the men of Harrisburg and their years of experience in tailoring makes a desirable combination which should prove a valuable asset.

# Spinsterhood Often a Girl's Own Fault

"It is often the girl's fault that she does not get married," says a young man in the December issue of the *Woman's Home Companion*, who gives his opinion of the modern young woman as his reason for remaining single.

"She'd expect me to keep up the same pace," he says. "She'd expect to live in the style her parents can afford, to dress and live as well as any of her neighbors. The same impulse which makes the girl of to-day demand the same sort of attention from a man that her richer girl friends receive will keep her poor husband's nose on the grindstone, once she lands him. I tell you it's the extravagant demands of the man himself that frighten off the man. Mind you, I do not say there are not exceptions. But group the girls, and you see the attitude which frightens off the man of moderate means, or moderate salary, or a position as yet insecure."

# ARRANGING TRADE TRIP

Plans for the annual trade excursion of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce were further advanced to-day at Altoona. The secretary, E. L. McCollin, with A. E. Buchanan, division passenger agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, are in that city to arrange accommodations.

# ONE COMMITTEE ON HIGH SCHOOL

## Board of Control Adopts President Stamm's Suggestion For Problem's Solution

# ACCEPT CHAMBER'S OFFER

## Whole Directorate Plan Dropped; Boyer Makes Report on Burned Schools

Harrisburg's new high school problem is a step nearer solution. The School Board at its regular meeting yesterday afternoon unanimously adopted President A. Carson Stamm's suggestion for the appointment of a single committee of five directors to seek such information and advice on the question as can be obtained. This committee will incorporate its recommendations as to site, type of structure, cost and ways and means of raising the funds in a comprehensive report to the directorate.

The board also accepted the offer of assistance from the Chamber of Commerce, which has named a committee for the purpose, including William Jennings, Arthur D. Bacon, William M. Donaldson, Francis J. Hall and E. A. Heffelfinger.

**New Committee Soon**

President Stamm intimated that the new high school committee will be named in the very near future. The directorate's committee will be empowered to seek the advice of all experienced citizens. Other organizations were urged to follow the Chamber of Commerce's lead, as the board will want all possible help in this matter.

Director Werner rather favored the enlarging of the committee to include the school board of directors. Director Houtz endorsed this plan, too, but the directorate, after considerable discussion, dropped the full board idea as being too unwieldy.

**Boyer Busy Man**

The mysterious fires in three school buildings which had set the city by the ears during the last few days were discussed yesterday and the directorate took definite steps to insure the new Shimmell building for \$24,000.

**State Officials Report**

Removal of waste paper and inflammable material from basements and storerooms where their presence might endanger the structure, the need of hand rails on some stairways, guards for switchboards and machinery were among the minor suggestions made to the board by the State inspectors. Fire drills were recommended.

The directorate will follow the recommendation of President Stamm and Secretary Hancock that the School Board take out State workmen's compensation insurance because it is \$50 to \$100 cheaper than the district's own liability insurance would be.

**Combine Colored Night Schools**

The colored night schools in the Calder and Wickersham buildings will be combined into a single school, to be taught by John P. Scott. Miss Edna Bowers was voted \$100 for serving as athletic director for the girls of Central high school. The death of Miss Ethel Hall, a teacher in the Camp Curtin building, created a vacancy which was filled by the selection of Miss Ruth Parthenore. The board formally appointed Miss Nora M. Koons, Plainfield, N. J., and Harry K. Balsbaugh, Palmyra, as the instructors in the continuation school. Permission was given the Christ Lutheran Sunday School to use the auditorium of the Shimmell building for an entertainment on February 22. This is the first time the auditorium was used for such a purpose.

# BALKANS LEAD IN WAR INTEREST

[Continued From First Page.]

to admit that there has been any break in the negotiations. A Berlin dispatch early to-day, however, quoted a Cologne newspaper as conceding that obstacles had arisen during the negotiations and that there had been a refusal of a part of the Montenegrin army to lay down its arms.

**Peace Move For Belgium**

Of the field of war in Asia, dispatches late last night from Petrograd claimed further successes for the Russians against the Turks. The Russian official statement declaring that the Turkish army in the vicinity of Erzerum had been defeated and was being driven precipitately to the protection of the Erzerum forts.

There is discussion in Germany of a separate peace between Germany and Belgium and a London dispatch quotes an influential Frankfurt newspaper as suggesting that Belgium ought not to wait too long before taking up the subject, as Belgium, which until now has been considered an object of exchange by the German chancellery, would come to be considered a good prize.

**Benjamin H. Ritter Dies in Milk Wagon at New Cumberland**

Special to the Telegraph

New Cumberland, Pa., Jan. 22.—Shortly before 6 o'clock this morning Benjamin H. Ritter, a well-known dairyman, died suddenly in his milk wagon while serving his customers. Mr. Ritter left his home in Fifth street at an early hour to go over his route, accompanied by two boys, Nile Dessenberger and Frank Updegraff, who assisted him in his work. While driving along the street the boys noticed Mr. Ritter drop forward in the wagon and immediately summoned help and was taken to a nearby house. Dr. J. H. Young was called, but when he arrived he pronounced the man dead. Mr. Ritter was 41 years old and survived by his wife, who worked a farm in York county for several years, but about three years ago moved into New Cumberland and built a home in Fifth street. He then started the milk route and has been conducting it since.

# J. Fred Haas, Long Time Resider, of City, Dies

J. Fred Haas, hotel proprietor for a number of years and one of the oldest German residents of the city, died at 2 o'clock this afternoon at his home, 589 Race street, aged 66 years. He is survived by his son, Harry W., proprietor of the Grape Hotel, and two stepdaughters, Miss Carrie Schweitzer and Mrs. Charles Dieckey.

Mr. Haas has lived in this city since 1866, and for a number of years was connected with different building associations in the city. He was also hotel proprietor until recently when ill health caused him to retire. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

# JAPAN PLANNING NAVAL EXPANSION

[Continued From First Page.]

# Will Build Superdreadnaught, Two Cruisers, One Destroyer and Three Submarines

Tokio Jan. 17.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—One superdreadnaught, two cruisers, one destroyer, three submarines and two special service ships constitute the program of naval building for Japan for the coming year. Admiral Kato, minister for marine, explained the naval expansion project before the budget committee of the Diet yesterday in response to an interpellation. The battleship will be about the same type as the Fuso and Yamashiro, which was recently launched, and will carry twelve 14-inch guns and six or seven 6-inch guns. The battleship will have a speed of 23 knots. They will probably be in the nature of light scout ships. Their armament has not yet been decided. The submarines will have a displacement of seven hundred tons each, a speed of 18 knots on the surface and 10 knots in the water and will carry one gun.

Admiral Kato asserted the opinion that the war in Europe would necessitate a considerable alteration in the naval armament of the great powers. He fully recognized, he said, the effectiveness of aircraft and submarines as weapons of offense as demonstrated in the present war, but he believed that these facts hardly affected the position of the battleship as an engine of war. If the Kaiser's warships dared not venture from their own sheltered waters it was because of the powerful British squadrons awaiting them outside. The absence of any great naval engagement in Europe must lead to the very great difference between the British and German navies. As for submarines, however, actively they might work their activities were confined within certain limits and, more than that, hardly be expected to place the great battleships hors de combat. The minister said that equipment was now being provided on ships against air attacks. He was confident that the dreadnaught remained the basic unit of great navies.

**Prefer 14-Inch Guns**

The admiral further said that in deciding the armaments for new battleships he was confident that he preferred the twelve 14-inch guns principle to the eight 15-inch of the British and German navies because they deemed the former more advantageous than the latter from the viewpoint of naval tactics. Furthermore the authorities believed that there would occur no change in the shape and size of warships and naval guns in the near future. The minister's remarks brought out the fact that Japan's eventual program includes the establishment of a first line fleet of eight battleships and eight great battle cruisers.

Admiral Kato was asked particularly by K. Kobayashi, a member of the committee, as to the comparative strength of the Japanese navy and those of Great Britain, Germany and the United States. The member also wanted to know whether the naval authorities were confident of victory in case of war with the United States. He asked whether the navy had in case the United States attacked Japan with her naval strength twice that of the Japanese navy. To this Admiral Kato replied that figures do not always decide the issue of a battle. He is quoted as having added: "If the American navy invades Japan we have only to encounter it with the best tactics and art of warfare, to the last vessel and last man, while relying on the dignity of the august emperor and the strong support of a sixty millions nation. This is the decision of our navy in such an eventuality."

Simultaneous with the opening of the Diet has come a sweeping change in the personnel of the navy. Especially noteworthy is the appointment of Vice Admiral Yashiro, ex-minister of the navy, to be commander-in-chief of the second squadron; Vice Admiral Nawa as commander-in-chief of the third squadron; Vice Admiral Murakami as commander-in-chief of the third squadron; Vice Admiral Yamaya, who commanded the Japanese squadron to the southern seas during the war operations last year, as vice chief of the naval board of command; and the transfer of Vice Admiral Takarabe from commander-in-chief of the third squadron to the command of the secondary naval station at Port Arthur.

Since resigning as minister of marine, Vice Admiral Yashiro, who won the applause of the public as leader of the navy cleansing in connection with the naval scandal of last year has been leading a secluded life in a suburb of Kioto devoting himself to the study of Buddhist philosophy. His appointment to the new post to get with active restoration to active service has attracted much approval.

The changes are generally regarded as indicating a commendable movement of waning of the influence of men of Satsuma extraction. The great leaders in the navy have always come from Satsuma province, hence the army power had come to be known as Satsuma.

# TARIFF BIG ISSUE IN 1916 CAMPAIGN

[Continued From First Page.]

# Bequeaths Shawl to Her Friend in Faraway Iowa; \$100 to Charities

In her will, Mrs. Martha Williamson bequeathed her "broche shawl" and her "white silk shawl" to Mrs. Elizabeth Hunt, Iowa, and Mrs. Carrie Reynolds, Philadelphia, respectively. The will was probated yesterday afternoon by County Register R. C. Danner.

Some silk gowns, furs, and other articles of wearing apparel are divided among relatives and friends, and bequests of \$100 each were left to the Children's Industrial Home, the Home for the Friendless and the Ridge Avenue Methodist Church, of this city.

**Four Boys and Man Go Through Weakened Ice**

Special to the Telegraph

Latrobe, Pa., Jan. 22.—Four boys and a man, who tried to rescue the boys, were drowned in the Bradenville reservoir of the Latrobe-Conellville Coal Company, at Bradenville, three miles east of here, last evening. The boys were skating when the ice gave way.

**STRUCK BY AUTO**

George W. Herman, 359 Frederick street, Steelton, an employee of the Morton Truck and Tractor Company, while returning from work this afternoon was struck at Front and Conestoga streets, Steelton, by an automobile driven by Dr. A. Leslie Marshall. Herman was brought to the Harrisburg Hospital, where physicians found him suffering from a deep laceration of the scalp and slight bruises.

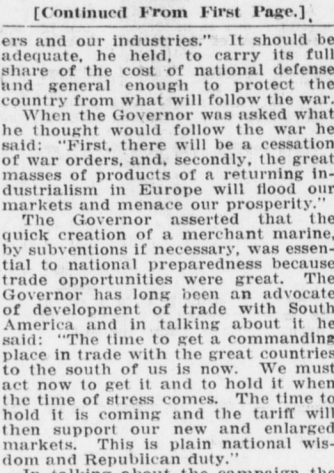
**SMOKE CAUSES ALARM**

Smoke from a stable in the rear of 914 North Third street, this afternoon, caused a passing pedestrian to send in a fire alarm.

# EXECUTION OF GERMAN SPY

This remarkable photograph, taken "somewhere in France" and slipped by the British censors, shows the execution of a German spy by a British firing squad.

# READY! AIM! FIRE!



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# STEAMER FORCED BACK INTO PORT

[Continued From First Page.]

# Origin Mystified

Members of the Synega's crew who covered the hatch of the forehold yesterday said there was no indication of fire when the freighter sailed and that it was early yesterday evening before one of the watch saw smoke seeping from around the hatch. The cover was hurriedly taken off and the flames could be seen a great quantity of smoke rose from the hold. The captain and officers were mystified convinced that the origin of the blaze and it was decided to put back at once.

Owing to the tightly packed mass of steel beneath the decks, the crew of the fireboat found much difficulty in fighting the blaze and in attempting to enter the hold. It was impossible to locate the center of the fire or to learn the nature of the material that was burning and for that reason the fireboat continued to pour steam into the hold for several hours.

The Synega will be docked, partly unloaded and thoroughly examined to determine the cause of the blaze. Steel rails and various forms of structural steel were said to be in the bottom of the hold, while on top of this material was a large amount of railway supplies, chiefly steel car parts, for assembling in Russia. It could not be learned whether the vessel had any munitions aboard.

The fire on the Synega is the latest of a long series of fires and explosions which have occurred on vessels shortly after they sailed from this and other American ports with munitions or supplies to the allies. In numerous cases it has been found that the fires were caused by incendiary bombs or fuses, but several of the cases have gone unexplained, at least so far as the public has been concerned.

# MUST MAINTAIN MONROE DOCTRINE OR PERISH—T. R.

Special to the Telegraph

# DIES FROM INJURIES

Benjamin F. Stoner, of West Fairview, died at the Harrisburg hospital late yesterday afternoon, three hours after he was admitted suffering from internal injuries he received when a heavy iron bar fell on him while working at the South Ninth street plant of the Harrisburg Light and Power company.

# FUND OF \$2,000,000 TO HELP TUSKEGEE

Special to the Telegraph

# WASHINGTON, JAN. 22.—A plan to raise a \$2,000,000 fund to perpetuate Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., as a permanent memorial to the late Booker T. Washington, was announced yesterday by Seth Low, of New York, president of the institute's board of trustees, at a meeting here in honor of the dead negro educator.

# JEWISH RELIEF DAY JANUARY 27

Governor Brumbaugh Issues Proclamation Asking State-Wide Observance

# LOCAL COMMITTEE ACTS

Young People Volunteer as Subscription Solicitors; Edict in Pulpits

Thursday, January 27, will be observed throughout the State and nation as Jewish war relief day in accordance with proclamations issued by Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh and President Wilson.

Governor Brumbaugh yesterday issued his official edict on the subject. The Jewish people of Harrisburg and vicinity will respond generously to the appeal and the day's observance will be arranged by the recently organized Jewish war relief committee of Harrisburg. Forty or more of the younger Jewish people of the city have volunteered their services as solicitors and they will make a house to house canvass.

The Governor's proclamation will likely be read in the various church pulpits to-morrow.

David Kaufman, chairman and Morris E. Jacobson, treasurer, of the Jewish war relief committee in this city will receive subscriptions personally or by mail.

Governor Brumbaugh's appeal to the people of Pennsylvania follows: "Whereas it has been convincingly established that there are 9,000,000 Jews in the countries now involved in the great war, and that the great majority of these people through, no fault of their own, are homeless, without food, shelter or clothing, and that, therefore, they are in such immediate need of relief that it behooves all good citizens to hear their cry of human suffering and to respond generously to their appeal; and whereas the people of Pennsylvania, always generous, magnanimous and sympathetic, will, I am confident, be glad to add a race which has given such loyal and substantial contributions of service and efficiency to our Commonwealth;

"Now, therefore, I, Martin G. Brumbaugh, Governor of this Commonwealth, in harmony with the suggestion of the President of the United States, do appoint and set aside Thursday, January 27, 1916, as a day upon which all our people may make such contributions to this stricken people as they may after prayerful consideration find it wise and proper to make.

"Where there are accredited local committees organized in the several communities I suggest that our gifts be sent to such committees, and where no such committee exists I suggest, in harmony with the President, that contributions be sent to the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C."

# Don't Buy Advertising Space Blindly

When you merchants buy silks and laces and dress goods, you measure them. When you buy shoes you count them. When you buy coffee and tea and sugar you weigh them.

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The Audit Bureau of Circulations has made it possible for you to know, from an unbiased and expert source, JUST HOW MUCH and WHAT KIND OF CIRCULATION the worth while newspapers of America have.

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# HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

Member Audit Bureau of Circulations

Daily Average Circulation of the Telegraph

Last 3 Months of

1915

22,412

Month of

December, 1915

23,042