

ALL SUPPLIES EXCEPT FOOD, FUEL AND MUNITIONS HELD UP

RESERVOIR IS EMPTY AS CITY FACES FAMINE

Fire Hazard Increased to Danger Point When Reservoir Falls to New Low Record; Council Plans Drastic Action to Meet Situation; Industries May Be Closed to Avoid Suffering in Private Families; Fire Department Hindered in Its Work When Mains Go Dry; Many Report Shortage Now

At 4 o'clock this afternoon all industrial and business plants were ordered to stop using water for manufacturing purposes. Elevators operated by water also were ordered to stop. Exemptions only were granted to hospitals, public utilities and milk stations.

To all intents and purposes, the city to-day is without water. The reservoir fell to two feet at 2 o'clock this afternoon when Harrisburg's representative business men went into conference with Commissioner S. F. Hassler.

All industry probably will stop if the shortage does not take an unexpected change for the better. Danger of fire without water to fight it has had the fire department from the chief down dreading an alarm for hours.

At 2.30 o'clock Mr. Hassler warned all users of water not to waste a drop for any purpose whatever, to bank all fires under boilers and not to open a faucet unless it is absolutely necessary. "Use melted snow in the homes," was his request.

At 3 o'clock water was running in few of the homes. City water is needed to operate the steam heat plant of the Light and Power Company.

Harrisburg's water supply situation is gradually becoming more serious with the result that Commissioner Hassler may ask City Council at its special meeting this afternoon to give him power to curtail the supply to all industrial plants in the city. Exceptions may be made in cases of plants at work on government orders.

At 7 o'clock this morning the gauge at the city reservoir showed that the water depth was 7.8 feet, less than a third the normal depth. At 10 o'clock there had been no change. Practically the entire Allison Hill district is without proper water pressure and complaints were being received this morning at the water department office. Unless drastic steps are taken the entire city will be suffering from acute water famine within the next two days it was said.

Commissioner Gross, superintendent of the park and fire departments, declared that something must be done at once to protect the city against serious fire loss.

"Last night there was a fire on the Hill. But for the quick work of the firemen there would have been a serious loss because there was not a sufficient supply of water for plug streams. Chemical tanks had to be used and fortunately there was no need for a pressure stream of water. I am certain that a serious fire in the city now would find Harrisburg without means to fight it, not in fire fighting equipment but in water supply. If necessary we must cut off industrial plants until the reservoir can be filled again. With less than eight feet of water the city is facing a famine."

To Cut Off Plant With the entire water supply of the city exhausted, Mayor Keister late to-day appointed a committee to meet at once and decide which manufacturing plants and other large consumers of water should be cut off from the city supply for the next twenty-four hours.

This is the first time since the flood of 1889 that the city reservoir has become practically empty and it has been necessary to shut off water from industrial plants.

Committee Named The committee includes Commissioner Hassler, W. P. Starkey of the Harrisburg Pipe and Pipe Bending Works; F. B. Musser, president of the Harrisburg Railways Company; C. M. Kiltwasser, Harrisburg Light and Power Company; John A. Afleck, Harrisburg Shoe Manufacturing Company and B. F. Allen, Harrisburg Foundry and Machine Works.

Its recommendations are being written this afternoon and as soon as completed Mayor Keister is to embody them in a proclamation which becomes effective at once.

Wants Safeguard The purpose of the drastic action is to safeguard the city against fire. For the city's public utilities, and for all the manufacturers present at the conference in Council chamber this afternoon were directed to bank their fires and cut down on all water used. Half-hourly readings of meters will be made during the remainder of the day and all night. All hotels, apartment houses and other large consumers are warned to conserve all water possible, bank fires under boilers and take other similar precautions.

Fear Big Fire As a fire precaution it has been decided to warn all residents to take every possible measure to safeguard against a blaze. Household fires also are notified to cut down on all water used unless it is absolutely necessary. This includes water for bath, toilet and similar purposes. It was also suggested that snow

Y. M. C. A. DRIVE IS ASSURED OF FULL SUCCESS

Eighty-Four of 500 New Members Secured at Campaign's Opening

With eighty-four memberships reported at the end of the first day's work, Y. M. C. A. workers are confident that their drive for 500 new members will go "over the top" in a very short time.

Team workers and captains will meet at supper at the Y. M. C. A. building every night, to report results. The campaign will end Saturday night. At an enthusiastic gathering of teamworkers, captains and the executive committee at supper in the Y. M. C. A. last night, reports of various teams showed that each member was eager to do his part, and to make good in the campaign. After a prelude of singing in which "The Old Gray Mare" and "Over There" played prominent parts, Dr. Robert Hagnell, pastor of the Grace Methodist Church, gave a brief talk, telling the men of the work of the Y. M. C. A.

"It is quite as important to put the Y. M. C. A. on the map at home, as it is in the camps," he said, emphasizing the fact that in the camps, the men are safeguarded, and in the city they are not.

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SIX BIG PLANTS USE HALF WATER PUMPED IN CITY

Municipal League, in Letter to Mayor Keister, Shows Danger of Famine

Demands of some of the larger industrial plants on the city's water supply is shown by J. Horace McFarland, secretary of the Municipal League, in a letter to Mayor Keister. The letter follows:

"I wish respectfully to direct your attention to one phase of the water situation closely approximating a water famine now besetting this city, to which I wish to call your attention as the executive head of the city, in that it is believed, under the police power within your control, so act as to materially reduce the very hazardous under which the city now exists.

"Official reports this afternoon indicate that the reservoir contains approximately eight feet of water, whereas its normal content is twenty-five feet in depth. With the

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REPUBLICANS ASK WAR BODY; VETO LIKELY

Presidential Ax Expected if Senate Forces Bill Through

Washington, Jan. 23.—Conferees to-day between Senate administration leaders handling President Wilson's fight against the military committee's bills to create a war cabinet and munitions director, virtually decided that reference of the war cabinet measure to the military committee will not be opposed. This the initial clash has been avoided.

This plan was decided upon, administration spokesmen said, not in fear that they lacked votes for a test of strength, but rather to avoid broadening the schism with the White House and also to follow usual procedure of legislation. Vigorous debate, however, is expected.

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FARMER VISITORS Take home a souvenir of Harrisburg in the form of Uncle Sam's Thrift Stamps or Baby Bonds

\$4.12—\$5.00 They're a cinch.

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EMBARGO ON FREIGHT IS NEW ORDER

Affected Roads Include Pennsylvania Lines East of Pittsburgh, Baltimore & Ohio, and Philadelphia and Reading; Serious Coal Shortage in New York Hastens Decision

Washington, Jan. 23.—An embargo on all freight except food, fuel and war munitions, on the Pennsylvania lines east of Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Ohio east of the Ohio river, and the Philadelphia and Reading was authorized to-day by Director General McAdoo.

The action was taken on the recommendation of A. H. Smith, assistant director general in charge of transportation in the east. No reference was made to the recommendation for an embargo submitted last night by Fuel Administrator Garfield. The embargo is temporary and is expected to continue only a few days.

Few Items Excepted "On account of the extremely severe weather which has particularly affected operation of railroads crossing the Allegheny mountains," said the railroad administration announcement, "Director General McAdoo, upon the recommendation of the Regional Director Smith, has authorized to place an embargo upon all freight, except food, fuel and war munitions and war supplies as are specifically approved by

1,000,000 WORKERS STRIKE IN AUSTRIA; RIOTING INCREASES

With more than 1,000,000 workers on strike and widespread reports of disorders in Austria and Hungary, the situation in the dual monarchy is beclouded, the censorship having stifled all news. The German censorship also has prohibited German newspapers from telling of the situation in Austria.

Efforts of Austrian statement to quiet the hungry people in their demand for peace apparently failed of their purpose and the censorship, which permitted the promise of the government's spokesmen to reach the outside world again has resumed its vigor. The trouble is said to be deep-seated and is a mixture of war weariness, hunger and anti-Germanism.

Seemingly the one strong hope of Austrians in quieting the tumult is in the success of the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk with Russia and the Ukraine. The German attitude on occupied territories has balked the conclusion of peace with Russia, and the Central Powers have

IMPROVISE THEATER INTO HOTEL TO CARE FOR MANY SUFFERING COAL FAMINE

Palmyra, Pa., Jan. 23.—To alleviate suffering from the coal shortage which has existed here for two months, Harry Zuckerman and Julius Shimer, proprietors of the Iriquois Theater, to-day decided to turn the big building over to a committee so that it might be used to house families who have no coal and no prospects of getting any.

A call for volunteers to cut wood to heat the improvised hotel to-day was sent out by the committee in which are Gabriel H. Moyer, deputy auditor general; H. R. Seltzer, assistant postmaster; Dr. Baker, the proprietors of the theater.

DANGER OF FUEL FAMINE IS SAID TO BE PASSED

Hickok Believes Coal Situation Is Rapidly Clearing in City

Ross A. Hickok, fuel administrator for Dauphin county, to-day said that in a few days the coal situation will have improved considerably. Danger of famine now has been averted, he declared.

Nineteen cars of anthracite arrived in the city yesterday, and twenty

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LATE NEWS

MUST BE CAREFUL WITH GAS Harrisburg—Superintendent Williams of the Harrisburg Gas Company to-day warned owners of gas water heaters not to turn on the gas if the water is not running in the faucets. An explosion might result, Mr. Williams added.

BRITISH BOMB GOEBEN London—Several attacks by day and night have been made by British naval air planes on the Turkish cruiser Goeben, stranded in the Dardanelles; and two hits with heavy bombs were secured, it was officially announced to-day.

HOWARD, PA. MAN WOUNDED Ottawa, Ont.—In last night's casualty list C. Stanley, of Howard, Pa., is mentioned as wounded.

SICK RATE SHOWS INCREASE Washington—The sick rate in National Army and National Guard camps shows a slight increase for the week ending January 18. Deaths in the National Army for the week numbered 149, as against 147 the prevailing week and in the National Guard 66 deaths against 58.

Of these deaths one hundred in the National Army and forty-six in the National Guard were due to pneumonia.

LOW PRESSURE CUTS OFF HOMES Harrisburg—The special committee named by Mayor Keister this afternoon will meet again to-night at 8 o'clock to decide on further action in connection with the water famine. The water department issued notice this afternoon that no water had been shut off but the low pressure to homes may be caused by the lack of water in the reservoir. Hourly readings of the amount of water in the reservoir will be made during the night.

MARKET CLOSES HEAVY New York—Reactions of 1 to 4 points in the last hour wiped out most gains of the mid-session, leaders falling to lowest prices of the day. The closing was heavy. Liberty 3 1-2's sold at 98.28 to 98.18, first 4's at 97.16 to 96.90 and second 4's at 96.32 to 96.24. Specialties again figured prominently in to-day's irregular market, representative stocks reacting on recurrent pressure. Sales approximated 400,000 shares.

ARRIVE AFTER 4 MONTH JOURNEY Harrisburg—After a four months' journey, from a little village a short distance from Riga, Mrs. Moses Lapkins and two daughters, aged 16 and 19, arrived in this city to-day, and are enjoying a reunion with the husband and father, who has resided at 1209 Green street for the last four years.

P. R. R. DECLARES DIVIDEND Philadelphia—The directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad to-day declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1-2 per cent. on the stock of the company.

P. R. R. TRAINS IN COLLISION Philadelphia—The Pennsylvania Railroad train which left this city for New York at 2 p. m. to-day is reported to have collided with another train near the Gerard avenue bridge over the Schuylkill river. One report said a Pullman had overturned and several persons were injured. The engineer of one train is said to have been badly scalded by escaping steam. One person was killed and several were injured. A coach attached to the Manhattan Limited, westbound, jumped the track and the express train for New York ran into them. The derailed coach was a mail car. Both trains were bound for New York and were running on adjoining tracks. Passengers bound for New York have been transferred to the Reading railway.

SUFFRAGE AGITATES GERMANY Amsterdam—The question of woman suffrage is beginning to agitate Germany, despite the government's forcible insistence that this and kindred questions must not be made the subject of agitation until after the war.

MARRIAGE LICENSES Isaac B. Bowman and Minnie M. Sipe, Harrisburg; John Coping and Elizabeth H. Bernard, Speersville; Harry C. Bittner, Port Royal, and Sarah M. Dolan, Millintown; Simon D. Smith, Harrisburg, and Loretta M. Bailey, Troy, Pa.

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