New Year Is Started With Biggest Mummer Celebration in History of Harrisburg

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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MUMMERS TURN ALL HARRISBURG INTO A COMIC SUPPLEMENT

Kings, Butchers, Cabaret Girls, Queens and Refugees March With Sour Note Band

THOUSANDS YELL HELLO, 1915!

Confetti, Noise and Joyous Crowds Greet New Year Around Municipal Tree

MAYOR ROYAL WISHES PEOPLE HAPPY NEW YEAR

MAYOR JOHN K. ROYAL this morning issued his annual New Year's greeting to the people of Harrisburg. The proclamation is as follows:

"With sincere thankfulness for the past, may all that you desire most, and perhaps least hope, to realize, be yours in the year just begun. And may 1915 hold in store for each hour and minute of its 365 days, the very best that a busy, successful, happy, life is sure to bring, so that the new year may be the year of years to you, and the forerunner of others even more happy and prosperous!"

Kings hobnobbed with butchers, bakers and candlestick makers, queens fraternized with cabaret girls, Belgian refugees marched to the music of the Schnitzel Bum-band, and all the world turned into a comic supplement to-day. For Momus and his hosts of followers are in possession of the town.

By noon the streets were full of mummers—some in rags, some in jags and some in velvet gowns. Here women smoked cigarets and pipes in utter disregard of the conventions; there a strangely propelled monoplane darted about; from yonder came sweet strains of music from the Sour Note Band.

Fully 1,500 mummers, 14 bands and 12 floats paraded for the $600 offered as prize money. The parade started at 1.15 sharp at Front and State streets, following two taps on the Courthouse bell.

The Parade

The procession moved from Front and State streets. Leading was Captain Joseph B. Thompson on a white horse sent here by A. C. Rice, of Mechanicsburg. Captain Thompson was in charge of a squad of eight patrolmen, all mounted on white horses.

Next came the Municipal Band, followed by Clarence O. Backenstoss, chief marshal, and Francis H. Hoy, Jr., chief of staff, who have done much to make this year's demonstration a success. The assistant marshals were next.

The Keystone Motorcycle Club had the right of line. This organization has been one of the most enthusiastic boosters for the mummers. The Commonwealth Band was a part of the motorcycle club entry.

The first division was made up of organizations from Steelton and Harrisburg. The Alberta society, of Steelton, had three distinct displays in this division. The St. Michael's Society, of Steelton, and organizations from Middletown, Highspire and Harrisburg were also a part of the first division.

Hundreds of Comics

Hundreds of comic individuals and men with fancy and origin.. costumes were assigned to each division. The Harrisburg Red Men, the Rabbit's Club of the Friendship Fire Company, Knights of Pythias, Ninety-niners and Princes of Bagdad filled up the second and third divisions. Lemoyne sent a club of 150 members and Middletown came with a strong organization.

The floats made up the fourth division and included historical displays by local secret orders, Steelton societies and unique exhibitions on wheels by J. Walter Montgomery, the coal man, and the Orpheum Theater.

The judges were stationed in front of the Mayor's office and took notes as the parade passed down Market street to Fourth street. Later they viewed the parade at several other points along the route. The names of the judges were not made known until 1 o'clock this afternoon. The prize winners will be announced at the Orpheum Theater to-night at 9 o'clock.

Some Noise!

With the noisiest welcome a New Year has ever been accorded, Harrisburg mummers started their celebration last night. Thousands of people crowded into the block between Market Square and Front streets and about the municipal Christmas tree to help welcome the New Year.

Promptly at 11.55 last night the lights went out. On the stroke of midnight the lights were again turned on and the welcome started. All evening the crowds walked about the streets and kept the street men busy supplying horns, bells, rattlers and serpentine confetti. This great army of "shooters" made good on the stroke of midnight and kept it up for a half hour.

The sounding of taps, 1-9-1-5, on the Courthouse bell by William Crozier, assistant electrician, was the signal for whistles and fire bells throughout the city to get busy. When the masses began moving homeward the din was continued. Streamers of confetti thrown over the heads of the large crowds

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THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Generally fair to-night and Saturday; slight increase in temperature.

For Eastern Pennsylvania: Generally fair to-night and to-morrow; warmer and light winds.

River

No change in conditions. Ice-bound and stationary.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 18.
Sun: Rises, 7:26 a. m.; sets, 4:50 p. m.
Moon: Rises, 12:02 p. m.
River Stage: 2.7 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather
Highest temperature, 30.
Lowest temperature, 25.
Mean temperature, 28.
Normal temperature, 30.

SEA, LAND AND AIR BATTLES MARK NEW YEAR'S BEGINNING

Emperor William in Stirring Address Refers to Brilliant German Victories

DUNKIRK AGAIN BOMBARDED

American Note to British Government Received Favorably in Italy

Emperor William, in a striking address to his soldiers and sailors on the first days of the new year, refers to the brilliant German victories since the opening of hostilities and then lays emphasis on the statement that every attempt o fthe enemies of the fatherland to enter upon German territory in numerical strength has failed.

Behind the army and the fleet is the German nation. His Majesty declared, prepared for every sacrifice to protect the country from outrageous invasion. In conclusion the Emperor calls upon his people to face the new year unflinchingly and to win new victories for the fatherland.

As the year 1915 opens, after five months of hostility in the great war, the fighting, both in the eastern and the western arenas is going on without decisive results for either side.

There has been no material let-up with the advent of severe winter weather in the determination and severity of the encounter. In Poland there are to-day hostilities between Germans and Russians between the Vistula and Pilica rivers, and along the battle line in France, from the sea to Switzerland, there are almost continuous exchanges of artillery fire or infantry charges against trenches followed by desperate counter attacks.

Neither is aerial activity being neglected. Only yesterday four German aeroplanes dropped bombs on the French channel port of Dunkirk.

There are in Germany to-day after approximtaely 150 days of hostilities no fewer than 586,000 military prisoners of war. These include over 8,100 officers among whom are found 28 generals. Russian prisoners are the most numerous, with nearly 310,000 officers and men.

The American note to the British government on unwarranted interference with American commerce to neutral countries has met with a favor-

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ARCHIVES BEING TRANSFERRED

Athens, via London, Jan. 1, 9.30 A. M.—According to Constantinople advices which have reached here the Austrian and German embassies in the Turkish capital are transferring their archives to Asia Minor, fearing that action is imminent by the British and French fleets against the Dardanelles and the capital.

NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETS GREAT DEMAND

Book Circulation 102,126 in First Year; One-tenth of Population Registered

Harrisburg's new Public Library closed its first year of service to-day with a record of having circulated 102,126 books. This is a figure that is far beyond the expectations of any one connected with the library and there were hearty congratulations for Miss Alice R. Eaton, the librarian, when the figures were announced this morning.

The library was opened to the public just one year ago to-day with formal exercises, but the service of books did not begin until Saturday, January 3. The library has been open 307 days in the year and the total number of persons registered for books has reached the total of 8,840 or one-tenth of the population of Harrisburg and some of its suburbs. Of this number 6,518 were adults and 2,322 children.

Of the total circulation of 102,126 books the circulation among children reached the surprising number of 29,324. Children have used the library very extensively, the number of youngsters visiting the library to read or look at books, not merely to take out books, was 13,405 out of a total number of 38,441 persons.

The largest circulation on one day was 1,053.

The percentage of fiction circulated was 78, it being noted that the fiction circulation has dropped with the last few months, although the library books are kept strictly up to date. This is attributed to the interest in the war and general reading.

The library answered 1,903 reference questions over the telephone or by mail.

War Changes New Year's Customs in Washington

Washington, Jan. 1.—New Year's day in the national capital was unusually quiet. Because of the formal state of mourning which has continued since the death of Mrs. Wilson, there was no reception at the White House. The annual diplomatic breakfast by the secretary of state to the members of the diplomatic corps had been abandoned because of the war, and many other time honored customs which usually play such an important part in the Washington New Year celebration were omitted for the same reason.

FINAL APPEAL AGAINST PROHIBITION HAS FAILED

By Associated Press

Petrograd, via London, Jan. 1, 7.31 A. M.—The last appeal against Russia's prohibition decree failed Thursday when the councils of Petrograd and Moscow rejected a petition to authorize the recommencement of the sale of beer and light wines. The recent final order to discontinue the sale of all alcoholic drinks was issued with the reservation that the city councils should have the right to appeal for an authorization of the recommencement of the sale of 3 per cent. beer and light wine.

CELEBRATION IN NEW YORK

By Associated Press

New York, Jan. 1.—Daylight today failed to quell the noisy and enthusiastic greeting which New York gave to the new year. The revelry along Broadway continued far into the morning hours and the police although they had little to do, declares the celebration the biggest of its kind in the history of the city.

Mechanicsburg Didn't Greet 1915 Until Noon by Town-clock

Town Tease Must Have Been in Borough Hall Belfry; 12 O'clock Never Struck

If Mechanicsburg really wants to come and go and do business and go to church and eat and sleep and have fun and so on during the new year, it will always be about twelve hours late.

All this, of course, if time be marked by the town-clock.

For, according to the town timepiece in the borough council hall, 1915 wasn't officially ushered in until noon to-day. The nearest the clock got to 12 o'clock prior to the noon hour to-day—was 11:55 last night. And that was last year.

The borough was ready and waiting for the town-clock to hit off the twelve strokes that were to have announced the dawn of another year. Finally it clanged out a single stroke—and then another—

And then it quit.

Some of the bells and whistles all over town, which had started at the first stroke, hesitated—and waited some more. But the town-clock let it go at that. Folks became impatient.

"Come on, 'fifteen,' come on!" shouted some one. But it was 1 o'clock before it struck again.

Investigation developed the fact that the clapper of the clock bell had been held up by some one in the belfry after two beats were pounded out.

The town tease is suspected.

MILLER TABERNACLE IS NOT COMPLETED

Evangelistic Campaign at Mechanicsburg Has Been Postponed One Week

Mechanicsburg, Pa., Jan. 1.—At a meeting of the executive committee in charge of the Miller evangelistic meetings here last evening it was decided to postpone the entire program of the campaign for one week. This was due to unforseen circumstances. Delay in delivering the lumber for the big structure and the zero weather conditions and snow have held back the completion of the work. A carload of shavings is somewhere on the road and has thus far failed to arrive. Instead of starting the meetings next Sunday, the first one will take place on the following Sunday, January 10, and the regular program will then be carried out as previously arranged.

Evangelist Miller was communicated with on the long-distance telephone at Manchester, Ind., where he is just closing a long series of meetings, and he said the postponement would be entirely satisfactory to him and his party.

Germans Say U. S. Has Taken Stand From Which Retreat Is Impossible

By Associated Press

London, Jan. 1, 3.30 A. M.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at The Hague asserts that the entire German press received the news of the American protest to Great Britain against relays to American commerce with satisfaction and is speculating on the possibility of a crisis between the two countries. The correspondent adds that the newspapers declare that the American government has taken a stand from which it is impossible to retreat.

NICHOLAS VISITS FRONT

By Associated Press

Rome, Dec. 31, 8.10 P. M. (Delayed in transmission).—The American note to Great Britain, protesting against the interference with American merchantmen, has produced an excellent impression here, not only because it may tend to avert exactly the same difficulties encountered by Italian commerce, but also because it is hoped that it may lead to a more concrete set of international rules protecting the commerce of neutrals in their rights while still safeguarding the rights of belligerents.

BRITISH BATTLESHIP IS SUNK IN CHANNEL

Official Bureau Says Either Mine or Submarine Caused Destruction

London, Jan. 1, 2.14 P. M.—The British battleship Formidable was sunk this morning in the British Channel b yeither a mine or a submarine, according to an announcement given out by the official information bureau.

The text of the bureau's statement follows:

"The batleship Formidable was sunk this morning in the channel, but whether by a mine or a submarine is not yet certain.

"Seventy-one survivors have been picked up by a British light cruiser, and it is possible that others may have men rescued by other vessels."

The British battleship Formidable had a displacement of 15,00 tons. She

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Ex-Postmaster Stackpole Improving; Extends New Year's Greetings to Friends

Ex-postmaster E. J. Stackpole, who has been seriously ill with pleuro-pneumonia for the past month, is slowly recovering at his home in North Front street.

He is still confined to his bed and not able to see his friends, but on this New Year's day he desired all of them to know how much he appreciated the many messages of good will that had come to him during his illness. He wanted also to extend to all his friends a New Year's greeting of cheer and regard.

At his home to-day it was said that the ex-postmaster feels that there is compensation even in severe illness, in the realization of good fellowship which he so much appreciates.

SWEDISH MINISTER SENDS NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO MAIL

By Associated Press

London, Jan. 1, 4.41 A. M.—Replying to the Daily Mail's request for a new year's message, Dr. K. H. L. Hammarakjold, the Swedish premier, wired as follows:

"The necessities of war have been invoked on both belligerent sides to justify a series of measures contrary to the law of nations and the rights of neutral countries.

"It is desirable that such pernicious doctrine be universally stigmatized and abandoned."

EQUIPMENT ORDERS ARE DUE NEXT WEEK

Railroads Announce Expenditures Which May Reach Twenty Million Dollars

Special to The Telegraph

New York, Jan. 1.—Eastern railroads are so well satisfied with the recent decision increasing their fright rates that they will give orders in January for equipment, rails, ties and other supplies, amounting to $20,000,000, or the equivalent of the additional earnings accruing to them from the decision. This policy has been agreed on by the boards of directors of the different roads benefited by the decision.

A first large contract will be awarded next week. These will be in the way of steel rail orders by the New York Central lines, the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio, aggregating several hundred thousands tons. It is expected that this large total of orders will bring back to work a great many men.

In addition to the orders for new material, many of the railroads since the decision was granted have put their shop forces back on part time where they had been working only a few hours a week. The big shops of the New Haven at Readville, Massachusetts, were reopened Monday.

To-day the shops of the New York Central lines in Indianapolis were started up. Fully 10,000 men have already been given employment since the middle of December.

Italians, With Glass in Hand, Cry "Viva Italy" and Welcome New Year

By Associated Press

Rome, an. 1, 12.20 A. M.—A unique way of celebrating the entry of the new year took place here to-day. Usually the event has been celebrated by the explosion of fireworks and the firing of guns but as this was prohibited this year the people generally agreed to appear at open windows, glass in hand, and cry "viva Italy." This was done and the effect was most impressive.

Hand Grenades Used With Success by Russ

Petrograd, Dec. 31.—The following statement from the general staff of the commander-in-chief was given out to-night:

On the left bank of the Vistula no important fighting took place to-day. Between the Vistula and the Pilica rivers we have successfully repulsed day and night attacks made by the Germans to the south of the road from Balimow to Mednevice. To the north of the Rawka river we repulsed the German offensive by a counter attack. Near the Pilica river in the vicinity of the village of Jesergetz, we allowed a German column which was attempting a night attack to approach to a point 300 paces from our trenches and then met it with a galling fire which dispersed the enemy. The enemy suffered enormous losses.

In some districts we have ben using hand grenades against the enemy with greatest success.

Dunkirk Bombarded by Four German Aeroplanes

By Associated Press

Paris, Jan. 1, 5.05 A. M.—Dunkirk, on the northern coast of France, was again bombarded by four German aeroplanes Thursday, according to reports which reached Paris during the night.

C. V. R. HAS BIG YEAR

According to a statement issued to the employes of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company to-day during the year just closed the Cumberland Valley Railroad transported approximately eight and a quarter million tons of freight and two million passengers without the loss of life of a passenger or one of its 2100 employes and without injuring a passenger.

Washington, Jan. 1.—New Year's greetings to President Wilson from the rulers of other nations and from many Americans poured into the White House to-day.

London, Jan. 1, 12.35 P. M.—The publication in London of the text of the American note to the British government on the question of unwarranted interference with American shipping has dispelled and irritation occasioned by the incomplete sentences in the first summary of the communication cabled from the United States. There were certain Englishmen who saw something like an ultimatum in the cabled extracts, but a perusal of the actual context of these particular phrases has dispelled this conception.

HOLLWEG'S SON KILLED

Berlin, Jan. 1, via The Hague and London, 1.05 P. M.—The LOKAL ANZEIGER says in its issue of to-day that it was learned that the eldest son of Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial chancellor, was killed in action in Poland, December 29.

NINE KENTUCKY COUNTIES DRY

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 1.—Nine counties in Kentucky became "dry" at midnight, liquor having been voted out last September with licenses expiring last night. Only fifteen counties out of 120 in Kentucky are now in the so-called "wet" column.

Miss Grace Dowhower, 17 Evergreen street, fell at Twelfth and Market streets, while on her way to work for the Postal Telegraph Company in the Pennsylvania station. She sustained a fractured collarbone.

London, Jan. 1, 12.55 P. M.—Ten persons were killed and many others injured in a train collision this morning on the Great Eastern Railway, near Ilford, five miles from London. Some of the railroad cars were reduced to splinters.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

James Leonard Brownhill and Emma Elizabeth Dice, Marysville.
Anna Mann, Leesburg, and Morris Wender, York.
Irwin Hughes Geiger and Mary Sara Runk, city.