

**CONDITION OF THE ICE
IN PARK LAKE TODAY
OPEN WATER**

**NEW IRON WINS HONORS
FOR ILLINOIS PROFESSOR**



PROF. YENSEN

Professor Trygve D. Yensen, research assistant professor of electrical engineering in the University of Illinois, at Urbana, Ill., has discovered a method of producing in vacuum an iron that has remarkable magnetic properties. It is asserted that if Professor Yensen's vacuum fused silicon iron occupied the space now filled by the common silicon steel in all of the electrical transformers in the United States today the annual saving would amount to \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000. Professor Yensen is a native of Norway and is in his thirty-second year. The university has recognized the value of Mr. Yensen's discovery by raising his rank in its teaching staff.

The Los Angeles Times

Through the courtesy of Mr. Harrison Gray Otis, Editor and General Manager of The Times-Mirror of Los Angeles, Calif., we received a copy of the mid-winter edition of that paper and surely it was "some" edition, 190 pages.

As a booster for a city this edition of the Times eclipses anything that has as yet come to our notice, in the shape of a newspaper publication and it reflects great credit for ability to do things by the management of the "Times."

The spirit of the growing West could be no better reflected than through such a medium as a city or town may be quite rightly judged by the enterprise of its newspapers.

We thank Mr. Otis for having in mind, one so far away from him as THE LACKAWANNA JOURNAL, and we have shown the copy of the "Times" already to a score of people who have come into our office.

Therefore it pays to advertise.

BEGINS COUNTY TAX COLLECTION MONDAY

Appropriation for Child Welfare Helps Boost Rate To \$5.75.

Next Monday morning County Treasurer Franklin E. Baird will begin the collection of the county taxes for 1916, at City and County Hall. The tax rate for this year is much higher than it has been in years past. It is \$5.75 per \$1,000. Last year it was \$4.99 per \$1,000.

The high rate caused because of a direct tax levied by the state which amounts in Erie county to \$844,897.39. This has been assessed to the various counties because the Legislature did not make appropriations in sufficient amount to provide funds for all state departments.

Another cause for an increase in this year's tax rate is the appropriation of \$50,000 for the Child Welfare department which has been created, through a state law, in this county.

WHO WILL BE FIRST

In regard to the lodge home question, to rent an old house looks like sending good money after bad. The money required to put in shape an old house for club and lodge purposes would buy a lot in a location where stores on the first floor could be rented.

There is a demand in Lackawanna today for good stores in the right place. A good lodge clubhouse in town would double the membership of a lodge and hiring it a revenue from stores, dance hall, pool, bowling and other sources that would soon pay the cost of building. Who will get it first?

A MOOSE.

\$19,000 BACK TAXES

Why Are They Not Advertised For?

MIGHT REDUCE TAX RATE

During the last administration here the Common Council directed that the City Treasurer advertise for sale the property on which taxes had not been paid for periods, in some cases, extending over the time the city has been incorporated.

If we understand it correctly these back taxes amount to some \$19,000, a neat sum for the Treasury.

Just why the City Treasurer does not make a legal effort either to get the money or sell the land we are not qualified to say, but we can say that if the city should take over some of this land that is being held at fabulous prices, when you come to buy it, and upon which no taxes have been paid for years, it might give the city a solution to the playground problem, if not some cheap sites for school buildings or otherwise.

Here's a chance for the new administration to carry out the resolution of last summer, by the old common council and enrich the city by a large number of thousands of dollars.

Let's get this \$19,000.00 or get the land or let some one get it that will put it to use.

We need houses badly, maybe someone would buy in this land that would not be satisfied with their money earning 4% a year and put it on a new job where it could earn that much monthly.

What do you say "Jim"?

BARNES REJECTS POLITICAL HONOR

Refuses to Be Delegate-at-Large to National Republican Meet.

REASONS EXPRESSED IN LETTER

Mr. Barnes Believes It Would Be Injudicious for Him to Allow His Name to Go Before State Republican Convention for Delegate-at-Large With His Well-Known Hostility to Colonel.

Albany, Jan. 12.—That Theodore Roosevelt is itching to get back into office to use the power of national defense which he is urging and that no sane man or woman should permit him to do so, is the sentiment expressed in a letter sent last night by William Barnes to Frederick C. Tanner, chairman of the state committee. Mr. Barnes' own congressional district, the 28th, met here and selected State Senator Henry M. Sage and Republican County Chairman Ellis J. Staley as delegates to the Chicago convention.

Barnes Hostile to Colonel.

Mr. Barnes makes it plain to Chairman Tanner that he will not permit his own name to go before the Republican state convention as one of the four delegates-at-large to the national convention, because he believes his well-known hostility to the colonel would make it injudicious for him to serve in that capacity.

Mr. Barnes made public last night his letter to Mr. Tanner, which is as follows:

"Albany, Jan. 11, 1915. My Dear Mr. Tanner—The Republican congressional committee of this district met today and selected E. J. Staley and Senator Sage as delegates to the Republican national convention to be voted for at the primary April 4. With the action of this committee I am in entire accord.

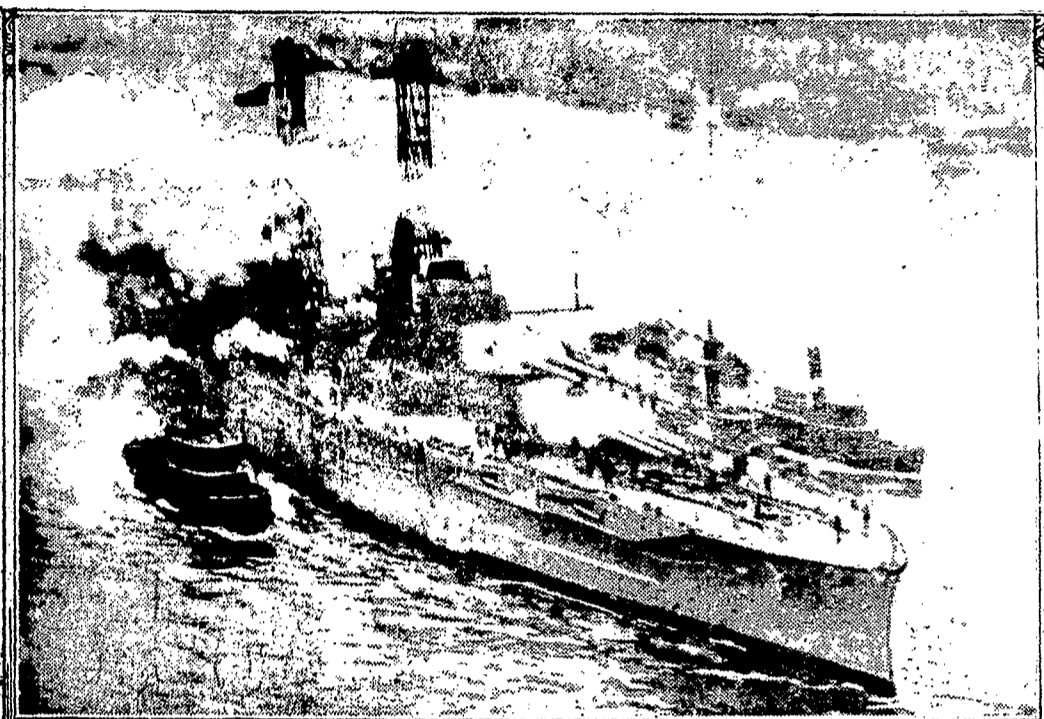
"I feel this action should lead to the inference, that it is my expectation, that the Republican state convention, which I understand is to be held in February, will suggest me as one of the four delegates-at-large. I am writing to advise you of my determination not to go to the convention as a delegate.

"Powerful influences are at work to bring about the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt. That this should be prevented, I am confident is the opinion of all sane men and women. If we are to prepare for defense, as Mr. Roosevelt himself properly urges, it would be irrational to place the power thus created in the hands of one who would likely use it.

"In view of the contention, which I foresee will come before the national convention over the right candidacy, it would be injudicious for me to be a delegate. The New York delegation which I assume will be a

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OKLAHOMA, OUR NEWEST GIANT SEA FIGHTER



U. S. S. OKLAHOMA

Photo by American Press Association.

The new superdreadnaught Oklahoma, which was recently completed at Camden, N. J., arrived at the Brooklyn navy yard to be made ready for an official trial trip off the coast of Maine. The giant fighting craft is still in the hands of her builders, the New York Shipbuilding company of Camden, and will not be turned over to the United States government until she has successfully completed her trials. It is expected that she will be placed in commission within two months. She is to be drydocked, cleaned and inspected before leaving for her trial trip. The Oklahoma is one of the most powerful warships afloat. She is a sister ship of the Nevada and has a displacement of 2,500 tons. She is expected to develop a speed of at least twenty-one knots an hour. Her main armament consists of ten fourteen-inch guns, carried three in a turret and two immediately above in a superimposed turret, and twenty-one five-inch guns. She also carries a battery of three pounders.

ADMIRAL JELlicoe,
Commander of the British Fleet,
Who Lost Another Big Warship.



Photo by American Press Association.

LEAVES FORTUNE TO CHEF

Butte Cook Willed \$100,000 and Woman's Family \$5.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 12.—Joseph Beau, chef of the Silver Bow club, Butte's most exclusive organization, is the sole heir to a \$100,000 estate left by Bredget Artery, who died here several days ago.

A mother, brother and three sisters of the woman are left \$1 each.

Mrs. Artery was the owner of the business blocks in the central part of Butte, with other property. She and Beau had been associated in business for the past 15 years.

IMMENSE CROWD HEAR SUPT. RILEY'S DEFENSE

Charges That Osborne's Friends [Said They Would "Get Him"]

Albany, Jan. 12.—Conflicting statements contained in a letter written to Thomas Mott Osborne, as warden of Sing Sing prison, and to Governor Whitman by John B. Riley, state superintendent of prisons, were emphasized by the executive at a hearing he gave on charges brought by himself, seeking the superintendent's removal from office.

The feature of Mr. Riley's unqualified defense of his stewardship was the frequent reference made in questions by his counsel, former Senator Edgar T. Brackett, to the effect that friends of Osborne were trying "to get" Riley.

The hearing was adjourned Friday or Monday morning to permit Riley to submit affidavits intended to support his contention that he had not tried to embarrass Dr. George Kirchwey, successor to Osborne as Sing Sing warden, in the performance of his duty.

Because of the controversy over the prison situation and in anticipation that sensational testimony might be presented, the greatest crowd that the executive chamber has held in the memory of the oldest Capitol employes packed the big red room, where the governor held his court.

So fierce was the struggle for admittance that attaches of the chamber resorted to the unprecedented action of closing the doors at a public hearing to keep out the crowd. The legislature held only a perfunctory session and adjourned early to permit members to squeeze their way into the hearing.

ERIE DISPATCH TO QUIT

Manager Said City Would Not Support a Morning Paper.

Erie, Pa., Jan. 12.—The Erie Dispatch, the only morning newspaper in the city, will suspend publication on Jan. 20, according to an announcement made in this morning's issue. Business Manager S. O. Kegley said last night that the city will not support a morning newspaper.

The Dispatch is owned principally by C. H. Strong, president of the Erie & Pittsburgh railroad, the Erie County Electric company and other corporations. The Dispatch is more than half a century old. Horace Greeley was once the editor.

When Hur'an Growth Stops Human Being Generally Stop Growing at the age of eighteen.

J. M. McGUIRE PASSES AWAY

HUSBAND OF MARY McGUIRE

James McGuire, 59 years of age, died yesterday at his residence, 229 Kirby avenue after a short illness.

Last Sunday it was noticed that Mr. McGuire was not in his usual health, but no one at that time thought anything was seriously the matter.

The cause of death was acute dilatation of the heart.

Mr. McGuire came here from Brooklyn, N. Y., about 10 years ago, and worked at the Steel Plant until he accepted the position of stationary engineer at the city pumping station, where he was employed up to the time of his death.

Mr. McGuire leaves a wife, Mary, one daughter, Mrs. John Keefe, of Buffalo, and one daughter, Mrs. Bernard Tangleford, of this city, and a son, Sabbas.

The funeral will be held from his late residence, 229 Kirby avenue, on Friday morning, January 14, at 8:30 and from St. Patrick's church at 9.

The interment will be at Holy Cross cemetery.

Mr. McGuire had a large circle of friends in this city and was a man whom once known was always remembered for his genial companionship.

The arrangements for the funeral are in charge of Mr. Frank O'Neill.

MEDICAL STUDENTS LAUD JOHN WIDMER

Buffalo, New York, January 3, 1916.

Hon. John H. Widmer, Former Mayor, Lackawanna City. Dear Sir—We wish to thank you for your kindness and courtesy to us, during the past week, when we were making a Sanitary Survey of the city, for the University of Buffalo, as one of the requirements for graduation. All the officials of your city were very courteous to us and assisted us in every way possible and the survey was very successful. We were very sorry to hear that the office of Mayor is now being held by a man other than yourself, but we only hope his administration will be as efficient as all residents admit your administration was.

We feel very grateful to you Mr. Widmer and hope that we may be able to meet you again in the future. Wishing yourself, the new officials, and the City of Lackawanna, the best of success during the coming years, we remain,

Very truly yours,
RUSSELL S. KIDDER,
WILLIS B. HARRISON,
University of Buffalo,
Medical Dept.,
Class of 1916.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

WANTED—To rent house for boarders will buy a small hotel. Address F. H. Journal Office and name price in first letter.

Jan. 12, 1916.

17 AMERICANS ARE SHOT TO DEATH.

Stood Up Against a Wall and Executed by Mexican Bandits.

ONE MAN ESCAPED TO TELL TALE

It is believed that Men Were Killed by Troops Under General Jose Rodriguez, a Follower of Villa, and With Villa's Approval—All Were Stripped of Clothing and Robbed Before Being Shot.

El Paso, Jan. 12.—Stripped of their clothes, robbed and stood against an adobe wall 17 Americans are known to have been executed by Mexican bandits near Cusihuiriachic, Chihuahua, some time Monday.

The news of the killings was brought to Chihuahua City by one of the party of 18 Americans who left Chihuahua, City Monday morning for Cusihuiriachic. He was the last man on the end of the line of Americans stood against the adobe wall to be shot and succeeded in slipping away from the Mexican bandits and reach Chihuahua. As he ran through the underbrush he heard the shots of the firing squad and is positive that the 17 were killed.

Manager Watson Headed Party. The party was in charge of C. R. Watson, general manager of the Cusi Mining company. This party left El Paso Saturday for Chihuahua, en route to Cusihuiriachic to resume operation on the mines. A message was received Monday saying that the mining men had arrived in Chihuahua safely and planned to leave some time Monday for Cusi to begin operations. This was the last heard of them until a message was received at the office of the company here reporting the execution of the entire 17 at noon.

A second message reached El Paso from the one man who escaped confirming the execution of his 17 American companions. His name is T. B. Holmes.

The complete list of Americans who left El Paso for Cusi, and all of whom are believed to have perished before the firing squad, with the exception of the one man who brought back the

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TWAS COSTLY SNOW.

The snow storm which recently covered Greater New York caused considerable loss to the Gaumont (Mutual) company. Its studios are located in Flushing, Borough of Queens, and furniture for Casion Star Comedies is secured in Manhattan. The snow storm blocked traffic, and the properties for several scenes were snowbound for two days. Salaries for Director Edwin Middleton's company went on despite the weather, and the auditor figured out that the fall of the white blanket cost Gaumont close to \$600.

A RIDE WITH THE TROUBLE HUNTERS

South Park Car Which Leaves Ridge Road At 2.30 A. M. Was Stalled.

DUE TO GROUNDED CABLE.

Two Journal Employees Have Thrilling Experience Early Tuesday Morning.

The South Park car line was out of commission from 2.20 a. m. until after 9 a. m. Tuesday morning, due to a grounded cable.

It may be foolish, but when you wait for the 2.30 a. m. South Park car, after working from 5.30 p. m. until 2.35, and then at last see a light appear away down the track, which draws closer and closer, only to turn out to be the emergency truck of the International Traction Co. looking for trouble—but it isn't.

Well they didn't find any in Lackawanna—trouble I mean.

After he got through telephoning to the power station on Seneca and Imson streets he asked one of us how far we were going.

"Main street" were going the stranger.

"Take you as far as Seneca," said the guy who was looking for trouble, but didn't find any. Then he added, to the stranger, "Get up on the ladder," and to us he said, as we made a hop-skip-jump for the running board, "Better not stand on the foot board, you'll get all splashed up."

The last mentioned was the only jinking we had of what was going to

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THE HAPPY HOUR.

The management of the "Savoy" Theatre last Sunday began operations at the "Happy Hour" again. This house has been closed for a long time but since the folks have all got to working again the "Savoy" on Sundays has been overcrowded.

Last Sunday some of the best pictures ever produced were shown at the "Happy Hour" and the crowd certainly appreciated the opening of this house again.

There is no disputing the fact that nothing is too good for either the "Savoy" or "The Happy Hour" and often times they show first run pictures which go from here to Buffalo.

"The Happy Hour" will be open next Sunday, first show at 2.15, second show at 7.15 p. m. Admission 5c and 10c.

Baseball 4,000 Years Old.

It is now believed that the birthplace of the game is in Egypt. How it was played but no record. Recent excavations near Cairo have brought to light a number of small balls, some of leather and others of wood, dating back to at least 2000 B. C. These are the oldest balls of this sort known.