

# SATURDAY RECORD

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## PRE-IDENT WILSON CONDEMNS HYPHENS

**His Message Denounces Disloyalty and Demands Punishment—Distinguished Gathering of Officials.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.

President Wilson read his annual message to a joint session of the branches of Congress in the hall of the House Tuesday. The message, or address, as it is called by this administration, dealt mainly with national defense.

While the President's outline of the administration plan for the army and navy, and proposed tax increases, passed without a ripple of applause Republicans and Democrats alike joined in an emphatic demonstration at his denunciation of naturalized Americans who, by their sympathies for the European belligerents, have endangered American neutrality.

While Congress cheered him loudly, he referred to them as having "poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of our national life" and as those who "would turn in malignant reaction against the government and the people who had welcomed and nurtured them."

The House galleries were packed three hours before the President began his address. The diplomatic gallery was unusually well filled. There was a distinguished gathering of government officers and their wives. Mrs. Galt, the President's fiancée, was present.

### DU PONT GET \$75,000,000 ORDER.

It is reported that the Du Pont Powder Company has closed a contract for \$75,000,000 worth of high explosives, to be delivered to the allies in 1917. This is understood to be the contract erroneously reported signed a month ago for \$65,000,000.

### N. Y. BUILDING AT FAIR SOLD FOR \$3,050.

The New York State building at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, which cost about \$200,000 to erect, was sold at auction to a wrecker for \$3,050. The price was \$650 higher than was offered at private sale.

### Annual Memorial Service B. P. O. E.

The annual memorial service of Wilmington Lodge, No. 532, B. P. O. E., was held at the Victoria Theatre Sunday afternoon. The following was the programme:

- Entrance march.
- Anthem, "I Cannot Find Thee" (Scott), by quartette.
- Remarks by the Exalted Ruler, Mr. Charles C. Loughlin.
- Trio, "Out of the Depths" (Scudds), Miss Bowen, Mr. J. B. Fenley and Miss Ruth Bowen.
- Roll call of departed brothers, by the secretary.
- Opening ode, "Great Ruler of the Universe."
- Prayer by the chaplain, Very Rev. C. Dennen.
- Duet, "The Lord Is my Light" (Buck), Miss Bowen and Mr. J. B. Fenley.
- Introduction of eulogist, Mr. S. M. King, P. E. R.
- Address, Hon. Charles U. Harris, P. E. R.
- Anthem, "By Babylon's Wave" (Gounod), by quartette.
- Closing ode.
- Benediction, Rev. John M. Wells, D. D.

### Church of the Ascension.

At the Church of the Ascension, on Sunday night, Mr. E. B. Johnson, of the Yoke Fellows, will be the speaker. Mr. Johnson is a very interesting talker and a large audience is anticipated.

Sunday School will be held at 9:30 a. m. The public is cordially invited to all services.

### Seeking Home For Four-year-old Girl

Rev. J. S. Crowley, pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, is seeking a home for a four-year-old girl. She is attractive and of good character. He would be glad if some Christian family would adopt the little one, as she is in need of a good home. If you are interested, communicate with the Rev. Mr. Crowley, 508 South Third street.

## FIRE COMPLETELY WIPES OUT A VIRGINIA TOWN

**STARTED IN RESTAURANT AND SWEEPED BOTH BUSINESS AND RESIDENCE DISTRICTS**

**Hopewell, a Town That Has Grown to a Population of 25,000 During the Hurried Erection of the Du Pont Powder Company's Plant, Completely Destroyed—Loss Is Between \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000—Scenes of Wild Disorder—Negro Lynched For Looting—Martial Law Declared—Petersburg Saloons Closed on Account of Influx of Refugees—Many Remain to Guard Belongings.**

Petersburg, Va., Dec. 10.

On Thursday night the new town of Hopewell, adjoining the gun cotton plant of the Du Pont Powder Company, which has been erected along with the new plant, was swept by fire which started in a restaurant, caused by the overturning of an oil stove. The damage to property is estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

The property of the Du Pont Company was not damaged, but at one time it was threatened.

The two villages, A and B, nearby, built to accommodate the families of operatives in the gun cotton factory, had a narrow escape.

Only one life was lost in connection with the conflagration, that of a negro who was lynched for looting. Citizens, angered at his actions, lynched him.

Sparks from the fire ignited the stables of the nitro-glycerine factory several times, but the flames were extinguished at once.

When it was found that it was impossible to check the flames and that the town was doomed all operations in the works were suspended and the operatives went to work protecting buildings from flying sparks. A great danger was the woods nearby which are burning still.

The water supply was cut off when the wires which convey the current to the Appomattox River Electric Pumping Station were severed by falling poles.

Many who had personal property and household goods that they had saved removed them to places of safety, but numbers of men, women and children were seen sitting over the few belongings they had been able to save, and many men stood by their property with revolvers.

When it was seen that there was no chance to save the town the police, with expert assistance, began dynamiting buildings.

After the excitement was over the population, carrying with them what possessions they had saved, left the scene. In this city, on account of the great influx of refugees, the mayor deemed it best to have all saloons closed at an early hour. A military company was ordered out to aid the police in keeping order and the city council, chamber of commerce, Y. M. C. A., churches and other organizations provided temporary accommodations for the homeless and destitute.

When the fire was over, the Du Pont works started its night force to work at their accustomed places.

## TEN EXPLOSION VICTIMS BURIED IN ONE COFFIN.

**Service Held in Community House for Unidentified Dead in Du Pont Accident—Powder Mills Closed.**

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 10.

The droning of the powder mills in the Brandywine Valley, which has been unceasing since the rush of war orders began several months ago, was stilled when in the Hagley Community House a funeral service was held for ten of the unidentified victims of the packing house blow-up just one week ago, when twenty others lost their lives.

The Du Pont company suspended operations while the service was in progress, and powder makers swelled the number of those attending the service. A gray coffin containing what was found of the unidentified victims was buried under a huge blanket of violets and greens.

On a silver plate at the head of the coffin was the inscription: "Unidentified, Hagley Yard, November 30, 1915." Beneath this were ten silver plates each bearing the names of the identified dead.

## Gov. Hanna, of North Dakota, Asks U. S. to Pass Ford Party Into War Area.

Governor Hanna, of North Dakota, a member of the Ford peace party, has sent a wireless message to the State Department at Washington asking Secretary Lansing to give permission for the party to visit the belligerent countries.

This permission was refused at the time of granting passports to the voyagers, and all the passports give permission to visit only neutral countries. Governor Hanna is confident that the desired permission will be given by the State Department and that it can be arranged so that the party can enter the territory of the nations at war.

Secretary Lansing has written Minister Van Dyke, at The Hague, letters introducing the members of the party.

Henry Ford said that even should he succeed in ending the present war he would not feel he had been truly successful as long as other wars were possible in the future and that he will make an effort to prevent future conflicts.

## Protest Against Hour of Closing Freight Warehouses.

At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday a protest was entered by merchants against the early hour of closing of the freight warehouses of the Seaboard Air Line and the Atlantic Coast Line railroads. They urged that the traffic committee take up the matter with a view to having the hour of closing changed from 4 p. m. to 5 p. m., and report at a special meeting to be held Monday at 4 p. m. The matter of securing better schedules for passenger trains in and out of this city was also referred to the committee.

## The New Water Rate.

An ordinance making an almost uniform increase of 20 per cent on the city water rates after January 1 and making several changes in the terms and conditions upon which the city will furnish water to consumers, which was drawn up in accordance with the special report of a committee of investigation which submitted its report several months ago, was adopted by Council Wednesday, and after January 1 the new rates will be operative.

## A Member Causa Honoris.

Dr. James Sprunt, senior member of the firm of Alex. Sprunt & Son, of this city, and one of the State's most gifted and cultured gentlemen, was elected as a member causa honoris of the Alpha Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, of William and Mary College, of Williamsburg, Va.

Mr. G. Thomas Swain has purchased the property at No. 612 Orange street, from Mr. M. H. Jones. Consideration, \$4,000.