

Meetings Discuss Transit Grab : Charge of Politics in Draft : Probe Shows Arsenal Blast Accidental : Other News of C

SCHOOLS CROWDED ON OPENING DAY

More Than 30,000 New Pupils on Record Roll Estimated at 200,000

ASSIGNED TO CLASSES

Many Teachers Have Answered War Summons—23,500 Boys and Girls on Half Time

Schools Overcrowded as Session Starts

Table with 2 columns: Category and Number. Includes rows for approximate number of pupils enrolled (228,500), pupils in elementary grades (200,500), pupils in high schools (18,000), etc.

The Philadelphia public schools opened today with a record-breaking enrollment.

Even the highest reports last year, however, that many of the senior and older pupils will leave before many months to take military positions which will be made vacant by the draft.

It is estimated that more than 30,000 new pupils registered. The total enrollment in the grammar schools will reach the 200,000 mark, and the attendance at the high schools will be more than 18,000.

The increase in enrollment of new pupils this year over last year will be approximately 7000. The added class rooms in new buildings and in additions to old buildings will accommodate approximately 6000 additional students when these improvements are all completed.

At the high schools, the 13th opening of the Central High School, Broad and Green streets, brought 818 freshmen and it was said that the total number of students would approximate 1900.

The following members of the faculty were absent, having either been called into active service by the War Department or enlisted: Lieut. Robert E. Thompson, Brookfield, of the Third Regiment, who was instructor of mathematics; Professor George E. Roth, of English, who is a lieutenant in the Ordnance Department; Professor James Hugh Moffett, of English, who is captain in the Ordnance Department; and Dr. William F. Craig, now lieutenant in the Medical Corps.

When the William Penn High School for Girls, Fifteenth and Wallace streets, opened its doors for the term at 9 o'clock this morning, 2100 names were on the roll books. The freshmen reported this afternoon. The hundreds of girls were quickly assigned to their classes and dismissed for the day. The work of the year will be in full swing tomorrow.

Dr. William D. Lewis, the principal, predicted that the number of pupils would be reduced to some extent by the war, because some girls will be compelled to go to work to help replace the drafted male relatives called away for Government service, while others will be tempted to accept jobs by high wages offered by employers seeking to fill the places of drafted employees.

The enrollment at the Philadelphia High School for Girls, of which Dr. Fred Gowling is principal, is more than 1200. Of these, 806 reported at 9 o'clock this morning and were quickly assigned to their classes. The freshmen, 380 in number, reported this afternoon.

An enrollment of approximately 4000 marked the fifth annual opening of the West Philadelphia High School at Forty-seventh and Walnut streets. The opening conditions caused no depletion of attendance and all classes showed particular enthusiasm and eagerness to be back at work. Exercises, over which Principal Schoch presided, were held in the auditorium before the pupils withdrew to their various classrooms. Among the announcements made was that of a newly furnished library for the use of the girls' division.

Many nations were represented at the opening of the Northeast High School, 20th street above Front. Among the 1250 students enrolled were Indians, Chinese and negroes, as well as numerous divisions of the white race. A spirit of peace prevailed and the pupils generally were primed for the strenuous work ahead. Numerous sewing machines have been placed in the school and during spare time the boys and girls will make garments and other articles for the Red Cross. George W. Rieger is principal.

The boys of the annex of the West Philadelphia High School for Boys reported this afternoon. They numbered 1900. Principal John Dennis Mahoney addressed the pupils. The real work of the annex starts tomorrow.

No formal exercises marked the opening of the Germantown High School, Germantown avenue and High street. The total enrollment will number more than 2300, it was said. Of that number, nearly 800 are boys. Two teachers were absent, Professor Guy Wheeler, who has joined the aviation corps, and William M. Lilly, professor of physics, who is in the quartermaster's department of the Ordnance Department.

CRY OF "POLITICS" MADE BY STERN

State Representative Hurls Charge at Fourth Registration Board

WANTS FINDINGS VOIDED

Federal authorities in Philadelphia and Washington and Mayor Smith have been appealed to from various sources to put an end to the reign of "terror" spread in the Fifth Ward by the fighting Careyites and followers of Isaac Deutch, Common Councilman.

The open clash between the rival factions, which has been raging in the ward for weeks, was described as a "disgrace to the city of Philadelphia."

Representative Stern said that the Fourth Registration Board, sitting at the Third and De Lancey streets station, has been playing politics in its performance of its duty.

The appeal was made by State Representative Isadore Stern, who makes his headquarters at the Third and De Lancey streets station, has been playing politics in its performance of its duty.

Representative Stern said that the district's quota was 482, and although 1300 men have been examined, only 350 have been accepted. Although 400 more have been needed, he said, 400 more have been called.

APPEAL BY BIG SISTERS

The appeal issued by the Big Sisters follows: Some time ago you and the heads of the municipal departments came before the Monday conference of which this organization is a member, and stated that at that time the women composing the administration of government in the city had no right, to bring it to the notice of your administration.

Mr. Mayor, for some time a condition of affairs has been allowed to continue which affects our city. It especially affects the organization, because the lawlessness which we desire to see in the city is being committed in the sight of hundreds of foreign Jewish people, who are trying to learn American ways and get American ideas. While taking up these studies they are contented with the exhibition of police power that is revolting, to hear of neither women nor children appearing in the streets.

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SOLDIER DIES OF DOPE, COMRADE IS ARRESTED

Prisoner Admits Both Had Taken "Stiff Dose" of Heroin. Police Seek Peddler

Dope, bought in the Tenderloin, according to the police, was responsible for the death of Louis J. Baum, of F street near Tioga, a private in Company C, Fifty-third United States Infantry, in the Episcopal Hospital last night. David Collins, of Allegheny avenue and H street, a friend of the soldier, has been arrested by the police and held to await the action of the coroner.

Collins admitted to detectives, they said, that both he and Baum had taken a "stiff dose" of heroin while together yesterday afternoon.

The soldier collapsed suddenly at F and Ontario streets. He was taken to the hospital. The police said by the police to have told Collins that Collins purchased the drug in the Tenderloin.

Detectives Benishaw and Auty, assigned to the case, said that Collins had been arrested before on dope charges and that Baum probably had been in the Tenderloin early yesterday. It is thought that Baum waited on the street while Collins negotiated for the dope with a drug peddler.

Two Men Suffocated to Death in Sewer

Continued from Page One

shouted to Benjamin: "Don't come down; there's gas down here."

Bauer and Demarino were calling for help. Sipple changed his mind about Benjamin not coming down and began urging him to climb down and help their comrades.

Both men reached the bottom of the sewer just as Bauer and Demarino fell over dead. Workmen who were a short distance away, notified several trackwalkers who sent a hurry call for an ambulance from Cooper Hospital.

A ladder was lowered and a squad of workmen and others climbed down and brought the two bodies up. Sipple and Benjamin were unconscious when brought up.

CITY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN FOR ANOTHER TERM



Students at the William Penn High School for Girls report at that institution on the first day of the term of 1917-18, which began today.

NONPARTISANS ACCUSE POLICE

Transit Protest Meeting Threatened With Interference, League Charges

RIDICULOUS, WILSON SAYS

Slip attendance, due, it was charged, to threat of police interference, caused the postponement this morning of the first protest meeting scheduled to be held at 10-30 o'clock in the Parkway Building, under the auspices of the Nonpartisan League of Philadelphia.

The explanation for the postponement of this morning's session was contained in a statement made by members of the executive committee of the league.

THE PLEDGE

"Upon distinct threat of police interference," the statement reads, "and in order that the entire citizenship of the city might have full notice and opportunity to place on record their opinion regarding the proposed Smith-Mitten transit lease, the executive committee decided to postpone the open mass-meeting of the league until Friday evening next, and in the meantime give ample time through the newspapers asking any additional candidates for Council or other public office who care to take a stand at this time against the contractor based on a contract for the Smith-Mitten following pledge:

I herewith declare myself unalterably opposed to any lease, contract, agreement or ordinance that shall bind or tie up the city or any corporation or individuals for a long or indefinite period of time in disposing of any valuable property or franchise rights without full and definite consideration and guarantee that I regard taxpayers and citizens generally, at every point, and I further declare that if elected to office I shall serve with an eye single to the interests of the entire citizenship of the city, and not to any political clique, faction or so-called boss.

Director of Public Safety Wilson was told of the statement charging police interference threats. He characterized it as "ridiculous."

The persons who attended the meeting decided to hold an informal session and for more than an hour the Smith-Mitten lease was attacked from various angles. Former Assistant City Solicitor Paul de Moll urged that only a short term lease be granted. The present lease, he asserted, was illegal because it did not state the time when the company shall begin the operation of the system, which is required, he said, under an act passed approved June 17, 1913.

Former State Senator James T. Nutty, of Frankford, assailed the fare provisions of the new lease and compared the high fares in this city with those in Detroit, where tickets are sold eight for twenty-five cents.

J. Foster Thomas spoke in favor of taking over the transit system by the city by exercise of the right of eminent domain. He advocated the postponement of the construction program until prices have dropped and declared that, rather than enter into its present form, would mean that "the city was putting its head deeper in the lion's mouth."

Robert S. Bright, executive chairman of the league, will preside at this afternoon's session. Among the speakers there will be S. Davis Page, Select Councilman Ira D. Garman, Dr. Daniel I. McDermott and Joseph B. Thompson, chairman of the Finance Committee, has been invited to discuss the lease, but he sent a letter declining on the ground that it would be improper for him to enter into public discussion of the lease until after the councilmanic hearings have been concluded.

Resolutions expressing the sentiments of the majority of those present at the meeting will be forwarded to the Joint Committee on Finance and Street Railways at the next hearing in accordance with the desire of William Dreyer Lewis. Mr. Lewis at Friday's hearing suggested that all those interested in the transit situation and who cared to do so could send suggestions to the committee and they would be answered verbally on September 21.

The Philadelphia Subway Construction Company, of which Senator Edwin H. Ware is the head, has announced that final decision on the acceptance of the subway contract it was awarded will be made Tuesday by the board of directors of the firm. Later, through Senator Ware, the company announced that it would be reconsidered.

SHOT TO SCARE, BUT KILLED

Testimony Shows Bullet Was Deflected by a Stone

A stone with a bullet mark upon it was shown to the coroner's jury today to prove that Private Fayette Grever, of 41st, a member of the machine gun company of the First Pennsylvania Infantry, shot into the ground when he killed Rufus Harris, a negro, 3739 Filbert street, at a squad camp at Thirty-seventh and Market streets August 19.

Dreyer was released by Coroner Knight for a trial by court-martial. He said he shot into the ground to frighten Harris when the latter became abusive and that the bullet hit a stone and was deflected.

Dead Man Exhumed and Identified

EXEMPTION SOUGHT FOR WATER BUREAU MEN

Director Datesman Says Bacteriologists Are Necessary for City Service

Men who analyze the city's water should be exempt from military service, in the opinion of Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, who today filed appeals before Draft Board No. 2 in the cases of three men in his department.

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There is a difference of opinion between the Federal and State authorities regarding the disposition of the State police. Major John C. Brown, head of the constabulary, conferred this afternoon with Attorney General Francis Shunk Brown as to what steps should be taken. Mr. Brown said recently he believed the police should be exempt because they are employees of the State, but the authorities decided otherwise.

An appeal may be made to the Federal authorities to reconsider.

A suggestion that the United States Shipping Board obtain exemption from conscription for nautical students destined to officer Uncle Sam's war merchant fleet was sent today to Henry Howard, director of nautical schools and recruiting, by E. Warren Smith, chairman of the second class of the United States School of Navigation, at the University of Pennsylvania.

DISCHARGED

Quast Hirsack, 2415 Sergeant st. William Levinson, 2486 Douglas st. Michael J. Pastuszek, 2226 N. 26th st. to January 15, 1918.

REJECTED

Stephen S. Paxon, 2841 84th st. William McLaughlin, 2516 W. Fletcher st. Edward F. Penderast, 2046 Lehigh ave.

WOMEN'S WAISTS AND MEN'S TROUSERS wrapped around their bodies under their bulky clothing caused the arrest of two negro employees of the Adams Express factory in this city with those in Detroit, where tickets are sold eight for twenty-five cents.

Grand Jury Sworn In

Quarter Sessions Panel Takes Oath for September Term

Court Crier Levi Hart, in Quarter Sessions Court, today administered the oath of office to the Grand Jury who are to serve for the September term of court. Judge Patterson appointed Thomas Cunningham, machinist, 1344 South street, as foreman of the body. The other jurors are as follows:

Walter Chew, solicitor, 258 South Fifty-seventh street; George Craig, engineer, 4802 Paschall avenue; E. J. Donaghy, electrician, 271 South American street; Martin Fitzgerald, bookkeeper, 3419 North Marshall street; Frank Flynn, moulder, 2214 Spring Garden street; Joseph Haberstreit, cigarmaker, 1608 North Fifth street; Frank B. Heins, plumber, 38 East Tulpehocken street; John H. Keegan, elevator, 2300 Aramingo avenue; James Klipatnick, dealer, 2211 Oakford street; C. G. Larsen, cornicemaker, 5508 Locust street; William McNeely, dealer, 1801 South Twenty-first street; William O'Brien, number 1281 Fitzwater street; E. Schumann, dyer, 487 Wyoming avenue; Conrad Sheb, cigar store, 1514 South Fifty-second street.

WOMAN DIES IN CRASH

Philadelphian Victim of Auto Accident at White Plains, N. Y.

Miss Marie Green, fifty years old, of this city, died last night in the White Plains Hospital, White Plains, N. Y., following injuries received when her automobile was struck and overturned by a trolley car.

The machine, of the touring car type, was being driven by Chester Wycoff, her chauffeur. It was said that the engine of the machine stalled on the track directly in the path of an approaching trolley. The automobile was thrown twenty feet and wrecked. Wycoff was slightly injured.

\$25,000,000 Razor Company Chartered

THIRD REGIMENT IN PARADE TODAY

Final Appearance Before Unit Leaves for South Scheduled at Noon

130 MORE MEN NEEDED

The Third Pennsylvania Infantry, parading in its farewell to Philadelphia, made a final appeal today for the handful of men that it needs to fill its ranks to full war strength.

Down Broad street from Spring Garden to Spruce the bronzed lines of volunteers in olive drab swept to the impetus of martial music, presenting arms in front of the Union League, where Brigadier General William G. Price, Jr., acting commander of the Twenty-eighth Division, reviewed the parade.

Thousands of persons looked on—the last view of this home regiment as a unit, countermarching at Spruce street. Colonel George E. Kemp, the commander, led his men to City Hall, where two battalions stacked arms at Broad and Filbert streets and another battalion ranged along the north side of City Hall plaza. Here, with the band playing and speakers appealing for men, the regiment made its last attack on General Lafayette. It needs 130 men to become a war-strength regiment of 2002 soldiers.

The Third will pack its equipment tomorrow, sleep in "pup" tents at its camp near the Sixty-ninth street terminal tomorrow night and leave for Camp Hancock, Ga., Wednesday.

A special Third Regiment committee was organized yesterday. It consists of Brigadier General Charles T. Cresswell, retired; Superintendent of Police James Robinson; Majors Small and Hendler and Captains A. E. Olson and T. C. Russell. The committee will have charge of the interests of the regiment while it remains in the field. Accompanied by the special committee, Mayor Smith will review the regiment at Camp Taylor at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Some dealers allow twenty-five cents off for cash from the \$7.75 figure, if the coal is shuted in, but the flat price prevails if the coal has to be carried from the wagon in bags or baskets.

JONES WISTER'S WILL IS PROBATED

Wills probated today include those of Jones Wister, who died in Chicago on September 1, leaving to relatives an estate valued at \$11,600; Anne J. Cunningham, who died in the Eliza Cathcart Home, \$10,000; Cecelia A. Powers, 814 North Stillman street, \$84.97; and Margaret C. McCune, 1730 North Twentieth street, \$1785.

FIVE NEGROES ACCUSED OF ROBBING EXPRESS COMPANY

Two of the Prisoners, Employees, Charged With Stealing Contents of Packages

Women's waists and men's trousers wrapped around their bodies under their bulky clothing caused the arrest of two negro employees of the Adams Express factory in this city with those in Detroit, where tickets are sold eight for twenty-five cents.

Those arrested, and the goods they are accused of taking, are: William Walker, 1218 Webster street, watches; Thomas Moore, 1322 Cambridge street, clothing; and Robert Norris, 2305 Stuart street, and Thomas Cullpepper, 1303 Wood street, cutlery. Mayor Smith will review the regiment at Camp Taylor at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

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GARFIELD PROMISES CUT IN COAL PRICE

National Administrator Says Reduction Will Follow Inquiry

TO MAKE A SURVEY

Cheaper coal was promised today by Harry A. Garfield, National Coal Administrator at Washington, following assertions by Philadelphia coal dealers that the high price of pea coal—\$7.75 a ton—is caused by the high prices at the mines.

A tentative price list to govern retail trade this month will be issued this week, he said, the price to be fixed finally after investigation of the trade. This will require about six weeks.

"The only certain thing that I can say at this time is that Philadelphia will get cheaper coal, at least temporarily," said Doctor Garfield. "Conditions in the retail trade will govern prices for the remaining coal-using months. I know that Philadelphia are anxious about their winter supply. All sections of the country are sending us inquiries. We are doing the best we can."

Mr. Garfield said that a Fuel Administrator will be appointed in each State, with the approval of the President, and each of these will appoint local coal committees, with the approval of the National Coal Administrator. The permanent prices will be fixed after the committee has made surveys of the coal market, its supply, costs and profits.

PROMPT ACTION NEEDED

Mr. Garfield is driven to prompt action because the exorbitant prices charged by the retailers in anticipation of the action of the commission. He is so impressed with the necessity for instant action that he may obtain the consent of the President to fix the retailers' profit provisionally in order to stop the high prices now prevailing. If this is done the retailers will obtain until the local committees report.

That such a course seems advisable is apparent to him and his associates, as it will require at least six weeks before the local committee could report and the retail profit for each district community be fixed.

Although it has been stated that the seventy-five cent boost in price is based on an increase at the mines on coal not yet received, this is denied by the dealers. The increase is the result of recommendations made by the Federal Trade Commission, following an investigation of the coal situation.

ADMIT PRICE EXORBITANT

The Philadelphia dealers admit that the price is exorbitant, but contend if there is any unreasonable price fixed it takes place before the coal reaches them.

A big increase in the cost of labor at the coal yards and cost of business administration generally is a big factor in the record-breaking price. The views of the dealers on the question are summed up in the remarks of John A. Gerety, a dealer of Thirtieth and Walnut streets:

"The Government permitted the independent operators to charge \$4.75 a ton at the mine," said Mr. Gerety, "and when you add twenty cents a ton brokerage charges and \$1.25 a ton freight, you will see that the coal stands the dealer \$6.20 a ton for delivery at the yard."

"When you add to this the wages of drivers, who now receive \$18 a week, and other overhead in the conduct of business, you will readily see what a small margin of profit remains, despite opinion to the contrary."

"Two years ago drivers were content to work for \$12 a week, and they have better service at that figure than they do now at the increased wages. There is also shrinkage in screening, which the dealer has to stand, the cost of maintenance of vehicles and many other things of which the public is not aware."

Some dealers allow twenty-five cents off for cash from the \$7.75 figure, if the coal is shuted in, but the flat price prevails if the coal has to be carried from the wagon in bags or baskets.

ANOTHER ARSENAL BLAST VICTIM DIES

Explosion Due to Dropping Tray of Detonators, Probers Believe

DEATH PREVENTS PROBE

Pincus Thought to Have Been Only Man Who Knew Exact Cause of Disaster

The third victim of the Frankford Arsenal explosion died at the Frankford Hospital early today, his death removing the only man who could have told exactly how the disaster occurred.

He was Max Pincus, forty-five years old, of 412 Greenwiche street. His injuries included a broken leg, cuts, burns and abrasions. The explosion is believed to have been due to a tray of detonators being accidentally upset, according to Colonel Montgomery, commandant of the arsenal, who reported to the Washington office a report on Saturday's explosion that killed three men and injured a score of other employees.

"The opinion at Washington and among the members of the board of inquiry investigating the explosion is that it was caused by an accident—the upsetting of a tray of detonators," he said. "Just how the tray was upset the board planned to learn from Pincus today. He was said to have been the only man who could have told us instantly killed and could have told us more than could any one else."

Colonel Montgomery today received several letters and telegrams congratulating the arsenal as a memorial to the thousands of the full force of employees returned to work this morning and plans for substituting fireproof concrete buildings for the shattered wooden structures were under way. Herbert Deekenbach, an inspector of the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department at the Midvale Steel Company's plant at Nicetown, yesterday characterized the arsenal as a memorial to the community. The small casualty list was due, he said, to the self-sacrifice of the guards and firemen, who risked their lives to save the injured. He also paid a high tribute to Colonel Montgomery for his efficiency in handling the situation immediately following the explosion.

STROUDSBURG COMPANY LEAVES TODAY

STROUDSBURG, Pa., Sept. 10.—Strodsburg bade good-by to Company G, Ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania, when thousands of the residents of Monroe County flocked to the religious farewell meeting at the fair grounds. The Rev. C. Cox, of the First Episcopal Church, conducted the service. He was assisted by the Revs. Messrs. Eickner and Emmann. The company leaves for the South today.

Negro Killed by Express Train

NEGRO KILLED BY EXPRESS TRAIN

Unidentified Negro Was Instantly Killed by Express Train of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway today at the railroad crossing at Twenty-second and Woodland streets. The train was stopped and the man was placed aboard the baggage car.

PHILADELPHIA

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