

Explosion of War Materials in United States Agrees to Joint Commission. New York Bay.

the Mexican note of July 12.

Text Of the Note.

to him the following reply:

"Mr. Secretary;

ernments,

SHOCK FELT IN FIVE STATES WANTS POWERS ENLARGED

New York Shaken As By Earthquake-Office Buildings Rocked And Streets Strewn With Glass.

New York .- Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000 was caused by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition awaiting shipment to the Entente Allies and stored on Black Tom Island, a small strip of land jutting into New York bay off Jersey City. The loss of life is still problematical. It will not be decided definitely until there has been opportunity to check up the workmen employed on the island and on boats moored nearby.

Three are known to be dead and at least two more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably fatally.

Shock Felt in Five States. The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, then the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shell, which literally showered the surrounding country and waters for many miles around.

Fire that started soon after the first great crash, which spread death and transcribe a note addressed to me by desolution in its wake, destroyed 13 of the huge warehouses of the Na- your government, and to request that tional Storage Company on Black Tom Island, in which were stored merchandise valued between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames, shooting into the clouds, were reflected against New York's sky line of towering office buildings, which only a few moments before were shaken to their foundations as if by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan alone were strewn with broken glass and shattered signs.

C. W. Leyden, chief of the Lehigh Valley Railroad police, was killed while aiding an engine crew in attempting to save a number of freight cars from the fire. A quantity of dynamite exploded near where he was standing, it was said, and blew his body to atoms. The members of the car crew escaped with lacerations and burns.

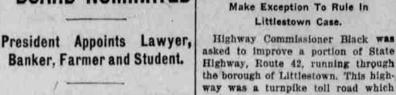
Hints At Plot Made.

The cause of the disaster has not been determined. Officials of the Nation! Storage Company and the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which also suffered heavily through loss of property. declared, however, that reports to them showed a fire started shortly after 1 o'clock on a barge belonging to an independent towing company that had been moored alongside a dock used by the railroad company to transfer ammunition shipments from trains to vessels in the harbor.



the American forces now in Mexico government's attitude. This government's view that illegal and to draw up and conclude a protocol agreement regarding the reciprestrictions are imposed by the blackrocal crossing of the frontier by the list order upon the freedom of Ameriforces of both countries, also to de- can trade is set forth in vigorous termine the origin of the incursions terms. Some modification of the order, to date, in order to fix the responsi- is insisted upon. There have been in bility therefore and definitely to set- dications that should diplomatic efforts tle the difficulties now pending or fail to bring relief to affected Amerithose which may arise between the can firms, some form of retallation two countries on account of the same would be considered by the United or a similar reason; all of which shall States be subject to the approval of both gov-

After promulgation of the Trading with the Enemy Act last January, the a population of 27,000 persons. Near-State Department notified the British ly all the inhabitants of the islands are In reply I have the honor to state government of its view that possibilities of "undue interference" with cane sugar.



ALL HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE

BOARD NOMINATED

RURAL CREDITS

Two Of the Board Republicans and Two Democrats -- How They Are Equipped For Their New Duties.

Washington .- Division of the country into twelve Federal Land Bank Districts and location of Federal Land Banks in each of them under the new rural credits law, will be undertaken soon by the Federal Farm Loan Board, four of whose members were nominated by President Wilson. Secretary McAdoo, who as an ex-officio member completes the board, said, however that he believed it would be impossible to conclude organization of the system in less than six months, and that it might not be in actual operation before next spring.

President Wilson nominated Charles E. Lobdell, of Great Bend, Kansas; George W. Norris, of Philadelphia; W. S. A. Smith, of Sloux City, Iowa, and Herbert Quick, of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, as members of the board.

The President hopes to have the nominations confirmed quickly by the Senate in order that the organization of the rural credits system be per fected without delay. The board will select the cities in which the twelve farm loan banks will be located and divide the country into districts for the operation of the provisions of the bill

Secretary McAdoo already has col lected facts on available locations for the banks, but the board will make a thorough investigation of the question before acting.

Lobdell and Smith are Republicans, and Norris and Quick are Democrats. The law provides that not more than two of the appointed members of the board can belong to the same party From a list of more than 100 suggested by senators, representatives and members of the Cabinet the President selected a lawyer, a farmer, a banker and a student of rural credits problems

the rights of the United States in Mr. Lobdell is a student of farmers' Greenland. Greenland is a Danish posproblems and has had extensive ex session, and the rights which the perience in loans on farm lands. United States will abandon are merely

Mr. Norris, a graduate of the Uni rights of discovery, the scope of which versity of Pennsylvania, has been successively a newspaper man, a lawyer The United States will obtain from and a banker.

Denmark full possession of the islands Mr. Smith, a farmer by occupation. of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, for the past year has been an expert in farm practice in the Department of or Santo Cruz, as it is better known. These islands lie about 50 miles off Agriculture here, and has had exthe east coast of Porto Rico. They are tensive experience in farming prob-142 square miles in area and support lems. Mr. Quick, until a few months ago,

was editor of Farm and Fireside, and negroes, who live by the cultivation of for many years has devoted himself to a study of rural credits and other kets are expected to be found. farm problems

the borough of Littlestown. This highway was a turnpike toll road which was purchased by the State and for the maintenance of which the State Highway Department is held responsible. Commissioner Black told his callers that the State Highway De-

BOROUGH ROAD

STATE TO REPAIR

Commissioner Black Promises To

partment would endeavor to keep the section of the road in Littlestown Borough in repair, because this was an exception to the general rule of the Department not to assume control of State highways in boroughs. Fatal Accidents Nearly Doubled.

During the first six months of 1916, almost as many fatal accidents oc curred in Pennsylvania industries and were reported to the Bureau of Statistics and Information of the Departmade in the raising of grass and grain. ment of Labor and Industry as were reported during the entire twelve months of the preceding year, according to a statement by Commissioner John Price Jackson. Eleven hundred and thirty-six workers were killed during the first six months of this year while the total death list, for the

twelve months of 1915 was 1,203. The total of all accidents, fatal and nonfatal. is 121.180 for the first six months of this year as against 61,540 total accidents reported during 1915. Almost seven workers were killed as a daily average during the first six

months of this year. The monthly average was 189, while the monthly average of injuries, fatal and nonfatal, was 20,197.

State College Has Big School.

Enrollment in Penn State's Summer session has reached the record break ing total of 1,103, an increase of seventy-nine over last year's attendance. This is the largest registration the summer school has had during the seven years it has been operated. State College now has the largest summer school in the State. The at

tendance is made up exclusively of public school teachers from Pennsyl vania. Dr. E. R. Smith, director of the summer session, attributes the steady growth in attendance to a wide selection of courses to meet the needs of progressive teachers. Particular attention is given to agriculture, home economics, public school drawing and the sciences.

Penna. Peach Crop Low This Year.

Estimates made by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture on the probable peach crop of the State for this season place the amount at 1,124,-200 bushels, compared with a production of 2,044,000 bushels last year. The production last year was the largest ever known in the State, the other high years being 1910 when 1,600,000 bushels were produced and 1914 when 1,544,000 bushels was the estimated crop. Thousands of bushels of peaches went to waste last year, but with improved marketing facilities and the smaller crop this season suitable mar

The Latest Gleanings From All Over the State.

BRIEFLY TOLD

STATE NEWS

TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

The first of a series of a half a dozen meetings, to be held throughout Berks county for the purpose of organizing the dairy farmers of the Oley and Schuylkill Valleys, south of Reading. took place in the fire hall at Oley, and was presided over by County Agriculturist Charles S. Adams, of Reading. Farmers are seriously considering the discontinuing of raising cattle for market and cows for dairy purposes, be cause of the increased cost of food and other expenses. Farmers are of the opinion that more money could be

Jacob Trash, a farmer residing between Cross Roads and Petersville, Northampton county, committed suicide, using a shotgun. Trash placed the muzzle of the gun in his mouth and then pulled the trigger.

The resignation of J. M. Owens as road superintendent of Jefferson comty was announced at the State Highway Department. The vacancy has been filled by the promotion of H. M. Dorwart as acting superintendent for the county.

Matthew Yuscavage, a miner at Eagle Hill Colliery, Pottsville, lost an exciting race for his life. He was at work in a breast when he heard the roof cracking and instantly realizing what was taking place, he made a dash for safety. Big boulders fell all around him, just grazing him and he had almost reached a place of safety when another big rock fell, pinning him fast and crushing most of his bones. He died after being at the

Pottsville Hospital less than an hour.

Mrs. Andrew Stifka, of McAdoo, was granted \$5,165 as compensation for herself and two children by State Referee Paul W. Houck, from the C. M. Dodson Company, for the death of her husband who worked only four days for the company. Stifka was a contractor miner and the payroll showed that he earned \$18.55 for four days and on this the compensation was based. The referee intimated that additional sums will be granted the widow later on for a posthumus child.

Fourteen-year-old John Kerns, playing with boys the same age around the John Sheaffer mill at Greason, secerted himself in a thousand bushel bin of corn which, while the lad was hidden, was drawn upon for shipment. The drain sucked the young man into the mass of grain and ultimately his dying struggles attracted the attention of the mill hands engaged in handling the corn. The rescuers tore away the lower part of the bin and found Kerns' body. The lad was dead when found.

The barge, it was said, was there without authority either of the railroad or the storage company.

A statement issued by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, after a conference between heads of all departments here, said:

"Thirieen brick storage warehouses out of the 24 owned and operated by the National Storage Company and six plers owned by the storage company and leased to the Lehigh Valley road were destroyed. Several others of the brick warehouses were badly damaged and some minor damage was done to the Lehigh Valley grain elevators. In addition, as far as known, \$5 loaded cars were destroyed.

LIBERTY STATUE JARRED.

Damaged To Colossal Figure And Base Estimated at \$100,000.

New York .- Great havon was wrought on Bedloe's Island by the explosion at Black Tom Island, Damage to the Statue of Liberty has been variously estimated at from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000. The latter figure is the guess of Captain Clifton, in charge of not be ascertained until experts have made a careful examination of the pedestal and base of the statue.

Bedloe's Island, almost on a direct line with Black Tom, bore the brunt of the shock.

MORGAN ESTATE \$78,149,024.

Does Not Include Property Outside That State.

New York .- The total assets of the estate of J. Pierpont Morgan, the financier, who died in Rome, Italy, March 31, 1913, exclusive of property out-ide New York State are fixed at \$78,149,024 in a report filed with the State Controller by Transfer Tax Appraiser Lyons.

THANKS AMERICAN CHILDREN.

President Poincare Of France Appreciative Of Gifts.

Washington .- President Poincare of France in a personal conference with American Ambassador Sharp, sent his thanks to American children who have given approximately \$300,000 to French children orphaned by the war.

WOMEN DO HARVESTING.

Go Into Fields To Solve Labor Problem

Harrisonburg, Va .-- Wives, daugh ters, sisters and sweethearts are go ing out into the harvest field in the neighborhood of Lacoy Spring, Rock ingham county, to help solve the labor problem. It is reported that the idea is working well. Since some young girls have gone to work, it is said that certain young men have donned field clothes who were never before known to work.

before the President and have received his instructions to inform Your Excellency that the government of the United States is disposed to accept the proposal of the Mexican government

in the same spirit of frank cordiality in which it is made. This government believes and suggests, however, that the powers of the proposed commission should be enlarged so that, if happily a solution satisfactory to both governments of the question set forth In Your Excellency's communication, may be reached, the commission may also consider such other matters the friendly arrangement of which would tend to improve the relations of the two countries; it being understood that such recommendations as the commission may make shall not be binding upon the respective govern-

Accepts Proposal.

that I have laid Your Excellency's note

ments until formally accepted by there.

Should this proposal be accepted by ment will proceed immediately to apconsultation with Your Excallency's ences.

Accept, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my highest consideration.

FRANK L. POLK, Acting Secretary of State.

Appointment of the American commissioners will await General Carrana's reply. If he approves the suggestion that the scope of the commission's deliberations be enlarged as desired by the United States, it is expected his note will be accompanied confer with Mr. Polk as to the time and place of the meeting.

ENDS LIFE WITH TOE

Man Apparently Used Member To Press Rifle Trigger.

Millyllie, N. J.-Capt. Howard Tyler. ommitted suicide at his home here. by shooting himself in the head. He is believed to have lain on his bed. placed the muzzle of a rifle in his mouth and pulled the trigger with his toe. The body was found by a neighhor. Tyler had been in poor health for a long time.

GUARDS MUST PAY FARE HOME.

Militiamen Asking Discharge Because Of Dependent Families.

New York .-- Guardsmen at the bor der discharged because of the necessity of supporting dependent relatives have been received from soldiers ap- old, and seriously injuring Mrs. C. A. be paid by the Government.

rican comu rce were co the instrument. The potential, rather than the actual, injury so far accomplished is understood to be given stress also in the note.

The British Ambassador conferred with Mr. Polk and, it is believed, be was given a full explanation of the basis of this government's protest in and the treaty of cession is about to international law. Individual cases of blacklisted firms, it is expected, will be Secretary Lansing and Constantin taken up in personal conversations here and at London. Business men ister Plenipotentiary of Denmark. It have been appealing daily to the State Department since the extension of the lands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. blacklist to the American concerns was announced.

FIFTH SUSPECT ARRESTED.

Developments in the San Francisco Bomb Horror Inquiry,

San Francisco .--- Edward Nolan, a Your Excellency's government, I have union machinist and former delegate chase. the honor to state that this govern- to the San Francisco Labor Council, was arrested in connection with the point its commissioners, and fix, after recent homb explosion in which 9 per- the Danish West Indian Islands are to sons lost their lives and 40 were government the time and place and wounded. The police said they found and that the Government has given Liberty Island. The exact injury can- other details of the proposed confer- samples of acids and powders in notice that before it ratifies the treaty Nolan's room.

> TEXAS MAY VOTE "WET." "Dry" Majority Cut To 1,087, With

> > Anti County To Report.

Dallas, Texas .-- With almost complete, returns in from 267 countles the early majority in favor of the submission of a State-wide prohibition States. amendment has been cut down to by authorization to Mr. Arredondu to 1.087. More than 2,000 votes are expecied in that return, and there is a strong possibility for the defeat of the Diam.

CONGRESS PUTS CLOSING OFF.

September 9 Now Considered As Date

For Adjournment. Washington .- September 9 Is the Wilson's Note On Polish Relief Wired date now being considered by adminis tration leaders for adjournment of Congress. All hope of getting through take up the Child Labor bill.

AEROPLANE HITS AUTOS.

Flyer. machine was wrecked.

Treaty Ready For Signing Washington. - As confirmed here

ill-defined

officially, the Danish ministry has formally communicated to the United States its willingness to accept the terms offered by Secretary Lansing for the three Danish West Indian Islands, be signed at the State Department by Brun, Envoy Extraordinary and Minis assumed that the status of the is-

John, should the treaty be ratified, will be similar to that of Porto Rico. The new treaty is peculiar, in that it will require action not only by the American Senate and the Danish Rige

dag, but by the United States House of Representatives as well, since it will be necessary for the House to supply the needed appropriation of \$25,-000,000 to defray the expense of pur To Give Islands' People Say.

It is understood that the people of have a voice in this question of cession it would submit the question to the people of the islands. It is stated further that the people of the islands are much in favor of the suzerainty of the United States and that the treaty is so

framed that they are not called on to surrender Danish allegiance; they may remain Danes, in fact and in name, while enjoying whatever advantages, in a commercial way, may result from a transfer of the islands to the United

It is stated that formal delivery of the territory and property ceded shall be made immediately after the payment by the United States of the sum of money stipulated in the treaty and that the cession, with the right of immediate possession, is to be deemed proper on the exchange of ratifications.

KAISER GETS APPEAL.

To Emperor.

Berlin-American Ambassador Gerard delivered to Minister of Foreign by August 19, the date fixed by the Affairs Von Jagow President Wilson's Democratic Senate saucus, has been Polish relief appeal. The message was abandoned in view of the decision to immediately telegraphed to Emperor William at the eastern front

VILLISTAS PUT TO FLIGHT.

Lieutenant Wheeler Loses Control Of Three Killed By Carranzistas In En-

counter Near Haclenda. Chihuahua City, Mexico.-Govern Ontario, Cal-Second Lieutenant S. ment troops fought a sharp skirmish H. Wheeler, of the army aviation with Villa forces near Haclenda Tres will have to pay their own expenses school at North Island, lost control of Estrellas, scattering the bandits and home. This was announced at the his aeroplane here and crashed into pursuing them into the hills, accordheadquarters of the Department of the a line of automobiles, overturning ing to reports to General Trevino from East, where it is said many requests four, killing Harold Stoebe, 4 years General Arriets today. The Carranza column, under command of Colonel plying for such discharge indicating Stoebe, the boy's mother. Lieutenant Quintana, surprised the bandits, who expectation that their fare home would Wheeler was not injured, although his numbered about a score. Three outlaws were killed the report said. ington.

Many Cities Candidates.

The board in locating the banks will consider first cities which are near farming centers, regardless of size or other banking facilities, and that cities which were candidates for federal reserve banks but failed to get them probably would be strongly considered for federal land banks

Requests for loans on farm lands under the law already have been filed in large numbers in the Treasury Department, but no action can be taken on them until after the board is organ-

Each federal land bank must have a subscribed capital of \$750,000 before beginning business. Individuals, corporations, state governments and the United States may hold stock, under law, but dividends accruing may not be paid the United States as to other stockholders. The banks will not come in direct contact with farmer borrowers, but will operate through national farm loan associations, corporations chartered by the farm loan board under authority of Congress and operating in the farming communities where loans are sought.

All loans to be made under the sys tem must be secured by first mort gages providing for amortization over a period of years, and at interest not exceeding six per cent. No loan may exceed 50 per cent. of the value of the land mortgaged and 20 per cent. of the value of permanent improvements, nor be greater than \$10,000 nor less than \$100. Morigages may run from five to 40 years.

HAS NO HANDS OR FEET.

Child To Be Taught To Use Artificial Limbs

Elyria, Ohlo .- Born without feet or hands, little Frances Campbell, 7 years old, of Lorain, Ohio, is a new arrival at a local hospital for crippled children. Orthopedic physiciaus hope to equip the little girl with artificial legs so that she will be table in time to walk and use artificial hands in per forming simple tasks. Frances has short stubs at each limb socket. She hops and rolls around much to the amazement of nurses. It may take

several years to train her to use the artificial hands and legs.

WILSON ASKS ACTION

Wishes Full Legislative Program Put Through This Summer.

Washington. - Something like an ultimatum was unofficially issued by the White House to Congress. It is to the effect that the President wanted his legislative program put through-if it takes all summer. Officially it was announced that he would not leave Washington for his vacation until the record has been completed. It promises to be a warm summer in Wash-

Mothers' Pension Trustees Appointed. Governor Brumbaugh appointed the

following Mothers' Pension trustees for Huntingdon county: Mrs. George B. Orlady, Mrs. I. Harvey Brumbaugh, Huntingdon; Mrs. Lillian Bernhardt, Three Springs; Mrs. J. M. Keichline, Petersburg, and Mrs. Mary A. Kyper, Mt. Union.

Fred G. Fryburg was appointed Jus tice of the Peace for Hooversville, Somerset county, and Henry A. Shipe, for Jens Township, Forest county. in other cities.

Contract For Chester Highways.

State Highway Commissioner Black awarded the Souder Construction Company, of Lancaster, the contract for 32,214 feet of road in Penn, Upper and Lower Oxford Townships, Chester coupty, at \$109,631.81. The South Shore Construction Company, Erie, was awarded the contract for 5,385 feet of road in Hickory Township, Forest county, at \$11,527.64.

Approve Many State Bridges.

The State Water Supply Commission approved the largest number of bridges covered by applications at a single meeting in years. There were twenty-three county, thirty-three township and sixteen railroad bridges, in cluding a number of Bucks, Chester, Montgomery and other Eastern coun-

Stream Lines For River.

Reading city officials asked the State Water Supply Commission to define stream lines in the Schuylkill River at that place and to aid in prosecution of firms encroaching on the waterway The commission will take up the matter later on.

Camp Meeting Force Insured.

The State Workmen's Insurance Fund Board insured the whole force of a central Pennsylvania camp meet ing association for employer's liability. The insurance is the first of the class

to be written. Hold Mayor Hearing August 17.

Attorney-General Brown set August 17 as the date for the hearing of the application for a quo warranto against Mayor Jonas Fischer, of Williamsport who is alleged not to be an American citizen.

NEWSY ITEMS.

The world's ski jumping record is held by an American, who covered a in dead. distance of just under 198 feet.

In October, 1900, the city of Ghent, in Belgium, adopted the first public system of unemployment insurance.

China has increased its telegraph lines to a total of about 30,000 miles, of which the government owns more than one-half.

Former City Treasurers John Strickler and J. William Jones have made demand upon the City of York for payment of \$1,290 and \$964, respectively, which they claim to be due them as percentage for collecting street paving assessments while they were serving in the capacity of tax collectors. If payment is not made suit will ensue. This is a new question in York, although the higher courts have decided in favor of city treasurer tax collectors

As the result of a rush of culm and water down a chute in the No. 11 mine, Tamaqua, Palmer Jones, aged nine teen, a laborer, was killed and Peter McHugh and John Smith were imprisoned in the chute two hours, until released uninjured. Jones had his foot caught by a plank, and was forced to stand in a car which he was about to load, while the culm slowly mount ed as high as his head, smothering him before help could reach him.

Manufacturers failing to make reports to the Pennsylvania State Department of Labor and Industry under the act of June 2, 1913, giving figures of production and general statements of business will be prosecuted according to a warning just issued.

Mrs. Mary Froy, twenty-three years old, died at the Taylor Hospital, Ridley Park, of wounds sustained on May 22, when she was shot by her sisterin-law, Mrs. Mary Bunnetta, at Millmont, near Chester, during a quarrel.

Taken to Allentown by his mother to escape infantile paralysis, Freddie, six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Goldberg, of Brooklyn, died at the home of an uncle in that city of cerebro-spinal meningitis.

Reports made to the State Department of Agriculture are that Berks county farmers are harvesting twenty five bushels of wheat to the acre is some townships.

Samuel T. Harleman has been made superintendent of the crucible steel de pariment of the Bethlehem Steel Company, at Weatherly, succeeding William F. Stein, who resigned.

From a broken neck received when he fell from a cherry tree at his home In Mahanoy City several days ago, Patrick Cannon, twenty four years old,

At a special election, held at Gliber ton, to increase the borough indebted ness \$46,000, the issue lost by 423 10

James Powell, of Raven Run, was so badly injured at the Hammond Colliery by a fall of coal, that he did at the State Hospital.

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