



CAMP CURTIN IS NOT A FIRETRAP, SAYS COMMITTEE

Recommendations for Change in Building Are Made by Investigators NOT OF THE BEST TYPE Defects Pointed Out by Builders in Remodeled Continuation High School

The Camp Curtin Junior High School building, now in the course of being remodeled, cannot be termed a "fire trap" in any sense of the word. This announcement was made today following the receipt by the school board of the report of the board of three engineers who recently investigated the building as to its safety conditions.

The committee says "we are definitely of the opinion that while the school in no sense of the word is fire resistant, while numerous improvements could be made in the structure to make it a better one of its type, and while there are certain improvements which we deem necessary to make the school safe to a very considerable degree, the building does not constitute, as it now stands a 'fire trap' in any sense of the word."

Included on this committee are C. Heller, Charles A. Hexamer and H. W. Forster, engineers of Philadelphia, who have given particular attention to the proper construction of school buildings. Their investigation was made several weeks ago, following a resolution of the board passed when charges were made that the school presented conditions dangerous to the lives of the occupants in case of fire.

While the consideration of the subject is principally from the standpoint of safety to the occupants, and not that of structure, except secondarily, the committee said: "We cannot, however, refrain from saying that it is very unfortunate that any community in the construction of school buildings should deviate from the best general practice which the country has established for such buildings. While we believe that the Camp Curtin school, if improved as recommended herein, will give a very good measure of safety to its occupants, it is evident that this degree of safety would be materially increased if the structure were a superior one."

Defects in the present division wall which stand in the way of its being a first class fire wall and consequently a barrier against horizontal exit between the two buildings are emphasized in the report.

Specific recommendations for improvements are made as follows: That the fire wall be carried unbroken through the attic space and parapeted above the roof approximately three feet; that the arched openings above the entrance to the second floor hall doors be filled in with concrete or brickwork; that the floor section in the fire wall be made of cement and preferably that this incombustible sill be carried something like six inches beyond the face of the wall on each side; arrange all door joints and other woodwork so that they are in any sense of the word, in danger of spreading fire from one side of the wall to the other; install a section of reinforced concrete flooring in the first floor and over certain sections of the basement.

Stairway Unprotective The unprotective stairway was said by the committee to be a source of danger from a life safety standpoint. Relative to the stairway improvements, the committee recommended among other things that the two south central stairs on the second floor be enclosed in partitions extending from the floor to the ceiling and that the central stairs have an enclosure built extending preferably from the floor to the second story floor.

Relative to the north stairs on the first floor, it was recommended that the pockets created on either side of the vestibules leading into these stair towers be eliminated by the filling in with partitions of a substantial character from corridor wall and flush with the line of the doors. Technical details as to the forms of enclosure are outlined.

The installation of auxiliary fire boxes would be a good plan the committee suggests. Fire prevention is an important matter to be considered. The investigators say, recommending that in connection with the school extension there be provided a definite place for the storage of all necessary material.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and warm; light to moderate breeze; Thursday; lowest temperature to-night about 38 degrees. River The Susquehanna river and all its tributaries are in the stage of about 7.2 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Thursday morning. General Conditions An extensive area of high barometer covers the greater part of the country east of the Mississippi river, with a low over Virginia and North Carolina. Pressure has diminished decidedly over the western part of the country and is lowest over the North Pacific states.

The New Map of Europe



The new boundaries for Germany, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Hungary and Jugoslavia and the western boundaries of Poland and the Ukraine have been agreed upon at the Peace Conference, according to reports from Paris. The boundaries of the different European countries are roughly shown on the map. The boundary of Germany will stop at the Rhine and at the old western frontier of Poland preceding the partition of 1772. She will acquire the purely German regions of Austria. The Rhenish republic, which is to be created on the west bank of the Rhine, may ultimately be returned to Germany, but, even with this, she will have a territory smaller than that of Spain. Germany will lose, roughly speaking, 30,000 square miles of territory by the terms of the Allies.

HENS MAY LAY EGGS FOR BAPTIST CHURCH

Harrisburg Clergy and Laymen Watch With Interest Outcome of New Plan to Raise Funds

Dauphin county's chickens soon may be laying golden eggs for the Baptist church if the hens of Ohio are religiously inclined and come up to the expectations of the Baptist clergy and laymen. This was the opinion expressed today by Rev. Walter S. Dunlap, pastor of Market Street Baptist Church after announcement had been made that the hens of Ohio are to be put on their mettle. The 1,200 Baptists of the city, said Dr. Dunlap are watching the event with interest.

STATE PREPARING TO RUSH WORK ON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

Bids to Be Asked For Office Building Also in the Near Future

Governor Sproul and members of the State Board of Public Grounds and Buildings spent considerable time today with Arnold W. Brunner, architect for the Capitol Park improvements, and J. E. Greiner, engineer for the memorial bridge, concerning the making of the plans being signed. The details of the plans for the new office building and the memorial bridge were ordered prepared at once and borings for the bridge piers were reported in progress.

INTERNAL REVENUE BUREAU SUGGESTS INDIVIDUALS FILL OUT OWN INCOME BLANKS

Washington, Mar. 12.—Reports that offices of hundreds of revenue collectors were swamped by applicants for information and advice on income tax returns to-day prompted the internal revenue bureau to suggest that taxpayers prepare returns according to the best of their ability and file supplemental returns later if they find their first report incorrect. Refunds can be claimed where due on the basis of these amended returns.

SUES TRACTION COMPANY

Edward M. Young, through his counsel, Robert Stucker, today brought a damage suit against the Harrisburg Railway Company. A statement will be filed later, it was announced, in which a claim will be made against the company for payment of damages to Mr. Young's automobile, which was wrecked in a collision with a trolley car last November, at Sayford and Fourth streets.

U. S. MANAGEMENT OF RAILROADS IS SCORED BY MAYOR

Keister Says There Is No Need to Retrench in Local Shops WANTS EXTRA SESSION Public Improvements Contemplated by City and State to Employ Many

Government management of railroads is a failure, according to Mayor Keister, who has explained the stand he took last week at the national conference of Governors and Mayors. He reverts that the railway shops under direct orders have cut down their working forces and hours despite the great need of urgent repairs.

Freight rates must be reduced on building materials, such as lumber, brick, cement, stone, gravel and sand and on road-making materials, and all public utilities. In other words will be held up with the result that work will be denied skilled workers and laborers.

It is my opinion," says Mr. Keister, "that it is the duty of the President to immediately call an extra session of Congress and keep it working while the country is going through this reconstruction period, making appropriations for the prosecution of all government contracts for public building, wharves, docks, improvements to railroad equipment and all public utilities. In other words let the President and Congress quit playing politics to the detriment of the wage-earners and good government, get down to business, and I think the industrial condition which is now in worse shape than ever before in the history of the nation will be satisfactorily solved."

The Bright Side Although the Mayor says he is pessimistic as to the present or future, he says he believes that there are 2,000 idle men in the city and that this will be increased by a hundred per cent. He fears that prohibition will make a thousand men idle here.

In a more optimistic vein the Mayor adds: "There is no doubt that this condition will be relieved somewhat by improvements contemplated by the State in its development of Capitol Park and in the building of new buildings to properly house the offices of the State government. The city will spend \$100,000 on street improvements during the coming summer; \$25,000 on a comfort station and several thousand dollars on water main extensions. We also have under consideration the building of a joint county and city office building and a joint contagious disease hospital. These projects hardly will be gotten under way until 1920 as enabling legislation will have to be passed by our State Legislature in order to unite the county and city to build jointly."

THIEVES GET \$26,000 FROM VAULTS OF BANK; THEFT DISCOVERED TODAY

New York, March 12.—Theft of \$26,000 in currency from the vaults of the Metropolitan Bank, a Bronx institution, was made known here today by the police. The robbery occurred sometime on Monday night after the bank had closed and was not discovered until yesterday. The money had been placed in the vault by the cashier.

SUPERIOR COURT NEARS CLOSE

The Superior Court will conclude its sitting here to-morrow when opinions will be handed down. The Governor will dine the judges to-night at the Executive Mansion.

JERSEY SURFACE CAR LINES TIED UP IN 141 TOWNS

Sympathizers Hold Up Car; Automobiles, Vans, Wagons and Jitneys in Service By Associated Press Newark, N. J., March 12.—Virtual-ly all the surface car lines of the Public Service Railway Company which operates through 141 cities and towns in Northern New Jersey, were tied up to-day by the strike of 4,500 employes. The first disturbance growing out of the strike occurred here when a crowd of sympathizers held up a street car, manned by veteran employes who had refused to strike, pulled the trolley pole off the wire and cut the rope. One woman in the crowd fainted and was taken to the hospital. Police reserves were summoned but when they arrived the crowd had disappeared. Hundreds of private automobiles, furniture vans, brewery wagons, motor trucks and jitneys, were pressed into service here and in Jersey City, Paterson, Bayonne, Orange, Elizabeth and Plainfield to take factory hands to the shops, clerks to stores and children to schools. The strikers made no effort to interfere with the operation of these means of conveyance. Steam roads handled enormous suburban business.

AMERICANS WANT CUSTODY OF HUN CABLES SETTLED

Great Britain Not to Have Monopoly of Communication Over Seized Wires SET UP WAR PRIZE CLAIM U. S. Maintains There Should Be No Discrimination in Either Ocean

Paris, March 12.—Realizing the possibility of a virtual monopoly of cable communications by Great Britain should her claim to the captured German cables be sustained with the consequent submission of the great foreign business interests of the United States to alien control in this respect, the American delegates to the Peace Conference are endeavoring to make a strong presentation of their case before the legal authorities to whom the subject has been referred. The naval experts who first considered the question were unable to agree and the Supreme Council, upon motion of Secretary of State Lansing referred to legal experts the question of title involved. These experts are being pressed by the Americans for a decision.

British Cut Cables Early in the war the British cut the two German cables from Emden to America by way of the Azores and also the cable between Montevideo, the Liberian capital, and Brazil. They took one end of the German-American cables to Halifax, thereby securing another transatlantic line for themselves. The other cable they gave to the French government, which so far has made no attempt to utilize it, probably because of the scarcity of submarine cable material and of cable-laying ships.

The British claim that these cables are prizes of war. They do not intend to allow their return to Germany or to regard them as subject to the disposition of the Peace Conference. The American delegates, however, contend the cables were unlawfully cut and unlawfully reconnected, because the United States was not at war when this was done and had an interest in them as being one of the terminals. Nor, they claim, was there proper warrant for cutting of the cable between Liberia and Brazil as both of these countries were then neutral.

Americans Are Anxious There never has been any decision regarding the title to cables outside of territorial waters in time of war, and the Americans are now extremely anxious that no precedent should be established that might place American business at the mercy of foreigners or prevent free communication between the United States and central Europe after the conclusion of peace.

In addition to the transatlantic cables, several German cables in the Pacific also were seized by the British as prizes of war. One runs from

AUTO THIEF CUTS THROUGH DOOR TO STEAL MACHINE

The second automobile theft of the month was reported today to the Harrisburg police department by J. S. Mumma, 311 Green street. The car, he says, was stolen last evening from the Carr garage. The thief cut a panel from the door, reached through the hole and opened the door. It is believed because of his knowledge of the locking that the person is familiar with the garage.

BRITISH TROOPS REVOLT ON SHIP TO GET TO U. S.

Soldiers Residents in America Rise Against Their Captain on Sea By Associated Press Halifax, March 12.—Threats of three hundred troops of the British army, who enlisted in the United States, eighty-one of them American citizens, to sink the transport Toloa unless immediately allowed to land and proceed to destinations in the United States by rail, were reported to the Canadian authorities today by Captain Jackson, commander of the transport.

FOUR-FOOT BOARD FENCE TO HIDE BETTY INCH'S ANKLES

Prosecutor Makes Good His Threat to Prevent Defendant From Making Display in New York Court New York, March 12.—Because Mrs. Betty Inch was too generous in the display of her ankles to jurors who failed a month ago to agree on a verdict in her trial on a charge of extortion, she found the witness stand surrounded by a four-foot board fence when she appeared today in the supreme court for the second hearing of her case. Though the court and prosecutor professed ignorance for the reason for the erection of the barrier, court attendants recalled a statement of the prosecutor when the first jury disagreed, that "Mrs. Inch must not show her ankles to the jurors at the next trial," also he would "ask the court to make her lower her dress." "What is it, a spite fence?" the goonsly Mrs. Inch inquired when she entered the court room.

ALLIES MUST FEED GERMANY AND PERMIT ENEMY TO TRADE WITH WORLD, SAYS LANSING

World Has Reached Greatest Crisis of History and Faces Great Task in Preventing Spread of Bolshevism and Anarchy Throughout Civilization

Paris, March 12.—"We have reached a crisis in the affairs of the world," said Secretary of State Robert Lansing at a banquet given last night by the Inter-Allied Press Club in honor of the American peace commissioners. Mr. Lansing was emphatic that the allies must feed Germany and give the Germans opportunity to sell their products in the foreign markets, if the danger of Bolshevism was to be avoided. He painted a vivid picture of conditions in the war zone of France and pointed out that it was not through pity for Germany, but to the allies own advantage to see that anarchy was prevented in the former German empire. Mr. Lansing said:

ARMY HOSPITAL IN CARLISLE IS DECLARED GOOD

Commander Denies Charges of Two Wounded Men That Would Be Bad

Carlisle, March 12.—When charges made by Philadelphia soldiers concerning dirty dishes, poor food and undue severity in the Carlisle Military Hospital, were brought to the attention of Colonel F. R. Keefe, that in his opinion the food at the Carlisle hospital averages better than that of most camps and hospitals throughout the United States.

Walter H. Kierney and George H. Wood, the two wounded soldiers who brought the charges, are absent from the hospital without leave, Colonel Keefe said. "A good soldier will come to his commanding officer if he has an unfairly treated," he continued, intimating that the Philadelphia soldiers had not brought their complaints to him.

"As to undue severity, I believe investigation would show that charge is erroneous. Military discipline is necessary in a military hospital. It is, of course, impracticable to say to the men, 'come and go as you please.' The men must undergo certain treatment and the War Department has prescribed a certain course of training which will fit them for civilian life. When they are allowed to go out at night they are apt to go to a disreputable house, to use liquor or to stay out all night. This would bring discredit to the institution and to the service. Whenever a man who asks for a furlough, has enough money and is physically able to go to a respectable house, to use liquor or to stay out all night, But we must have certain restraints. That is apparent.

RESIDENT HOPES TO REACH PARIS FRIDAY CABLES YANKEE DELEGATES

On Board the U. S. S. George Washington, Mar. 12.—By wireless to the Associated Press—President Wilson hopes to reach Brest in time to leave there Thursday evening for Paris, after a brief reception at the port. The President's special preparations for his peace conference labors and exchanged wireless messages with members of the American delegation in Paris.

STATE CANNOT PLACE OUTSIDE INSURANCE

Emerson Collins, deputy attorney general, to-day informed the Department of Public Grounds and Buildings that no outside insurance can be lawfully placed on buildings or property which the State owns at Valley Forge. The States carried its own insurance.

HERSHEY TRANSIT COMPANY APPLIES FOR MERGER

Application has been filed with the Public Service Commission for the merger into the Hershey transit system operating in Dauphin, Lebanon and Lancaster counties of the Deadate and Hummelstown and Elizabethtown and Deadate street railways. The Hershey Transit already contains the Lebanon and Campbellstown and Hummelstown and Campbellstown.

LIBERTY IS COMPELLING IMPULSE

"In the infancy of our republic the sympathy and aid of France gave the support which was needed to make individual liberty the supreme ruler of the destinies of the new-born nation. From that time forward liberty has been, and still is, the most sacred and most compelling impulse in political life in America. Our policies at home and abroad have been molded to that principle. No American statesman has dared to depart from it or to seek to lessen its influence over American thought. To-day, we Americans are as earnest and intense in our devotion to human liberty as were our forebearers.

"It was when they came to a full realization that this liberty was in danger; when they realized that France and the great democracies of Europe were imperilled from the attack of an ambitious autocracy, that the nation determined to do its part in freeing liberty and the world from autocracy.

"A mighty victory has been won. The imperial armies of the central powers have ceased to threaten. They no longer exist. Germany has suffered bitterly, is suffering bitterly, and Germany is entitled to suffer for what she has done. She has paid a fearful penalty for the crime of plunging the world into four years of blood and fire. To-day, starvation and want are the portion of the German people. Violence and murder stalk through the streets of their great cities. The very structures of society are tottering. It is the price

of their own evil doing, the just retribution of their crimes. "We may be disposed to pity those innocent among the Germans, but our pity is almost dried up when we consider what France and other nations have had to suffer from the invading armies of the Teutons. Ten days after I landed in France, in December, I made it my business to visit the battlefields of the Marne, the Aisne and the Champagne. No man could see what I saw without bearing a burning indignation against those responsible for such ruins and destruction, without an intense and undying hatred for war.

"France has endured unpeopled ruins with a fortitude and determination which excite the admiration and wonder of the world. To these splendid troops who struggled with-out flinching and with high courage, France and the world owe a debt of gratitude. It is the price

IOWAN ARRIVES WITH 1,922 TROOPS

New York—With 1,922 troops the steamship Iowan arrived here to-day from St. Nazaire. Units included the 10th trench mortar battery, four officers and 183 men of the 25th division—the first troops of this New England division to arrive home. These troops are assigned to Camp Devins.

BRITISH SOLDIERS IN THE FIELD

London—The strength of the British army in France, Belgium and Germany on February 15, including Dominion troops, was 1,324,106. There are 602,000 British troops in the army of occupation in all theaters of war.

NAMES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS

Washington — President Wilson to-day appointed Martin A. Morrison, of Indiana, and George R. Wales, of Vermont, to the civil service commission, succeeding John A. McElhenny and Hermon W. Craven.

THIEF SNATCHES \$380 FROM WOMAN

New York—In the Public National Bank to-day a thief snatched \$380 in bills which a woman depositor had just drawn from the cashier. The police later arrested a man seen running from the bank.

GREAT BRITAIN FEEDS 197,000 HUNS

London — The British commissary department is feeding 197,000 German prisoners, the government announced in the House of Commons to-day.

MERCY ARRIVES WITH CASUALS

New York—The hospital ship Mercy arrived to-day with 381 sick and wounded men, most of them bedridden.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Joseph E. Selig, Norristown, and Clara E. Snavely, Harrisburg.