



STEADILY PREPARING FOR EVENTUALITIES

Government Adheres to Its Plans in Taking Action to Protect American Rights When the Moment Arrives; Submarine Situation at Standstill

SLACKENING OF RUTHLESS CAMPAIGN IS REGARDED AS REDUCING CHANCES OF OVERT ACT

Washington Hears Yarrowdale Prisoners Will Be Released Shortly; Immediate Freeing of Sailors Insisted on by Officials

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—The submarine situation seemed at a standstill to-day with the government apparently closely watching developments, steadily preparing itself for eventualities and adhering to its plans in taking action to protect American rights when the moment arrives.

Vienna Officials Cling to Hope Break With U. S. Will Be Averted

Vienna, Feb. 17, via London, Feb. 19.—Despite the fact that some of the newspapers are taking a gloomy view of Austro-American relations and the situation brought about by the severing of relations between the United States and Germany, official circles in Vienna are inclined to believe the outlook is not entirely hopeless.

This also is the view of Frederic C. Penfield, the American Ambassador, who is doing everything possible to assist in reaching a friendly solution of the situation.

Through the Spanish embassy the State Department has been informed that the American sailors taken as prisoners to Germany on the prize steamer Yarrowdale would be released shortly.

Officials Impatient Because of the new and uncertain communication between Washington and Berlin, State Department officials were unable to decide whether to-day's dispatch was in answer to its last request or the previous one.

State Department officials are watching the situation with some impatience.

Austria's real attitude perplexes officials here and there is hope that Ambassador Penfield will find some way to influence the Vienna government not to formally sanction the extreme position taken by Germany.

It was authorized to-day that so far nothing has been heard from the central powers as to what course they would take in the event that the United States authorized the arming of American merchant ships.

Tension Lessens It was stated definitely that President Wilson has made no plans so far for going before Congress although it was not denied that he still is considering the advisability of such a step.

Officials generally said, however, that some means must be found for getting American and other vessels to resume sailings. While consideration has been given to various suggestions for arming and conveying merchantmen, it was considered possible that before long the vessels may sail of their own accord.

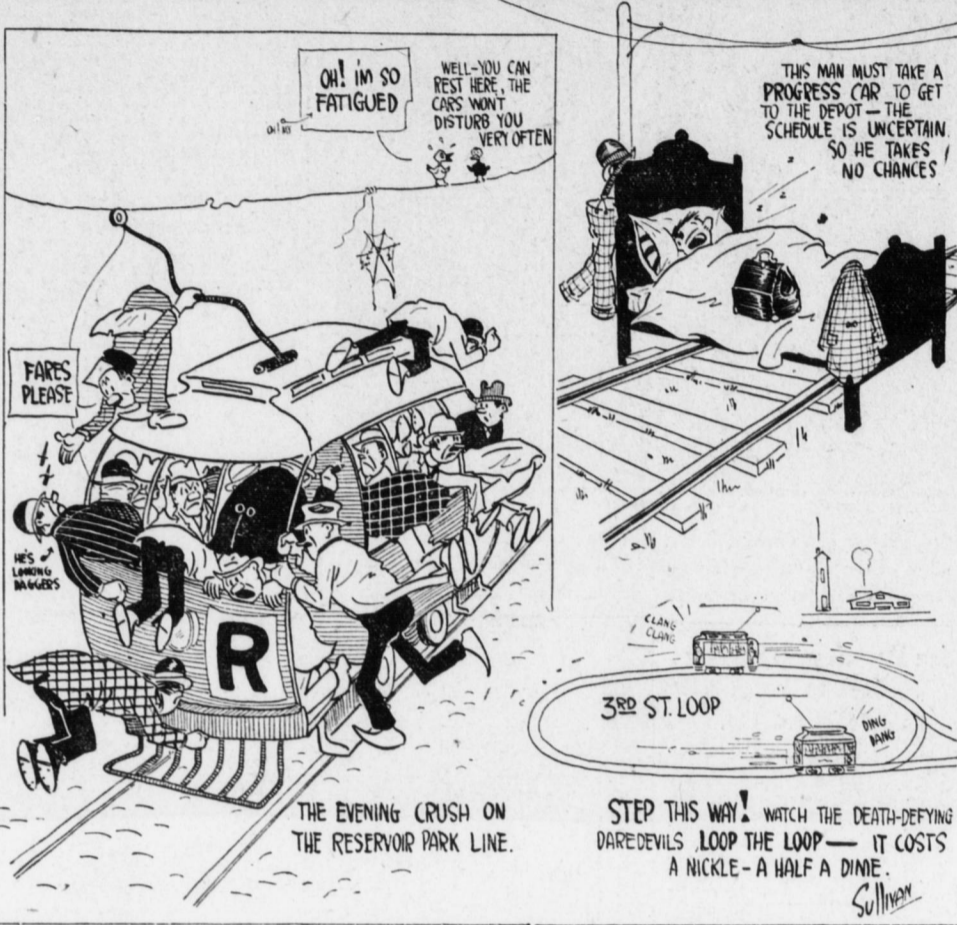
Although officials maintain reticence there has been an unmistakable lessening in the tension within the last two or three days.

Sells House Through Telegraph For Sale Ad J. F. Rohrer & Son announce the sale of the Mrs. Mary B. Wallower property, 204 Mountains with one acre, to Harry C. Ibach.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Unsettled, probably rain or snow and somewhat warmer to-night, with lowest temperature about freezing; clearing Tuesday.

SULLIVAN'S OWN SURVEY OF THE TROLLEY SITUATION



MAYOR MEALS IS DANGEROUSLY ILL AT HIS HOME

Organic Heart Disease and General Breakdown Make His Condition Serious

Mayor E. S. Meals, who has been ill for several weeks, yesterday took a turn for the worse when his condition became serious.

Mayor Meals to-day was said by physicians in attendance to be suffering from organic heart disease. In addition to this it was said at the home, Second and North streets, that the Mayor was suffering from a general physical breakdown.

The Mayor spent a restless night. Dr. George B. Kunkel and Dr. Park A. Deckard were in attendance. Oxygen was administered as an aid to the heart.

At noon to-day it was said that Dr. Meals was resting somewhat easier and that his condition was a little better.

Mayor Meals has been confined to his home for month than a month. He has been unable to attend a session of Council for the past five weeks, although he has been able to discuss business with other City Commissioners at his home most of the time.

Patrolman Saves Woman From Death in Ditch

Mrs. Joseph Thompson, of Paxtang, last evening was saved from drowning in a ditch near her home in Paxtang by Patrolman George Petrow who was motoring home from a trip through the country with his family.

Jitney Hearings to Be on February 28

The Public Service Commission will probably fix February 28 as the date for the hearing of the Harrisburg Jitney complaints. The matter will be determined to-day.

All of the men mentioned in the complaints have filed their answers with the commission, making general denials and asking for proof of various statements made by the Harrisburg railroads.

The commission will settle the Wilkes-Barre cases which are pending, very rapidly, as a number of matters held in abeyance have been determined by the Supreme Court.

WANT MILLION NEW MEMBERS

Washington, Feb. 19.—A million new members to aid it in the nation's present crisis are sought by the American Red Cross in an appeal to the House to-day.

SAVES BABY BOY FROM DEATH FIGHTING FIRE

"Bobby" Fisher, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Fisher, 1409 1/2 North Second street, had a thrilling escape to-day from being burned to death, and Nicholas Tack, paperhanger, 1216 North Third street, proved himself a hero.

STRIKING PLAYERS BOYCOTT TO BRING DOWN PRICES URGED

Hilton, Frank and Martz Hold Secret Session and Decide to Call It "Quits"

Eddie Hilton, Noble Frank and Harold Martz, the three Central high school basketball players, who withdrew from the team on Friday evening in a scheduled game with the Harrisburg Academy, because Gregory and Fields, two other members of the team were declared ineligible by the faculty, have decided to rejoin the team and finish the season.

This announcement is welcome news to the students at the school as the loss of these players along with Gregory and Fields, the two ineligible, would have imperiled Central's chances of winning the Central Pennsylvania Scholastic League Basketball race.

At the present time Central is leading the league by a good margin and with the return of Hilton, Frank and Martz it is hoped that the team can finish in first place.

Gregory and Fields will not be eligible to play for at least one month or until they make up their back studies.

The basketball squad was in conference this morning for over an hour with Prof. Howard G. Dibble, principal of the school; Prof. Bertram W. Saul, faculty athletic director; and Prof. Frank G. Roth, of the advisory committee on athletics. The matter was discussed thoroughly and Prof. Dibble made it plain to Hilton, Frank and Martz, that they had violated no rules of the school and that their places on the team were open to them if they desired to finish the season.

Later the three players held a session and at the conclusion stated to Prof. Dibble that they would finish the season.

Waterloo of Evildoers to Be Made Into Firewood

The old dock, a landmark familiar to evildoers at the police station for many years, has been relegated to the cellar for the school; Prof. Bertram W. Saul, faculty athletic director, and Prof. Frank G. Roth, of the advisory committee on athletics. The matter was discussed thoroughly and Prof. Dibble made it plain to Hilton, Frank and Martz, that they had violated no rules of the school and that their places on the team were open to them if they desired to finish the season.

The old dockroom has been made into a reception room. The prisoners in the future will be taken directly from the cells to the magistrate's desk, in the basement.

THREE FIREMEN KILLED

Quebec Feb. 19.—Falling walls of buildings wrecked by flames crushed three firemen to death and badly injured five others to-day, the fire was Quebec's seventh serious one within a month and a searching inquiry is under way. Six business houses were destroyed.

CONVERTS DEALERS

Boycotts on potatoes in other cities where the prices suddenly jumped up to \$2.50 a bushel—the present high-water mark in this city—resulted in a sudden conversion of dealers, it was said. The dealers, it was pointed out, saw their way clear in face of the drastic action taken by the women to knock a dollar off the price per bushel.

"With prices for foodstuffs at present standards it is simply impossible for hundreds of families to make ends meet," said Mrs. Henderson to-day. "That is the situation even at a time when work is as plentiful as it now is."

Why the Children Shiver "Only several days ago I found children in one of the city schools who were shivering in the cold. They were without underclothing. On investigation I found that the parents are compelled to spend every cent for food and that it was impossible to provide clothing for members of the family."

"In many of these families the position seems to be that the children will suffer less by going without clothing than by going without food."

"With potatoes at present prices and even onions at 5 cents a piece," continued Mrs. Henderson, "it is impossible for many families to keep the necessities of life on the table. My investigation showed that many of these children had what they called coffee soup—a mixture of poor coffee poured over stale bread—for breakfast. For dinner they had bread and molasses and not much more than the coffee soup for supper."

Staples Beyond Reach Mrs. Henderson in presenting the matter before club members to-day said that if something was not done the city would possibly soon be facing the necessity of establishing soup kitchens to take care of families virtually starving.

Prices for foods that ordinarily form the basis of menu for the average family have approached famine standards, investigations to-day showed. Potatoes, cabbage, onions and beans, the great staples for workers, are almost unobtainable at the present price lists.

Potatoes at 45 cents a half peck make them a luxury for the workman. Onions that last year sold for 3, 4 and 5 cents a box now are priced at from 15 to 20 cents. Soupbeans are increased about 300 per cent, over former prices, while baked beans that formerly sold at 5 cents a can can be purchased at 15 cents for a can, but little larger. Ten and 12 cents a pound is the rate demanded for cabbage.

CABBAGE AT \$125 PER TON By Associated Press San Benito, Tex., Feb. 19.—Cabbage sold here to-day at \$125 a ton. This is said to be a record price for that vegetable in the lower Rio Grande valley.

STREET CAR SURVEY FAVORED BY MUSSER AND C. OF C. HEAD

Police Chief, Too, Believes Study of Traffic Problems Would Result in Much Good to Public; Wetzel Promises Assistance of His Department

HARRISBURG RAILWAYS DIRECTORS WILL CONSIDER MATTER SHORTLY

Chamber of Commerce Will Back Move Declares President Tracy; Company Executive Says Many Cars Are Delayed on Purpose by Teamster

The Telegraph's suggestion that a survey, similar to those of the police department and the school district under the direction of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce, be made of the street car situation in this city, has met with general approval.

Officials of the Harrisburg Railways Company this morning announced that they are about to give the situation serious consideration at the next meeting of the board of directors. It was said that individually several of the directors and officers are greatly in favor of such a move.

The company takes the position, it was said, that it is extremely anxious to give the city the best possible service, and is working toward this end.

Musser Favors Survey Frank E. Musser, president of the company, to-day said he had taken up the question of a survey with several of the directors and that he personally rather favored the proposition. No decision has been reached on the question, he added.

Support for the proposed survey was vouchsafed by David E. Tracy, president of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce, and by J. Edward Wetzel,

chief of police. Mr. Tracy gave his support as head of the organization of business men, while Chief Wetzel said his department was willing to cooperate in any way possible in working out traffic conditions along any lines needed to help out the situation.

"I believe such a survey would be a

Two Sure Signs of Spring; Robins Here; Circus Is Coming

Two infallible signs of spring made their appearance to-day.

Several Cumberland county suburbanites brought to Harrisburg this morning reports that fat, saucy robins had been seen in 'cross river districts yesterday.

And the advance man for the first circus of the season arrived in town about the same time. He represents Barnum and Bailey, Assistant City Clerk Ross Seaman issued a license, Commerce, and by J. Edward Wetzel, to him for an exhibition here May 21

WILL GRANT ALL LICENSES AGAINST WHICH NO REMONSTRANCES ARE FILED

Harrisburg. — Judge George Kunkel announced this afternoon that he would grant all licenses for saloons against which no remonstrances have been filed. Six remonstrances have been filed against granting licenses.

Washington, Feb. 19. — Preparedness appropriations included in the sundry civil bill, reported to the House to-day provide \$6,257,400 for armories and arsenals; \$5,756,086 for coast defenses; \$4,716,500 for Panama Canal fortifications and 1,077,000 for infantry barracks in Hawaii. The bill carries \$138,242,000 which is \$43,000,000 less than asked by executive department heads, but \$7,000,000 more than appropriated last year.

HELD ON PUNCH BOARD CHARGE

Thomas Gough and William Dorman, of Baltimore, arrested for conducting punch boards at 416 and 411 1/2 Market street, 423 1/2 Strawberry street, 302 Verbeke street, and 1109 North Third street, were held by Alderman DeShong this afternoon.

MANY CUBAN REBELS CAPTURED

Havana, Feb. 19. — The town of Jatibonico, in Camaguey province was occupied yesterday by government forces. The number of prisoners captured Saturday at Sancti Spiritus was 400. Some fifty political prisoners have been transferred to Cabanas, and about fifty were set free yesterday. The government is considering a proclamation of amnesty to apply to certain restricted classes.

WESTHAVEN TO GET CLARK'S PLACE

Washington, Feb. 19. — D. C. Westhaven, Cleveland, Ohio, was nominated by President Wilson as United States judge for the northern district of Ohio to succeed J. H. Clark, recently made a justice of the United States Supreme Court.

TRANSFER SHELL CONTRATS TO U. S. FIRMS

Washington, Feb. 19. — Contracts for navy projectiles which had been let to Hadfields, Limited, an English concern, were to-day given to the Midvale Steel Company, the Washington Steel and Ordnance Company and the Crucible Steel Company.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Homer Clay Remble, Lykens, and Florence Irene McNeal, Wiconisco. Frank Joseph Schutzenbach and Barbara Elizabeth Kaufman, Harrisburg. Charles Horn Oatny, Harrisburg, and Ambler Skinner, Washington, D. C. Audio Coppelli and Elda Beanchi, Derry township.