

FLASHBACK ~ 100 YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 1922

Scarlet Fever in Schools

Every Precaution Being Taken to Prevent Spread *Somerset Democrat, February 24, 1922, page 1*

Since the Christmas holidays there have been officially reported to February 21 six cases of Scarlet Fever among [Somerville] public school children. One about six weeks ago, a child in the sixth grade living on North Bridge street; the second, just four weeks ago, a child in the morning class of kindergarten living on Second street; the third, of three weeks ago, a child in the third grade afternoon class living on Middaugh street; the fourth, ten days ago, a High School pupil living on Main street; the fifth, last Thursday, a child in the fifth grade living on Grove street; the sixth, a fourth grade pupil on Somerset street, who has not been in school for a week. ... None of these children have any special opportunity for close contact in school and none of them live in the same neighborhood. While there is evidently some common source of contagion, it is not believed there is any existing, up to the present time, in the schools. In each case, the child's books and belongings have been burned, and in the cases where the child has been confined to one room, the children of that room have been dismissed for a week, the room well fumigated and aired and scrubbed with disinfectant.

The medical inspector, school teachers and Board of Health are watching with vigilant care these cases, as well as all other cases of illness. Without doubt the schools will be ordered closed by those having power to do so whenever the physicians and Board of Health decide that sufficient cause exists for so doing. Meanwhile, rumors should not be accepted as fact; all suspicious cases should be reported; children should be carefully watched for incipient cases of cold or fever; their whereabouts during out of school hours should be carefully supervised and all unnecessary assembling in crowds or public gatherings should be carefully supervised and all unnecessary assembling in crowds or public gatherings should be strictly avoided until the present situation is bettered.

New Jersey Law Like Volstead Act

New Law will contain Trial by Jury and a Less Drastic Search and Seizure Act *Somerset Democrat, February 10, 1922, page 1*

That the new Prohibition Enforcement Act in New Jersey will be patterned along the lines of the Volstead Act, and that it will not be drawn by the attorney of the Anti-Saloon League were two outstanding features at Trenton on Monday, when the lawmakers gathered to discuss new legislation to replace the Van Ness Act, declared by the Court of Errors to be unconstitutional. The new law will be far less drastic than the unconstitutional Van Ness Act and will provide for indictment and trial by jury. Assemblyman Hobart, of Essex, has the work of drawing the new bill in charge.

... "In light of the Court of Errors and Appeals decision, ... the conference committee would recommend an enforcement act to be prepared which should utilize the Volstead Act as its groundwork and simply be a state enforcement act following the federal statute," said Senate Majority Leader White. "We do feel, however, that the search and seizure clause in the Volstead Act is entirely too drastic and we propose to take the chance of modifying that provision of the Volstead Act to what we consider a more sane search and seizure clause. We understand that the leaders in Congress feel that that clause in the Volstead Act should be changed. Otherwise we propose to follow the Volstead Act. We are of the opinion that the enforcement machinery of the state should be utilized to enforce the Volstead law, which is the law of the land, and it is up to the state to enforce it as long as it is on the statute books."

Telephones in Great War

Somerset Democrat, February 17, 1922, page 7

According to the chief signal officer of the A. E. F., [Ed.: American Expeditionary Forces] two armies, 12 corps, 33 divisions, and 45 field signal battalions were completely equipped with telephone supplies. The signal corps constructed 1,990 miles of permanent pole lines with 28,000 miles of wire; put up 3,230 miles of wire on French poles, and installed approximately 40,000 miles of combat lines. Telephone exchanges on permanent lines in France numbered 273, and those in the advance section 123, besides small temporary field installations. About 1,600,000 long distance telephone calls were handled by the signal corps, together with local telephone calls estimated at 47,000,000. The organization of this system required the services of a veritable army of telephone experts, the Bell system alone having contributed 11,299 employees who served overseas. Girl telephone operators of the system to the number of 233 went to France in the uniform of the signal corps.



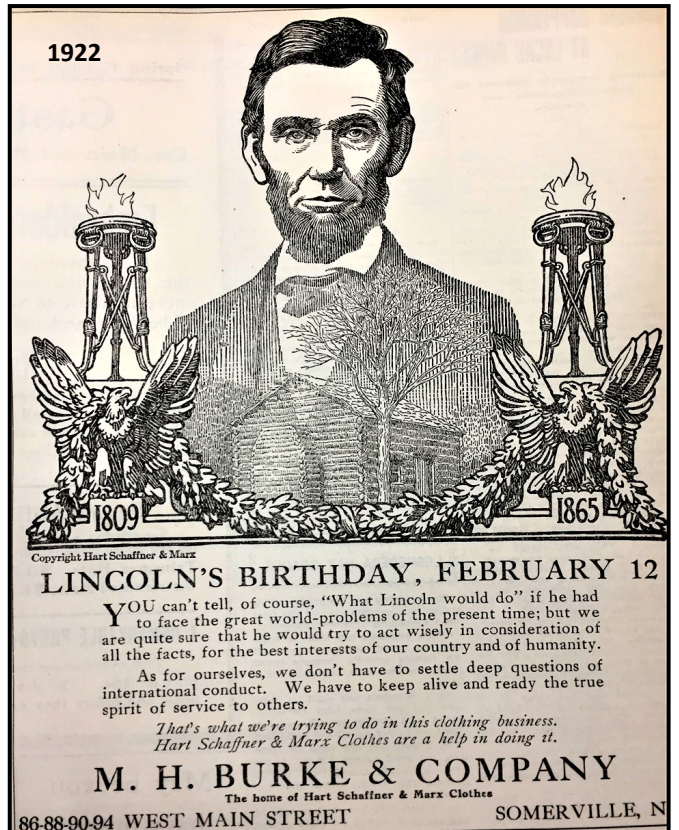
So completely organized was the system of telephone communications that it has been said that if he had desired to do so, General Pershing could have taken up his telephone at his headquarters in Chaumont and called up any second lieutenant, sitting at the end of a wire in an advance post, anywhere along the entire sector occupied by the American forces.

Image: 1918 Army Telephone Operators, Camp Grant

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FLASHBACK

A CENTURY OF PRESIDENTS' DAY ADVERTISEMENTS



100 YEARS AGO

Farm and Home Facts

Somerset Democrat, Feb 17, 1922, p 4

- ⇒ Some parents wonder why their boy hangs around the corner pool-room every night; others make a real home for that responsive combination of lanky arms and legs, changing voice and shaggy hair, and treat his friends with all the hospitality and consideration of honored guests.
- ⇒ [K]eeping a budget does not mean accounting for every postage stamp or glass of soda water. It's the big items of food, raiment, and shelter that need reckoning.
- ⇒ Thinking of your kitchen as a workshop and planning it accordingly is one more way to make your head save your heels—and back.