



\$40,000 LOSS IN TWO FIRES AT PENBROOK AND STEELTON

Six Families Flee Burning Apartments; Harrisburg Firemen Help Fight Flames in Wolf Building; Post Office Guttled

200 NEGROES RENDERED HOMELESS AT MILL TOWN

Blaze Sweeps Quarters of Bethlehem Steel Employees; Poor Water Pressure Hinders Work; Overheated Stoves and Flue Cause

Two fires—one last night at Steelton destroying 90 one-story frame buildings, quarters for 200 Southern negroes, the other early this morning at Penbrook, wrecking the W. H. Wolf apartment in Penbrook Square—caused more than \$40,000 damage before firemen could get the flames under control.

The Steelton blaze was caused by an overheated stove in one of the shanties; the Penbrook fire started in an overheated flue. At both places firemen were hindered by poor water pressure. A general alarm was sent in for all Steelton companies to fight the blaze in the nine rows of houses there; and a call for aid was sent in to the Friendship, Hope and Washington companies of Harrisburg, to come to Penbrook.

Scantily Clad, Six Families Flee Blaze in Penbrook Apartments

Six families were made homeless, supplies and equipment of five lodges almost totally destroyed. Postmaster R. M. Hoover was compelled to remove all the mail and stamps from the post office to a room in a building across the street and the merchandise in the general store of W. H. Hartman, was badly damaged by water.

The blaze started on the first floor

196 Warships of Total Tonnage of 759,430 Are Sunk by Germans

Berlin, Jan. 3 (By Wireless).—"Including the French battleship Gaulois, sunk by a German submarine," says an Overseas News Agency statement today. "196 hostile warships, including torpedoboats and submarines, of a total tonnage of 759,430 have been sunk since the beginning of the war. "Of these, 125 vessels were British, of a total of 565,200 tons.

"The total losses of entente warships exceed the total tonnage of the warships of France at the beginning of the war. "Auxiliary cruisers and ships of special type that have been lost are not included in the figures given."

FARMERS' GOV. TAKES OATH

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 3. — Lynn J. Frazier became "the farmers' governor of North Dakota" today when he took oath of office before the State Legislature. Mr. Frazier, a Republican candidate for governor, received the endorsement of the North Dakota Farmers' Nonpartisan League. He has declared his intention to support the league's executive program, which includes State-owned flour mills, terminal grain elevators and packing plants.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Cloudy, probably rain this afternoon; fair to night and Thursday, with moderate temperature, lowest to-night about 36 degrees. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Main this afternoon fair weather and moderate temperature to-night and Thursday; fresh south to west winds.

No material changes are likely to occur in general river conditions. The rain and mild temperature will soften the ice somewhat, but the rain will probably not be heavy enough or the temperature high enough to cause any ice movements of importance. A stage of about .47 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Thursday morning.

General Conditions A storm has developed rapidly from the low pressure system covering the northern part of the country and is now central over Michigan. It has caused precipitation in the form of snow, sleet and rain, mostly rain, over the greater part of the country. The Mississippi river in the last twenty-four hours.

There has been a general rise of 2 to 20 degrees in temperature, except in Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, the Susquehanna Valley and New England and in Oregon, Washington and Western Canada, where it is 2 to 10 degrees colder.

WEALTHY UPSTATE MAN NOT CLEARED IN MODEL TANGLE

Scores of Prominent Young Men Acquainted With Murdered Girl Quizzed

NO ARRESTS ARE MADE



Philadelphia, Jan. 3.—Detectives assigned to unravel the tangle of clues that have been advanced in the effort to find out who murdered Maizie A. Colbert in her apartment here last week were busy to-day examining many young men who were acquainted with the young woman. Despite the statements of the captain of the city detectives that in his belief the former manicurist was beaten and strangled by a degenerate there are persistent unconfirmed reports that a wealthy young man from up state has not yet been entirely cleared of suspicion of knowing something about the murder. Captain of Detectives Tate, however, said the young man in question is not wanted by the police and that he has cleared himself to the satisfaction of the detectives. Captain Tate said the man who was an admirer of Miss Colbert and was generous with pres-

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Request For City Local Option Legislation Made by Governor of N. Y.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 3. — A qualified request for city local option legislation and a recommendation that the State set an example as a model employer by creating a system of injury and death insurance for its employees were outstanding features of the annual message of Governor Whitman to the Legislature which opened its annual session to-day.

Dr. Kharas' Attorney Looks Up Marriage Tangle in Home City of First Wife

Elmira, N. Y., Jan. 3.—That Dr. Theodore Kharas, of Harrisburg, was married last November to Miss Bessie Murdock, of Hagerstown, Md., was admitted here yesterday by G. R. Hurd, of Harrisburg, attorney for Dr. Kharas. The lawyer was here investigating the divorce proceedings instituted by Mrs. Adah P. Kharas who claims she is the lawful wife of Dr. Kharas. The Harrisburg lawyer said: "Dr. Kharas was informed by his wife that everything was all right and he thought she had obtained a divorce which freed both of them and that he was entitled to marry again if he wished." Mr. Hurd would not talk much about the case, and after a conference with Richard B. Thurston, local attorney for Mrs. Kharas, refused to say what future action would be taken. Attorney Thurston also refused to talk until he had communicated with Mrs. Kharas who was at home in Kansas.

Attorney Hurd told of Dr. Kharas' business connections in Harrisburg and throughout the Cumberland Valley, and said Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Murdock, of Hagerstown, Md., whose daughter Dr. Kharas married last November, would take no action. The wife living in Harrisburg knew nothing of the trouble Dr. Kharas was having, as she did not read the Harrisburg newspapers. The Harrisburg lawyer expected to leave for home this morning.

Lansing Asks For Auto and He Will Get It Because of His Nerve

Washington, Jan. 3. — Failure of the House Appropriations Committee to grant a \$400 annual increase in salaries to State Department bureau chiefs led Secretary Lansing to-day to make a personal appeal for the increase to the Senate Appropriations Committee, which looks with favor upon it. While before the committee Secretary Lansing was assured that the appropriation to provide him with an official automobile would be left in the bill. It was disclosed that when the question came up in the House Committee, Chairman Fitzgerald, had exclaimed: "Secretary Lansing is the only cabinet official who has had nerve enough to ask Congress for an automobile and, by George, he shall have it."

NEWS ITEM: SHORTER DAY FOR STORE CLERKS!



JUDGE KUNKEL RAPS LAWYER WHO TRIFLES WITH LAW

Refuses to Take Notice of Union Casualty Co. Counsel's Telegram

A telegram sent to President Judge George Kunkel, of the Dauphin county court, by Henry J. Scott, a Philadelphia lawyer, asking that the argument on the exceptions to the decree of dissolution in the Union Casualty Insurance Company's case be continued to-day, aroused the ire of the court and brought a blunt refusal. The argument in the case of the exceptions to the decree in the case of the Pension Mutual Life, which are almost identical, went ahead.

Scott sent a telegram to Judge Kunkel asking that the matter be continued pending the disposition of [Continued on Page 7]

Williamsport Mayor Resigning, Calls Clark Government Failure

Williamsport, Pa., Jan. 2. — Jonas Fischer resigned as mayor of Williamsport yesterday. To-day is the day fixed by the court upon which he was to answer in quo warranto proceedings attacking his citizenship. Accompanying the message was a message in which he said: "The commission form of government so far as this city is concerned, has proven a failure and a needless expense." He demanded that the poor board be investigated and its accounts audited. Council, by a resolution, which alleged the members of the poor board had in violation of a city ordinance been paying themselves larger salaries than the ordinance provided, removed from office C. B. Hanna, George H. Goldy and John S. Leinbach, the members of the poor board, and then elected as poor board Miss Charlotte Romberger, the Rev. Theodore Beck and F. X. Kane. Miss Romberger is the head of associated charities of the city.

Seek to Develop Ideal American Chicken

New York, Jan. 3. — An ideal American fowl, in which will be centered all the good points in breeds of hens is the object of the experiments being conducted by the United States government farm at Beltsville, Md. Harry M. Lamson, head husbandman of the government farm, has been working for the last five years on the new American product. He explained his experiments at the annual poultry show at Madison Square Garden.

OHIO PAPER'S PRICE 3 CENTS

Chillicothe, O., Jan. 3.—Because of the increased cost of print paper, the Scioto Gazette announced that beginning January 15, the price of its editions will be 3 instead of 2 cents.

NEWSPAPER ADVANCES PRICE

London, Jan. 3. — Lloyd's shipping agency announces that the British steamer Holly Branch, of 3,568 tons gross, and the Norwegian steamer Erica have been sunk.

POLITICAL COMBAT COMMERCIAL NOISE IS STILLED OUTLOOK FOR 1917 IS GOOD

Businessmen Expect New Year to Outdo Old Which Was Best in History

While 1916 was a record year in the city's commercial history, the outlook for 1917 is still better in the opinion of prominent merchants and heads of business organizations. Years in which the general assembly is in session are always good in a business way, it is pointed out, because of the many gatherings held here by organizations interested in legislation. And with practically all the city's industries booked months [Continued on Page 3]

Hint Czar's Nephew Murdered Rasputin, Who Influenced Monarch

London, Jan. 3. — Telegrams received in Paris from Petrograd allege that the notorious monk Rasputin, whose body has been recovered from the Neva, was murdered by the younger Prince Yussupoff, nephew by marriage of the Czar.

Petrograd, Jan. 3. — The body of the monk Rasputin, who had a great influence over the Czar, was recovered yesterday morning by divers from the bottom of an ice hole in the Neva near the Petrovsky bridge, which crosses one of the lesser arms of the river north of the city. According to newspapers here, the tragedy appears to have been enacted Saturday morning in the Yussupoff palace, but the names of none of the participants are mentioned.

German Raider Believed Preying on Commerce in Ocean; 6 Ships Missing

New York, Jan. 3. — A new teuton raider has slipped through the allied patrol and is now at large on the high seas. Germany's threat to carry on the bitter end, through renewed submarine warfare on a gigantic scale assisted by fast commerce raiders to prey on allied shipping finds confirmation in renewed wireless warnings issued to all ships at sea. Captain Jan Baron, commanding the Nieuw Amsterdam of the Holland-American Line told to-day of receiving daily warnings from Cape Race which gave a detailed description of the raider.

Urges Appropriation of \$25,000,000 For Islands

Washington, Jan. 3. — Secretary Lansing conferred at the Capitol to-day with Senator Stone, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and urged that Congress soon provide the \$25,000,000 to pay for the Danish West Indies and also determine the form of government for the newly acquired islands. Both demost discussing the pending resolution to endorse President Wilson's peace note. The administration, it is understood, favors a bond issue to pay for the islands inasmuch as they are a permanent national investment. Secretary Lansing would not discuss the form of government but Senator Stone favors quasi-military form of government until Congress provides some other.

4,000 GET INCREASE

Chester, Pa., Jan. 3.—Four thousand employees at the Springs Cotton Mills have been given a 10 per cent. increase in wages. Three of the mills are at Lancaster, two at Fort Mill and one at Kensaw, S. C.

FORECAST END OF COMMISSION NEGOTIATIONS

Wilson Will Confer With Members of Joint Body on Mexican Affairs

PROTOCOL IS REFUSED

Carranza Turns Down Proposed Pact; Fletcher to Go to Mexico Soon

Washington, Jan. 3. — President Wilson will confer at 5 o'clock this afternoon with Secretary Lane and the other American members of the Mexican-American commission. It was announced that the American commissioners only would make a statement of their position to the President, and in some quarters that was taken to forecast an end of the commission negotiations. An answer is being prepared to Carranza's plea for modification in the protocol, but it was said that was not to be discussed to-day with the President. The end of the commission negotiations was considered by other officials to be preliminary to a new line of pro-

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Teutonic Papers Agree Only Answer That Can Be Given Entente Is Sword

Berlin, Jan. 2, via London, Jan. 3.—The reply of the entente to the peace proposals of the central powers is discussed at great length this morning by the newspapers which base their remarks on the unofficial press version of the note, as received here from French sources. The newspapers are unanimous in saying the answer of the entente is only what was to be expected in view of the utterances of statesmen of the hostile nations. The opinion is expressed that the note was addressed less to the central powers than to the people of the entente countries and to neutrals; hence the strong declamatory language calculated, according to the German opinion, further to inflame passions against the Teutonic allies. In particular, it is declared the section devoted to Belgium is intended expressly for the American people.

FIGHTING REAR ACTIONS RUSSIANS REACH SERETH

Must Hold on Front From Galicia or Will Face Crumbling Up Process

MAKE SMASHING ATTACKS

Teutons Swing Forward For New Gains of Prisoners and Ground

Reports from both sides in the struggle in Rumania indicate that the Russians have now virtually reached the line of the Sereth, to which they have been falling back while fighting strong rear guard actions. Berlin to-day announces that troops of the ninth army, under Field Marshal von Mackensen, are now before Tokahai, which is on the fortified line which the Russians have been preparing and which follows in a general way the course of the Sereth. Ending at the Danube between Braila and Galata, this line extends northward through Moldavia in the direction of the western Moldavian frontier.

It is here, according to present indications, that the Russians count upon bringing Field Marshal von Mackensen's advance to a halt. Falling in this purpose, it has been pointed out, they would expose their front from Galicia southward to a possible crumbling up process through a turning [Continued on Page 7]

German Harvests Show Big Gain Over Last Year

Amsterdam, —Jan. 3.—A Berlin semi-official telegram to-day says that this year's bread corn harvest will exceed last year's by 1,500,000 tons. The deficiency in the potato harvest which is considerably under the average, will be chiefly offset by the very good turnip crop. The reduction in the use of barley for brewing purposes by 50 per cent. will help greatly in overcoming the effects of a bad potato yield, the advices state. Germany's stock of cattle is declared in the dispatch to have increased since the beginning of 1916 by more than 400,000 and the stock of pigs by more than 4,000,000.

FRENCH BATTLESHIP REPORTED TORPEDOED

Berlin, Jan. 3.—By Wireless.—A dispatch to the Zurich Post from Milan reports that the French battleship Verite has been torpedoed by a German submarine near Malta, says an Overseas News Agency announcement to-day. The Verite badly damaged, is lying near the port of Malta, the dispatch adds.

"LEAK" RESOLUTION GOES OVER

Washington, Jan. 3.—Representative Wood's resolution for a special investigation of charges of a "leak" on President Wilson's peace note was held privileged by the House to-day and it was referred to the Rules Committee with instructions to report within ten days.

WIND STORM UNROOFS BUILDINGS

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Jan. 3. — Two schools, a mill and several private houses were badly damaged by a wind storm here to-day. One of the school buildings and two of the houses were unroofed while windows in the other buildings were smashed and other damage done. The damage to properties will amount to about \$50,000.

ARREST READING MAN FOR INCENDIARISM

Reading, Pa., Jan. 3.—State Fire Marshal J. H. McFarland, of Harrisburg, this afternoon swore out a warrant against Joseph Closeman, alias Joseph Clawson, aged 23 years, charging him with causing recent mysterious fires, a dozen in number, in this city. He has been in custody and under suspicion for several days.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Augustus Henry Wright, Rochester, N. Y., and Elva Garrett, city. Charles Daniel Welker and Verna Edna Weaver, Millin.