

AMBLER HAS ENOUGH TO WIN FIGHT

Only Hope of Beating Him Rests on Slim Chance of Allegheny Crowd Splitting

CAUCUS WILL BE TO-NIGHT

Four Candidates Opposed to the Speakership Selection of Dr. Brumbaugh Are Unyielding and Say They Will Fight to End

The situation on the Speakership practically became settled this afternoon after the arrival of Senator Vane, of Philadelphia, and Congressman-elect John R. K. Scott, who is regarded as Senator Vane's lieutenant. Senator Vane said that he is confident of the selection of Mr. Ambler in the House caucus to-night, and that he had assurances of sufficient support to elect the Montgomery county man.

The Allegheny county members, announced to meet late this afternoon to take action on the Speakership question, were expected to endorse Ambler, and it was said that Representative A. C. Stein, of Allegheny, had been selected to make the speech in caucus to-night placing Mr. Ambler's name in nomination. This practically decided where the Allegheny men will be found, and if they vote solidly for Ambler the Montgomery man will win.

The four candidates for Speaker outside of Ambler were in frequent conference this morning, but had nothing to say regarding a report that they had combined on any one of their number to contest Ambler's nomination. This was regarded by the Ambler people as an evidence that the allies could not muster sufficient votes to defeat their man.

A story prevailed that Governor-elect Brumbaugh would be here to-day, but this was denied. In a telephone conversation with Representative Habgood this morning Dr. Brumbaugh said that he was awaiting the arrival of Senator McNichol from the South, and after a talk with him might have something to say regarding the Speakership.

Nothing was heard from the next Governor up to 3 o'clock, and it was conjectured that he had not seen Senator McNichol up to that hour. It was also said that Dr. Brumbaugh is not inimical to either Representatives Habgood or Williams, his reference to Mr. Ambler being that he regarded the latter as the "type" of man he would like to see selected as Speaker.

Senator Crow, Republican State chairman, said he had nothing to say regarding the Speakership, and that the caucus would settle that matter.

The caucus will be held this evening at 8 o'clock in the House caucus room, having been called by Representative Ehrhardt, of Scranton, the oldest Republican member in point of service.

Four candidates for the Speaker of the House, besides Charles A. Ambler, of Montgomery, who has the endorsement of Governor-elect Brumbaugh, after repeated conferences and long distance talks with supporters of the Republican ticket throughout the State, were this morning still determined to remain in the fight until the caucus makes its choice to-night. They say the result rests entirely with the Republican members of the House who shall say who shall be Speaker, and they therefore decided to enter the House caucus to-night and make the contest.

These four candidates are Richard J. Baldwin, of Delaware, known as "Fighting Dick"; Robert P. Habgood, of McKean; a prominent newspaperman in the oil region and secretary of the Pennsylvania State Editorial Association; George W. Williams, of Tioga, a member all in experience in the House, and Henry I. Wilson, of Jefferson, former a member of the House and former Johns clerk of the Senate, with a good deal of experience as a presiding officer.

When these candidates heard that Dr. Brumbaugh had declared for Mr. Ambler, they at once got into action and in touch with the county organization leaders throughout the State as well as with those members of the House who had not yet arrived, and what they learned justified them, they said, in issuing the following statement, after a final conference:

Statement of Four Candidates

"As the result of repeated conferences we agree that the expression of the members now in Harrisburg is strongly in favor of the election of a Speaker by the member of the House who will most make for harmony in every way now and throughout the session. We are in perfect accord and of one mind and will continue to stand as candidates."

Continued on Fourth Page.

2 ARE ACCUSED OF FRAUD

J. Grant Richwine and W. Dale Shaeffer Are Put Under Bond on Charge Involving \$100,000

Warrants charging conspiracy to cheat and defraud were served this morning at 9:30 o'clock on A. Grant Richwine, president of the United Water and Guarantee Company, and W. Dale Shaeffer, by City Detective Harry White. The papers were forwarded here from Pottsville, where the charge was made. Bail in the sum of \$1,000 was entered for both men before Mayor Royal for their appearance at a hearing before the Pottsville authorities.

The warrants were issued on information signed by J. E. Pantall, as trustee. An amount close to \$100,000 is said by the local police to be involved in the case. Pantall is acting in the case in the interests of a Pottsville water company.

Both men were entered on the police blotter as "clevers." Shaeffer's occupation is given in the city directory as "superintendent," with offices at 20 North Second street.

AUTO VICTIMS IMPROVE

Funeral of Miss Maugan to Be Held To-morrow Afternoon

Miss Lillian Swails, T. Ehler Clecker and Samuel Weber, injured in the automobile wreck at Front and Walnut streets, Friday night, in which Miss Grace L. Maugan received injuries from which she died four hours later, were said to be much improved at the Harrisburg hospital to-day. Physicians assert that none of them has suffered fractures. They will probably be discharged from the hospital in a few days.

The body of Miss Maugan was taken to the home of her mother, 310 Forster street, this afternoon. Funeral services will be held to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Rev. B. H. Hart, pastor of the Fifth Street Methodist church, will officiate. Burial will be made in the Paxtang cemetery.

Coroner Eckinger will await the recovery of the injured passengers before fixing a date for the inquest.

MAFEE NOT TO GO ON BOARD

Says He Would Not Consider Position as Public Service Commissioner

"I would not for a moment consider going on the Public Service Commission," said Secretary McAfee, to-day, in response to a question as to the truth of a story that he is not to be reappointed Secretary of the Commonwealth, but would go on the Public Service Commission as successor to Commissioner Wallace, of Erie, the only Democrat on the Commission.

"No," reiterated Secretary McAfee. "I am not going to be a member of the Public Service Commission."

Regarding his reappointment as Secretary of the Commonwealth in Governor Brumbaugh's Cabinet, Secretary McAfee declined to talk on the ground that it is a matter that obviously is not for him to discuss.

H. A. BOYER'S SALARY RAISED

County Commissioners Add \$100 a Year to Pay of Weights Inspector

The County Commissioners, Isaac S. Hoffman, Samuel S. Miller and John H. Eby, reorganized for the ensuing year this morning by re-electing Mr. Hoffman president and reappointing all present county employees, that come under their jurisdiction for another year.

Several applications for salary increases had been filed with the Commissioners but only one was allowed. It was that of Harry A. Boyer, County Inspector of Weights and Measures, whose pay was fixed at \$1,100 a year instead of \$1,000, an increase of \$100 a year.

Harold D. Reel, Mr. Boyer's successor as City Scales and Weights and Measures, receives an annual salary of \$1,200 and has a contingent fund of \$200 available. The city's appropriation to Reel's department for 1915 is \$2,600.

FLYNN DEMOCRATS' CHOICE

Party in Caucus To-night Likely to Nominate Elk Man for Speaker

The Democratic members of the House will hold a caucus this evening and select candidates for Speaker and the various clerkship positions for whom they will vote to-morrow in open house.

The "Father of the House," Representative John Flynn, of Elk county, is the one man most mentioned as likely to be the nominee for Speaker in tonight's caucus. Mr. Flynn was the Democratic floor leader at the last session and his coming from a staunch Democratic county like Elk gives him an advantage in the selection of a candidate for Speaker.

As yet but half a dozen Democrats are here, but they are all for Flynn for Speaker.

AUTO KILLS GIRL

Coroner Investigates Death of Toy Mabel Rowe at Williamstown

Coroner Eckinger to-day investigated the death of Toy Mabel Rowe, of Williamstown, who was struck by an automobile there on Saturday and died an hour after the accident from internal injuries.

The automobile was run by Edward Binigaman, who lives near Berryburg.

Colonel "Bill" Fairman Is Here

Colonel "Bill" Fairman, of Pottsville, Pa., Uncompromising Democrat Under any and all Circumstances, is Here to Look after the Democratic End of the Organization of the Legislature

"Bill" was re-elected in his \$1,000 mink fur overcoat and Prince Albert, and hob-nobbed with all political factions. He has given up the idea of being appointed to a consular position by President Wilson, but because of his non-appointment he harbors no resentment, and his Democracy is staunch to the core.

YOUTH ADMITS 4 MORE ROBBERIES

One of Gang of Eight Now Under Arrest Makes a 'New Year's' Confession

TOTAL NOW OF 18 BURGLARIES

Spencer C. Gilbert, Henderson Gilbert, F. J. Hall, D. D. Hammelbaugh and Dr. W. O. Bishop Among the Victims Who Are Subpoenaed to Testify

Joseph Osburn, 16 years old, already jointly charged with seven other youths with seventeen entries and fourteen counts of larceny, knowing that he soon would have to face the Dauphin county court, on New Year's Day resolved to go before the court, when the proper time should come, with as clean a slate as possible, so he called in City Detective Joseph Ibach and confessed to four more cases of larceny in which he took part, implicating companions. Detective Ibach made public to-day the facts of the confession.

"Joe," said Osburn in greeting the detective who went to jail in response to the prisoner's summons, "I might as well make a clean breast of everything I took part in, so I can go before the judge with as good a record as possible. My mother told me to tell the truth and I am going to do it."

He then told of stealing a motorcycle, belonging to David Greenfield, valued at \$341, from a garage on Wyeth street. This machine was recovered by the police in Rutherford. With Osburn in this case, he said, were William Ashenfelter and Robert Anderson. The pavilion on Independence Island was entered, said Osburn, by himself and Maxwell Fasicik and candy and boxing gloves to the value of \$10 were taken.

Canvas, valued at \$18, the property of the Harrisburg Park Commission, was taken from the playground at Fourth and Logan streets and sold to a farmer, Milton Schreffler, and Robert Anderson took part in that theft. Osburn said. Tennis rackets and white flannel trousers were taken from the quarters of the Squash Club in the Arsenal building, by Osburn, Fasicik, Anderson and Paul Schubauer, according to the youth's confession.

All of the boys under arrest in this case, which was one of most sensational handled by the police in recent years, are alleged to have expressed a willingness to plead guilty. They will go before the court Monday morning when the January term of criminal court opens.

Among the prominent persons whose houses were entered and who have been subpoenaed to appear in court are: Spencer C. Gilbert, Henderson Gilbert, Francis J. Hall, D. D. Hammelbaugh and Dr. W. O. Bishop. More than \$500 worth of jewelry, clothing and other valuables were taken, most of which has been recovered. Detective Ibach recently recovered a vanity case and a \$45 gold watch alleged to have been taken by gang.

SINKING FUND YIELDS \$8,325

That Amount Is Turned Over to the Dauphin County Treasurer To-day

The Commonwealth Trust Company, as Commissioner of Dauphin county's sinking fund, to-day turned \$8,325.09 into the County Treasury, that money representing the net earnings of the sinking fund during the last year.

There was available in the sinking fund for temporary investments during 1914, according to the 1913 report of the Dauphin county auditors, approximately \$234,985.26. The earnings realized by the county over and above the State tax and the Commissioners' fees amounted to about 3.54 per cent.

Lockwood B. Worden, who as successor to his father, the late James H. Worden, was Prothonotary of the courts during 1913, to-day made full settlement with the county for that year's business. Upon retiring Mr. Worden gave \$4,988.06 to the county. What additionally interested in the quick transmission of the automobile tags to applicants in order that they may suffer no inconvenience.

BIGELOW WILL NOT RESIGN

Highway Commissioner Says Story He Plans to Do So Is a "Fake"

State Highway Commissioner Bigelow was at his department to-day looking over affairs that have accumulated during the holiday season, and was particularly interested in the quick transmission of the automobile tags to applicants in order that they may suffer no inconvenience.

Asked about the story that he intends to resign, Commissioner Bigelow said very emphatically:

"There is absolutely no truth in the story that I am going to resign. It is just another fake story such as have been periodically floated."

Planned to Reappoint Schell

Edward H. Schell, a member of the Board of Health, whose term of office expired to-day, will be reappointed for a five-year term under an ordinance to be offered at the meeting of the City Commissioners to-morrow afternoon.

The measure will be presented by Harry F. Bowman, Commissioner of Public Safety.

GIVE WORK TO POOR IN AIDING SOLDIERS



In order that deserving women in New York in need of work may get the benefit of much of the war relief money expended by the Lafayette Fund that organization has made arrangements with the Vacation War Relief Committee to purchase all clothing packed in the Lafayette kits from the latter committee. The Vacation War Relief Committee was founded by prominent women for the purpose of giving work to women who are cut off from their regular means of employment on account of war conditions. The Lafayette Fund, organized by Miss Anne Morgan, Mrs. John Jacob Astor and other well known society men and women of New York, to send "comfort kits" to French soldiers in the trenches, already has sent 14,000 of these kits to the front. Another shipment of 3,000 kits will be sent forward soon aboard one of the French line steamships. Each kit contains warm, woolen gloves, socks, underwear, a sweater, towels, tobacco and other things most desired by men in the trenches. By purchasing most of these articles from the Vacation War Relief Committee the Lafayette Fund not only is assisting the soldiers at the front in France but is aiding many deserving women in New York by furnishing a market for their labor.

ONLY TUNNEL IS BLOWN UP

Road Bridges as Well as Railroad Bridges in the State of Oaxaca Also Destroyed

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 4.—State Department advices to-day say the only tunnel on the railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec and several important bridges on the road as well as railroad bridges in the State of Oaxaca have been blown up.

The legation at Guatemala City reported the arrival of many Mexican refugees, but no Americans.

Two Americans, George Davis and one Burnham, and an Englishman named, Holland have been released by military authorities at Matamoros and exonerated of charges of political activity, according to a report to the State Department from the American consul there. Nothing further was known here of them.

WILL INSIST ON AUDIT FOR 1914

Board Decides to Demand Books, Although the Controller Has Done the Work

HOLD COURT SO DECREED

Cassel, Riegel and Huston Contend They Have the Right to Fill Out Their Terms Despite Fact the Work Overlaps That of Gough

John W. Cassel, Francis W. Riegel and Fred W. Huston, constituting the board of Dauphin county auditors, following a meeting in the Court House this morning, informed county officials that a formal demand for the 1914 account books of County Treasurer A. H. Bailey will be made to the County Commissioners on Monday, January 18, just two weeks hence, with which they purpose making the annual audit.

CHARGED WITH SLAYING WIFE

Cabaret Singer Saw Her Sitting in Another Man's Lap and Fired

By Associated Press.
New York, Jan. 4.—Mrs. Frances Collins was shot and killed early to-day at her home, where she lived with her husband, William, and her two brothers. The husband is locked up charged with murder. Collins, who is a cabaret singer, and his wife quarreled early in the evening. When he returned home he heard her voice in an adjoining bedroom.

He went to the door, peeped through the keyhole and saw her sitting in a man's lap. Collins demanded admission, was refused and, it is charged, fired through the panel of the door. Mrs. Collins fell to the floor, fatally wounded. The man in whose lap Mrs. Collins was sitting was said to be her brother, George.

Maniac Smashes Things in Jail

Fred A. Weeks, of this city, who was taken to the Dauphin county jail on Thursday night, as demented, became a raving maniac late Saturday night and for more than two hours kept things in a turmoil in the prison. He was subdued after he had broken his bunk and everything else he could get his hands on. This morning he was removed to the State hospital for the insane.

Bridge Company Meeting

At a meeting at noon to-day of the stockholders of the Harrisburg Bridge Company all the officers and the members of the board of directors were re-elected and the usual dividend declared.

Star-Independent Calendar for 1915

May be had at the business office of the Star-Independent for 10c, or will be sent to any address in the United States, by mail, for 5 cents extra to cover cost of package and postage.

The Star-Independent Calendar for 1915 is another of the handsome series, featuring important local events, issued by this paper for many years. It is 11x14 inches in size and shows a picture, extraordinary for clearness and detail, of the "Old Capitol," built 1818 and destroyed by fire in 1897. It is in fine half-tone effect and will be appreciated for its historic value as well as for its beauty.

Mail orders given prompt attention. Remit 25 cents in stamps, and address all letters to the

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LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

The capture by the French of Steinbach, a small Alsatian town near Thann, is admitted in to-day's statement from the Berlin War Office. The advance of the French was preceded by an artillery bombardment, which the German statement describes as "overwhelming," and which enabled the French to occupy trenches near Senheim, as well as the town of Steinbach. These trenches later were recaptured, the German statement says.

Except for this fighting along the eastern end of the battle front, there is little activity, the German counter-attacks apparently having halted effectually the forward movement which the allies attempted last month. A few unimportant gains are chronicled in the French official statement, which says that an attempt to capture a village in the Meuse country failed.

The German statement makes no mention of the severe fighting east, reported by the Russian military authorities. It says merely that the situation is unchanged and that German attacks continue.

Violent fighting is in progress along

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TWO NEGROES LYNCHED

Bloodhounds Traced Them to Their Cabin After Farmer's Murder

By Associated Press.
Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 4.—Two negroes, Ed and Will Smith, were taken from the Wetumpka jail early to-day and lynched by a mob. They had been accused of implication in the murder of R. A. Stillwell, an Elmore county farmer.

Soon after reports reached the Governor's office that a mob had overpowered the jail attaches at Wetumpka and removed the negroes, Montgomery militiamen hurried toward the scene in automobiles. However, they were too late to prevent the lynching.

Stillwell was shot several days ago while guarding his barn against thieves. Bloodhounds led directly, it was declared, to the cabin of the Smith negroes, who were arrested.

SLOW POISON PROVING FATAL

Second Child of Woman Who Administered the Drug Is Dead

By Associated Press.
New York, Jan. 4.—The slow poison administered six days ago by Mrs. Ida Rogers to her two babies and herself, resulted to-day in the death of the older child, John, aged 2. Lorida, eight months old, died last Wednesday. The mother's death was expected.

Fractures Arm While Skating

Charles Franklin, 1111 Calder street, a pin boy at the Casino alleys, fell while skating yesterday afternoon and fractured his left forearm. The fracture was reduced at the Harrisburg hospital.

TURKS WIN OVER FORCES OF THE CZAR

The Caucasian Army of the Sultan Continues Its Victorious Advance

VICTORY GAINED AFTER BIG FIGHT

A Counter Statement from Petrograd Says the Russians Captured a Turkish Regiment, Taking a Total of Five Thousand Prisoners

London, Jan. 4, 3:28 A. M.—An official communication given out by Turkish headquarters is contained in a Constantinople dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Company. It says:

"Our Caucasian army continues its victorious advance. Our troops, which reached Sari Kamysh, thirty-five miles southwest of Kars, won a final victory after a severe battle.

"In the past ten days we have captured 2,000 Russians, eight cannon, thirteen quick-firers and a great quantity of ammunition and war material.

"Between Sari Kamysh and Kars we captured two military trains and destroyed the railway. Our troops are advancing further north with fresh success.

"Troops advancing from Tushckerd into Russian territory disposed a Russian battalion which lost 200 dead and 400 prisoners."

Petrograd, Jan. 4.—An official communication from the Russian general staff in the Caucasus gives details of the fighting in the region of Sari Kamysh in transcaucasia. The statement follows:

"In the region of Sari Kamysh, on January 1, the great battle continued, obviously to our advantage. The enemy, however, continued to offer an obstinate resistance.

"We captured the Fiftieth regiment of infantry almost complete, including the commander and fifty officers. The total of Turkish prisoners amounts to 5,000 soldiers, 40 officers and several surgeons. We also captured six pieces of mountain artillery, 14 machine guns and ammunition.

"The next day the fighting here was still going on. Our troops recaptured some positions which the Turks had occupied and took three machine guns and more than 700 prisoners.

"At one point a company of a Caucasian regiment was dispersed by bayonet charges, while two other Turkish companies were cut to pieces by artillery fire.

"Our troops are operating under conditions exceptionally painful on account of the cold and snow in a high altitude. The morale of our soldiers is good and they fight with ardor."

U. S. RED CROSS, HEADED BY SCRANTON MAN, SAVES MANY LIVES AT BELGRADE

New York, Jan. 4.—Work of the American Red Cross hospital unit in Serbia, under direction of Dr. Edward Ryan, of Scranton, Pa., has saved many lives in and around Belgrade, according to Miss Emily Simmonds, a British Red Cross nurse, who arrived here to-day on the steamship St. Paul. Miss Simmonds, a graduate of Roosevelt Hospital, New York, was sent with the first British expeditionary force into France, and from there to Serbia.

"Since the latter part of August I have been working with the wounded," she said. "With seven young English girls I have worked in the trenches 400 yards from the firing line for forty-eight hours at a time. The coming of the American unit under Dr. Edward Ryan, was a Godsend to the Serbians, for at the time of their arrival we were down to our last bits of bandages and dressings and were living on short rations. The Serbians were compelled to surrender Belgrade because they were short of ammunition. Up to the arrival of Dr. Ryan and his American nurses the hospital was constantly in danger of artillery fire. Dr. Ryan's first act was to unfurl the American flag over the building. It was instantly respected and conditions rapidly improved. Half of the Serbians are fighting without uniforms. They need medical assistance."

WALL STREET CLOSING

New York, Jan. 4.—Demand having been satisfied, the market became dull and slightly lower in the final hour, with another rally towards the end. The closing was strong.

Various factors, many of favorable import, imparted a fairly strong and active tone to to-day's stock market, gains in representative shares ranging from 1 to 3 points.