

NEWS IN GENERAL

Last Monday more than twenty-seven hundred suits, entered against J. V. Thompson within the last month became returnable. The suits range in claims from \$200 to \$300,000.

President Wilson and Mrs. Norman Galt will be married on Saturday, December 18, at Mrs. Galt's home in Washington, D. C. according to a formal announcement made Saturday at the White House. It is also announced that the only guests will be Mrs. Galt's mother, her brothers and sisters, the president's brother and sister, his daughters and the immediate member of the household. No invitations will be issued.

Retiring to her room Saturday night, Mrs. Viola Russell, 22 years old, wife of Thomas Russell of Cumberland swallowed 15 grains of bichloride and is in a serious condition at the Western Maryland Hospital. She is the second wife of Mr. Russell to attempt to end her life in the same manner during the past year. On March 28, the first Mrs. Russell swallowed 45 grains of bichloride and died at the Western Maryland Hospital nearly a week later.

Because he dreamed that Henry Ford's peace ship was sunk by a German submarine, Basil Peel, a well-known Pittsburgher urged him not to go "I dreamed I saw the ship in mid-ocean and a German submarine approaching," said Mr. Peel. "There was a terrific explosion and the ship began sinking. I saw a wireless operator call for help. An English battleship appeared. The people on the singing boat cried for help but the commander of the battleship refused and the whole party was lost."

Very significant abatement of demands of Germany is shown in the peace terms published this week upon the authority of German representatives, when compared with the extravagant and boastful claims advanced heretofore. The difference is so great that the conclusion is unavoidable that Germany, despite military successes, is approaching the breaking point and is, for the first time, desirous of ending the war.

Mrs. Steven Benik of James City near Kane Pa, early Thursday shot and killed her daughter, Anna, aged 6, when she thought she heard a burglar at a window. Turning quickly the mother, while holding her child in her arms fired. The child fell to the floor with a bullet through its heart. The bullet also passed thru the palm of the woman's hand with which she clasped the child.

A new campaign is under way to raise within 90 days an additional million dollars for Jewish war relief. Details will shortly be given out for publicity. Thus far \$1,940,000 has been collected. At a meeting of the joint distribution committee of the American Jewish Relief Committee, the Central Relief Committee and the People's Relief Committee, a total of \$229,243 was appropriated for the relief of Jews in the various war zones.

President Wilson shook hands Wednesday with more than 1,000 girls, boys, men and women, who have taken prizes in Ohio in various contests, including corn growing, stock raising and domestic science. The group included Dewey Haynes, the champion boy corn grower of Ohio, who raised 155 bushels of corn from one acre this year. Miss Leola Jones, the champion girl corn grower of the State, was also present. Secretary Houston greeted the Ohio agriculturists earlier in the day. Thursday they went to Philadelphia and on Friday to New York.

Half of the population of England is engaged in producing war munitions to aid the 3,000,000 men in fighting in a war which is costing Great Britain \$1,000,000 an hour, the Hon. E. H. Brand, financial agent of David Lloyd George, minister of munitions, told business men at a luncheon in Ottawa, Canada, a few days ago. "The war," continued Mr. Brand, "will be a long one, and no one can tell how much more England, Canada and other parts of the empire may have to do before it is successfully ended, but of all the things to be done to win, financial operations are the most important."

The next forward movement of the Russian armies will be in numbers of millions, not army corps, according to the statement of a high army official. The armies are in better shape than for many months said this official, and quite capable of moving forward at any point. But the new broad plain of campaign contemplates much more than the taking of towns and territory by drives at this point and that. The Russian staff is well satisfied with the net result of the strategy during the past summer and it is asserted, is willing to bide its time for the inception of the new campaign. contented army, well fed, clothed and housed and weekly steam cleaned is the First Russian army, as seen by The Associated Press correspondent during a 10-days' visit to the positions along the eastern front. The army is in snug permanent winter quarters but is



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FIREMEN'S CARNIVAL STARTS ON DECEMBER 18.

The Firemen's Carnival which is to be held from Dec. 18 to Dec. 26 will be in the vacant store room formerly occupied by the Habel & Phillips grocery. There will a great variety of Christmas gifts to be had such as vases, glassware, laundry bags, cushions, Teddy bears with goo-goo eyes, ornaments etc. Also bed spreads, blankets. Give the boys a share of your Christmas patronage.

LICENSED TO WED.

Thos. R. Clark and Margaret W. Geisey, both of Ligonier. Lewis S. Warren, of Greensburg, and Julia N. Wejmer, of Somerset township. Samuel J. Snow, Madone Lands and Mary M. Hoffman, of Husband. Maurice W. McMullen, of Iowa and Malissa N. Bowman, of Stoyestown.

LOOK AT THE LABEL ON YOUR PAPER. PAY UP IF YOU OWE.

ready at an hour's notice to march.

One of the most desperate hold-ups ever attempted in New York was staged last week when George DeBrazzia tried to wrest a bag containing \$4,000 in currency from two messengers of the Bank of the Metropolis at the 14th street subway station. DeBrazzia came up on the two messengers from behind. One of them Allan Gardner, 18 years old, of Amityville L. I. he shot down in cold blood. The other, Walter F. Orleman, 39, of West Brighton, Staten Island, grappled with him on the subway stairs, tore the revolver from him and followed until the police arrested the man.

When William Hoffman met Miss Agnes King a couple of months ago at Chicago it was a case of love at first sight with him, Miss King was young, pretty, vivacious and intelligent—the exact sort of a girl Hoffman decided would make him a treasure wife. He proposed and she accepted and the couple were married two months after they first met. Not until the night of the marriage after the wedding guests had departed according to a suit for divorce filed by Hoffman, did he discover that his bride was insane. She went to an asylum. Miss King, according to the charges, was a former inmate of the Kankekee asylum for the insane. Yet Hoffman was not aware of this fact when he met her and during the two months covering their courtship she is said to have deceived him.

There is no clue to the cause of the explosion at the Dupont black powder plant, near Wilmington, Del, last week which caused the death of 31 men. There was a gruesome scene in an undertaker's establishment. relatives of the victims sorted arms legs and shreds of flesh eagerly seeking some marks of identification. This was futile. Eleven of the victims were identified by shreds of clothing which clung to an arm, leg or trunk. These fragments of flesh were buried as though the bodies were intact. The remains of the others which filled an ordinary barrel were buried in a single casket. One of the many rumors circulated was that workmen in the DuPont plants recently discovered particles of steel filing or bits of nails in the powder under the process of manufacture. These particles of metals, it was said, in passing through one of the processes used to mold the loose powder into block might have caused the spark which set off the blast.

LIBRARIES BUY FEW BOOKS

Educators Alarmed Over the Effect of Rigid Economy That is Being Practiced in England.

It is expected that the war economy of the English local authorities will take the form, among other things, of a cutting down of expenditure on public libraries. The recent local government board circular suggested the libraries as one of the departments on which there might be a saving.

The Library association at its recent meeting had a discussion which showed that many people are afraid that economy will have the effect of seriously injuring the educational value of the libraries, and this at a time when the importance of literature, both as an escape from an overmastering obsession and as helping people to take wider and sounder views on the problems of the war, is greater than ever. The Lambeth Libraries committee has just decided not to buy any novels during the war, and it is probable that this example will be widely followed. The argument is, of course, that fiction in war times is a luxury. What are called "useful books" will continue to be bought at Lambeth.

It is likely, says the Manchester Guardian, that many library committees will adopt the sensible course of cutting down expenditures on ephemeral fiction while still buying the works of the first rate novelists. It is impossible that there will be any retrenchment on books on the war, which are being eagerly read at the moment. Many committees may cease buying the more expensive books of general literature.

OCCUPATION ONE OF PERIL

Men Engaged in Removing Awnings Risk Their Lives in Every Task They Undertake.

Steeplejacks have long enjoyed a reputation for daring, but it is a question whether they come in the same class of riskers as the awning removers, says the New York Times. These removers do not need or use the rope and block and fall accessories of the steeple men. Yet they climb to places and do their work in what seems to be an impossible manner.

Starting at the street level two or three awning removers will strip the entire front of a flat house and never go indoors. They are as agile as acrobats. They reach up to a window sill and then raise themselves to the window ledge. Finishing the window while standing at this ledge they seize the top stone of the window, pull themselves up to it and from there reach again to the window ledge above so as to strip another window. Through the belt they wear runs a line and with this they lower the awnings as they take them down.

How they can do their work with so little to hang on to is more remarkable than the tasks performed by the structural iron workers. The iron worker if he slips has something at hand in the way of a beam around which he has a chance to lock his arms. The awning remover when he slips falls outward from the ledge and has nothing to clutch. Recently three awning removers stripped a seven-story flat of 75 windows in the Bronx in the remarkable time of three hours, all from the outside.

Artillery in the Alps. All sorts of out-of-the-way and often unexpected difficulties are met by the Italian troops in the fight against the Austrians. Several fights, for instance, have taken place at heights between 7,000 and 10,000 feet above sea level.

At these great heights the ordinary gun sights are useless. The higher the altitude the rarer the air becomes and farther a gun will shoot. Most of the gun sights are made for and tested at practically sea level, so the Italian gunners in the Alps would have found that their guns were not shooting accurately if special sights had not been used.

A shell at 5,000 feet up, for instance, which at the ordinary level would travel 2,500 yards, would go 2,560 yards, while at 7,500 feet altitude it would be going 2,600 yards, or 100 yards further than it ought to go.

All the Italian mountain guns, therefore, have to have specially corrected sights. We have, of course, used similar mountain guns in India and other places, but there has never been a campaign waged at such a height as the one between the Italians and Austrians.—Pearson's.

South African Signal Service. According to a report received, there has recently been inaugurated at the Union government wireless station at Slangkop a radio time signal service for the convenience of mariners in South African waters. The signals will be sent out daily. The stations at Cape Town and Durban are operated during the 24 hours of each day and send signals of 600 meters wave length. A eleven o'clock (Union time) — nine o'clock Greenwich time) at night time signals are emitted by the Cape Town station, extending over an interval of 30 seconds. The time signals are preceded by the usual warning signal.—Scientific American.

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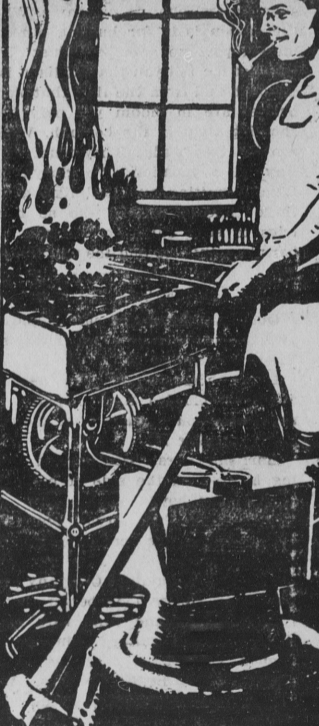
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