

CITY GLOWING WITH SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS JOY

Tomorrow's Observance of Day of Days Will Be Marked by Charity and Cheer Unbounded.

Philadelphia is relaxing today, the eve of Christmas, after a season of the most wonderful record of good will to men in the 300 years of the city's history.



Thousands of men and women earning good salaries, who never knew it before, will feel something approximating the pinch of poverty because of the wholehearted way in which they have responded to the appeals of their own people.

Officials of charitable organizations say that no one should go hungry tomorrow. The three ships of food sent to Belgium to which Philadelphia was the largest contributor, were not sent without sacrifice on the part of rich and poor alike.

The long arm of Philadelphia also has been stretched out to the children of Belgium.

THE WEATHER



Just what we wanted! Tomorrow's der Tag! Bene! Prekrasno!!! Which means in English, French, German, Italian and Russian, "Tomorrow's the Day for which praise be." It would seem that further comment is unnecessary.

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Snow or rain this afternoon. For tomorrow probable snow in the morning and much colder.

Observations at Philadelphia S. A. M. Barometer 30.30. Wind S. W. 15 miles per hour.

Lamps to Be Lighted Autos and other vehicles 4:55 p. m.

Almanac of the Day Sun sets 4:39 p. m. Sun rises tomorrow 7:21 a. m.

The Tides PORT RICHMOND. High water 3:05 p. m. Low water 9:25 p. m.

Skating Today

There is skating today on Concourse and Quaker Lakes, in Fairmount Park; on Hunting Park Lake; Cresskill Valley Lake, at Chestnut Hill, and on Wissahickon Creek from the Ridge Avenue dam to the big cabin.

APARTMENT HOUSE GUESTS DRIVEN OUT BY FIRE

Flames Sweep Structure at 303 North 52d Street at Dinner Time.

Fire late this afternoon drove a score of guests from the Butts Apartment House, 303 North 52d street. No person was injured and the damage was slight.

The blaze originated on the second floor of the building just as the majority of lodgers were preparing for dinner. Soon the corridors were filled with smoke and guests made a rush to the street.

CAR JUMPS TRACK; FIVE INJURED; TWO MAY DIE

Crash at Fifteenth and Sanson Has Serious Results.

Five persons were hurt, two so seriously that they are dying at the Jefferson Hospital, and many others were shaken up this afternoon when a southbound 15th street car at Sanson street jumped the track.

H. V. MASSEY FALLS DEAD; BODY FOUND IN STREET

Retired Lawyer, Formerly Associated With John G. Johnson.

Henry Vedger Massey, a retired corporation lawyer, of Drexel Apartments, Overbrook, fell dead in front of 3877 Baring street early this morning.

CITY PLANS WORK FOR 1000 JOBLESS WORKERS

Mayor Asks Departments to Cooperate in Aid of Unemployed.

Plans for putting 1000 idle men to work on city projects within the next few weeks are being formulated by the administration department heads at the direction of Mayor Blankenburg.

FRENCH CRUISER TORPEDOED

Slight Damage Done by Austrian Submarine's Attack.

PARIS, Dec. 24. Slight damage to a French cruiser in the Strait of Otranto, in the Adriatic, as the result of an attack by an Austrian submarine, was reported by the Minister of Marine today.

WHITE CHRISTMAS TO GLADDEN HEARTS OF PHILADELPHIANS

City Swathed in Fleecy Decoration, Typical of the Joyous Season—Sleighting Promised.

Philadelphia is to have a white Christmas. Snow, corroborating this statement by the weather forecasters of this city and Washington, began to fall long before noon today in all parts of the city, and the weatherwise looked long and anxiously at the skies and called up the Weather Bureau.

PASTOR IS FELLED BY FOOTPADS AFTER TAKING GIRLS HOME

Rev. O. S. Moore and Other Residents of Germantown Victims of Highwaymen. Suspect Arrested.

Two men, one a clergyman, were held up by three masked highwaymen in Germantown, shortly after midnight this morning, but got only \$150. The minister was struck in the face with the butt of a revolver and left unconscious in the street.

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By KARL H. VON WIEGAND. GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN GERMAN ARMY, Dec. 15 via London, Dec. 24.—Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, Germany's greatest military commander, gives to his men the credit for the victories he has earned.

A Christmas Carol

Christmas in the air! Hear all angels singing; Love and peace up there!

Peace their hands are bringing; And lest the busy world forget, The bells are ringing everywhere, The children singing yet.

God grant us peace on Christmas Day; God send the conscience rest; God drive the wolves of want away, And succor the oppressed.

Christmas in the heart If the heart be lowly! Pride can have no part

In what makes Christmas holy; God lends a star to guide the meek, And baffles Herod's cunning art, And hides when proud men seek.

God grant us peace on Christmas Day; God give us heart reborn; God listen when the humble pray, And comfort hearts forlorn.

—REV. LOUIS F. BENSON, D. D.

THE EVENING LEDGER Will Not Be Issued on Christmas Day

Operation on Senator du Pont ROCHESTER, Minn., Dec. 24.—Senator Henry A. du Pont, of Delaware, underwent an operation for abdominal trouble at St. Mary's Hospital here today.

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

RUSSIAN

On the left bank of the Pilica River ultimate fighting continues. On the right bank of the Pilica we have made progress in the vicinity of Opocmo and Tomaszow.

In Galicia our success continues, south of the Vistula. In the Carpathians, while pursuing the retreating Austrians, we captured on December 22 30 officers and about 1500 men.

Near Przemysl the Austrians attempted a new sortie, during which several of their advance companies were completely annihilated. Other advance companies were made prisoners.

The Turkish offensive in the direction of Van was turned into a defensive movement, which, however, our troops succeeded in breaking after stubborn resistance. We captured from the enemy a number of prisoners, with their arms.

In the western theatre of war the enemy did not renew his attacks in the neighborhood of Neuport yesterday. At Bixachotte in the engagement Tuesday we took 200 prisoners.

The enemy is again active in the neighborhood of Chalons. In the region of Souain and Perthes infantry attacks by the enemy followed fierce artillery attacks yesterday. All were repulsed. Trenches which had been retaken by us were abandoned because of the continuous artillery fire directed against them.

In the eastern theatre of war we have resumed the offensive, advancing from the Niedenburg-Soldau line. After several days' fighting we have repulsed the enemy's attacks near Mlawa and the Houda positions there have been taken by us.

On the right bank of the Pilica and southeast of Tomaszow the Russians have delivered a number of violent attacks, but the Teutonic allies repulsed all with heavy losses to the enemy.

FRENCH

Between the sea and the River Lys we have advanced through the work of sappers in the sand dunes and have repulsed an attack from Lombardye. At Zwartelein, southeast of Ypres, we have captured a group of houses constituting the southern part of the village, in spite of very vigorous artillery fire on the part of the Germans and a counter-attack of infantry.

The Belgian army has pushed forward detachments on the right bank of the Yser River, to the south of Dixmude and has made effective a position at the head of a bridge in this vicinity.

In the region of the Aisne, throughout the day the souaves brilliantly repulsed several attacks and ended the day by still remaining masters of the trenches captured on the 21st near the Puelins road.

In the region of Craonne and Rheims all the counter attacks of the enemy upon the positions captured by us on the 23d have been repulsed.

The northeast of Meunille-Furuis we have seized 400 yards of German trenches and repulsed a counter attack.

AUSTRIAN

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"With troops of the courage and endurance of my army, I must succeed," was the statement of the famous leader of the eastern army today.

"It would be untimely to say that the Russians are completely beaten and broken," said the Field Marshal. "They are fighting bravely and well."

Neither Field Marshal von Hindenburg nor General Ludendorff, his Chief of Staff, has any illusions as to what he before the German army in Poland. They both declared there would be much hard fighting in the campaign against Warsaw, but they have the utmost confidence in final success.

Throughout the advance of the German army through Poland, Field Marshal von Hindenburg's forces, it is said, have been opposed by a vastly superior number of Russians. In telling of the fighting which has resulted in the retirement of the Russians before Warsaw, the German commander said:

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GERMANDASH OVER POLAND BORDER CUTS MLAWA LINE

German Column From North Presses Back Russian Army Invading East Prussia—Fresh Movement Menaces Warsaw With Downward Stroke.

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