



## ISLAND PARK TO BE DEEDED CITY BY BRIDGE CO.

Ground to Be Used Entirely as Playground For Young and Old  
BIG MUNICIPAL FIELD  
Site to Be Further Developed by Building of Bathing Beach

The Harrisburg Bridge Company, owners of the Market street bridge over the Susquehanna river, contemplates deeding to the city all that part of the bridge island lying below the Walnut street bridge, it was reported to-day. It is said the gift may be offered to Council in the early part of the year. This would give the city ownership of the whole island, as has been frequently recommended by Warren H. Manning and other experts.

The upper point of the island is occupied by the filter plant and below that is the old baseball athletic field, now owned by the city as far south as the Walnut street bridge. Between the Walnut street and the Market street bridges lies the city nursery, where all the planting and trees set out in recent years on the park systems and along the parkways have been raised. This land is owned by the bridge company, but has been leased to the city for a long term of years, at \$1 rental. The nursery, while it was highly profitable during the early history of the park system and saved thousands of dollars to the city, is no longer needed, Mr. Manning says, because of the planting that will be required in the future can be taken from the shrubbery and young trees in the parks. He has recommended that the nursery be torn out and the land given over to park and playground purposes, with one section of the proposed public beach and bathhouses along the river.

**Land Long Sought**  
Some time ago, in response to the popular feeling that before these permanent developments were made the land should be acquired by the city, the Harrisburg Rotary Club appointed a committee to take up at the proper time with the authorities and the owners the matter of procuring the land. Since that time little has been done and to-day it became known that public spirited men interested in the Bridge Company are planning to donate not only this land, but all the remainder of the island lying below the Market street bridge, which takes in the municipal athletic field, the baseball diamond, tennis courts, grandstands and buildings the city has developed for the free use of the people. This will give to Harrisburg one of the finest play places in the whole country.

**May Abolish Toll**  
Some time ago it was rumored that the Bridge Company would remove its toll house from the Harrisburg side of the bridge to the western part of the island, in order to permit Harrisburg people going to the park or playground to use the bridge toll free, but this report was denied by company officials who said they knew nothing about the matter.

## Continued Industrial Activity Is Likely For Another Year

Washington, Dec. 31.—Continued industrial activity is predicted by the Committee of Statistics of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in its annual end-of-the-year review of business and crop conditions. Manufacturers, the report said, have recovered in excess of their capacity and in the retail trade there is a feeling of confidence of the continuation, until another harvest, at least, of the demand for all classes of commodities. Farmers are reported unusually prosperous because of the high prices of their products. The liberal spending of the farmers, the review asserted, is the backbone and sustaining power of the present volume of business throughout the country.

Of the general crop situation, the report states that rain did much damage to unharvested crops in the South and in the southern portion of the Central States, reducing the yield and impairing quality. Winter wheat acreage will be materially reduced this fall.

"Great activity in building" the committee added, "is reported in sections except where crop failures were extensive, copper mining is in a poor state, silver mining is doing well, oil production is good."

## THE WEATHER

Harrisburg and Vicinity: Increasing cloudiness probably followed by rain or snow late to-night or on Thursday. Temperature warmer to-night with lowest temperature about freezing.

Kentucky: Increasing cloudiness followed by rain or snow late to-night or on Thursday, warmer to-night.

Fresh south winds.

Rivers: The Susquehanna river and all its branches will probably fall slowly by several inches without much change in ice conditions. A stage of about 6.5 feet, to ice surface, is indicated for Harrisburg Thursday morning.

## HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

Liquor dealers of the city and county are renewing their licenses for January by making the monthly payment of the license fee to County Treasurer Mark Mumma, he announced to-day. Although the prohibition amendment becomes effective during January, it is said that the liquor dealers are still hoping for a short "wet" period. It is anticipated that before the Treasurer's office closes late to-day practically all the dealers who now hold liquor licenses will pay the fee to continue in business next month.

## DOCTOR FLIES TO ILL FAMILY ON LONE ISLE

Father Risks Life in Crossing Ice to Summon Aid to His Children

ONE DEAD, THREE SICK  
Baby Dies From Lack of Medical Aid; Army Flier Pilots Plane

Lieutenant Ray Brown, who two weeks ago flew to the island opposite Middletown with a doctor in a vain attempt to save the life of a lad whose skull had been fractured, repeated his flight of mercy this morning when he again took Dr. J. F. Blecher on a trip, this time to Duffy or Three Mile Island.

The trip was made to the family of John Pfannmiller. One of the children died on Monday, and others are ill. None had received any medical attention before the arrival of Dr. Blecher this morning.

A little 6-year-old girl, Anna, is dangerously ill. The two boys have bad coughs.

Yesterday the body of Verna Pfannmiller, the 10-month-old daughter, was taken to Middletown by Undertaker H. S. Roth. Mr. Roth said today that the trip was extremely hazardous, and that he would not try to make it again.

**Brave Dangerous Ice**  
Part of the trip was made in a row boat and part over 50 feet of thin ice which continually threatened to open and let them all into the icy water.

The big man landed with no trouble this morning about 9:30 in a field near the Pfannmiller house. Dr. Blecher thought it inadvisable to move any of the patients, and accordingly the funeral of her daughter which is to take place at Royalton to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Rev. O. M. Kraybill, pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, will conduct the services at the home of the child's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Conrad, Royalton.

**Father Risks Life**  
Captain Donald J. Neumann, adjutant of the Middletown aviation depot, and Dr. Blecher were notified of the family's plight when the father contacted the hazardous crossing yesterday.

**Ford Announces Bonus of \$10,000,000 and New Profit-Sharing Plan**

Detroit, Dec. 31.—An elaboration of its profit sharing plan, whereby all employees will be enabled to purchase certificates of investment in the company, guaranteed to return six per cent a year, and a distribution of bonuses that will total between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000, was announced to-day by the Ford Motor Company. Approximately 90,000 employees of Ford in excess of their capacity and in the retail trade there is a feeling of confidence of the continuation, until another harvest, at least, of the demand for all classes of commodities. Farmers are reported unusually prosperous because of the high prices of their products. The liberal spending of the farmers, the review asserted, is the backbone and sustaining power of the present volume of business throughout the country.

Of the general crop situation, the report states that rain did much damage to unharvested crops in the South and in the southern portion of the Central States, reducing the yield and impairing quality. Winter wheat acreage will be materially reduced this fall.

"Great activity in building" the committee added, "is reported in sections except where crop failures were extensive, copper mining is in a poor state, silver mining is doing well, oil production is good."

## GEN. WOOD FILES ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACY

To Run For Republican Presidential Nomination in the South Dakota Primaries

IS FOURTH IN THE FIELD  
Johnson, Lowden and Poin-dexter Preceded the Latest Seeker For Honor

**By Associated Press**  
Pierre, S. D., Dec. 31.—Major General Leonard Wood to-day filed a formal announcement of his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination with the South Dakota Secretary of State.

The formal announcement from General Wood, accepting the endorsement of the Republican State convention of December 2, came on the last day that candidates for presidential endorsement may file their acceptances. The Wood communication was accepted, however, as semi-official information was received last week from Republican headquarters in Chicago that Wood would be a candidate.

Wood, Senator Hiram Johnson, of California; Governor Lowden, of Illinois; and Senator Miles Poin-dexter, of Washington, are avowed candidates for party endorsement at the March primary.

**No Interest in Democrats**  
The Democratic State convention endorsed President Wilson for a third term "if he decides to become a candidate." No communication has been received from the President, James W. Gerard, of New York, former Ambassador to Germany, filed his petition as an independent candidate for the Democratic endorsement.

There has not been great interest in the Democratic situation because the State leaders were agreed at the convention "to await the natural course of events." This suggestion was made at the convention when a minority faction suggested that William G. McAdoo be endorsed if President Wilson decided not to seek the office again.

## Wilson, Who Overtaxed Himself on Sunday, to Spend Quiet New Year's

**By Associated Press**  
Washington, Dec. 31.—President Wilson will spend a very quiet New Year's day.

White House officials disclosed that the President overtaxed himself on his birthday Sunday, when he celebrated the occasion by having the members of his family present. His big man landed with no trouble this morning about 9:30 in a field near the Pfannmiller house. Dr. Blecher thought it inadvisable to move any of the patients, and accordingly the funeral of her daughter which is to take place at Royalton to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Rev. O. M. Kraybill, pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, will conduct the services at the home of the child's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Conrad, Royalton.

**Sick, Suspected of Drinking Wood Alcohol**  
William O. Williams, colored, 21, 1408 Fulton street, believed to have been poisoned by drinking wood alcohol, was taken to the Harrisburg Hospital this morning. His condition is reported as not serious.

Williams, his father said, has been sick for nearly a week. The man does not admit that he drank any whisky, and his father does not know of his having secured liquor of any kind. Williams, it is said, had been suffering with malaria.

**Safe Blowers Escape From Big Factory With \$20,000**  
Chicago, Dec. 31.—Four safe blowers blew the locks off two vaults in the factory of the Gold Furniture Company early to-day and escaped with cash and valuables worth between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The break-in broke into the plant at 1 o'clock this morning. The night watchman to a chair and spent four and a half hours at their work, leaving at 5:30 o'clock, according to the watchman.

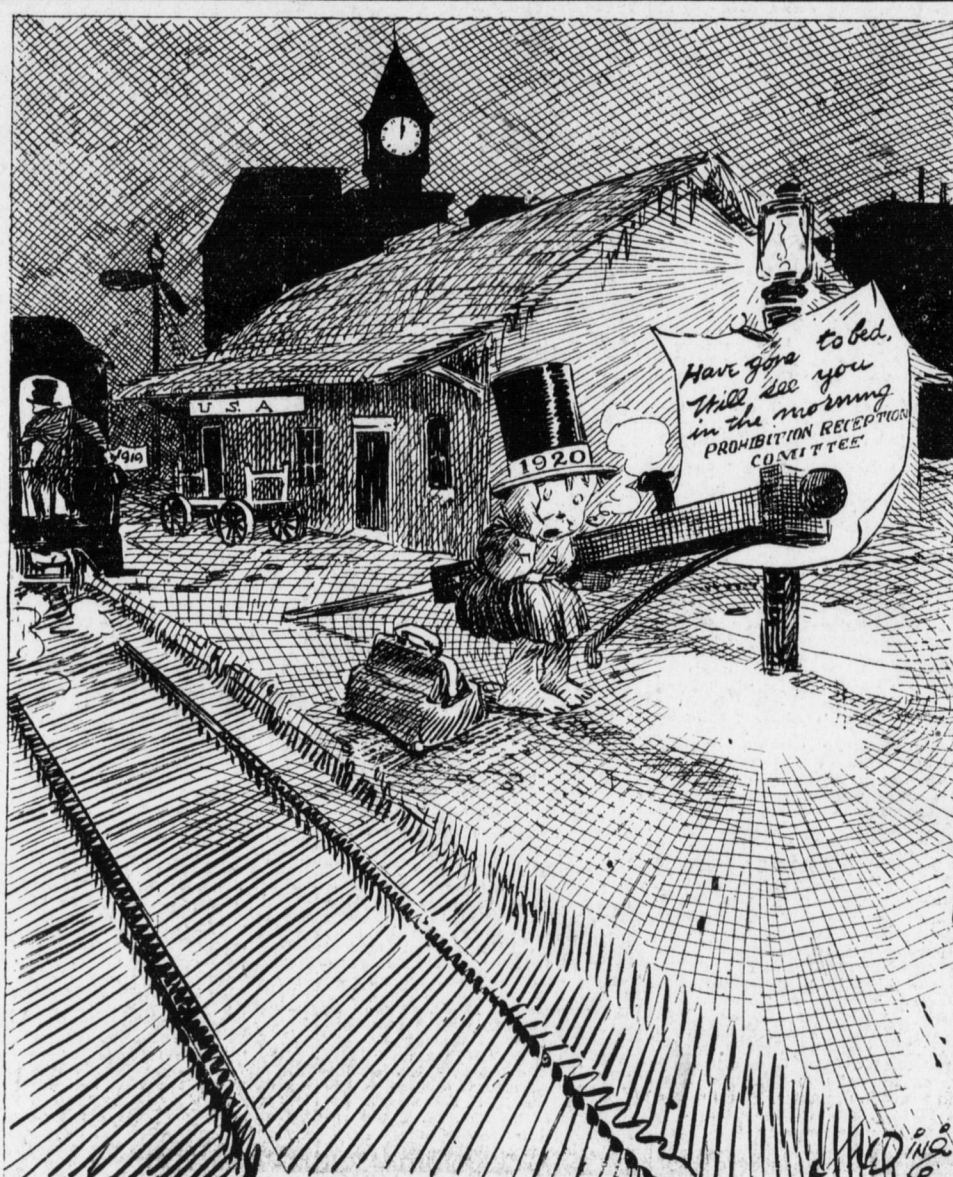
[Continued on Page 8.]

## REVELERS AND WINE BIBBERS TO HAVE LAST FLING, REGARDLESS

Determined Not to Let Prohibition, Consequences, Expense or Revenue Men Foist Them Out of Old-Time New Year's Celebration

**By Associated Press**  
New York, Dec. 31.—New Yorkers will celebrate in traditional fashion the hour to-night at which the ringing of chimes and shrieking sirens will announce the arrival of 1920. Revelers and wine bibbers of whom there still seem to be an appreciable number left, announced that regardless of prohibition, consequences, expense, or revenue men, they would have one last celebration of their own sort. Unnumbered thousands planned to throw the "great white way" and send showers of confetti through an atmosphere agitated by the din from as many thousands of tin horns and cowbells. Church goers planned to attend one of the many watchnight services.

## A Noticeable Falling Off in Attendance



THE ARRIVAL OF THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS JAN. 1, 1920

## ENOUGH POISON WHISKY SEIZED TO KILL 20,000

Eighteen Barrels are Taken From New York Garage by Revenue Agents

**By Associated Press**  
New York, Dec. 31.—Eighteen barrels of denatured alcohol, enough if consumed as whisky, to kill 20,000 men, are to-day in the hands of the police. At the same time Colonel Daniel L. Porter is withholding the names of two men arrested in connection with the seizure, until several other persons, believed to be connected with a plot to sell the deadly liquor over the New York bar, are rounded up.

While in an East Side saloon seeking evidence of violations of wartime prohibition, the two revenue agents overheard the bartender tell the drayman the "boss" wanted two barrels, as he had \$2,000 in the cash drawer to pay for them. When the drayman said he would go after them at once the government men followed him to Brooklyn garage, where they found the eighteen barrels of liquor and arrested the drayman and his assistant.

The drayman, according to Colonel Porter, told him that they had delivered four barrels to an East Side saloonkeeper, who, when he

[Continued on Page 8.]

## NEW GAS WELL AT McKEESPOT

Pittsburgh, Dec. 31.—Gas was brought in at a new field opposite Snake Hollow, McKeesport. The gas came from the Elizabeth sand at a depth of 2,200 feet. The flow was not estimated, but it was sufficiently strong to prevent further drilling at the present time. It is probable the well will be drilled to 3,000 feet, 650 feet deeper.

The McKeesport city council will hold a special session Friday to consider an ordinance regulating drilling within the city limits. Under the proposed ordinance, well owners will be required to pay a license fee of \$100 a year, take all precautions against fire and indemnify property owners within 100 feet of wells from increased fire insurance premiums.

## CONDITIONS OF POOR IMPROVE WITHOUT BOOZE

Big Saving Effected at Almshouse With City and County Dry

With an appropriation of \$5,000 less than for 1918, the board of poor directors this year will return to the county treasury \$1,159, the amount of the 1919 funds which will be needed despite the decreased revenue allowed at the beginning of the year. The cost for maintaining this part of the county government was \$6,159 less than in 1918. Fewer inmates at the county's almshouse because of the employment conditions at present and a big decrease in applications for aid by families, due to it is believed to prohibition, are the two causes for the balance which will be shown this year, the officials said.

Although the cost of food and clothing used at the almshouse advanced during the year the drop in the number of persons being cared for at that institution made it possible to end the year with no deficit. In addition to the maintenance of the almshouse much new work was done this year.

New tables and new chairs for the diningroom and new steamers to be used for cooking were purchased during this year, while much painting and renovating took place during the spring and summer months. That the institution is being properly and efficiently managed is shown by the statement made in each of the four grand jury reports this year commending the county officials for the excellent condition in which the almshouse is kept.

The complete annual report of the board of poor directors will be issued next week.

**DR. ELL KELLER DIES**  
**By Associated Press**  
Middletown, Pa., Dec. 31.—The Rev. Dr. Ell Keller, widely-known Reformed church minister, died here early to-day of infirmities, aged 94.

## RATIFICATION OF TREATY MAY BE AGAIN DELAYED

Supreme Council, After Announcing January 6 as Day, Expresses Doubts

**By Associated Press**  
Paris, Dec. 31.—Although the Supreme Council to-day fixed January 6 as the date for signing the protocol and exchanging ratifications of the German peace treaty, complications are developing, which it is thought by some persons in cabinet circles, may again cause the postponement of the ceremony of putting the Treaty into effect.

It has developed that the German delegates, who are here to arrange the multitude of details connected with the plebiscites to be held in territories which must decide whether they desire to be detached from Germany, do not appear to have full power to act. The signing of the protocol on January 6, therefore, may depend upon whether the Germans can secure these powers immediately in order to complete the arrangements which it is thought in council circles ought to precede the exchange of ratifications.

The council agreed upon the reply to be made to the note of the Swiss government applying for Switzerland's admission to the League of Nations, with reservations. The note informs the Swiss authorities that the council regards the application as a question for the league itself to pass upon when it is organized.

The fact that there are 80,000 German troops in Upper Silesia, where a plebiscite is to be held, was brought to the attention of the council, which unanimously reached the opinion that Germany should be informed that the troops had better be withdrawn.

The attention of the council also was called to the fact that Hungarian troops continue to occupy a part of western Hungary which was given to Austria by the Peace Treaty. It was proposed to send a mission of allied officers there to supervise the withdrawal of these troops.

**Edward C. Smith New General Superintendent For Pipe Bending Co.**

Edward C. Smith has been appointed acting general superintendent of the Harrisburg Pipe and Pipe Bending Company. Mr. Smith has been connected with the company for the past fifteen years, filling the position of electrical engineer, safety engineer and assistant general superintendent. He is a graduate of electrical engineering of Notre Dame University, Ind., a member of the American Society of Electrical Engineers and the Engineers' Society of Pennsylvania.

## NEW YEAR TO GET GLAD WELCOME ON THE STROKE OF 12

Greetings Will Be Extended at Clubs and Hotels Where Special Menus Are Ready

WATCHNIGHT SERVICES IN MANY CHURCHES OF CITY

Leap Year will be ushered into being on the stroke of 12 to-night with a heartiness equalled only by the receptions of former years which had been preceded by twelve months of happiness and prosperity.

Dinner parties by the score have been arranged. There will be dances and religious services, parties and homecomings and thanks offerings. Added to this a number of masquerade events are scheduled, while lodges, clubs and the Y. M. C. A. are planning for "open houses" to-morrow.

**First Reception**  
Many quaint customs are used only in welcoming Leap Years. According to tradition the new year brings permission to shy and bashful maidens to "pop the question" to swains who hang back unduly long. The year also is expected to bring the ballot of the long-suffering weaker sex. A real phenomenon, however, is brought by February's calendar. February will have five Sundays scattered among its twenty-eight days. This will not occur again for forty-eight years, it is said.

Governor and Mrs. Sprout will hold the first public reception at the Executive Mansion to-morrow afternoon between 4 and 6 o'clock. A general invitation to the people of the city has been extended to meet the Commonwealth's Chief Executive.

**First Anniversary**  
Celebrating the first anniversary of its existence, the Penn-Harris hotel is going to be the center of Harrisburg's welcome to the new

## MANY TO WELCOME LEAP YEAR

New Year's Eve will be marked by many religious services and social functions.

The Penn-Harris has prepared a pleasing program and menu for hundreds of additional guests.

The Moose plan a big entertainment.

The Elks will hold "open house" for members and their wives.

The Y. M. C. A. to-morrow will hold its annual reception.

Governor and Mrs. Sprout will receive at the Executive Mansion to-morrow between 4 and 6 o'clock.

Special watchnight services will be held in many of the churches, other congregations combining for union services.

year to-night. All day the hotel has been swarming with workers, arranging last minute details and preparing for the large, post-prohibition party.

The dancing will begin the evening, orchestras breaking forth in jazz at 8:30 o'clock in the ballroom. This will continue until 10:30 o'clock, when the merry roisters will head for the lounge, which has been specially decorated for the occasion. Here Manager Wiggins has had a stage erected where the orchestra ordinarily is placed, and the

[Continued on Page 3.]

## CALL OF CHRISTIANITY IS FOR LEADERSHIP

Des Moines, Ia.—The call of Christianity to the colleges and universities of the world to-day is for "leadership," John R. Mott, chairman of the executive committee of the Student Volunteer movement for foreign missions, said at the opening of the first international convention in six years here this afternoon.

## ARREST WIFE OF FORMER CABINET MEMBER

Buffalo, N. Y.—Dr. Anna Reinstein, wife of Boris Reinstein, at one time a member of the Lenine-Trotsky cabinet, and said to be in charge of propaganda in foreign countries, was arrested here to-day by officers acting under direction of the Lusk investigating committee.

## BOLD ROBBERS GET \$115,000

Omaha. — Four unmasked robbers shortly before noon today entered the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Benson, lined up six employees and five customers against the wall and robbed the vault of \$115,000.

## HELD FOR COURT; MORE CASES REPORTED

Newark. — Charged with violation of the wartime prohibition act, four have been held under heavy bail. Two more cases of wood alcohol poisoning were reported to-day.

## BOOZE AS DIVIDENDS TO SHAREHOLDERS

Pittsburgh. — Distribution of its large stock of wines and liquors as a dividend to its shareholders was announced to-day by the Pittsburgh Hotels Company, operating the William Penn and Fort Pitt Hotels.

## CONFER ON TREATY COMPROMISE

Washington. — Treaty compromises are under way in dead earnest. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, and Senator Pomerene of Ohio, respective leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties, are discussing a compromise measure.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Carl W. Forks, Kansas City, Mo., and Ruth Wintersholts, Reading, Charles Bullentine, Port Huron, Mich., and Mattie R. Naley, Middletown; Harold J. Brown, Harrisburg, and Hazel M. Brown, Carlisle; Joseph Cagle and Ezra Takacs, Steelton; John W. Stank and Blanche C. Thompson, Middletown; Ralph M. Blair and Helen I. Graw, Harrisburg; Albert D. Shoemaker and Catherine M. Gules, Harrisburg; Herbert F. Wagner, Akron, Ohio, and Esther B. Swanger, Mechanicsburg.