

CONVICTS WHO PRAY  
IN DIRTY LOFT WANT  
TO BUILD A CHAPEL

All They Need at Penitentiary  
Is the Material.  
Prisoners Kneeled in Dark  
on Christmas.

Who will give a bag of cement worth 50 cents to the prisoners of the Eastern State Penitentiary and help make it possible for them to construct a building where they can meet for church services and other purposes?

The convicts celebrated Christmas in a small, dim and depressing loft over one of the prison storage buildings. They were there at 11 o'clock, when they had to hold their breath and listen to the warden Robert J. McKenty who will construct a modern concrete meeting hall, capable of seating more than the 160 inmates of the penitentiary. If the material, costing about \$500, is available.

"It is an outrage that we haven't some place where the men can get together for a good time once in a while," said Warden McKenty today. "It spoiled my Christmas to see them waiting in line to get into that dark, dreary loft to do their worshiping with some of the men who are going to the Legislature could have been there and seen the convicts kneeling on the dusty rough boards in the dark. They would get me an appreciation of their faith."

"The loft in question is so full when 600 convicts are in it that movement is almost impossible," he said. "It is reached by a narrow stairway, up which the prisoners have to file one at a time. It would not be tolerated by law as a meeting place for any convicts."

Warden McKenty was told about the situation by the Rev. J. H. Williams, pastor of the Episcopal church at the city, before the prisoners of the "Sing Sing, N. Y." jail.

"Yes, I know about that, and the inmates here, I am about it, too, and they're very devout," he said. "We have had offers from the best theatrical companies that ever visited Philadelphia. They have agreed time and again to come out here and give performances, but we have had to decline every time because we have no place for such production."

Requests for an appropriation for a new building have been made on numerous occasions by Warden McKenty and the Board of Inspectors. They have always been denied. The prison is, officially, conducted on the principle of separate confinement and under this rule the prisoners are not allowed to congregate for any purpose.

"I have managed to avoid this antiquated system," said the warden, "and the men inside here, as far as is possible. But this old loft is brought up whenever a church or a hall is suggested. Imagine, it is considered inadvisable to allow the men to pray together. Each man must pray in his cell alone. What kind of religious progress can be made under this system? Where would 'Bible Sunday' be if the law obtained outside the prison?"

Warden McKenty pointed out what appeared to be the stonework and masonry building of all the prison structures.

"The men built that alone," he said, "and prison architects from every section of the country have come here and copied it. If we can build that we can build a hall. All we need is the material."

Called to Church Here

First Congregational of Germantown Wants the Rev. Mr. Fyle.  
The Rev. Henelek L. Fyle, of Mattoon, Ill., was voted a call to become pastor of the First Congregational Church, Germantown, at a meeting of the members of the church yesterday. Fyle has preached in the church some time ago, and made such a good impression that the members are hopeful that he may accept the call.

Woman Overcome by Gas

Stepping on the tube of a lighted gas stove in her room nearly cost the life of Mrs. Margaret Lora, 50 years old, of 1708 Francis street, who is in a serious condition at St. Joseph's Hospital suffering from gas poisoning. She was found in a fainting condition near her window early this morning by William Farrell, the keeper of the house. She probably will recover.

Yacht Off for South America

Randal Morgan's yacht Valrus, recently chartered by J. L. Severance of Cleveland, for an extended South American cruise, passed out the Delaware river yesterday morning for Chesapeake Bay. The yacht was captained by R. F. Osburn and was accompanied by the tugboat

INVENTOR OF MAXIM  
SILENCER DISLIKES NOISE

His Brother a Witness in Suit of Heating Company Against Contractor.  
Hudson Maxim, the powder manufacturer and brother of Maxim Maxim, inventor of the Maxim silencer, an attachment that permits the noiseless discharge of firearms, was the principal witness in a case tried before Judge Lloyd in the Camden Circuit Court today. The case had to do with the purchase of supposed noiseless heating plant recently installed in the inventor's handsome new home in Brooklyn.

SOCIAL WORKERS  
IN FAVOR OF NEW  
DETENTION HOUSE

Indorse Grand Jury's  
Recommendation That Building  
for Juveniles Be Located  
on Outskirts.

Social workers today indorsed the December Grand Jury's recommendation that the proposed new house of detention be erected on the outskirts of the city, where "child prisoners" can have outdoor play.

In presenting their report members of the Grand Jury touched upon the condition of children of the poor who live in Philadelphia's dirty tenements. The jury said clean and airy surroundings would help a great deal in reforming juvenile offenders, who, according to statistics, make their first step into criminal life through the element of play.

"Many of the youngsters, raised in tenement districts by vicious or incompetent parents, are incorrigible, usually temping out, because they have not been able to satisfy the element of play in clean surroundings," says the jury's report.

Members of the Philadelphia Housing Commission expressed themselves in favor of having the proposed house of detention located in the outskirts of the city. Social workers attached to settlements in North Philadelphia, who have been appealing in vain to members of Council Finance Committee to appropriate funds for the enforcement of the new housing laws, also believe a house of detention in the country would help to reform the juveniles offered.

Since the Grand Jury has become interested in the welfare of children who are prisoners, it is suggested by many persons that the body also should lighten itself on the present tenement-house problem.

This question was ignored completely by Council on the only appropriation made for the year of 1915. Appropriation of \$237,710 was asked to maintain the new Division of Housing and Sanitation created by act of the Legislature. This act was signed by Governor Tener.

Among those who are opposed to the granting of appropriations are the International Tenement Owners' Association and select Councilman Charles Sager, of the 7th Ward, chairman of the Subcommittee on Finance of Council.

BELGIAN ROYAL CHILDREN SPEND HOLIDAYS AS EXILES IN FOREIGN LANDS



The two sons and daughter of Albert and Elisabeth of Belgium were sent to England soon after the war began. The Princes Leopold and Charles and the Princess Marie-Josephine are shown coming after a religious service in Westminster Abbey. They have learned to write English and every day send letters to their parents in that language.

RESURRECTION OF  
SQUARE-RIGGERS  
RECALLS OLD DAYS

Prospective Departure of Two Vessels Reinaugurates  
Glory of Stars and  
Stripes on Seven Seas.

Glorious days, when the American flag was supreme upon the seven seas, will be recalled in a few days when two big American square-rigged sailing vessels will unfurl their clouds of canvas at this port and sail for Japan, with cargoes of petroleum in wooden inclosed tin cases.

Years ago this trade was the most thriving of the port. Hundreds of wind jammers, filled with all of the romance of the sea, inspirations to writers of sea tales, came to and left this port each week. Today only a few of these vessels remain, and the number under the stars and stripes can be counted on one's fingers.

The Dirigo is one of the famous vessels of the Seward fleet of steel, bath-built square-riggers. With her sister-ships, the Arthur Seward, Edward Seward, William P. Frye and Erskine M. Phelps, she has written sea history.

The Arthur Seward, which left here several years ago, has never been heard from since. It is rumored to be prowling about the other vessels, now bound for England from the Pacific coast with grain, are to load oil here for the land of the Mikado.

The revival of the trade is due to the scarcity of steamships to meet the urgent demand of business. The war has removed about 5,000,000 tons of ships from the seas. They have either been interned, sunk or commandeered. The sailing vessels are getting high freights for the transportation of the oil. It is estimated that the run will require from 50 to 100 days. The ships will return in six months.

This latter fact recalls to veteran sea-farers of the port, that there is a wharf on the Camden side of the Delaware River, believed to be the most complete and equipped wharf in the world. The wharf is a floating one, with a water ballast which can readily be pumped into the river.

REPORT OF DYNAMITE PLOT  
AT BETHLEHEM GROUNDESS

Steel Company Officials Deny Spies Have Attempted Bomb Outrages.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM, Pa., Dec. 28.—There is absolutely no truth to the report that attempts have been made to blow up certain departments of the Bethlehem Steel Company's armor and projectile plants by spies, according to the local police. Steel company officials also deny the rumors.

Rumors have prevailed here since the beginning of the European war about spies infesting the plant and bombs being discovered, but each was found to be groundless.

On the suggestion of the United States Government the steel company about six weeks ago added additional police to its force, which has guarded the plant for years. The Government of this country has war contracts in process of manufacture here, as have several foreign nations, and United States officials do not want inspectors of other countries to obtain information regarding patents on war material, hence the reinforced police order.

Vessels Collide Off Cape Cod

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., Dec. 28.—The steamer Linon and schooner Dorothy Palmer collided off Cape Cod early today. The schooner was badly damaged, but was able to proceed to Boston in tow of the Linon, which is owned by the United Fruit Company.

PROBLEM IN MAINTAINING  
CITY'S DOLLAR TAX RATE

Joint Committee of Councils Must Face Increased Expenses.

How Philadelphia may continue the \$1 tax rate and at the same time meet the increased expenses that will be caused by interest and sinking fund charges of the millions that are to be borrowed is a problem which will be considered by a joint committee of Councils.

DEATHS

- ANDERSON.—On December 28, 1914, MARY, wife of Samuel Anderson, died at her home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- ARMSTRONG.—On December 27, 1914, MARY E., widow of George S. Armstrong, died at her home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- CLEMMER.—At Northampton, Pa., on December 27, 1914, FRANCES E., wife of James D. Clemmer, died at her home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- COLE.—On December 28, 1914, WILLIAM, husband of Adaline E. Cole (nee Peopery), died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- COWELL.—On December 28, 1914, LEWIS A., husband of Panny D. Cowell, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- CRUICK.—On the 28th of December, 1914, FRANK, aged 50 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- DRYDEN.—On December 28, 1914, JOHN, husband of Margaret Dryden, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- DUNN.—On December 28, 1914, JOHN, husband of Elizabeth Dunn, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- FISHER.—On Sunday, December 27, 1914, WILLIAM FRED FISHER, aged 72 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.

LECTURES ON SALESMANSHIP

First of Series to Be Given Tonight in Kensington.  
A lecture on salesmanship at Odd Fellows' Hall, Kensington avenue and Cumberland street, at 8 o'clock tonight, will be the first of a series of lectures on the subject under the auspices of the Public Education Association of Philadelphia.

FUNERAL OF MRS. LOUISA SCHILTNER

The funeral of Mrs. Louisa Schiltner, wife of Henry Schiltner, a well-known violinist, will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from her late home, 210 North 23rd street. Mrs. Schiltner, who was in her 84th year, died Friday after a lingering illness. She is survived by her two daughters, Miss Katherine Schiltner, a musical instructor and pianist of note, and Miss Anne Schiltner.

MISS GRACE H. DODGE

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Miss Grace H. Dodge, a member of a well-known New York family of the same name, and the first woman ever appointed to the New York Board of Education, died yesterday. She was in her 84th year. Miss Dodge founded the Girls' Public School Athletic League in 1898, the Working Girls' Clubs and the Teachers' College, which is now affiliated with the Columbia University.

ARCHBISHOP WM. RIORDAN

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The Most Rev. Patrick William Riordan, Archbishop of San Francisco, died in his home in this city yesterday morning of pneumonia. Archbishop Riordan succeeded to the See of San Francisco in December, 1884, when he was but 43 years old. He was born in New Brunswick on August 7, 1841.

COL. ARTHUR MACARTHUR

TROY, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Colonel Arthur MacArthur, grand master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the United States, died suddenly of apoplexy yesterday at his home here. He was 64 years old. Colonel MacArthur was the editor and proprietor of the Troy Northern Budget, and was widely known as a newspaper man. He was elected grand master of the Grand Encampment at Denver, Col., in 1912, and had been a Mason since 1872.

OBITUARIES

- MIDDELBURG.—On December 27, 1914, FRANK, aged 50 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- MORRIS.—On December 27, 1914, HARRY, aged 70 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- OSLER.—On December 27, 1914, HENRY, aged 75 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- PARRISON.—On December 27, 1914, JOHN, aged 70 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- PIATT.—On December 27, 1914, JOHN, aged 70 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- ROBERTS.—On December 27, 1914, JOHN, aged 70 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.
- SCHULTZ.—On December 27, 1914, JOHN, aged 70 years, died at his home, 124 N. 2nd St., at 10 o'clock. Interment Parkwood cemetery.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Day After

IT WAS the day after Christmas, and everything was just as tired and just as everything as they always are the day after Christmas—very tired.  
All day the children had been a little cross, on their feet, but a little tired and not very hungry (I wonder why?) when bedtime came nobody was very sorry.



WINTER RESORTS

Ledger Central will supply you with full information about winter resorts in any section of the country. Tell you exact locations, seasons, attractions and facilities for recreation or rest. Give you particulars regarding train schedules and connections, sailing dates of steamship lines for any port, Pullman and boat accommodations, cost of travel and hotel rates on route and at resorts.  
This service is entirely without charge. Simply call at the