

CHILD LABOR BILL IS STORM CENTRE

It Will Figure Largely In the Deliberations of the Senate in Present Week

THE EFFORTS TO AMEND IT

Workmen's Compensation and Full Crew Repealer Are Expected to Be Reported Out of Committee in Few Days—Appropriations Before House

Both the Senate and House will meet to-night at 8 o'clock, and the lawmakers are expected to work hard with the idea of possible adjournment May 13 or May 20.

Public interest in the Senate this week is centered on what that body proposes to do with the child labor bill, which is yet in the Judiciary Special Committee, which is headed by Senator Snyder, of Schuylkill. He is said to be opposed to the Cox bill in the form in which it came from the House with the endorsement of Governor Brumbaugh. The Cox bill provides for a nine-hour day and a fifty-one-hour week for children between 14 and 16 years old, but there is a disposition to amend the bill in the Senate committee and make the day ten hours and the week fifty-four hours.

Another point of difference is that of the ages of newsboys and telegraph messengers. The Cox bill fixes the age limit for news boys at 14 years and the opponents want the age limit at 10 years. The Cox bill places the age of messengers at night at 21 years and it is sought to amend the bill by making the messenger age 18 years at night.

Other important bills held up. The committee held a long session last Wednesday night, but took no action, adjourning to hold another session this evening. It is possible, however, the majority of the committee will agree on the amended measure and Senator Snyder will report it without the formality of another meeting.

The workmen's compensation and full crew repealer bills also are held up in Senate committees, but are expected to be reported out this week.

The bill placing the payment of the expenses of the primary elections on the various counties, introduced by Senator Sproul, will come up for final passage in the Senate to-night. The bill removing judges from the operations of the non-partisan ballot law will also come up in the Senate this evening on final passage.

In the House to-night there are several special orders, one of which is the consideration on final passage of the bill to consolidate the Western and Eastern penitentiaries in one building now in course of erection in Centre county. The bill provides for the modification of the plans of the present building, so that they may be enlarged to meet the consolidation. Should the bill pass and be approved by the Governor, the Western and Eastern penitentiaries will both go out of existence, and all of the prisoners be confined in one institution.

To Act on Appropriations. A revenue bill on the special order calendar in the House to-night imposes a tax of two per cent on every \$100 of bonds, mortgages and other securities. Several hundred appropriation bills will come up on first reading in the House, and it is thought that all may be passed finally before the close of the week and sent to the Senate.

It is understood that both branches will be at work this week until Thursday, and that the business will be rushed, the hot weather of the last few days warning the legislators that they must hurry their proceedings.

MACK PUTS CLAMP ON BAKER

Head of Athletics Says He Is Through With Spectacular Third Baseman

Boston, April 26.—Connie Mack, manager of the Philadelphia Athletics said in an interview to-day that so long as he remained at the head of the club, J. Franklin Baker, of home run fame, would not be a member of the team.

"I am through with Frank Baker as a ball player," Mack added, "and it is my intention at the present time not to allow him to become the property of any other team in the American League. I would not sell him for \$1,000,000 in cash."

Late in the winter Baker announced his intention of retiring from baseball, but according to Mack, he played on the Upland team of the Delaware County League, Pennsylvania, on Saturday.

NEW PRINCIPAL ACCEPTS

Prof. Dibble Gets Two Weeks' Leave of Absence From Lambertville

Howard G. Dibble, of Lambertville, N. J., recently elected principal of the Central High school, will arrive here on May 15 to spend two weeks in Harrisburg to become familiar with the workings of local schools.

He has formally accepted the Harrisburg offer in a letter to Secretary Hammelbach of the local board. He has received a two weeks' leave of absence in Lambertville and it is those two weeks he will spend here. He will return to his present school for a short while arriving here early in June to take up his permanent position.

John Bunny, Movie Actor, Dies

New York, April 26.—John Bunny, the moving picture comedian, who made millions laugh, died at his home in Brooklyn to-day. He had been ill for about three weeks of a complication of diseases.

FATHER OF STEELTON FIRE CHIEF DYING OF WOUNDS

John Shupp, Victim of One of Three Remarkably Similar Accidents, Has Failed to Regain Consciousness Since Fall in Hose House

No hope was held out at noon to-day for the recovery of John Shupp, father of Steelton's fire chief, who was at the Harrisburg Hospital still unconscious from injuries received in a fall down stairs in the Baldwin Hose Company's quarters, in Steelton, last Saturday evening.

Mr. Shupp was the worst injured of the victims of a trio of accidents remarkably similar in character which occurred in Steelton on the same day. The other two persons were women both of whom, though severely injured, are expected to recover.

John Shupp is an old resident of the borough. His son, John E. Shupp, Jr., the Steelton Fire Chief, is also vice president of the State Firemen's Association. Just how the elder Shupp met with the accident is not known, but about 10 o'clock Saturday night he was found in an unconscious condition lying at the foot of the steps leading from the first floor to the basement of the Baldwin Hose house, South Front street. It is supposed he fell down stairs. Blood was oozing from

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PULLED TO DEATH BY COLT

Jacob Epler, 70 Years Old, Former Supervisor of Conewago, Meets With Fatal Accident

(Special to the Star-Independent.) Middletown, April 26.—Jacob Epler, 70 years old, a retired farmer and supervisor of Conewago township, was almost instantly killed on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock when he was jerked by a colt from a carriage in which he was riding homeward on the Falmouth Pike and suffered a fractured skull. The accident occurred just east of Chestnut Hill, five miles east of town.

Epler and his grandson, David Epler were seated in the carriage, and the elder man was holding a halter strap attached to the colt that was running along behind. When an auto passed the Epler party, the colt shied and bolted and pulled the aged man backward out of the vehicle, his head striking the ground with much force.

Mr. Epler died shortly after the accident. The grandson escaped injury. Mr. Epler served as school director of Conewago township for fifteen years and for many years also as a township supervisor. His son, Simon Epler, formerly was a deputy mercantile appraiser of Dauphin county. Mr. Epler, also left two brothers, David, a Conewago township farmer, and Squire John Epler, of Elizabethtown, Lancaster county.

Funeral services will be held at the home to-morrow morning at 9:30 o'clock.

2 HURT WHEN CAR HITS AUTO

A. H. Nuss and Wife Injured but Children Escape in Middletown Crash

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Nuss, their two daughters and a son, of 1715 State street, this city, who were touring the lower end of Dauphin county in an auto yesterday, narrowly escaped serious injury about 2 o'clock in the afternoon when their machine was struck by a Harrisburg Railways Company trolley car at Main and Nissley streets, Middletown.

The auto was almost completely wrecked. Mr. Nuss received several cuts on his hands due to flying glass when the windshield was smashed. Mrs. Nuss suffered from shock but physicians say her condition is not alarming. The children escaped injury. The family returned to Harrisburg by trolley car after the damaged auto was placed in a Middletown garage.

Witnesses say the automobile "balked" on the track when Mr. Nuss endeavored to shift from low to high gear.

LEGISLATOR'S SON QUITS JOB AS MESSENGER BOY

"Buck" Mangan, Whose Father Makes Laws on the Hill, Relinquishes His Post With Western Union Following His Mother's Death

"Buck" Mangan, 16 years old, son of State Representative William J. Mangan, of South Pittsburgh, who about seven weeks ago entered the service of the Western Union Telegraph Company as a messenger boy in this city, despite the protests of his well-to-do father, quit the job this morning and left for his Pittsburgh home. "Buck's" quitting, however, was not due to his tiring of the job but because of the death of his mother. After he informed the manager that he was going home and that he would not return to duty again the other messenger boys gathered around him and reluctantly said "good-bye." During his short period of service "Buck" had become very popular among the other messengers.

"Buck," whose father calls him "William," came to Harrisburg with Representative Mangan at the opening of the legislative session. For a month or more he contented himself rambling about the city, learning what he could

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BAD CHECK MAN IS SENT TO PEN.

Mercer, Who Tried to Cheat Local Banks Out of Thousands, Gets 9 to 15 Months

SHORTER TERM FOR LEBRUN

Court Sentences Him to Six Months in County Jail But His Inability to Pay Fine and Costs Will Extend Period to Nine Months

H. R. Mercer, the New York crook with a criminal record, who was arrested by the Harrisburg police three hours after he began trying to work a bad check game here on November 7, last, was this morning sentenced by Judge Kunkel to a penitentiary term of not less than nine months and not more than fifteen months.

This sentence was imposed on one count charging forgery. On a similar count and three additional charges of false pretense Judge Kunkel said he would not pass judgment in view of the fact that county jail sentences only could be imposed as the penalties. The sentence, Judge Kunkel directed, shall be computed from January 15, last, the date of the defendant's conviction.

Fred LeBrun, the Frenchman, who was Mercer's colleague in the flim-flam game by which the New York crook tried to work off two bogus checks for \$1,000 each on banks in this city which Mercer called a "junk town," also went before Judge Kunkel this morning and got a sentence of six months in jail, the sentence to date from January 15, last. Chicago and Florida business men had informed the court that LeBrun previously bore a "good name." For sixteen years prior to becoming Mercer's pal he was a cigar manufacturer in Chicago. Costs and a \$50 fine also were imposed on LeBrun and as he cannot pay them his total jail term will actually be nine months, the three months additional representing the unpaid fines and costs.

Says Mercer Falsified. Judge Kunkel explained his reason for dealing more leniently with LeBrun than with Mercer by saying that Mercer deliberately falsified on the witness stand. Also the court took into consideration Mercer's record, which shows that he previously had been convicted of working the bad check game.

LeBrun thanked Judge Kunkel for

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Hardscrabble Hearing April 30

Paul G. Smith, Karl Steward and James D. Saitman, the "Hardscrabble" viewers, decided definitely to-day on Friday, April 30, as the time for the next hearing at which testimony will be taken on the question of "Hardscrabble" property values.

K. of C. Supreme Head Dies

Chicago, April 26.—James Maher, national supreme director of the Knights of Columbus, died at his home here to-day. He was a native of Illinois and was 55 years old.

FOREST FLAMES AGAIN MENACE MOUNT HOLLY

Spreading Rapidly in Cumberland County To-day Notwithstanding Efforts of Hundreds of Men to Check Them —Clay Works Are in Danger

(Special to the Star-Independent.) Carlisle, Pa., April 26.—Fire which broke out again in the South Mountain near Toland, Cumberland county, late yesterday afternoon, has to-day spread over an area of eight hundred acres. It is making rapid progress in different directions despite the efforts of hundreds of men who are fighting it constantly.

The flames are this afternoon approaching the lake at Mount Holly Park. The park is believed to be in danger for the second time within several days.

The efforts of the fire-fighters were concentrated last night near Barritz Station, where buildings were threatened. The flames approached close to the saw mill of A. C. Gibler and the stove mill of J. Harvey Lime.

The Philadelphia clay works and the South Mountain mining works, near Mount Holly are in danger this afternoon and the employees have all deserted their usual work to help fight the flames.

The State Forestry Commission this morning had no official reports of forest fires throughout the State other than those that had been received by noon on Saturday, but it was unofficially learned there that the fire that devastated the region in the Cumberland Valley up and across the South Mountain to Hunter's Run Valley and thence to Pine Grove broke out again yesterday. No reports have been received of the damage done to State forestry reservations.

Commissioner Conklin and Deputy Commissioner Williams will visit the Pine Grove, Caledonia and Mont Alto reservations this week to ascertain the damage done to State property. Meantime bills for service are coming in daily from the men who have been fighting the fires.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ARMY CHIEF AT THE FRONT



FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN FRENCH WITH HIS OFFICERS IN FRANCE. "Sir John" is here seen (on the left of the group) standing on the pavement in the middle of one of the long, flat roads leading to that portion of the western battle line which is under British control. He was born at Ripple, in Kent, in 1852, and was christened with the names John Denton Pinkstone. He entered the army in 1874. He has steadily risen in his profession and as leader of the cavalry division in South Africa won special distinction. He is now one of the eight field marshals of the British army and is the trusted leader of all the British forces in France and Flanders. It will be noticed that some of the officers are wearing the new soft crowned caps.

RECORD BREAKING HEAT LURES TO SWIMMING HOLES

Mercury Touches 93 Degrees, the Highest for This Month in the 27 Years the Harrisburg Weather Bu- reau Has Been in Existence

There is little in the weather situation to-day to indicate early relief from the record-breaking temperatures, according to Weather Bureau officials, who carefully scanned the map in quest of cooling blasts from the north, which did not materialize. The temperature to-night and to-morrow will remain far above the normal for April. It is hardly likely, however, that the April record for twenty-seven years, which was established yesterday with a maximum of 93 degrees will be broken.

The highest official temperature to-day was 91 degrees at 1 p. m. At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon the thermometer registered 89 degrees.

The Washington office of the Weather Bureau predicted at least forty-eight hours more of the hot spell. The territory affected is east of the Mississippi river. The absence of rain, except for scattered showers, is being felt in many sections and crops are suffering.

When the mercury touched the maximum of 93 degrees at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon it broke by one-half a degree the April record of 92½ which was established on the 18th and 19th of the month in 1888.

The general conditions which brought about the high temperature checked little in the forty-eight hours preceding noon to-day, hence the disappointing forecast, which says "continued warm." There are three well-defined low pressure areas, one in the St. Lawrence valley and two to the west.

Many sought relief in canoe rides and not a few venturesome youths went swimming yesterday. Thousands of automobilists went into the country for a cooling breeze and scores of straw hats blossomed forth.

AUTO SPEEDERS BEWARE!

New Police Motorcycles Will Go 65 Miles an Hour

After this week auto speeders will have to go some to get away from the motorcycle policemen, who will be mounted on special police motorcycles guaranteed to make sixty-five miles an hour.

Two special machines have been ordered and it is expected will be received by the local agent for the motorcycle company some time this week. The cycles are equipped with special motors to stand the strain of police work. In addition to being unusually fast the motors are flexible and will not be damaged by the frequent stops and starts the policemen are compelled to make.

TO PUT CONCRETE CAPS ON FOUR P. & R. BRIDGE PIERS

Company to Erect Temporary Trestles So That Traffic Will Not Be Stopped During the Work—Rail- road Engineers in Charge

Extensive repairs to four of twenty-three piers in the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad bridge over the Susquehanna river, north of Vine street, are contemplated by the railroad company and within a short time work will begin.

From four to six courses of stone atop these four piers have cracked slightly and these will be replaced with reinforced concrete in much the same way that repairs were effected on the Walnut street river bridge.

An engineering feat of no mean proportions will be necessary to effect the repairs without halting the heavy freight traffic over the bridge. Trestles will have to be built strong enough to support the bridge load while the stone courses are removed and the concrete placed. The bridge over the river at this point and the steel structure will have to be firmly braced to prevent side play.

One pier on this end of the bridge was repaired in this manner last summer and during this summer it is hoped the remaining four that need repairs will be fixed. The work will be done under the supervision of the Philadelphia & Reading railway engineers.

MONEY FOR BAND CONCERTS

Three Contributions Sent in Before So- licitors Start Out

The Harrisburg Band Concert Association, which proposes band concerts in local parks throughout the summer months, got a flying start this morning in its campaign to get the \$1,500 necessary to run the concerts. Before the officers of the association started out to gather funds three voluntary contributions were made.

J. N. Kinnard was first with \$5; Robert McCormick, second, with \$25, and a third contribution was cash, \$1. The officers are sanguine of success with money coming in before it has been solicited. It is expected that the board of directors of the Harrisburg Railways Company will hold a special meeting to decide on a contribution to the fund. Clarence O. Backenstos, secretary to Mayor Royal, is treasurer of the association.

Will of Louis Fink Probated

The will of the late Louis Fink, 312 North Second street, late manager of the Livingston store, 9 South Market square, was admitted to probate this afternoon. Letters were granted to his wife, Sarah Louise Fink, who is made sole beneficiary. The value of the estate, was not fixed in the will.

Sentence of Simpson Suspended

Sentence was suspended of Edward Simpson in court to-day on his own plea for leniency. He was charged with robbing gas meters.

ALLIES BEGIN NEW ATTACK ON DARDANELLES, IS REPORT

London, April 26, 4:25 P. M.—The following official announcement was given out in London to-day:

"The general attack on the Dardanelles by the fleet and the army was resumed yesterday."

"The disembarkation of the army, covered by the fleet, began before sunrise at various points on the Gallipoli peninsula, and in spite of serious opposition from the enemy in strong entrenchments protected by barbed wire, was successful."

"Before nightfall large forces were established on shore. The landing of the army and the advance continue."

GREATEST BATTLE OF WAR IS NOW ON ALONG YSER

London, April 26, 12:20 P. M.— What some military critics are inclined to pronounce the "greatest battle of the war" is now under way on the Yser canal.

Official reports are both meagre and contradictory, but it generally is believed in London that the Germans again are making desperate efforts to break through to the French channel ports. Some such recrudescence of the German offensive has been anticipated by the war experts but this movement, forestalling the long predicted allied offensive, comes as a distinct shock to the general public.

It is impossible as yet to get a clear idea of the extent of the German movement, but some special dispatches to London papers describe it as so important that the Germans are even credited with bringing Field Marshal Von Hindenburg from the east to conduct the operations, and Emperor William himself is reported as proceeding to the Yser front.

Ask Wilson's Aid to Resist Japs. Honolulu, April 26.—Chinese residents of Honolulu at a mass meeting last night decided to send an appeal by cable to President Wilson and to the British Foreign Office at London, asking their good offices to assist the Chinese to resist the demands of Japan to the end that China may avoid war with honor.

American Correspondent Threatened. Washington, D. C., April 26.—Philip E. McCleary, an American newspaper correspondent at Vera Cruz, has been imprisoned and sentenced to be shot by Carranza authorities for having sent out unauthorized news dispatches. Secretary Bryan received an appeal for aid to-day from John W. Roberts, another American correspondent there, and instructed Consul Stillman to take the question up at once with General Carranza. No official report on the affair had reached the department.

AUSTRIA IS READY WHEN ITALY FIGHTS

Former Fortifies Entire Frontier, Expecting Attack From Hum- bert's Troops

VILLAGES READY FOR THE COMBAT

Diplomatic Negotiations Will Prob- ably Offset Apparent Trouble Be- tween the Dual Monarchy and Italy —Still Hoping For Settlement

Belluno, Italy, April 25, 9:50 A. M., via Paris, April 26, 9:38 A. M.—Italian refugees from Austria report that Austrian troops have fortified the entire frontier, even building entrenchments of concrete and cement behind which have been placed cannon of large calibre. Officers are said to have declared that if policing is begun, the villages nearest the lines from Selva (east of Lake Garda in Italy) to Laste, Italy, (20 miles to the north of Selva) will be razed.

This information has done much to counteract the effect of reports that Austria is disposed to conduct diplomatic negotiations regarding the cession of the territory to Italy.

Verona, Italy, April 25, 9:30 P. M., via Paris, April 26, 9:35 A. M.—Dispatches received from the frontier describing conditions in the province of Trent, states that commerce and industry are paralyzed and agriculture at a standstill because of the lack of workmen, 40,000 have been called to the colors. All horses and oxen have been requisitioned.

The lack of sulphate of copper has seriously threatened the silk worm industry, one of the chief resources of that section.

Austrian military authorities are said to be rapidly completing their preparations for defense. Twelve thousand troops are quartered at Trent; 4,000 at Rovereto; 4,000 at Riva and 15,000 altogether at various smaller places. Arrangements are being made for housing five thousand Prussians, 3,000 at Trent and 2,000 at Mezzo Lomardo.

War Big Thing for the U. S.? Rome, April 26, via Paris, 8:05 A. M.—The opinion prevails in Parliamentary circles that if no definite decision as to Italy's participation in the war is reached previous to May 12, the date upon which the Chamber of Deputies convenes, Parliament will be prorogued.

International questions could not be discussed in Parliament while they were still under negotiation, it is argued, and it would be absurd, it is argued, and fed for Parliament to discuss trifling matters when such highly important questions were before the country. Furthermore, the Chamber has given full powers to the Cabinet and nothing has occurred to destroy this confidence.

Referring to the international financial situation created by the war, the "Giornale d'Italia" says the United States, at the end of hostilities, will be the only country to have secured large economic profit. This paper then gives statistics to show the increases in American exports and says further: "This war, which is devouring Europe, is a magnificent thing, financially, for the United States."

King Victor Emmanuel met the members of the Cabinet in conference yesterday. He talked with Premier Salandra and Foreign Minister Sonnino on the situation at length and after they had gone he was closeted for an hour with Minister of War Zupelli.

LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

The new German offensive in Belgium, styled by some British commentators the greatest battle of the war, is being pushed on with all the power of the army Germany is reputed to have assembled along this front. The official announcement from Berlin to-day reports impressive victories, although no admissions to this effect are made at Paris or London. The German statement of yesterday that the Belgian statement of yesterday that Lizerne had been recaptured is characterized as untrue.

The official Paris statement gives few details of the fighting in Belgium. It is said German attacks were checked by the British.

The German attack is developing with great force over a large part of

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WALL STREET CLOSING

New York, April 26.—Heaviness prevailed in the final hour, Reading and other leaders declining abruptly. The closing was heavy. Higher prices for coppers and specialties and later pressure against investment issues were the chief features of to-day's irregular market.