

# BUILDING UP BIG ARMY AND NAVY

### Preliminary Steps to the Mobilizing of Millions.

## ARMY SYSTEM REORGANIZED

Two New Departments Created in Atlantic Coast Region—National Guardsmen To Police Coast Points.

Washington.—President Wilson took steps Sunday to place the nation on a war footing. By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to its full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the President has exercised the full limit of his legal powers as Commander-in-Chief to prepare the navy for war.

For the army, the President directed that two new military departments be created in the Atlantic Coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army Congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders, instead of four, in the interests of speed and efficiency in mobilization.

**State Troops Called Back.**  
The third step was to assume as a national duty the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities. For this purpose 11 full infantry regiments, two separate battalions and one separate company of National Guard were called back into the Federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplementing these troops, a regiment of Pennsylvania guards and two companies of Georgia Infantry, en route home from the border for muster out, were ordered retained in the Federal service.

The President's orders were made known in terse official statements issued by both departments. No explanation accompanied them except the statement that reorganization of the military departments, effective May 1, was designed to facilitate decentralization of command.

**Official Statements Issued.**  
Following is the executive order bringing the navy up to war strength: "By virtue of the authority vested in the President by the act of Congress approved August 29, 1916, entitled 'An Act making Appropriations for the naval services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes' it is hereby directed that the authorized enlisted strength of the navy be increased to 87,000 men."

**"WOODROW WILSON."**  
The navy must enroll immediately approximately 26,000 men to reach the required strength. Secretary Daniels supplemented it tonight with personal telegrams to newspaper editors all over the country urging them to aid the department in every way in their power to obtain the men.

**Baker Designates Troops.**  
The War Department statement concerning the calling out of National Guard troops follows: "Many States have deemed it advisable to call out the National Guard for police purposes of protection. As the necessity for such steps arises from issues which are more national than local, it has been deemed advisable by the President to call into Federal service for the above-mentioned purpose the following organizations of the National Guard:

- "Massachusetts, Second and Ninth Regiments.
- "Pennsylvania, First and Third Regiments.
- "Maryland, Fourth Regiment.
- "District of Columbia, First Separate Battalion.
- "Virginia, Second Regiment.
- "Vermont, Company B, First Regiment.
- "Connecticut, First Regiment.
- "New York, Second and Seventy-first Regiments.
- "New Jersey, First and Fifth Regiments.
- "Delaware, First Battalion, First Regiment.

"The following organizations which are now in the Federal service will not be mustered out:

- "Thirteenth Pennsylvania, A and B companies of the First Georgia."

## U. S. MEN OUT OF SANTIAGO.

**Cubans Give Assurances of Ability To Keep Order.**  
Santiago De Cuba.—Relying on assurances of the ability of the Cubans to maintain order, the American commander withdrew Sunday the last men of the force landed two weeks ago. The city is quiet, although skirmishes in the outskirts are not infrequent.

**Col. Aurelio Havia, the Minister of the Interior, now is here supervising the situation. The number of Cuban troops has been largely increased and it is announced that a vigorous campaign against the rebels will be inaugurated immediately. The rebels are continuing their campaign of destruction, but there are no indications that they are in a position to make formidable resistance.**

The new Government in the city has made many arrests of persons connected with the former regime.

## GUARD SENT TO NIAGARA FALLS.

**New York Troops Will Protect Buffalo's Power Plants.**

Albany, N. Y.—The request of the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce that the power plants at Niagara Falls be guarded by National Guardsmen was granted by Governor Whitman. The request was made yesterday by a delegation from the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce, which came here after rumors of plots against industrial plants were circulated.

# SPEED RECRUITING FOR LIMITED TERM

### Men Need Serve in Navy Only During Emergency.

## NAVY NEEDS 26,456 MEN

Men Not To Be Required To Serve Out Usual Enlistment Term Of Four Years—Recruiting Force Enlarged.

Washington.—The Navy Department in a big drive to bring enlistments up to full strength and to fill the immediate need for men, dispatched orders to all recruiting stations to accept men for the Marine Corps as well as the reserve corps for a term limited to the "present emergency." Men so recruited will be pressed into service with the understanding that they will receive furlough when the emergency ends and not be compelled to serve out the usual four years. To rush enlistments and broaden the campaign for new men, an additional force of 100 officers and 1,000 men may be detailed for recruiting purposes.

The total enlisted strength of the Navy is 61,089, it was shown by department reports. Figuring in the men whose term of enlistment will expire in the near future, the Navy now needs 26,456 men to bring the number up to the maximum allowed by the present law. When the present limit is reached the President will be asked to extend it to furnish plenty of additional men for every vessel and for duty on shore. When the special session convenes legislation is expected to be passed making it easier for enlisted men to secure commissions. The Navy Department needs 995 officers now for immediate duty.

## TRAIL OF DEAD BEHIND STORM.

Twenty-five To Fifty People Killed. Over 100 Hurt.

New Albany, Ind.—Between 25 and 50 persons were killed and probably 100 or more injured by a storm which swept over New Albany, demolishing scores of residences and several industrial plants.

Twenty-five bodies are known to have been recovered, and it is expected this number will be materially increased when all the debris of wrecked buildings has been cleared away.

The lighting system for the residence section of the city was put out of commission by the storm, and the work of rescue is proceeding slowly and with difficulty.

In addition to the bodies taken to undertaking establishments there were reports of others that were taken to private homes.

## VASSAR GIRLS READY.

1,120 Students At College Sign Up For War Service.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—Announcement was made that Vassar College is in a state of "practical mobilization," with nearly all of its 1,120 girl students signed up for war service in the National League for Women's Service as Nurses, Wireless Operators and Clerks. Hospital classes of the American Red Cross are ready to be graduated at once. Sewing and knitting classes have been at work for months.

## WAR MAY CLOSE HARVARD.

University Would Likely Be Made Training Camp.

Cambridge, Mass.—A semi-official announcement was made that in the event of war the college year at Harvard University probably would be terminated within a short time and the University plant turned into a military camp. The announcement was in the form of an editorial in the Harvard Crimson.

## CAPTIVES TO FRONT.

Germany Puts Prisoners on Battle Line As Reprisals.

Lausanne, Switzerland.—Germany has sent many of her captives to the front lines of battle as reprisals, according to a statement issued by the International Red Cross. The statement said the Red Cross was endeavoring to dissuade the German authorities from such form of reprisals.

## BILLY SUNDAY WILL AID.

To Turn Tabernacle Into Recruiting Station In Event Of War.

Buffalo, N. Y.—If there's war, Billy Sunday will turn his New York City tabernacle into a recruiting station. "I'd be a poor mutt of a pacifist if I didn't," he said.

## Guatemala Protests.

Guatemala City.—The Guatemalan Government has handed to the German Minister a protest against the recent German note on submarine warfare.

## Mexican Minister Resigns.

Mexico City.—The resignation of Candido Aguilar as Foreign Minister was accepted by President Carranza. Senor Aguilar will run for Governor of Vera Cruz.

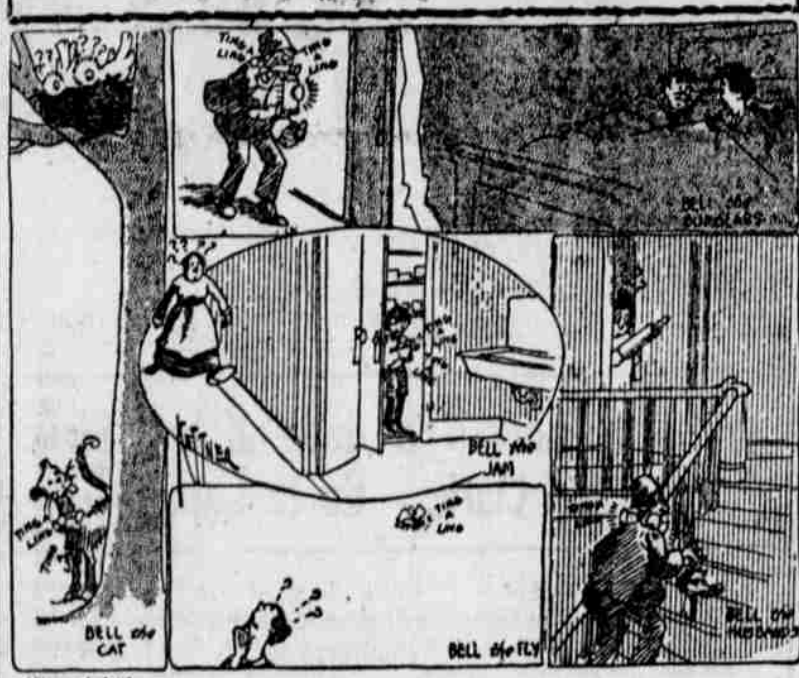
## Would Build Chaser.

Sacramento, Cal.—A movement was initiated at a banquet here to Congressman Chas. F. Curry to collect a fund of \$250,000 for the building of a submarine chaser for the United States.

## Pittsburgh College To Aid.

Pittsburgh.—All available resources of the University of Pittsburgh that may be needed have been placed at the disposal of the United States Government.

# WHY NOT BELL OUR WORRIES?



Humane society advises belling the cat to save our wild birds.—News Item.

# EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS APRIL 2

### Instead of April 16, to Deal With Grave Questions.

## PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION

Would Have Called Members Together Earlier Than Date Set If He Had Thought They Could Have Organized Before That Time.

Washington.—President Wilson Wednesday called Congress in extra session on April 2.

The purpose of the extra session is to take action on the state of war which admittedly exists between the United States and Germany.

## To Consider Grave Questions.

In his proclamation calling Congress together the President states that it is for the purpose to receive a communication from him concerning "grave questions of international policy."

The proclamation does not state specifically that the President considers a state of war exists, but leaves the question for discussion in his address and for action by Congress.

**President's Proclamation.**  
The President's proclamation follows:

"Whereas public interests require that the Congress of the United States should be convened in extra session at 12 o'clock noon on the second day of April, 1917, to receive a communication by the executive on grave questions of international policy;

"Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the Congress of the United States to convene in extra session at the Capitol in the city of Washington on the second day of April, 1917, at 12 o'clock noon, of which all persons who shall at that time be entitled to act as members thereof are hereby required to take notice.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States of America the twenty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and forty-first."

When the President addresses Congress he is expected to show how a state of war actually has existed for some time because of the unlawful aggressions of German submarines.

Congress is expected formally to declare a state of war existing, vote a large sum, probably half a billion dollars, for national defense, and clothe the President with authority to use the armed forces of the United States, as it empowered President McKinley to deal with the menace of Spain in 1898.

Such action would not be a declaration of war except in a technical sense, and whether the United States and Germany actually go to war in the fullest acceptance of the term will depend on what the Imperial Government does before Congress is assembled or after it acts.

Much to change the President's present intentions or the course of the government in the crisis may develop before April 2. The first American armed ships will by that time have reached the war zone. The ruthless destruction of one of them unquestionably would be an act of war.

On the other hand, sinking of a submarine by one of the armed merchantmen probably would be met as an act of war by Germany. Even the arming of American ships with the avowed purpose of defending them against U-boats may be declared such an act.

In any of these events practically nothing would remain except for Congress to acknowledge a state of war existing from a certain specified date. United States Will Not Declare War.

The next 10 days, until Congress meets, will be days of tense anxiety, of eager waiting and watching, fraught with possibilities of tremendous consequences to the United States.

President Wilson and his advisers in the Cabinet and in Congress have

## TELEGRAPH TICKS.

Railroad congestion and what should be done to eliminate it was discussed by the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association at Pittsburgh.

Ten Cleveland retail coal dealers were indicted by the county grand jury for violation of the anti-trust law by combining to fix coal prices.

Two hundred and fifty young men applied for enlistment at the Boston Navy Yard.

no intention that war shall be declared by the United States. By the hostile acts of German submarines they believe the Imperial German Government is actually making war on the United States, and that it shall be recognized as such a state. To meet such a condition the armed forces of the country and all the national resources are to be put in a state of readiness. Then whether the nation shall enter the war in its full sense will depend upon how much further Germany carries her acts of aggression.

In every sense, war, if it actually comes, will be a defensive war, free from ambitions of spoils or territory in which the United States, the President has publicly declared, shall want nothing for itself, and shall seek only to preserve the rights of civilization and humanity.

In such a situation the United States might even become an actual participant in the hostilities on the European continent without becoming a political ally of any of the Entente powers, simply casting its weight of men, money and moral influence into the battle against a common enemy.

## NEW RUSSIA RECOGNIZED.

Ambassador Francis First To Extend Congratulations.

Petrograd.—The United States is the first nation to recognize formally the new Government of Russia. Ambassador Francis made a preliminary call on Foreign Minister Milukoff immediately upon the receipt of instructions from the State Department at Washington.

In the afternoon, accompanied by his staff, including the naval and military attaches, he went to the Marinsky Palace, where the council of Ministers was assembled, made the formal recognition and presented congratulations and felicitations on behalf of the United States.

## Recognition Authorized.

Washington.—Formal and full recognition by the United States of the new Government of Russia was announced at the State Department. The silence which has been observed at the department concerning the events in Russia was broken when officials learned that the news of Ambassador Francis' official welcoming of the new regime had been received in press dispatches.

## PLOT FINANCED BY EMBASSY.

Detective Tells Of Admission Of Von Kleist, On Trial At N. Y.

New York.—An alleged admission that money for the establishment of a bomb factory in Hoboken, N. J., was furnished direct from officials of the German Embassy at Washington was read when the trials were begun in the Federal Court here of six men charged with having attempted to create a reign of terror on the high seas by destroying vessels sailing from American ports with cargoes for the Entente Allies.

## PRISON FOR GERMAN PLOT.

Sander and Wunnenberg Get Two Years and Are Fined \$2,500.

New York.—Albert O. Sander and Charles N. Wunnenberg, who pleaded guilty to a charge of having sent spies to England from this country to gather information for the German military authorities, were sentenced to serve two years in the Federal prison at Atlanta and to pay a fine of \$2,500 each.

## ARMED MEN HOLD UP TRAIN.

Crew Covered With Revolvers and Several Cars Broken Open.

Buffalo, N. Y.—Armed men attacked a westbound freight train on the New York Central Railroad near Athol Springs. The train was stopped by a block signal and the armed men suddenly appeared. Members of the train crew were covered with revolvers by two of the thieves, while the others broke open several cars.

Almost \$300,000 was spent by the railroads in newspaper advertising during the recent eight-hour controversy with their men, it was announced by Frank H. Fayant, who is in charge of publicity for the national conference committee of the railroads.

Five persons were killed and four others seriously injured in the tornado which swept a small section near Delark, Ark.

The New Hampshire House of Representatives passed a bill which would establish State-wide prohibition on May 1, 1918.

# ANOTHER STEAMER SUNK BY U-BOAT

### Eight Americans of Its Crew Lose Their Lives.

## U. S. PREPARING FOR WAR

Will Agree To No Negotiations Until Germany Declares Its Purpose To Abandon Its Ruthless Submarine War.

Washington.—American Consul Mahin, at Amsterdam, cabled the State Department that the American steamer Healdton, sunk by a submarine Wednesday off Terschelling, Holland, was torpedoed without warning and that 20 of the crew were drowned.

The Consul's dispatch follows: "Standard oil ship Healdton, from Philadelphia for Rotterdam, cargo oil, torpedoed without warning 8:15 evening of 21st, 25 miles north of Terschelling, Holland. Twenty of crew drowned. One died of injuries. Others taken to north of Holland. Submarine seen after torpedoing."

The sinking of the Healdton adds another grave chapter to the story of war waged against American shipping by Germany to be laid before Congress by President Wilson at the special session he has called for April 2.

The Healdton was unarmed, having left port before the President authorized the Navy to furnish guns and gunners to merchantmen. Her fate serves to heighten the profound interest with which the government and the public awaits the time when an American vessel prepared and ready to send a shell into a hostile submarine on sight will enter the war zone.

## To Ignore Mediation Move.

Washington.—No offer of mediation from any source will be entertained by President Wilson, except on the condition that Germany abandons her present ruthless submarine warfare. Nor has the report of an impending declaration of war by Germany made any impression on the President.

This, in short, is the reply of the administration to the efforts that are being made, unofficially at present, to sound out this government if it will entertain any suggestion from neutral sources for mediation between the United States and Germany previous to the meeting of Congress, when a declaration of the existence of a state of war between the United States and Germany will be promptly adopted.

Overtures from the Swiss government through Dr. Paul Ritter, the minister in Washington who took over German interests when Count von Bernstorff was given his passports, will not be encouraged.

Indeed, it has already been diplomatically intimated to Dr. Ritter that any efforts on his part to stem the course of events will be futile, and therefore, any plans his government may have might as well be abandoned in advance.

## RHODE ISLAND WILL PREPARE.

Enrollment Of Organizations and Constabulary Authorized.

Providence, R. I.—Under suspension of the rules both the Senate and House passed an emergency measure authorizing Governor Beckman to call into service for public safety all military or civic organizations and to enroll a volunteer constabulary. The bill carried an appropriation of \$150,000 to be used at the Governor's discretion for home protection or to assist national Government.

## ENLISTED MEN GET CHANGE.

Sixty From Each Regiment in South Can Get Commissions.

San Antonio, Texas.—Sixty enlisted men from each regiment of the Regular Army on duty in the Southern Department, who are best fitted to be commissioned as lieutenants and captains in a volunteer army, have been selected in pursuance of War Department instructions designed to provide a junior commissioned personnel for an army of 500,000 men. The list has been forwarded to Washington.

## CHAMPIONS LITTLE NATIONS.

Illinois House Wants War Declared On This Ground.

Springfield, Ill.—The Illinois House of Representatives adopted a joint resolution urging that if the United States enter the European war, it enter in the cause of smaller nations and liberty. The resolution will go to the Senate for concurrence. It endorses the plea in behalf of smaller nations made by President Wilson in his address to the Senate January 22 last.

## SPANISH SHIPS TO ARM.

King Alfonso Will Sign Decree For Insuring Safety.

Madrid.—King Alfonso signed a decree for the insuring of the safety of Spanish maritime commerce. The measure adopted will be in accordance with the procedure followed by other foreign countries.

## German Gunboat Blown Up.

London.—A German gunboat in the harbor of Tsing-Tau, China, has been blown up and sunk, says a Reuter dispatch from Hongkong.

## Italy Will Save Daylight.

Rome.—A decree has been promulgated directing all Italian clocks to be advanced one hour from April 1 to September 30.

North Dakota and Mississippi have nearly nine-tenths country folk.

# SAYS FEE SYSTEM IS DISGRACEFUL

### Representative J. F. Woodward Astonished to Find It Prevails in Ten Counties

## WILL ATTEMPT TO STOP IT

Under This Plan a Sheriff or Warden Who is in Charge of a County Prison is Allowed a Certain Amount for Feeding Prisoners.

Harrisburg.—"The fee system is a disgraceful form of graft and should be abolished entirely and immediately," said Representative James F. Woodward, chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.

"I had been under the impression," he said, "that the fee system had been eliminated long ago in Pennsylvania, and I was amazed to find that it still prevails in ten counties of this Commonwealth. I shall do all in my power to have it done away with."

Under the "fee" system a Sheriff or warden who is in charge of a county prison is allowed a certain amount by the county for feeding his prisoners. The average daily amount allowed for each inmate of the Pennsylvania jails which retain the fee system is thirty-three cents. But the amount actually spent by the Sheriff or warden in no case, it is alleged, exceeds ten cents a day, and is usually much less, running as low as six cents. The quantity or quality of food to sustain a human being for twenty-four hours that can be bought for six cents can be readily imagined. Prisoners are complaining that they are being starved. Some who have been interviewed have lost heavily in weight as a result of the system.

The fee system permits the Sheriff to have as his own the difference between the thirty-three cents a day and the amount he actually spends for the prisoners' food. Thus Sheriffs get rich at the expense of their wards. It is estimated by the Pennsylvania Prison Society that the ten sheriffs or wardens of the "fee" system prisons in Pennsylvania reap a harvest of \$41,000 annually from feeding their prisoners. They receive other fees in large number. They get no salary and are compelled by law to recognize the feeding of their prisoners as one of their means of "livelihood." The county generally provides them with specious quarters in the jails, where they live with their families.

The ten counties retaining the "fee" system are Bucks, York, Erie, Lycoming, Washington, Blair, Franklin, Lawrence, Mercer and Northumberland.

Representative Woodward did not restrain his indignation that the "fee" system should still be in vogue in Pennsylvania.

"I do not favor high-class hotel menus for county prisons, I think, so long as prisoners are given wholesome food and enough of it to keep them in health, that they are getting all they deserve. But I am absolutely opposed to a system by which sheriffs or wardens take advantage of them and make a living by taking part of the money the county appropriates to feed the prisoners. It is contemptible. If the county thinks well enough of prisoners to give thirty-three cents a day for their keep, then they should get thirty-three cents' worth of food. Personally, I am sure that the abolition of the fee system and the purchasing of food by contract would result in a saving to the county and an improvement in the fare of the prisoners."

Chairman Woodward is opposed, however, to the Hess bill by which it is proposed to establish six industrial prison farms in this State. He was opposed to the saddling of any more institutions upon the State. He is in favor, however, of any measures looking toward the employment of prisoners in county jails. Mr. Woodward's position with regard to the expenditure of State money to build prison farms will very likely be upheld.

It is expected that a bill abolishing the "fee" system in county prisons and certain other forms of abuse will be introduced into the Legislature at an early date.

## Gretna May Get \$160,000.

Plans whereby an appropriation of \$160,000 made for the encampment of the National Guard of Pennsylvania last year, but used because of the Guardsmen being called into Federal service, can be reappropriated to make Mt. Gretna one of the finest camps in the country will be worked out by Governor Brumbaugh and chairman of the Legislative Appropriation Committee.

## Democrats Demand Report.

Democrats in the Legislature demand a report from the Economy and Efficiency Commission upon the need for and the services of the 208 attaches of the Senate and House representatives who are drawing in salaries a total of \$35,662.67 a month. It is charged that there is little or no necessity for the employment of most of these men, and that in the case of some of them they do not even come to Harrisburg except when the time rolls around to collect their "pay" from the State Treasurer.

## Drug Gang in Tolls.

The police believe that in the arrest of Myer Lane, of Philadelphia, in Reading, they have the missing link of evidence that will bring about numerous arrests among members of an alleged drug syndicate. The police raided a half dozen resorts here, and caused the arrest of Lane. According to a statement made by Chief of Police J. E. Wetzel, the narcotic drugs came from a New York factory, and are distributed from Philadelphia. Lane is supposed to be one of the traveling agents of the Philadelphia distributors.

# PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

### Mr. Pickering, Bucks, introduced bill in the House providing that the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings shall act with the State of New Jersey in acquiring and maintaining bridges across the Delaware.

Plans for energetic presentation of the local option issue to the voters of the State were made at the annual meeting of the Local Option Committee of Pennsylvania.

The Public Service Commission handed down a decision that the of the Pennsylvania Railroad to a new tariff for coal applied only to pers loading from tipples was discriminatory against those loading cars wagons.

A jury before Judge Barrat, in County of Common Pleas, at Philadelphia, rendered a verdict of \$7,500 for J. J. Sgier and \$3,500 for Martha Sgier, her husband, in their action against the Reading Railway Company to recover damage for injuries received by Mrs. Sgier.

More than 600 miners employed by the Northwestern Mining & Excavation Company at Du Bois, who went on strike since last week, have returned to work.

George R. Woodington, of No. 1 North Eighteenth street, Philadelphia, passenger engineer on the Reading Railway, was squeezed to death between his locomotive and a car. It was again reported that the Champ Shipbuilding Company of Philadelphia, proposes building a 1200 foot long on the southern of Petty's Island, recently purchased by the shipbuilding company.

A victim of illuminating gas, Hannah Howard, 63 years old, found dead in her bed at Philadelphia. Bertha Howard, a grandchild, 15 years old, was unconscious was resuscitated. A canary bird cage was also found dead.

State Game Protector Charles Fenstermacher, of Reading, has leased a number of rabbits to Baer and Geiger's Mills.

Detected while entering the home of Howard Wagner in Royers Newton Township, a negro, arrested, after he had run as a landlady.

A jury of view has recommended the abandoning of Yost road in town to provide yard space for new plant of the McClintock Construction Company, and by building a new road the jury allowed \$95,000 damage.

E. S. Gehman & Son will open a hosiery mill at Bally.

George Rohrbach, of Macungo, trapped a pure white weasel.

Berks county has 34,575 male wage workers, of whom 10,000 are women.

Carpenters in the Perkiomen valley have advanced their charges, and will receive 30 cents an hour.

The Commercial Building, of town, has been sold to Grant Order of Independent American \$22,000.

Kirklyn folk will erect the trolley shelter, at a cost of \$100. The Ashbourne Improvement Association is developing a campaign to procure needed community improvements.

Highland Park school will get flagpole and a large American flag through the combined efforts of Kirklyn Civic Association and Highland Park Improvement Association.

School officials of Morrisville declared war on cigarettes, and to any student will be followed prosecution.

The Women's Civic Club of Wales is developing "home" on vacant lots.

Twenty-three converts of the of the Brethren were immersed in creek near Myerstown.

Western Maryland Brakeless M. Hull was killed by accident at Rutherford yards.

An average of one man a day has been maintained at the rectory since opened in Altoona two weeks ago for the regular army.

In the recent sleighing 600 cords of wood were hauled to chemical plants in Elk, Forest and Warren counties.

The Rev. M. N. George, of Grace Reformed Church, of City, has resigned to accept of a salary of \$1,000 from