

A SENSATION CAUSED TODAY BY HITCHCOCK

Postmaster General Announces He Intends to Recommend Government Ownership of the Telegraph.

RECEIVES SUMMONS FROM AMAZED TAFT

Surprise Expressed that the Cabinet Officer Should at This Time Express View on the Subject.

(National News Association)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The greatest consternation in political circles in many years resulted today over the announcement by Postmaster General Hitchcock of his intended recommendation to congress of government ownership of telegraph lines. It appears Hitchcock never consulted the President on the matter. President Taft summoned Hitchcock to the White House at noon for explanations. Several senators and representatives endeavored to reach Hitchcock with the view to bring pressure against the contemplated movement. Notwithstanding this opposition government ownership is likely to receive serious consideration.

CAUSES A SURPRISE.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Political developments of national importance may follow close upon the announcement made by Postmaster General Hitchcock that he will shortly recommend that congress legislate for the acquisition and ownership by the government of all telegraph lines. He would have them operated by the post office department.

That the postmaster general should have chosen this time to publish his views on this important subject before communicating them either to congress or the president officially is a matter of general surprise. Senators and representatives when they first learned today of the postmaster general's new policy inquired if President Taft had embarked on a policy of government ownership. Chas. D. Hilles, secretary to the president was called up and declared it was the first he had heard of any such proposal.

Asks For Details.
Later he asked for details as to how the statement was given out. It was evident the White House had not been advised. With few exceptions, the postmaster general's plan condemned by senators and representatives some of them insist it was not proposed in good faith but merely to divert attention from parcels post and side track that promising measure. But most interesting is the consideration given here to the possible effect on Hitchcock's official and political future. He has been under suspicion for some time of getting in readiness to get from under the Taft administration possibly to cast his fortunes with the Roosevelt movement. The question today is: "Is Hitchcock deliberately seeking to break with President Taft? If the postmaster general has planned to ally himself with the revolt movement a very necessary preliminary would be to get out of the Taft cabinet. For a year the postmaster general has been out of political tune with his chief. The political estrangement dates from the appointment of Chas. W. Hilles as secretary to the president. He and Mr. Hitchcock do not agree politically. Repeatedly they have clashed in politics and each time Secretary Hilles has been upheld. The last encounter was at the meeting of the Republican National committee when Hitchcock opposed the appointment of Harry New as chairman of the committee on arrangements and was turned down by the president.

WAYNE GIVES AID TO POOR COUNTIES

The inequality and injustice of the system in vogue in distribution of the state school fund among the ninety-two counties on the basis of the school enumeration is shown in the reports just made by the state superintendent of education. For instance Wayne county pays in tax into the fund \$21,253.79 and received in return but \$19,081.48. The reason for this is that the state school officials believe no more state revenue should be spent on children in rich communities in the state than in the poorer counties. The result is that Wayne county, being one of the richest in the state helps pay for the education of children in other counties.

REPORT OF MERGER DENIED BY BANKS

A report current some few days ago that the Citizens' State bank and the First National bank of Hagerstown would be merged has been authoritatively denied by officials of these institutions. It is not known by whom the rumor originated.

Was Millionaire For One Day



John Jay McDevitt, the Wilkesbarre man on his arrival in New York City to gratify his ambition of being "a millionaire for one day." McDevitt was wine and dine, spending money lavishly, and took in all the sights of the Great White Way. He is an entirely new and original character, and has gained world-wide notoriety over his ambition to know what "it feels like being a millionaire."

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE BUSY ONE

Session Tonight First Held Since the Second Monday in December.

Inasmuch as council has not met since the second Monday in December, the meeting this evening promises to be a busy session. This is the second regular meeting night of this month, but as the first meeting night occurred on New Year's day, the session was postponed.

The water works and gas questions will probably be discussed, as the council decided some time ago to take up the water works matter the first of the year, and the mayor will explain in detail the meeting between the board of works and the Light, Heat and Power company's representatives, on the matter of a new franchise for that corporation.

At this evening's meeting Mayor Zimmerman will either appoint another member of council to the chairman of the contract and franchise committee or ask Councilman Waidele to remain at the head of the committee. He stated this morning that he has been studying over this matter since Mr. Waidele asked to be released as a member of the committee, and that he would not decide what he would do until this evening.

Mayor Zimmerman believes that inasmuch as this is one of the most important committees of council, especially so at this time, when the question of granting new franchises to public service corporations is being discussed, great care should be exercised in making the appointment.

A bill for an ordinance providing for the paving of West Main street, from First to Fifth street will be presented to council for first reading. This step is necessary as the board of works is unable to push the improvement through, inasmuch as more signatures have been placed to the remonstrance against the improvement than were placed to the petition for it.

Reports of all city officials for the past year will be submitted tonight.

CAR SMASHES AUTO

But Auto Driver, P. W. Smith Was Not Hurt.

The automobile driven by P. W. Smith and the belt line street car collided at Nineteenth and N. E. streets about 12:40 o'clock this afternoon. No one was injured, however the machine was damaged considerably and the street car slightly.

Mr. Smith was driving north on Nineteenth and did not know of the approaching car as the view is hidden by the grocery on the northeast corner. He was almost upon the car track when he discovered his danger, and it was then too late for either him to stop his machine, or the motor man to stop his car, or for Mr. Smith to turn west on E. street. Mr. Smith remained in the machine but did not receive a scratch. The front step board on the car was broken, while the frame and axle of the automobile were twisted and the machine otherwise damaged.

PLAN CENSORSHIP OF THE THEATERS

Local Ministers Think that Uplift in the Moral Tone Is Needed.

The moral tone as well as the quality of acting in the Richmond theaters need revision, according to the decision reached by the ministerial association at its meeting in the Y. M. C. A. this morning. A discussion of the shows staged here especially at the Gennett theater, occupied a large share of the time at the gathering today, ending with the unanimous verdict that something must be done to "clean up" the show houses. The matter was referred to the good citizenship committee, which will investigate the theaters, and determine at once what position the pastors shall assume regarding the shows produced here.

Rev. Haywood, the new Universalist pastor, opened the controversy by outlining the work done by the Dramatic League of America, and offering the opinion that the Gennett was a fit place for censorship. This theory was enthusiastically received by his brother pastors, as all agreed that Richmond's morals need more attention.

"As far as moral persuasion is concerned, you might as well argue with a hitching post as with a theatrical manager," asserted Rev. Haywood, in describing his proposition, "but if you can cut into his box office receipts, he will pay attention." Rev. Haywood recommends that the matter be placed in the hands of women's clubs of the city, who can study the various shows and report on them prior to their local appearance.

When informed by a representative of the "Palladium" of the action taken by the ministers, O. G. Murray, manager of the Gennett, stated that "ministers are welcome to come and pass judgment on my shows if they pay the price of admission." He admitted, however, that he would give no private rehearsals for them.

BOY TOWN CITIZENS TO HOLD ELECTION

Interest among boy members of the Y. M. C. A. is now centering on the election of municipal officials for the new boys' city. A mayor and five commissioners, who will virtually govern the conduct of their playmates for the next year, will be chosen tomorrow afternoon in the boys' department, and Director Pettijohn's project of self-government for local Y. M. C. A. lads will be put into effect at once.

Owing to the undivided interest which the establishment of their city is claiming among the youths, the regular Bible class supper tomorrow has been dispensed with, but the classes will meet for Bible study later in the evening.

A hard fight for basketball supremacy is being maintained among the Bible class teams of the association. In the junior league, the Delphians defeated the Black Hawks, 8 to 5, Saturday, and pulled up into a tie for premier honors with the H. B. E. aggregation, each having lost one game out of eight. The F. O. W. squad has practically clinched the championship in the intermediate league.

U. S. FISHING FLEET HELD BY ICE JAMS NEAR MAINE COAST

Two Government Revenue Cutters Today Sent to the Rescue of the Crews and Valuable Cargoes.

INDIANA WOMAN IS CRAZED BY HUNGER

Hammond Mother Attempts to Slay Her Children—Two Kentucky Towns Nearly Guttled by Blazes.

(National News Association)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The revenue cutters Gresham and Roscoggin have been ordered to proceed at full speed to the Bay of Islands on the Maine coast to the rescue of thirty American fishing vessels icebound there. Senator Lodge of Massachusetts called on Secretary of Treasury MacVeigh today after receiving a private message from Gloucester asking that he take some action for their immediate relief. Lodge told the secretary that hundreds of Massachusetts fishermen were in peril aboard the ships, and the secretary directed Capt. Cherbois to rush as many cutters as could be spared to the Maine coast. The cargo of the fishing fleet is valued at \$500,000.

CRAZED BY HUNGER

HAMMOND, Ind., Jan. 15.—The murder of five starving children by their mother, Mrs. Andrew Szymanski of Whiting, was prevented last night by the providential visit of a relative to the home, who found the mother armed with a butcher knife, a raving maniac, about to stab her six months old baby. A desperate encounter followed in which the woman was disarmed. The family had neither fuel, clothing nor food for three days. Szymanski the husband was found drunk in a saloon. Doctors examined the woman and declared she had gone mad from starvation. She is now at a hospital. The husband is under arrest. In a partly sane moment the woman said she intended killing all her starving children to end their suffering.

SIX DIE FROM COLD

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 15.—Six more people have been frozen to death in the Canadian northwest during the severe weather. G. Isbester, a settler from Minnesota, was one victim. At Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Mrs. Gardner and Thomas Robinson, were found frozen to death. The same fate overtook Stephen Pritt and an unknown man at Calgary.

27 SKATERS DROWN

EMDEN, Germany, Jan. 15.—Twenty-seven men and women were drowned when ice in the Ems river, on which they were skating, broke today. Several others are missing.

IN BIG ICE JAM

HASTINGS-On-The-Hudson, Jan. 15.—Rescuers battled today to reach two tugs and four large barges, owned by the Knickerbocker Ice company, which with fifty persons aboard them were marooned on the ice in the middle of the Hudson river. The crews and passengers include two women and four children. Experienced river men said there was grave fear of the craft being sunk by the grinding of ice. The barges were in tow of the tugs MacGee and Bismark, and were bound from Rockland lake to this city, laden with ice, when caught in a jam. The tugs became separated from the barges and were powerless. There is very little food on the barges.

KENTUCKY SUFFERS

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 15.—James Compton, a farmer near Henderson, was frozen to death near his home while returning after delivering tobacco. This makes the tenth life lost in Kentucky during the cold spell. Fires in two Kentucky towns did great damage because the water supply was frozen. At Pembroke fire swept the business section with a loss of \$40,000. At Blandville the business portion of the town was destroyed with a loss of \$30,000. An ice gorge in the Ohio river is feared.

GUARD YOUR HEALTH SAYS LOCAL EXPERT

Extreme cold weather is not such a great benefit to general health after all. Dr. J. E. King, county health commissioner, this morning stated that, although cold weather temporarily "puts germs out of business" and is in itself healthy, it also has many dangerous after-effects. People should be careful not to congregate in large crowds too frequently during the cold, says the health expert, for contagion is easily spread in this way. The really critical moment will be when the cold wave passes and the large masses of snow melt. Dr. King asserts that people can walk through the slush with impunity if they do not stop moving. The harm from wetting one's feet, according to the health official, is not in the mere act of getting them wet, but in the warm moving, or warm and dries his feet as soon as he comes in out of the slush, he is safe from bronchial trouble and contagion, but otherwise beware of the slush.

STORM KING HURLS TIMID WARM WAVE INTO THE DISCARD

Brief Respite from the Vigors of Extreme Cold Spell Not Long Enough for One to Thaw Out.

SATURDAY WAS NOT COLDEST RECORDED

Its Minimum Temperature of 25 Below Exceeded by the Minimum of February 13, 1899, of 31 Below.

True to predictions the warm wave arrived Saturday night and remained in "our midst" only a few hours, as the accurate weather man had previously informed us it would. About 1:30 Monday morning King Winter returned from a short vacation at Medicine Hat, seized Warm Wave by the scruff of the neck and cast him into the discard. At seven o'clock this morning the mercury at the government weather bureau, at the water works pumping station, registered two below zero. It was still cold this afternoon and the indications are it will remain cold for some time to come. However, everybody is used to it now.

Saturday night the government thermometer at the pumping station registered seven below between eight and nine o'clock. Then the mercury began to ascend gradually until it reached 25 above zero at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. At sunset Sunday afternoon the mercury registered 23 above. Later in the evening it began to snow, which continued until 1:30 Monday morning. Then King Winter got back on the job again.

Record of Past Week.

A record of maximum and minimum temperatures for the past week furnished by Weather Man Vossler, at the pumping station, follows:

Day	Max.	Min.
Sunday	5	-15
Monday	26	-6
Tuesday	17	-2
Wednesday	16	2
Thursday	12	-1
Friday	8	-21
Saturday	8	-25

There has been some dispute as to whether the minimum record of last Saturday was the lowest ever recorded officially in this section of the state. To settle all disputes Walter Ratliff, former government weather observer for Wayne county, announced today, after perusal of his old records, that February 13, 1899, exceeded the minimum record of January 13, 1912, by six degrees. On that chilly February day, thirteen years ago, the mercury dropped to 31 degrees below zero. This is lowest temperature on record for Eastern Indiana in 83 years. The week preceding February 13, 1899, was probably the coldest on record. The minimum temperatures for that week follow: February 7—zero; Feb. 8—8 below; Feb. 9—24 below; Feb. 10—17 below; Feb. 11—13 below; Feb. 12—15 below; Feb. 13—31 below.

ADVICE TO TEACHERS

By President of State Sunday School Assoc'n.

Advice as to how Sunday school teachers can secure satisfactory results from their work was given by Will C. Hall, president of the State Sunday School association, at the annual meeting of St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday school yesterday morning. Mr. Hall outlined a course for teachers to pursue in securing the interest of their pupils, and gave several hints on improving methods of Biblical instruction.

At the annual election of officers subsequent to the address by the state president, Ed Haemeier was re-elected superintendent of the Lutheran school. Other officers chosen were: Will Kinker, assistant superintendent; Will Klute, vice superintendent; Jess Weichman, treasurer; Ed Sweet, secretary; and Anna M. Schultz, superintendent of primary department.

In reports on the work of the past year, it was stated the St. Paul's Sunday school had an average attendance of 363 for the year 1911, the largest in the city, and had made a wonderful record of progress.

THE WEATHER

HIGH SCHOOL OBSERVATORY

Forecast for Richmond and vicinity: Fair and colder tonight. Fair with slowly rising temperature tomorrow. Highest temperature in last 24 hours, 20, at 3 p. m. Sunday. Lowest temperature in last 24 hours, 3 below at 8 a. m. Monday. Temperature at 12:30 p. m. today, 3 above. Barometer—30.2 and rising. Direction and velocity of wind—West, 6 miles an hour.

STATE—Fair and colder tonight. Tuesday fair; not much change in temperature.

LOCAL—Fair and cold tonight and Tuesday. Tuesday fair, slowly rising temperature.

C. & O. OFFICIALS WILL MEET BOARD

To Consider Local Improvements Tuesday—Other Matters Up Today.

In order to discuss the question of stationing watchmen at all railroad crossings of the C. & O., widening the north end of North Third street, constructing a switch leading to the light plant, and the probability of constructing an undergrade crossing on North Third street, J. W. Fox, superintendent of the C. & O. Railroad of Indiana, and other officials of the road, were to have met with the board of public works this morning. But they were unable to come to this city today. They will come tomorrow.

At the meeting of the board this morning a petition was presented, asking the board to order the alley running from South Fifth to South Sixth street, between B and C streets vacated. The petition, which was taken under advisement was signed by Francis Silas Chatard, bishop of Indianapolis; Frank A. Roell, rector of the St. Andrews church, and several others. St. Andrew's parish is desirous of having the alley closed in order that it may erect a new school building on the ground.

Remonstrance was filed against the proposed improvement of National avenue from Southwest Third to Southwest Fifth by constructing sidewalks on the north side of the avenue. A remonstrance was also filed with the board against the proposed improvement of the National road from West Fifth to West Eighth by constructing cement sidewalks.

The board received an invitation from the Kanawha Chemical Fire Engine company to witness the exhibition of chemical fire engines at Decatur, Indiana, January 19. The board will receive bids for a combination chemical and hose automobile next Thursday.

The report of the City Light plant for the month of December was submitted to the board this morning. The receipts were \$10,511.35; operating expenses, \$2,505.84; building and equipment, \$423.34; paid into sinking fund, \$660, making the total disbursements \$3,589.18. The total in the municipal fund of the plant is \$19,668.45; in the sinking fund, \$9,391.73. The excess of receipts over operating expenses was \$8,924.52.

FEAR COLD WEATHER

Waterworks Company on the Anxious Seat.

Officials of the Richmond Water Works company will consider the company very fortunate if the present cold snap passes without the company being greatly inconvenienced by frozen mains, entailing the possibility of them bursting. A sudden warm spell will be looked upon with as much apprehension by the company as a continuation of extreme cold weather.

The frost is perhaps deeper in the ground now than in several years, and steadily going deeper as the cold spell continues. The mains of the company are on an average about four and a half feet under the surface of the street, but in some places only three feet. The depth of the frost depends on the character of the ground in which the mains are laid and the kind of street surfacing.

In event it should turn warmer the frost will be driven deeper into the ground, as it is a peculiar fact that as the atmosphere moderates the frost goes down. The more rapid the rise of the temperature, the deeper the frost will go.

In order to thaw out frozen mains, the company does not have to dig up the street, unless the pipe has burst and has to be repaired. The method pursued in thawing out the pipes is to attach high voltage wires to fire plugs between which the frozen place in the main is located. In event there is a break, which is located by sounding instruments, the workmen must of necessity dig down to the main in order to repair the broken part.

NEW MOTTO ADOPTED FOR AMERICAN ARMY

The United States Army has adopted a new "Motto." Louis Motto, a Richmond youngster of eighteen, living at 413 North Sixteenth street has passed the examination for enlistment in the cavalry at the local recruiting station and has departed for Columbus, O., where he will take his preliminary training prior to going West for regular service. Although Motto is designated by Corporal William Herra as the brightest recruit he has had in some time, he had to change the date of his birth twice in order to be old enough for enlistment. He was also too light for admission, but the corporal said he could "drink a lot of water and eat heartily," and get the required weight.

The cold weather is rapidly bringing men around to Uncle Sam's headquarters. Several men have applied for admission, saying that they were out of work and had no protection against the remarkable long cold spell. Only two have been accepted by the recruiting officer this month, but he expects to have a rush of business if the cold continues until the first of next week.

STRIKERS ARE REPULSED BY THE SOLDIERS

Maddened Mill Workers, Whose Wages Were Reduced, Storm Mills and Several Persons Injured.

BAYONETS USED BY THE STATE TROOPS

While Firemen Train Hose on the Attackers, Who Retreat—Lawrence, Mass., Is Under Martial Law.

(National News Association)

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 15.—Martial law was practically enforced today following the charging of a mob of striking mill workers by state troops, during which one man was probably fatally bayoneted and many hurt. Thirty arrests were made. Nearly all those arrested were armed with revolvers or stilettoes. The situation is critical. Additional troops have been summoned from Haverhill and Lowell. Boston responded with police reserves. The fire department did effective work with cold water. Twenty thousand strikers against a reduction in wages are pitted against a thousand soldiers and police. Dominico Lecasseur, a striker, had a bayonet thrust almost through his body.

Following the fight today several ambulances were summoned and the wounded were hurried to the hospital. Before the calling of the militia several attempts had been made by strikers to rush several bridges leading to the mills. At the lower Pacific mill the mob found aarrison of policemen guarding the bridge. An attempt was made to rush it. Among the defenders was a number of state police under Capt. Foster. These charged into the mob and forced it back. Then came a fire attack on the strikers from four sides. It was at this place that shots were fired into the crowd. Shots were fired into the air, it is believed.

Mob Driven Back. Finally after a bitter struggle, which many were injured, the mob was driven back. It headed up the canal, toward other mills.

The militia was called out by the mayor at 9 o'clock as the result of an attack of the strikers on the Wolf mills. The militia charged the mob of 3,000 women and men, with bayonets. Many were hurt and taken to the hospital.

The soldiers charged the mob in front of the Atlantic mills. The rioters made several attempts to get at other mills but were held back by the police.

At the Atlantic mills there was a sharp clash. Hoses were trained into the crowd and many were mowed down with ice cold water.

Company F, of the 8th regiment was summoned to reinforce the three companies previously engaged.

Intense excitement followed the appearance of the soldiers and the mob was driven into a frenzy.

One company carried hickory clubs instead of guns and bayonets, although they were armed with revolvers.

Soldiers charged right at the mob, driving the crowd along Canal street. In the crowd were a number of agitators from New York who urged the men to resist but the sight of the guns served to quell their warlike spirit.

TODD IS PRESIDENT

Succeeds McGowan as T. H. I. & E. Executive.

(National News Association)

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 15.—Robert J. Todd of Indianapolis was today elected president of the Indianapolis Terminal & Traction company and the Indianapolis, Terre Haute and Eastern traction company, to succeed the late Hugh McGowan. Harry New was elected to the board of directors.

LITTLE BETHEL TO HAVE MANY GUESTS

With the expectation of loads of possum, chicken, and similar delights, men all over this section of the country are planning for a big time at the ninth annual possum supper to be given at Bethel on the twentieth of this month. The Sons of Veterans will be in charge of the event this year and will devote all the proceeds to a memorial day service. This function, which is one of the largest gatherings of the year, will attract a crowd of Richmond men in addition to prominent citizens from other parts of the state. The Fountain City orchestra has been secured to help entertain the visitors.