

And So, as Tiny Tim Said: "God Bless Us Everyone"

HARRISBURG



TELEGRAPH

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CONGRESS PROBE TO FOLLOW CLASH ON WAR AWARDS

Might Result From Controversy Between Admiral Sims and Daniels

REPORTS ARE REQUESTED

Senate Gets List From Secretary of Navy; House to Ask For It

By Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 24.—Congressional investigation, it was indicated to-day, might result from the controversy between Admiral Sims and Secretary Daniels over the awards of Distinguished Service Medals in the Navy.

The report of the awards of the decorations has been transmitted to the Senate Naval Committee by Secretary Daniels at the request of Chairman Page, Representative Lufkin, Republican, Massachusetts, member of the House Naval Committee.

The issue which had been smoldering in inner naval circles, came into the open with the publication of a letter written by Admiral Sims to Secretary Daniels, in which he declined to accept his Distinguished Service Medal unless the list of awards were revised to include those recommended by him to receive the second highest naval decoration.

Six of Nineteen In his letter, Admiral Sims said that of the nineteen officers recommended by him for the Distinguished Service Medal only six received it. He declared that the commanding officer present was more qualified to judge the relative merits of officers entitled to reward, that a board's award system could not be fair and that officers in important administrative posts on shore occupied relatively more responsible positions than those serving at sea.

Secretary Daniels in his report to the committee said the entire controversy revolved around the question of which class of service—shore or sea—was more important. He expressed the opinion that only shore duty of the highest importance should be recognized equally with positions of grave danger in the active war zone. He declared that under the law and by authority of the President it was the Secretary of the Navy's duty to make the final decision.

In response to Admiral Sims' statement that the commanding officers of ships sunk by enemy submarine should not receive decorations, Secretary Daniels said that in his opinion the Distinguished Service Medal should be awarded to those officers in command of ships of the Navy which were sunk by submarine attack and whose conduct was meritorious.

Dr. Rhoads, Noted Physician, Found Dead by His Grandson

By Associated Press Boyertown, Pa., Dec. 24.—Dr. Thomas J. B. Rhoads, for many years a leading physician of this section, was found dead in bed to-day by his grandson, one Rhoads, a University of Pennsylvania student who had returned home for the holidays.

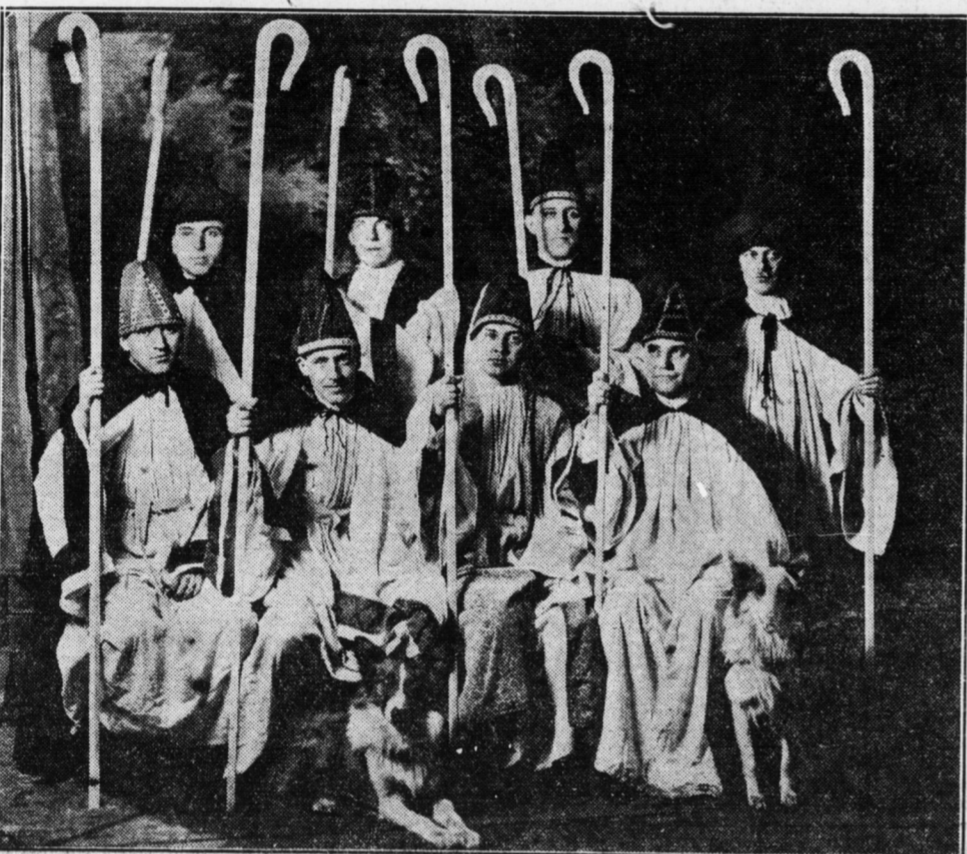
Dr. Rhoads, who was eighty-two years old, was the father of Colonel Thomas L. Rhoads, who was chief surgeon of the first army of the American forces in France and is now chief surgeon at Camp Dix, N. J.

TAKE PASSENGERS FROM SHIP Norfolk, Dec. 24.—Efforts of a fleet of tugs to float the stranded old Dominion liner Madison proving unsuccessful, the passengers were taken off the ship to-day and brought to Norfolk. The Madison went aground on Craney Island last night during a dense fog and is embedded in five feet of mud.

REDS SCORE ANOTHER WIN London, Dec. 24.—The Bolsheviks captured fifteen guns, one thousand horses and 300 men after defeating the forces of General Mamontoff and General Chelnokoff in the region of Starniansk, according to wireless dispatch received from Moscow to-day. The dispatch adds: "Over a thousand Cossacks were killed, including General Chelnokoff."

YOUR NEWSBOY In observance of a long-established custom every city newsboy who sells the Telegraph will be furnished his copies free of charge to-day.

BIRTH OF CHRISTIANITY TO BE DEPICTED BY LARGE CAST SPECIALLY COSTUMED



THE EIGHT SHEPHERDS

FINAL TOUCHES BEING PUT TO CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PROGRAM

Cast of 750 to Give Wonderful Presentation of the Christmas Story on Capitol Plaza; Many Civic Bodies Join in Big Yuletide Event

STAGE IS SET FOR THE OPEN AIR PERFORMANCE

The stage is being set, the participants are ready, details and arrangements are completed, for Harrisburg's elaborate Christmas Day pageant, the presentation of the Pageant of the Nativity by a cast, 750 persons.

V. Grant Forrer, assistant superintendent of parks, is completing mechanical arrangements, including the setting up of the stage, the manger, and the runway for the shepherds and wise men. Frank E. Hoffman, State electrician, is putting the finishing touches to the electrical illumination which will enhance the program. Final dress rehearsals of the main participants were held last evening, and everything is reported satisfactory and in shipshape at the Community Service Bureau of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce, which is in charge of the event.

Scheduled For 7 o'clock Indications are that the Christmas Pageant will be as much a part of this year's observance of Christmas as Santa Claus, Christmas trees, turkey dinners and presents usually are. Thousands are preparing to throng to the plaza of the Capitol to witness the event, which has attracted widespread attention. The pageant will begin promptly at 7 o'clock, and will be a fitting culmination for "the day of days." It will bear out the real significance and religious meaning of the great holiday, and will carry a message of "great joy" at a time when the Christmas Day is just drawing to a close. Numerous civic bodies and welfare organizations have responded to the Chamber's request for co-operation, and it is to this co-operation that a large measure of the success of the Christmas pageant arrangements is attributed by the Chamber officials.

Elaborate Program The program is elaborate, including both instrumental and vocal music, for the accompaniment of the pageant, which will depict the coming of the King. As of old, the Three Wise Men will follow the beckoning beams of the Star of Bethlehem to the lowly manger, and there make obeisance to the new-born Saviour.

DR. BAGNELL TO SPEAK At the regular Sunday afternoon men's meeting at the Y. M. C. A. on December 28 the Rev. Dr. Robert Bagnell, pastor of Grace Methodist Church, will speak on "The Annual Alibi." Robert C. Smith, baritone soloist of Zion Lutheran Church, will sing.

Program For Pageant to Be Given in Open

Religious march, by the Municipal Band, which volunteered its services for the pageant.

"Adeste Fidelis," trombone quartet. Two verses of same by a chorus.

"Good King Wenceslas," by the Red Scouts' Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Charles C. Stroh; accompanied by Miss Mildred Rudy.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," by the City Choir of 150 voices, led by Mr. Ley.

"Under the Stars," chorus of 150 voices from the Camp Curtin school, led by Miss Mildred Conklin.

"O Holy Night," by the City Choir and Wednesday Club, with Mrs. Roy G. Cox as soloist.

Entrance of Mary and Joseph to the manger, haloed by a floodlight.

"Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem;" "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing;" and "Away in the Manger," by the combined choruses.

Entrance of the Three Wise Men of the East.

"We Three Kings of the Orient Are," by the choruses.

"Silent Night," by the choruses.

Religious march, by the Municipal Band.

TOYS ENOUGH TO FILL ALL WANTS OF CHILDREN Not One Youngster Will Be Forgotten by Helpers of Santa Claus

With the dawn of to-morrow—Christmas Day, 1919—there will be nearly two thousand youngsters of Harrisburg who will give a good deal of thanks to the Santa Claus of the Harrisburg Chapter, American Red Cross, the Home Service Section. For the Toy Mission has been founded and bids fair to become an annual institution.

Through the medium of the mail, names of little fellows who would spend a disappointed Christmas Day if some one didn't help out, were listed by Mrs. H. E. Lucas, of the Home Service Station. There were about 1,800 in all. And then came the appeal for toys.

Nothing Is Missing At 119 South Front street, the headquarters of the Red Cross has closely resembled a toy store for the past two weeks. Dolls, big, little and medium express wagons, books, air rifles, more books, more dolls, toys beggaring description.

\$2,703,095 IN BUILDING WORK IS NEW RECORD

Total of 483 Permits Were Issued This Year, the Reports Show

VALUATIONS GOING UP

Big Increases Are Shown in Tenth, Thirteenth and First Wards

Building operations in Harrisburg during 1919 reached a new high mark, permits being issued this year for the construction of new properties and remodeling work costing \$2,703,095.

Two years ago building work passed the \$2,000,000 mark by a small margin and about eight years ago it went over that figure, but more than half a million less than the total for this year.

During the twelve months 483 permits were issued, the majority of these for the erection of dwellings. A remarkable feature of the 1919 building record for the year is the fact that permits were issued for the construction of about 300 dwellings, practically all of which have been built or are now under construction.

Most of this work was done in the outlying districts of the city with the result that valuations have been considerably increased in the Tenth, Thirteenth and First Wards. The increased assessment of properties improved or built during 1919 was about \$670,000, while next year all buildings not yet completed will be added to the assessment lists.

In view of the fact that in 1918 building was practically at a standstill in Harrisburg, contractors and realty men are expressing favorable comments on the reaction which placed the city in a class with the leading municipalities of the country for a sharp recovery and resumption of construction activity after the lapse during the war when only essential structures were erected.

Table showing building work statistics for various months from January to December, including totals for 483 permits and \$2,703,095 in work.

Retail Price of Coal Busted to Make Up For Wage Increase

By Associated Press Chicago, Dec. 24.—Coal consumers to-day were in receipt of announcements from several fuel companies notifying them of an increase in the retail price of coal from thirty to thirty-five cents a ton on all coal mined since settlement of the recent bituminous miners' strike to make up for the fourteen per cent wage increase the workers gained.

"This does not mean no coal will be sold at the government price," one dealer said, "but the Garfield order is not retroactive on contracts placed before it was issued and all contracts contain a clause providing for the passing along of any increase in mining cost. Those who have no contracts for coal will get it at the government price."

Returned Soldier Kills Sweetheart, Then Commits Suicide, After Quarrel

By Associated Press Fredonia, N. Y., Dec. 24.—Joseph Huels, a recently returned soldier, to-day shot and killed Miss Eleanor Carroll, 19 years old, and committed suicide. Huels and Miss Carroll had been sweethearts for several years.

They had a quarrel two weeks ago and efforts of friends had failed to bring about a reconciliation.

No Telegraph Tomorrow

The Telegraph will not be issued to-morrow, Christmas Day, by long established precedent being observed as a holiday that the men and women who make the paper may have opportunity to properly celebrate the anniversary.

PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN, AGAIN SOUNDS OLD-TIME YULETIDE SPIRIT

Holiday Fowls High in Price

Turkeys dressed, 85 cents a pound. Turkeys live, 48 to 65 cents a pound. Geese dressed, 55 to 65 cents a pound. Geese live, 40 to 50 cents a pound. Chickens dressed, 50 and 55 cents a pound. Chickens live, 35 to 45 cents a pound. Guineas dressed, 30 to 35 cents a pound.

Ducks dressed, 60 to 65 cents a pound. Ducks live, 50 to 55 cents a pound. Potatoes, 20 cents quarter peck. Potatoes, sweet, 10 and 12 cents a box. Cranberries, 20 cents a quart. Lettuce, 8 to 15 cents a bunch. Celery, 5 to 10 cents a bunch.

PRICE OF TURKEYS BREAK ALL RECORDS

Average Between 80 and 90 Cents a Pound; Many Marked Up Above \$20 Each; Geese Are High

Tons of poultry, other Christmas necessities in abundance and buyers by the thousands, featured the local markets to-day. With the largest supply on hand in the history of Harrisburg, there will be many dinners to-morrow without turkey or other poultry. At prices quoted this morning it will cost a large sum to have an old-time Christmas dinner.

At Chestnut street market turkey-buyers paid as high as ninety-four cents a pound if they bought without paying by the pound. The average price for dressed turkeys at market was eighty-five cents a pound. At the Broad street market prices were about the same as those asked downtown, but as was the case on the day before Thanksgiving, many buyers refused to pay the figures quoted. Some buyers found a chance to save in buying poultry by live weight.

Many Buy Roasts Butchers reported a harvest. They expected the H. C. L. would again be in evidence and lowered the prices of meats from two to five cents a pound. They went home happy as there will be many dinners to-morrow with roast pork and roast beef. Other Christmas dinner essentials were plentiful and reasonable in price. Fruits, with the exception of grapes, were in demand. Grapes were sold for \$4 to \$5, the highest price asked this year in the local markets.

Pinned on one turkey at Chestnut street market was a piece of paper on which the price of the bird was \$23.50. There were many turkeys marked \$20, and many from \$10 up. It was a small turkey that could be had for \$4 to \$5. Chickens were slightly higher than for Thanksgiving, and ducks and geese showed a slight increase. Guineas again were the cheapest fowls.

Down to 75 Cents There were the usual interesting incidents at the markets. At Broad street some buyers kicked about the prices in emphatic terms. One careful observer watched for fluctuations in prices. He found one woman who purchased several fowls from a neighbor and then boosted the prices fifty cents.

From the opening of the markets up to 9 o'clock there were few changes in prices noticeable. At 9 o'clock at Chestnut street market some turkeys dropped to seventy-five cents a pound; and chickens to forty-five and fifty cents a pound. From fifty to seventy-five cents was cut from the prices of ducks and geese. Indications were that there would be a still further drop before the close of market or about noon. However, buyers are few near the close.

FAIR AND COLD FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Day will be fair according to the weather forecast made at the government weather bureau in this city to-day. Mr. Demail promised real Christmas weather. Fair and colder weather will follow the snow-to-night with the lowest temperature 15 degrees above zero.

THE WEATHER

Harrisburg and Vicinity: Fair and colder to-night with the forecast temperature about 15 degrees. Thursday fair, continued cold. Eastern Pennsylvania: Light snow this afternoon and to-night, colder to-night, Thursday fair, colder in eastern portion. Strong northwest winds. River: The Susquehanna river and all its branches will fall slowly or remain stationary without much change in ice conditions. At Harrisburg the river will remain frozen and probably stationary at a stage of about 7.5 feet.

Christmas Season Welcomed With New Fervor

SERVICES IN ALL CHURCHES

Years and years ago in a little hamlet in the peaceful town of Bethlehem in far off Judea, there was born a Child, come to earth from Heaven that He might later give His life as a sacrifice to save a lost people.

To-morrow the Christian world will once more observe the anniversary of the birth of Christ with prayer, song and rejoicing.

No story ever told has the same appeal, the same message of love as that of the coming of the Christ Child to earth. Over and over, again and again, it has been told through the ages, from generation to generation, and it has never grown old.

Three Wise Men First Shepherds of the East, and three wise men were the first to know and the first to worship Him after His birth. Later Twelve Apostles spread His mission on earth broadcast until to-day, more than nineteen centuries later, it is known in every land.

No King has ever had the homage paid to him such as is to-day given to the Christ. Everywhere temples have been built to which millions of persons go to praise and worship Him. Voices everywhere sing the hymn of praise, "Joy to the world, the Lord is come."

To-morrow mothers will gather to them their children to tell the wonderful story; ministers will speak in thousands of churches proclaiming Him King of Kings and Lord of Lords; great choirs and organs will sound in sweet toned harmonies the countless work of music conceived and written to speak of His glory.

This will be the Christmas of to-day. Dinner will be furnished to a number.

[Continued on Page 17.]

EXPORTATION OF ARMS TO MEXICO REVOKED WASHINGTON, — REVOCATION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, OF ALL LICENSES ISSUED BY THE WAR TRADE BOARD PRIOR TO LAST SEPTEMBER 30, FOR THE EXPORTATION OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS OF WAR TO MEXICO WAS ASSOCIATED TO-DAY BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

INDICTED FOR SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY Winnipeg, Man. — R. B. Russell, charged with seditious conspiracy in connection with the general strike on Winnipeg last May, to-day was found guilty by a jury on all seven counts in the indictment returned against him.

OFFICERS ARRESTED HARRISBURG—Lieutenant Benjamin Wolfson, together with several other officers, at the New Cumberland Army Reserve Depot, are reported to have been arrested to-day in connection with the alleged misappropriation of army supplies from the Depot.

MARRIAGE LICENSES Joe Geller and Jeannette Kamatz, Harrisburg; Charles C. Rauch, Williamsport; and Sara R. Kessner, Sunbury; Harry L. Peiffer and Ella Renshaw, Harrisburg; Phillip R. Anderson and Lillian M. Dice, Harrisburg; Louis B. Nuechener and Laura R. Reedinger, Wisconsin; Charles Wilhelm, Northumberland, and Charlotte F. Serch, Sunbury; Harry O. Bleck and Laura A. Raup, Sunbury; William Genter and Emma Killian, Tyrone; John G. Sherck, Peabock, and Gerie E. Roush, Perry county; Cleo G. Witchey and Mary F. Hall, Harrisburg; LeRoy R. Helver and Bertha M. Butts, Middletown; George H. Lind and Albert C. Crosby, Harrisburg; William H. Nelson, Middletown; and Frances E. Kartz, Liverpool; Emmett V. Cumber and Alice A. Wilson, Steelton.