

THE WEATHER								
Rain this afternoon and early tonight followed by clearing and cooler, with temperature falling to 35 degrees.								
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR								
8	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	6
30	30	33	37	38	38	38	38	38

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NIGHT EXTRA

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# PRESIDENT NEGOTIATING FOR WORLD CONFERENCE

## Executive in Letter to Lodge Asks Senate to Keep Hands Off and Beat Borah Proposal

### SENATE ASSURED HARDING AIMS TO ASSIST EUROPE

Old Difficulty That Policy of U. S. May Be Misunderstood Arises

THREE STEPS PROPOSED IN WORLD RESTORATION

President Apparently Desires to Effect Compromise on Reparations Issue

PLANS FOR CONFERENCE

Washington Not Favored for Assembly to Adjust Economic Conditions

### TEXT OF HARDING'S LETTER TO LODGE

By Associated Press

Washington, Dec. 28.—President Harding's letter to Senator Lodge, asking the Senate to defeat the Borah amendment, was as follows:

"My Dear Senator Lodge:

"Replying to your inquiry relative to the proposed amendment to the pending naval bill, authorizing and requesting the President to call an economic conference to deal with conditions in the war-torn nations of Europe, I write to say that I know of no opposition against such an expression on the part of the Congress, but I do frankly question the desirability of such an expression. I think it is undesirable because of false impressions which may be conveyed thereby to Europe, and even more undesirable because of the wrong impression it conveys to our own people.

"On the face of things, it is equivalent to saying that the legislative branch of the Government, which is charged with the conduct of foreign relations, is not fully alive to a world situation which is of deep concern to the United States.

"As a matter of fact, the European situation has been given most thorough and thoughtful consideration for many months. Without questioning the good faith of the proposal, I am very sure it would have been more wisely and more effectively taken much more intelligently, if proper inquiry had been made of the State Department relative to the situation in which we are trying to be helpful.

"Information Open to Congress

"Of necessity the communications of the State Department relative to delicate matters among nations cannot be bulletined from day to day, but the situation is never withheld from members of Congress who choose to inquire for confidential information in a spirit of co-operation.

"Such inquiry would have revealed the futility of any conference call until it is understood that such a conference would be welcomed by the nations concerned, within the limits of discussion which the expressed will of Congress compels this Government to impose.

"In ratifying the treaty of peace with Germany the Senate made a reservation that the United States should not be represented on the Reparations Commission without

### HARDING SEEKS TO HELP ADJUST FOREIGN TANGLE

Tells Senators That He Fears Congressional Action Would Hamper Plans

DECLARES REPARATIONS AT HEART OF PROBLEM

Suggests That Congress Give Wider Powers to Debt-Funding Commission

REJECTS ARMS PARLEY

Believes Another Meeting for Reduction of Armaments Would Be Useless

### Father-in-Law Objects



CONSTANCE C. BENNETT, daughter of Richard Bennett, actor, whose marriage on June 10, 1921, to Chester Hirst Moorehead, of Chicago, is threatened with annulment by her father-in-law.

### 4 Ships Here Searched in Bergdoll 'Round-Up'

Department of Justice Agents Go Through Vessels From Europe as They Enter Port, but Slacker Is Not Found

Philadelphia Department of Justice agents today joined in the nation-wide search for Grover C. Bergdoll, who is reported on his way back to the United States from Germany. Four incoming vessels were searched as they steamed up the Delaware River.

On each ship the crew was lined up on deck and each man closely scrutinized while other agents searched through the hold. John B. Foster, chief of the Philadelphia operations, supervised the search personally.

"We are taking no chances on the draft dodger slipping into the country through this port," he said. "We intend to watch every ship that enters here, no matter from what country she sails."

An Associated Press dispatch from Philadelphia, Pa., today said it was reported there late last night that Bergdoll may be on the German steamship Jupiter, which is due to arrive at that port within a day or two. The dispatch said his sailing was announced definitely by German authorities.

Ships entering New York harbor last night and today were also searched by Department of Justice agents in that city and a close watch is being kept over the home of a relative of the slacker in Brooklyn.

The first vessel searched in the port here was the British steamer S. W. Miller, which is docked at Pier 24, North Wharves. Next the Brodelline, a German ship, was boarded and searched carefully and the crew questioned.

The Mar Cantabrico, a British vessel docked at Marcus Hook, was also boarded and the crew inspected, after which the agents were transferred to the Spanish steamer Dunstonswange.

No one resembling Bergdoll was found on either ship, but the agents are not discouraged by that fact and will continue their search on other vessels coming here with the same zeal that was displayed today.

New York Home Visited

Late yesterday a report was received by Department of Justice agents in New York that the slacker was at the home of a friend in Fishkill, L. I. Two agents were sent to the address given by the person who telephoned department headquarters.

### EXPRESS DERAILED NEAR PRINCETON; NO ONE IS INJURED

Tender and Mail Car of P. R. R. Train From N. Y. to St. Louis Are Overtaken

TWO TRACKS ARE BLOCKED AND TRAFFIC DELAYED

Excited Passengers Transferred to Other Coaches and Continue Journey

Passenger traffic on the Pennsylvania Railroad between Philadelphia and New York was delayed today when the fast Commercial Express, running from New York to St. Louis, left the tracks at Princeton Junction shortly after 11 o'clock.

The tender and mail coach were overturned, while a combination passenger and baggage coach and a passenger coach were derailed. Sleepers on the end of the train remained on the tracks and were later transferred to another train.

Although no one was injured, excitement prevailed among the passengers.

Two of the four tracks at the point where the wreck occurred were blocked by the overturned cars, necessitating the handling of the heavy traffic between this city and New York on two tracks. This caused delays to trains for indefinite periods.

A wrecking crew was dispatched to Princeton Junction from New York within a few minutes after the wreck occurred and the work of opening the blocked tracks began.

Passengers bound for Philadelphia were transferred to the New York-Washington train which passed the wreck shortly after noon and were brought to North Philadelphia station, while sleepers and the parlor car were coupled onto the Pennsylvania Limited from New York to Chicago.

One sleeper contained passengers for Cincinnati and the other bore St. Louis passengers.

The Commercial Express left New York at 10:45 o'clock and was due to arrive in Philadelphia at 11:25. It is one of the fastest trains operated by the Pennsylvania Railroad between the two cities, making the run of ninety miles in one hour and fifty-three minutes.

### CLINTON W. GILBERT

Washington, Dec. 28.—Senator Lodge, in his visit to the White House today, went over the final draft of President Harding's letter, which will be used to defeat the Borah resolution. The letter was later sent to Senator Lodge.

The purpose of the President in writing the letter was to assure the Senate that everything possible is being done by himself and Secretary Hughes to aid in the economic restoration of Europe. The President deprecates action by the Senate on the Borah resolution at this time.

The difficulty is the old one which has existed in our foreign relations ever since the Senate rejected the Versailles Treaty. As soon as the Senate shows its hands in foreign affairs other Governments do not know whether they can deal confidently with the President or not. False expectations, or at least grave doubts, are raised abroad as to what is the real policy of the United States and who expresses it.

It is expected here that the Harding letter will defeat the Borah resolution on which the vote would otherwise be close.

But if the Administration is to defeat this resolution it must soon bring forward some constructive suggestion. Otherwise, it is felt here that public opinion, in especially business opinion, throughout the country will be disappointed.

Mr. Harding, so those who have had to him say, is desirous of approaching the European problem in a new way, but it is still not clear what could be done.

Three Salient Facts.

Three facts seem to stand out with regard to the Administration's attitude.

One: The Administration thinks that the next step toward any solution of Europe's difficulties lies in making a compromise of the reparations controversy between Germany and France. It is using all its efforts toward this end, and will try to make itself felt at the meeting of the Allied Premiers in London on January 2.

Two: After this problem is measurably disposed of the Administration would favor an international conference on the economic and perhaps also the political situation in Europe.

Three: The President does not want this conference called in Washington. This last view of the President's is decidedly significant. Evidently he would prefer to have the conference called by some other power than the United States, perhaps by Great Britain, for, of course, he could not call a meeting of nations in any other place than this capital.

The obvious reason why he would prefer to have some other power call the conference is that he does not want

### PINCHOT DISCUSSES CABINET PROSPECTS

Has Conferences With Many Here and Takes Up Future Problems

Governor-elect Pinchot was crowded for time today in an effort to consult with the numerous men and women leaders who come to his office in the local Estate Trust Building.

He thrashed out the questions in relation to the Attorney Generalship, the proposed State Department of Commerce and the proposed reorganization of the State Department of Labor.

In the matter of the Attorney Generalship, lawyers with whom he conferred were Dr. William Prager Lewis and John C. Bell, former Attorney General.

On the subject of the proposed Department of Commerce, he talked with Alva B. Johnson, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Robert Hight.

In the matter of the proposed Department of Labor, Mr. Pinchot discussed matters with John G. Ryan and James H. Maurer, representative of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, and Thomas Kennedy, district president of the United Mine Workers.

### KILLED BY ENGINE

Aged Man Run Down on Reading Line Near Magnolia

An attempt to cross in front of a Reading Railway train at Magnolia station this morning, Oscar Monag, sixty years old, was struck and instantly killed.

The engineer saw the man running across the tracks and made every effort to stop the train. The distance was short, however, and the locomotive struck Monag, throwing him about twenty feet.

Monag leaves a widow and three children.

### LABOR SHORTAGE REPORTED IN CITY DEPARTMENTS

The municipal service appears to be approaching a shortage in all kinds of labor, a complete reversal of the situation last year, the Civil Service Commission stated today in its annual report.

### SPOKANE ENGINEERS ASK BANK CHARTER

SPOKANE, WASH., Dec. 28.—Plans for establishment here by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of a co-operative national bank, similar to the one operation by the organization in Cleveland, Ohio, became known today when it was learned that application for a charter had been filed with the Comptroller of the Currency in Washington, D. C. The bank would be capitalized for \$200,000, according to the application which was filed by M. J. Bestwick, of Spokane.

### WANTS COUNCIL TO BUILD VICTORY HALL

Mayer Questions Right of Eight Large Vessels Held at County Commissioners to Have Building Jurisdiction

Thickens Down

BLAMES THE LEGISLATURE FRENCH ENVOY'S ROUGH TRIP

Some Start for Port

Conditions for incoming ships were somewhat improved today when the partial clearing of the fog yesterday on the Delaware between the port and Marcus Hook, several vessels that had been held up in the bay since Monday started for along anchorage.

Southwestern Miller, British, bound from London via the Oceanic, British, and the Manhattan, also British, are expected to reach their docks before evening. The Nevada docked during the morning.

It is also expected that the steamers Casco, Gulf Coast, Tortuga Maru, Oriana and Lake Galien will try to dock late this afternoon or early morning.

Vessels still reported as not having started for along anchorage, Bay for out to sea, and it may be a day or so before it will clear sufficiently to allow the fog-bound vessels to pass into the open with safety.

### GIRL AIDS CHARITY BY PHONE FROM BED

Miss Mary Campbell Parsons, Camden, Ignores Sprained Ankle Received During Work

GETS ADS IN BALL PROGRAM

With a telephone at her bedside, Miss Mary Campbell Parsons, who is confined to her home, 207 North Sixth street, Camden, as the result of a broken ankle, is soliciting advertisements for the program of the Camden Charity Ball.

Miss Parsons, an attractive blonde, is the daughter of Walter J. Parsons, a retired manufacturer, and is well known in South Jersey society.

Her leg is in a plaster cast, and it is with considerable difficulty that she manages to call on business concerns to urge them that it is their duty to be represented in the list.

The injury, received while she was working in the interest of the Charity Ball, causes constant racking pains throughout her body, but they find no echo in the cheerful voice that floats merrily over the phone.

Will Stick to Job

By unusual perseverance and pluck, Miss Parsons is sticking to the task, and she will not "hang up" until every inch of space on the elaborate program has been filled.

Her father is ill with pneumonia in a room near that of her mother, and Miss Parsons was appointed a member of the general committee in charge of the ball which is to be held January 19. The proceeds are to go to Cooper Hospital.

Persists Despite Injury

The young woman started on her canvass for advertisements yesterday afternoon. She had just landed one from an automobile firm on Market street when she slipped on the office floor. A clerk assisted Miss Parsons to her feet but she could not stand.

"I guess I'll be all right after a few minutes' rest," she said. "I simply cannot stop my work."

But her injury was worse than she realized.

Dr. Joseph E. Roberts was sent for. He, Miss Parsons' home and took an X-ray which showed that the ankle had been broken.

### M'KOIN ORDERED HELD IN KLAN CASE

Loses Habeas Corpus Fight for Liberty Pending Extradition Move

PHYSICIAN DENIES CHARGES

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—Before Chief Judge James P. Gorter and Associate Judges Carroll T. Bond and Charles F. Stein, in City Court today, Dr. R. M. McKoin, former Mayor of Mer Rouge, La., wanted for murder in connection with the Ku Klux Klan outrages in Louisiana, lost his fight for immediate release on habeas corpus proceedings.

The physician, who was arrested last Tuesday at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he has been a student since October 1, will be detained "without prejudice" until Governor Parker, of Louisiana, is able to present some of the features of the charges.

The Sheriff of Morehouse County, Louisiana, was said to be on his way to Baltimore with an affidavit and extradition papers, and it is possible that Robert R. Carman, former United States District Attorney of this city, counsel for McKoin, will renew habeas corpus proceedings soon after the arrival of the Sheriff tomorrow. At any rate Dr. McKoin, who is held in connection with the death of two alleged victims of a Klan mob, will fight extradition, and the case may be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Called Klan Leader

Many telegrams, some of them having passed between Governor Parker and Governor Ritchie, of Maryland, were read during the habeas corpus proceedings. In at least one of the telegrams, Dr. McKoin was designated as a leader of the Ku Klux Klan.

Dr. Hugh H. Young, specialist of international note, with whom Dr. McKoin has been associated in studies at Johns Hopkins University since last October, was in court prepared to provide any amount of bail required for McKoin.

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### AGED MAN FOUND DEAD. BOY OVERCOME BY GAS

Father Discovers Jet Turned On on Return From Wedding Feast

Herbert W. Batts, seventy-two years old, was found dead in his home, 814 North 15th street, last night, after an unconscious state as a result of being gassed at 1:45 A.M. shortly before 4 o'clock this morning.

Batts was discovered by K. A. Rosenfeld, father of the boy, on his return from a wedding celebration. He summoned a patrolman, who found the door locked. Rosenfeld burst in.

The Rosenfeld boy was lying across his bed, his hands stretched toward the door. Apparently he had tried to rise and had fallen in the attempt.

Efforts to revive the old man failed. The boy, who is twelve years old, was found in a harnessmaking establishment on the first floor of the building.

The boy accepted a room on the second floor, and directly across from the room of Batts. He was revived after he had been carried into the street.

### PAUL R. PEARSON LEFT \$200,000 TO HIS FAMILY

Will of Big Game Hunter Admitted to Probate

An estate valued at \$200,000 was left by Paul R. Pearson, big game hunter and clubman of Fifty-second street, 2209 Avenue H, Seattle, who was reported today. Mr. Pearson died on December 14.

The estate is held in trust for his widow, Marion L. Pearson, and his other wills probated and the value of estates left by testators follow:

Mrs. R. H. Holbrook, 4385 Regent street, 2209 Avenue H, Seattle, who died in Seattle City, \$31,340; Charles F. Schilling, 2222 North Hancock street, \$7,585.

Inventories of personal estates of the following were filed: S. Alfred Ford, \$82,249.00; 4233 Larchwood avenue, who died October 17, 1921; W. D. Ford, \$22,305; 2209 Avenue H, Seattle, who died October 14, 1921; James F. Brown, 5012 Grissom street, \$7,100; and William C. McCay, 2108 East Dauphin street, \$5800.

### PLAYED WITH MATCHES AND SET HOUSE ABLAZE

Daughters of Kensington Man Sorry They Disregarded Warning

You can't play with matches—some day you'll burn the house down—was the warning John H. Lewis, of 2620 Kensington avenue, often gave to his two daughters, aged six and seven. Last night the expected happened. The two daughters were playing with matches in the rear of Lewis' store, above which the family lives. The flame from one of the matches communicated to the store, which was in a few moments the store as well as the rooms above, were filled with black smoke.

In carrying out the fireman Harvey Hoffman and John McKernan, of Higgins Company No. 25, were treated the fire and made a class. The damage was about \$1000.

### SEKS DUEL WITH PREMIER

Rumanian Deputy Wants Retraction of Charges About Money

Bucharest, Dec. 28.—(By A. P.)—When Ibrulescu, a socialist of the Rumanian Left, returned from a trip to North and South America recently he learned that during his absence Premier Bratianu had openly accused him of receiving money from the Moscow Soviet. The Deputy demanded retraction of the charges, declaring that otherwise he would challenge the Premier to a duel.

The latter replied that he would retract nothing and that if he received a challenge he would send Lupu to jail.

### GAG WATCHMAN. LOOT SAFE

Robbers Get \$3000 From Harlem Office of Edison Company

New York, Dec. 28.—(By A. P.)—Robbers early today blew open the safe of the Harlem office of the New York Edison Company and secured with \$3000 after gagging and assaulting Philip O'Connor, the night watchman. His skull was fractured and he was removed to a hospital in a serious condition.

### Accident Delays Seaplane

Cabodello, Brazil, Dec. 28.—(By A. P.)—The seaplane Sumpico Corcora II left this port for Pernambuco at 7 o'clock today. This leg of the plane's trip from New York to Rio de Janeiro is about 100 miles long. Shortly after taking off, however, the timing gears on one of the motors broke and the plane came down to await repairs.

### Saves Three Cars In Garage Fire

Fire was discovered early today in the garage of Stephen Reinlewicki, 4407 Livingston street, by Hugh McInerney, of the Bridgport police, who succeeded in saving three automobiles before the flames swept the building.

### CLOWN NIGHT TONIGHT BEAUX ARTS

Broad and Girard aye.—Adg.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HELP? PERHAPS THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY HAS THE ANSWER. Write to the Librarian, 410 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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