

# CHAIN OF FORTS TO GUARD NEW YORK

### First Line of Defense at Norton's Point, Coney Island, and Rockway Planned.

NEW YORK, Nov. 14.—One of the first moves to be made by the War Department after Congress acts upon the many national security questions will be to strengthen the harbor defenses of New York. It was learned here. It is considered almost certain that new fortifications will be constructed to fill up the gaps now existing in the metropolitan defense chain. The most likely locations for such forts—and recent Government activities bear out the information received yesterday—are Norton's Point, Coney Island, and Rockway. With every new clash of ships and forts or ships and ships in Europe, New York has awakened to the full significance of the new long-range fighting. It has turned this city from a walled and turreted fortress into a community almost at the mercy of any modern battleship which might see fit to appear off Far Rockway.

### Department Admits Plans.

Officials of the War Department at Washington admitted that plans are being completed for one of the most powerful fortifications in the world for the protection of the city of New York and adjacent cities and villages. It was said that fifteen-inch guns with a range of twenty-one miles will make the harbor impregnable to any fleet which may be brought against it. The new fortifications will be able to knock out any battleship built or building, in the manner in which one of the old forts destroyed the power and range of the armament designed for New York's defense.

The range not only is greater than the range of any other guns in the world, but the land guns always have the advantage in accuracy.

Some mystery was made by officials of the location of the new guns. One official, however, went so far as to say the site would be somewhere near Plum Island, which the Government now owns.

Plum Island is situated between the eastern end of Coney Island and the mainland. The Government also has been negotiating some time for land near by, but it could not be learned if the deal has been completed.

Brig. Gen. E. M. Weaver, chief of the coast artillery division, will furnish the estimates to Secretary Garrison for submission to Congress. They are said to be in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000, but this could not be confirmed. The number of guns also is a matter of doubt.

Appropriations for the fortifications "near Plum Island" will be a part of the \$80,000,000 coast defense expenditure recommended by Secretary Garrison for the next four years, \$20,000,000 to be expended annually.

### Eye On Coney Island.

It is in this state of affairs which has caused the authorities, as well as those civilians striving for better defenses, to urge the often-discussed proposal of more forts for New York. The Press has information that this time the question has received earnest attention by those in whose hands the affairs of defense lie, and that if impending legislation is propitious, New Yorkers may count on new locks to their front door.

Efforts in keeping with the reported plans for New York's first line of defense, Army engineers and experts of the Coast Artillery Corps recently have been mapping the country and shores along New York's coast line. The surveyors have been particularly detailed on Coney Island, and, although the men doing the work will say little concerning it, it has been determined that the section of Coney Island from Twenty-third street to Norton's Point, in Sea Gate, is of especial interest to the engineers.

Brig. Gen. Harry P. Hildes, chief of the Northern Atlantic Coast Artillery district, would say little concerning the army's plan for New York harbor defenses when seen last night.

He made it plain he was not in a position to discuss the situation and referred questions to Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, commander of the department of the East. General Wood, who is out of town, could not be reached last night. Other coast artillery officers questioned gave as an explanation of the work going on at Sea Gate that the military maps of New York's vicinity, and especially of the approaches to the harbor forts, need correcting.

### U. S. Expects to Quell Haiti Revolt at Once

In two days all Haitian bandits should be dispersed, and complete order restored on the island, Navy Department officials said today, following reports from Admiral Caperton. All the bands to the east of the Cap-Haitien-Bahon railway have been quieted.

# Loses Government Job Because He Criticised Wooing of President

### Assistant Postmaster at Winnetka, Ill., Dismissed on Ground of "Disloyalty to Chief Executive," Appeals to Washington, But Plea Is Denied.

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—George Burkitt, for six years first assistant postmaster at Winnetka, has been discharged from the Government service on the ground of "disloyalty to the President," according to an article printed in the Tribune today.

Burkitt is alleged to have made the remark that President Wilson should have waited longer after the death of his wife before becoming engaged to Mrs. Galt.

Mr. Burkitt made public a series of papers relating to his discharge, of which the United States Government, he says, has been making efforts to get possession.

### HIS APPEAL DENIED.

Mr. Burkitt, the papers show, appealed to First Assistant Postmaster General Daniel C. Roper on the ground that his dismissal was irregular and contrary to civil service regulations. Mr. Roper then replied that the papers had been "carefully reviewed" and that favorable consideration of the request would have to be denied.

Following are the letters in the order in which they were written:

United States Postoffice, Winnetka, Ill., Oct. 28, 1915.  
Mr. George Burkitt, Assistant Postmaster:

It has been reported to me that on the day the reports concerning the engagement of the President were published in the daily papers you made remarks concerning the same which indicated disloyalty not only to your superior officers, but also to the Administration as well, thereby placing me in a very embarrassing position.

Please let me have promptly a written statement from you, quoting the exact language you used, and submit such explanation as you may wish in this connection.

A. M. KLOEPPER, Postmaster.

### Remembers His Words.

Mr. Burkitt did not keep a copy of his reply to the letter, but he quoted what he could remember of it, as follows:

"I replied to this in the nearest words I could remember and as follows: 'I acknowledged that in a general conversation with a man through the window, that in answer to a question, I made the remark that I thought that anyone should wait at least a year before marrying and in line with that thought that the President should, too.'"

"I also made answer to the foregoing letter except the postmaster's own brother and this man with whom I was talking."

Burkitt then received this letter: United States Postoffice, Winnetka, Ill., October 28, 1915.—George Burkitt, assistant postmaster: Your reply to my letter of even date, in which you do not remember making certain remarks in the presence of carriers and clerks during office hours in the morning of the same day, that you admit you made statements through the post-office window to a stranger? If so, state the language used. Please return original letter.

A. M. KLOEPPER, Postmaster.

### Exchange of Remarks.

He replied as follows: A. M. Kloepper, postmaster: Re: reply to your second letter of this date, will say that there was a general exchange of remarks by all on duty in question. I could not recall any specific remark in the matter on my part, any more than I can of those present.

I do know, though, that the talk was general, and any more than talking in a general line of talk with the others I remember nothing. I do not see how I can be held liable for making with the rest a small talk affair of the matter, of which I could not recall a single remark.

GEORGE BURKITT.

On November 4 Burkitt received the following notice of his discharge:

U. S. Postoffice, Winnetka, Ill., November 4, 1915.

Mr. George Burkitt, Assistant Postmaster:

This is to advise you that you are this day removed from the service of the Government and from your position as assistant postmaster of this office on account of your disloyalty to the President and the very unsatisfactory service you have been rendering, as evidenced by the demerits

# ALEXANDRIA WILL REPAIR OLD TURNPIKE

### When Completed It Will Be the Shortest Route to Washington.

ALEXANDRIA, Nov. 14.—The old river turnpike between Alexandria and Washington is to be put in thorough repair by the county supervisors, and when completed will be the shortest route between the two cities.

There will be three fine automobile roads between this city and Washington. The Mt. Vernon avenue, through the towns of Potomac, Del Ray, and St. Elmo, is now completed, and has been opened to the public. Grading is practically finished on the Russell road, which enters Alexandria through Braddock Heights, Rossmont, and King street, and the new under-track crossing of the Old Dominion railway, near Hume's Springs, is also finished.

The river turnpike, which follows Potomac yards on the east and runs through the brick yards near Arlington Junction, is one and one-half miles shorter than either of the other two routes, and is from north to south of the overhead bridge at the poor house to the south end of the highway bridge being three and one-half miles.

Frederick Grillbortser, the five-year-old son of David G. Grillbortser, was knocked down by an automobile on King street, near the intersection of King street, last night, and slightly injured.

A coroner's jury, summoned by Coroner H. J. Yates, held an inquest this morning over the body of William Taylor, colored, who died in a hospital at the Washington Hospital, after being struck by an automobile. The evidence showed that the man was struck by a machine owned and operated by her home in East of E St. street, northwest, Washington, on the afternoon of November 5, near Hume's Springs.

Mrs. Sarah Bashford, widow of the late Philip Bashford, died this morning at her home in East of E St. street. She is survived by several children.

The Rev. Dr. E. U. Miltman, of South Bethlehem, Pa., a field secretary of the board of religious education of the Protestant Episcopal church, will speak tomorrow evening in Christ Church parish hall, before the Alexandria Sunday School Association.

### ANACOSTIA.

M. M. Parker Lodge, No. 21, is arranging for a progressive euchre and dance in Masonic Hall for November 21.

The mission for women conducted the last week in St. Teresa's Church was brought to a close this afternoon, and tonight the mission for men will be opened to last for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Marbury entertained last night at the game of five hundred.

Harry Kelly, George Hanes, T. F. Williamson, and Harry Arnold returned to their homes this morning, after a three-day hunting trip in Maryland.

Work is now in progress on the improvement of Seventeenth street between Good Hope road and Minnesota avenue.

The Ladies' Guild of Emmanuel Church is to give a supper at the parish hall Wednesday evening. Mrs. E. G. Wood is chairman of the general committee.

### HYATTSVILLE.

The four-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lancaster was seriously burned about the head yesterday while playing near a bonfire in the rear of the home in Brentwood. Mrs. Lancaster suffered severe burns on the hands in rescuing the child. Dr. H. T. Willis, of Hyattsville, was summoned, and the child was taken to a Washington hospital.

M. Summers of Berwyn, was severely injured yesterday when the horse he was driving slipped and threw him out of the wagon.

The Hyattsville Needlecraft Club will hold its annual sale of fancy work in the armory of Company F Thursday and Friday.

County Commissioner-elect Theodore B. Middleton announces the marriage of his daughter, Miss Mildred C. Middleton to Elmer C. Wheatley, of Brandywine. The ceremony took place Wednesday at the Catholic Church at Laurel.

Mr. William B. Clagett, Mrs. Edith Stanley, Mrs. C. V. A. Clagett, Mrs. A. T. Brooke, Mrs. F. E. McManus, Mrs. A. M. Marbury, Mrs. L. A. Griffin, Mrs. Mary E. Wilson, Mrs. Rev. Dr. Sasser, Mrs. Charles J. Hill, Mrs. John Russell, Miss Susie Clagett, Miss Isabelle Randolph, Miss Carol Wilson, Miss Rachel Clagett, Miss Josephine Wilson, and Miss Elsie Haupt.

The board of county commissioners, the grand jury, and the board of county road directors will be in session in the court house at Upper Marlboro Tuesday.

### ROCKVILLE.

Miss Delma Etchison Souder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip B. Souder, of Damascus, this county, and Leroy Harris, of Trivoli, were married at Laytonville by the Rev. John E. Port.

The Misses Kingdon entertained the Rockville Inquiry Club at its bi-weekly meeting. The program included a paper on "What is Feminism?" by Mrs. Frank A. Spencer, and other features. Refreshments were served.

The Rockville Inquiry Club will give a tea at the Montgomery Country Club here tomorrow afternoon, for the benefit of the Montgomery County Social Service League.

William L. Purdum, fourteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Purdum, of Cedar Grove, was the victim of the first sunning accident of the season in this county yesterday, when he was fatally injured by a colored man employed as chauffeur by Philip T. Hall, of Washington. The accident occurred on the farm of Arthur Watkins, near Cedar Grove. A rabbit was started and the man turned suddenly and fired. The boy received the entire load in his right thigh. He was hurried to the home of Dr. Simpers, at Germantown, and preparations were being made to take him to Washington hospital when he died. The funeral will take place at 11 o'clock Monday morning from the Baptist Church at Cedar Grove.

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You may begin Monday, November 15th. Saturday Morning Free School, 10 A. M. to 12. Regular Day Sessions, from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. Regular Night School Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 7 P. M. to 9:30 P. M.

This is the wonderful new school that opened a little over two years ago and has made such a marvelous success that it is now said to be Washington's NEWEST, LARGEST, and BEST BUSINESS SCHOOL.

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Laundry Starch, 3 lbs.	10c	Sunshine Soap, 2 cakes	5c
Daisy Lye, large can	6c	Scouring Soap, Cake	3c
Clothes Line, 50-ft. hank	9c	Salt Soda, 6 lbs.	5c
Clothes Pins, Package	8c	Toilet Paper, 7 rolls	25c
Twenty Mule Borax, 1-lb. pkg.	11c	Magic Blue, 2 pkgs.	9c

LIGHTHOUSE CLEANSER... 3 cans 10c

Whitcote Tablets, Pkg.	4c	Parlor Brooms, Each	29c
Babbitt's Soap, 6 for	25c	Strong Brooms, Each	22c
Fairy Soap, Cake	4c	Soapine, 2 pkgs.	9c
Swift's Pride Soap, 2 cakes	7c	Gold Dust, Large pkg.	18c
Argo Starch, Pkg.	4c	Matches—Globe, 12 boxes	9c

HOUSEHOLD AMMONIA... 3 Large Bottles 25c

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ALL PORK SAUSAGE Meat or Country Style. Lb. . . 18c

Small PORK LOINS

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BONELESS Small BACON Strips, lb. . . 20c

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