FAMILY ESCAPES FIRE OVER ROOF

Charles Nixon, Wife and Four Children Flee Down Ladder When Trapped

STARTED IN THE BASEMENT

A family of six escaped over a plank extending to the roof of an adjoining building early today when fire heavily damaged a three-story brick building at Nineteenth street and Susquehanna avenue.

A drug store conducted by Samuel Slipkoll takes up the first floor. Charles Nixon, owner of the building, occupied apartments on the upper floors with his wife and four children, Charles, Jr., Harry, Joyce, John and Robert.

Slipkoll was about to close his store at 1 o'clock this morning when he smelled smoke. A butcher shop owned by Robert Tall, 1901 Susquehanna avenue, adjoins the drug store. Slipkoll thought the butcher was smoking meats in the adjoining basement.

The druggist went to the sidewalk and found smoke coming from the window. He hurried to the cellar of his store and found flames sweeping through boxes and stock.

Slipkoll shouted an alarm to Nixon. The fire had crept up to the drug store when firemen arrived and was advancing up the stairway.

Nixon feared to risk a dash downstairs through the heavy smoke with his family. He obtained a plank and laid it across the narrow space separating his building from the adjoining structure.

Mrs. Nixon had dressed herself and the children hurriedly, and, guided by the father, all made their way safely across to the roof of the adjoining building. Exposure to the cold and the wind chilled them.

The fire ate through the drug store wall and reached the butcher shop, damaging some of the stock and fixtures.

CHRISTMAS SEAL SALE PRIZES ARE ANNOUNCED

Mrs. H. A. Brown and Girl Assistants Topped Booth Record

Prize sellers of Christmas seals for this year were announced yesterday by the Philadelphia Health Council and Tuberculosis Committee. The championship is determined by the largest sale of seals for any single day during "Booth Week," when the little Christmas stickers are on sale throughout the city at various central points.

The booth in the Walton Hotel, captained by Mrs. H. A. Brown, has won the prize for the largest sale on any single day. Mrs. Brown and the young girls who assisted her sold $130 worth of seals in one afternoon and evening. For the entire week of the booth sale the women in the St. James booth rolled up the highest total, exceeding the booth in the Bellevue-Stratford by seven cents. Mrs. Henry Rosenthal captained the St. James group. She collected $268.25 in the six days her booth was open. This is the highest total of any booth for the week.

The entire amount collected at the Christmas seal booths was $3000. This will help to swell the general seal quota, which is raised largely by a mail sale of seals. More than 20,000,000 Christmas seals were sent to the people of Philadelphia through the mails this year.

18 MEN SEIZED IN RAID

$300 in Pinochle Stakes on Board When Police Arrest Players

Eighteen men were arrested last night when members of the vice squad and patrolmen raided a house at 901 North Franklin street, where, according to police, a pinochle game for high stakes was in progress. Policemen said they picked up $300 from the boards.

Morris Weisberg was arrested as the alleged proprietor of the place, while Max Opsow, of 931 North Fourth street, was charged with aiding and abetting its operation.

Of the sixteen arrested as frequenters one, Lewis Sherman, gave an address of Salt Lake City, and another, Daniel Haynes, said he was from Gloucester, N. J.

Quarry Blast Kills Man

Norristown, Pa., Dec. 20.—When a blast of twenty-five sticks of dynamite was set off at the quarries of the Pennsylvania Lime Products Company, just outside of Bridgeport, last evening, Andrew Budna, forty-five years old, a workman, was struck on the temple by a large stone and killed instantly. His family is in Poland.

Empty Bins Cut Church Service

The Rev. Benjamin N. Bird, rector of St. Asaph's Episcopal Church of Bala, announced that because of the scarcity of coal the church will be compelled to dispense with the usual 8 o'clock evening services until the fuel situation becomes improved.

Reported Missing

Morris Gabriel, sixteen years old, 3521 North Twenty-fourth street; five feet three inches in height; 125 pounds; dark hair; wore brown overcoat, suit, hat and shoes.

Arthur Barr, thirteen years old, 257 North Ninth street; check suit, green sweater, knee trousers and light cap.

Maria Veruna, fifteen years old, four feet eleven inches high, with chestnut hair, gray eyes; wore light brown polo coat, plaid skirt and low brown shoes.

Harry Kennan, thirty-six years old, Thirteenth street and Girard avenue; five feet eight inches high; 170 pounds; wore dark clothes and dark soft hat.

Mrs. Nellie Dixon, thirty-four years old, 125 Mifflin street; five feet four inches high; gray hair; light brown coat, black serge dress; wears signet ring with initials M. C. D.

Walter Martin, aged forty, 1822 Pine street; very light skin, freckled face; dark clothes, brown overcoat and hat, black hair, small moustache.

Michael Daley, thirty-five years old, of 1436 South Fallon street.

Jacob Keck, fifty years old, 5722 Dittman street.

Tutonio Mirci, five feet six inches, twenty-nine years old, of 2028 Frankford avenue; dark complexion, wore black suit, brown overcoat and hat.

Harry James, twenty-six years old, of 240 South street; five feet nine inches; was wounded in the World War.

Irene Lee, fourteen years old, 1913 Cuthbert street; four feet three inches; wore blue coat, green clip over dress, black shoes.

James Swan, twenty-seven years old, of 1715 Pine street; was gassed overseas; had hazel eyes, high cheek bone with pock mark on cheek; wore black suit with white pin stripe, brown velour hat.

Actress to Testify

REINE DAVIES

Film actress, who is expected to testify during the trial of Mrs. Oscar Hirsh, of Freeport, L. I., charged with assaulting her husband. Trial begins today. Hirsh was shot after a party at the Davies home. Reine is now recovering from a bad cold which confined her to her room in a Mineola hotel

SOFT-COAL DRIVE IS ON IN CAMDEN

Father Whelan, Head of Chamber's Fuel Committee, Issues Appeal to Citizens

Initial steps in the campaign to be directed in Camden to induce residents to use bituminous coal were taken yesterday by the Coal Committee of the Camden Chamber of Commerce.

Through the chairman of the committee, the Rev. Father Thomas J. Whelan, pastor of the Church of the Holy Name, an appeal was made to citizens of Camden County to burn more soft coal and coke because the supply of anthracite will be less than half the amount received in the county last year.

This committee will work in harmony with County Fuel Administrator James V. Moran. Yesterday Camden County retail coal dealers began to ration coal in one-ton lots. That plan was agreed upon at the meeting of the coal dealers with the Fuel Commissioner on Monday night.

Care will also be taken by the dealers to see that certain persons do not place orders with several coal dealers and hoard the fuel. The coal dealers have agreed that no person having two tons or more of coal on hand shall receive any more until at least half that amount has been consumed.

After an investigation into the sudden death on Monday night of Marion Fanelle, twenty-two years old, of Atco, Camden County, Dr. William H. Pratt, Coroner, and County Detective Doran are convinced the girl took poison tablets, probably in mistake for cough lozenges. The parents of the girl denied that she committed suicide. They say she swallowed tablets used by her brother Tony for cleansing an unhealed wound from an operation for appendicitis.

THIEF SLAIN HERE SOUGHT BY BALTIMORE POLICE

Is Identified in Morgue by Fingerprints

Word was received here today from the chief of detectives in Baltimore, that the Negro who was shot and killed by Patrolman Frank Kronwetter, on December 15, when he was caught trying to enter a house at Sixteenth and Wharton streets, was Charles Jones, wanted in the Maryland city for theft.

The message said that the fingerprints of the dead man, which were taken following his removal to the morgue, correspond exactly with those taken of Jones in Baltimore following his arrest for stealing clothing. He escaped before being brought to trial and apparently came directly to Philadelphia.

FLIGHT BRINGS QUARANTINE

Smallpox Victim Tries to Escape Ambulance Crew

Attempt of a Negro with smallpox to escape from an ambulance crew sent to take him to the Municipal Hospital resulted in a quarantine being thrown around the block bounded by Reed and Wharton streets and Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets early today.

The man, William Lee, 1317 South Mole street, leaped from bed and fled, half clothed, when the ambulance crew reached his house with a stretcher on which to remove him. The interne and orderly comprising the crew captured him after a chase of two blocks.

TO GIVE COSTUME PARTY

Dickens Fellowship Members Will Sing Carols

A Christmas costume party will be given by the Dickens Fellowship in the Emergency Aid Building, 221 South Eighteenth street tonight.

Members will be garbed in costumes of Dickens' period and will sing the Christmas carols under the direction of Miss Bessie Kille Slaugh. A number of monologues will be delivered by guests.

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HOLIDAY EXODUS OF PENN STUDENTS

Thousands Leave Today to Spend Yuletide Vacation at Homes All Over Country

"CROSS-COUNTRY" CONTEST

All traffic at the U. of P. today is outbound.

With the close of classes, the Christmas holidays begin and will continue until January 3.

More than four thousand students are leaving the city for their homes in various parts of the country.

Several students are embarking for Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Kansas City and points West. Two Wharton School freshmen will share honors in the "cross-country contest." Both insisted on going home for the holidays. One lives in Helena, Mont., the other in El Paso, Tex. By leaving here at 4 this afternoon they will both manage to reach home Saturday night in time to hang their stockings.

Many students from the same section of the country are going home together. About forty Buffalo men chartered a special car. Another car was reserved for the members of the Capital City Club going to Washington. The Cleveland men embarked together, as did the boys from Central New York. Students from Luzerne County had another car to themselves.

Students not able to go home for the holidays are expecting to migrate to New York, Baltimore and Washington for a change of scenery. Some will visit the University Library during the holidays, but the number will probably not be great. Others will attempt to catch up sleep lost during the year.

More than 250 out-of-town students will be entertained by the Acting Provost of the University, Dr. Josiah Penniman, at a Christmas dinner, Friday evening, in Houston Hall. Over forty-four foreign countries will be represented at this dinner, which is an annual affair.

The women students of the University unable to go home for the holidays will be entertained at dinner by Miss Louise H. Snowden, adviser to women, at the Bennett Club, 3326 Walnut street, Friday evening.

Foreign students will be adequately cared for, according to the Rev. A. W. Stevenson, director of the International Students' House, 3905 Spruce street. More than sixty of the students from foreign lands have been invited to dinners, parties and informal dances in private homes in the city and in Bryn Mawr, Chestnut Hill and Germantown.

Out-of-town students will probably manage to be invited to several dinners since Christmas falls on Monday. Last year one popular young woman from the Orient enjoyed six Christmas dinners. Others, less fortunate, participated in three or four.

Several fraternities will hold their national conventions during the latter part of the holidays. Phi Delta Theta fraternity will hold its convention in Kansas City. Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity will meet in Detroit and Delta Kappa Epsilon in Washington, D. C.

CAMDEN FEARS TAXI WAR

Advent of "Yellows" Leads to Two Cabs Being Damaged

Camden police are preparing for a taxi war, which they fear is going to result from invasion of the city by the Yellow taxis, which first appeared on the streets a few days ago.

Norman Holt, driver of one of the "Yellows," reported to the police today that some one threw a brick through the taxi window as the car was leaving the Camden ferry with a passenger. Another driver reported that tires on his cab had been cut while he was temporarily away from the car.

YOUTH LOSES XMAS SAVINGS TO SUAVE STRANGER HERE

Hurrying Home to Invalid Mother in Canada, He Is Victim of New "Friend" Who Flees From Hotel With $500

A shivering youth of nineteen years slipped into the Detective Bureau in City Hall shortly after midnight this morning and pleaded with Detective Stevenson to find a stranger who had stolen $500 saved during a year of hard work in Roanoke, Va., with which he was returning to Quebec, Canada, to spend the Christmas holidays with his invalid mother and two sisters.

The name he gave was Ovela Cournonyer.

The story he told was one that awakened more than ordinary interest in the detective and in a few minutes every means was taken to apprehend the suave stranger who relieved the gullible Cournonyer of his savings.

The youth said he met the man on the train which brought him from Roanoke to this city last night, and since he was going to stay here over night anyway before proceeding to Quebec, he accepted the stranger's invitation to be his guest at an Eighteenth street hotel.

"I was so elated over the prospect of seeing my mother and sisters for the first time in more than a year that I felt everybody in the world was my friend," the boy said, "and I thought the man was so kind to accompany me while I was here."

Then, with a strong French-Canadian accent, Cournonyer told how he had gone to a room in the hotel with the stranger, and upon the latter's advice put his $500 under a carpet for safe keeping. His acquaintance placed $300 alongside Cournonyer's, and suggested that they talk a walk.

"About three squares from the hotel," the youth said, "my friend told me he had to make several telephone calls and entered a drug store after advising me to meet him later in a restaurant at Seventh and Market streets."

Cournonyer said he waited for more than an hour in the restaurant, returned to the hotel and found that his newly made friend had checked out and had taken the money with him.

The young man said he worked as a coolmaker in Roanoke, where he had gone because of the scarcity of work in Canada, and with the promise to his mother that he would return with sufficient funds to make this Christmas a merry one.

Now, he said, he would have to rely on charity for his Christmas dinner and his mother and sisters probably would get none at all.

FOUR BITTEN BY DOG

Watch Aged Woman and Three Men in Hospital for Rabies Signs

Physicians at the University Hospital are today closely watching the condition of a woman and three men bitten by a dog near Thirty-second and Locust streets last night. The dog is believed to have the rabies.

The woman, Mrs. Mary Varian, seventy-one years old, 3225 Locust street, was knocked down when the dog sprang at her throat. Policemen Wylie and Butler, of the Thirty-second street and Woodland avenue station, heard her screams and rescued her from the animal. They chased the dog and shot at it, but missed.

B. O. Weeks, 3200 Sansom street; Neal Connelly, 101 Pine street, and Amos Johnson, Twelfth street near Lombard, were the men attacked. The dog had Johnson in a corner, and was attempting to reach his throat when he was rescued. He was badly bitten about the face. All of the victims were taken to the University Hospital.

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Unequaled in variety beauty and workmanship - early selection advisable

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Wool knitted mufflers, $2.50 to $5
Bath slippers—$1.50 to $2.50
Lounging robes—$6.50 to $85.00
House coats—$12.00 to $30.00
Silk hose—75c to $5.00
Wool socks—50c to $3.00
Link & stud sets—$4.50 to $15.00
Handkerchiefs—50c to $4.00
Knitted vests—$6.00 to $13.50
Leather bags—$16.50 to $50.00
Soft hats—$5.00 to $10.00
Dress vests—$7.50 to $15.00
Silk hats—$8.00
Everything exchangeable after Christmas if not just right.
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