

"BUSINESS INTEREST" OF COUNCILMEN NOT FOR GOOD HOUSING

Four Members of Committee Are Engaged in Building, Contracting and Real Estate.

Of the 21 members of the joint committee on Finance, of Councilmen whose votes will decide whether the poor of the tenements will have more light, more air and better living conditions, four Councilmen are engaged in the building, contracting and real estate business.

These Councilmen are: Select Councilman John J. McKinley, Jr., of the 23d Ward. He is a contractor. Select Councilman Albert D. Prentiss, of the 25th Ward. He is a real estate broker. Select Councilman William J. Crawford, of the 26th Ward. He is a contractor. Common Councilman Peter E. Costello, of the 1st Ward. He is a builder.

DUAL OFFICE HOLDERS, TOO. Four other members of the committee on Finance are dual office holders. One of them is Dr. Thomas Morton, who has expressed himself as being against the new Division of Housing and Sanitation. Dr. Morton is a Corner's physician and a Common Councilman in the 20th Ward. Two members of the Finance Committee who are dual office holders, and from whom men, women and children in the congested sections can expect no relief, are:

Select Councilman Edward Buchholz, of the 12th Ward. Mr. Buchholz, besides being a Select Councilman, is a real estate assessor. He is the father of Arthur E. Buchholz, who holds a \$2000-a-year job as head of the present tenement house inspection bureau. If the law creating the new Division of Housing and Sanitation is passed by the Legislature and enforced by Councils appropriating the necessary funds, the younger Buchholz would lose his job.

Select Councilman John F. Flaherty, of the 13th Ward. He is clerk in the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Quarter Sessions. Another dual office holder is Select Councilman William E. Finley, of the 8th Ward, who is a real estate assessor. Both Buchholz and Flaherty yesterday announced that they were opposed to the act as drawn. They contended that it was too drastic. Flaherty stated that he believed in sanitary conditions, but that he would not vote for an appropriation for the new department. He would gladly vote in favor of an appropriation if the present act were modified by the next Legislature.

WHY BUCHHOLZ OBJECTS.

Select Councilman Buchholz was asked yesterday whether he would vote in favor of granting the appropriations, which Common Councilman John P. Connelly intimated last Tuesday would be refused. Mr. Connelly is chairman of the committee on Finance, and in such matters the mouthpiece for the Republican Organization.

Mr. Buchholz said: "The present act is too severe on property owners. Certain discretion should have been used by those who helped to frame the act. The present tenements are not constructed in such a manner that certain improvements called for in the act can be installed. A commission ought to be appointed to visit the congested section and report just what is required."

"Then a new act should be framed. There should be an educational campaign in behalf of the foreigners who live in the congested sections. You can't teach some of the foreign population the subtleties of cleanliness merely by installing bath tubs. It is possible that if bath tubs were installed they would be used as coal bins. Some latitude should be given to the property owner. If a more reasonable law is passed I will vote for an appropriation."

"Will you vote in favor of an appropriation for the Division of Housing and Sanitation?"

"I will not."

FLAHERTY TAKES SAME STAND.

Select Councilman Flaherty also took the same stand as Buchholz relating to the vote on the appropriations. Mr. Flaherty is a clerk in a court in which, according to noted sociologists, many persons are brought to trial for crimes directly caused by bad environments. According to Judge John M. Patterson, of the Court of Common Pleas, many crimes are committed chiefly through prevailing conditions in the "Siberian cells," "living graves," "death vaults," "living tombs," "tenement caves," "chambers of horrors" and "cellar dungeons."

Mr. Flaherty requested that it be made known that he was in favor of sanitary conditions, more light and better rooms for the people of the tenements. But he said he would vote against the new Division of Housing and Sanitation.

Why? The measure is too severe on the property owner. It virtually gives authority for the city to condemn certain property," he replied.

COSTELLO AND GLEASON SILENT.

Common Councilman Peter E. Costello, of the northeast section, who was elected last month as Congressman on the Republican ticket, refused to commit himself or say what his attitude was on the measure which would have helped to clean up the tenements. He stated that he hadn't taken any sort of attitude on the subject. He wouldn't say whether he would vote against or in favor of the necessary appropriations.

Common Councilman Dr. E. B. Gleason, of the 5th Ward, is a member of the Finance Committee.

A Councilman is like a juror," said Doctor Gleason. "He mustn't speak of or discuss his probable verdict until he is through with his deliberations."

The new Division of Housing and Sanitation, which has had its troubles in the courts since Councils began to act on it, may have another hearing in about 10 days.

On February 4, a man named Thiel, who has an office in Attorney General John C. Bell's office, filed a bill in the Land Title Building, instituted a taxpayer's suit to enjoin the payment of salaries under the new housing law, for the reason that no appropriations had been made by Councils.

ACT CONSTITUTIONAL, COURT SAYS. Judge Ralston at that time ruled that the act was constitutional. Then John C. Mott, who had been appointed head of the new Division of Housing, brought suit to mandamus Councils to provide for his salary. The Supreme Court ruled that the act couldn't be enforced until appropriations had been granted. So Mott resigned. Later Richard J. Neenan, of the Philadelphia Housing Commission, had mandamus proceedings brought against Councils in the name of the Commission.

Councils so far has made no answer to the mandamus proceedings filed by John C. Bell's office. It has been granted \$500,000 for the new housing law.

63D CONGRESS GAVE SCANT ATTENTION TO WOMEN'S INTERESTS

Mrs. Gilson Gardner Points to Record of Last Session as Strong Argument for Suffrage.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—"Various measures of deep concern to women have been brought before the 63d Congress and received scant attention," said Mrs. Gilson Gardner, of the Congressional Union for Women Suffrage. "It is of interest to survey the consideration accorded these matters. No more eloquent argument for the necessity of securing the direct representation of women in Congress can be afforded than by the study of the treatment given these subjects in which women are so vitally interested."

This week's issue of the Suffragist editorially reviews the delay of Congress in acting upon legislation desired by women. Among other things it says: "Probably no legislation is of more direct interest to women than that relating to pure food. Four measures were introduced in Congress to insure the purity of manufactured or cold-storage food. All were referred to committees and have received no further attention."

"Another important food measure, the occasion for which arose during the financial stringency when the prices of foodstuffs tended to soar, was introduced by Mr. McMillan. This was a bill declaring that persons, firms or corporations, in any manner engaged in interstate commerce business who shall become engaged or concerned in fixing of prices of any foodstuffs, contrary to rules of competition, shall be guilty of a felony, and providing for their punishment." It was referred to the Committee on Agriculture and remains there still.

"Two homestead bills of particular interest to women were considered. One, by Mr. Kinkaid, of Nebraska, 'providing that the marriage of a homestead entryman to a homestead entrywoman should not impair the right of either to a patent,' received no attention further than a reference to the Committee on Public Lands."

"The second, also introduced by Mr. Kinkaid, providing for a certificate of title to a homestead entry by female American citizens who have married with aliens, was passed by Congress and is now a law. If the first bill is not acted upon it will mean the perpetuation of the present situation whereby an entrywoman, marrying a homestead entryman, forfeits her title to the land, even though she has made improvements thereon, according to the conditions of the patent law."

"Under the opium and drug caption, five bills were introduced to regulate the traffic in habit-forming drugs. Four of these were introduced by Mr. Harrison, of New York. One 'regulating the manufacture of smoking opium within the United States and for other purposes' was passed. The other three were referred to committees and remain there at present. One introduced by Mr. Mann 'to regulate the transportation of habit-forming drugs in interstate and foreign commerce' remains in the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, where it was referred."

"A measure with which every one is familiar because it grew out of the great Titanic disaster is the so-called Seamen's bill, which reads: 'To abolish the involuntary servitude imposed upon seamen in the merchant marine of the United States and the involuntary servitude imposed upon the seamen of the merchant marine of foreign countries while in ports of the United States, to prevent unskilled manning of American vessels, to encourage the training of boys in the American Merchant Marine for the protection of life at sea, and to amend the laws relative to seamen.'"

"This bill in amended form passed the Senate and was referred to the House, where it was again amended and passed. The conference of the committees of the two bodies resulted in a disagreement. The bill was then reconsidered in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, where it is today."

"Among the most important labor bills introduced were 11 measures directly affecting the hours and wages of women children. These were referred to committees and have progressed no further. Among them are measures for amendment to the Constitution giving Congress power to regulate employment of women and of persons under the age of 21; a bill to prevent child labor in factories and mines; and a bill to prevent employment of females in mills and factories for a longer period than eight hours."

RECEIVERS NAMED

Instalment House, Brick Manufactory and Garage in Difficulty.

S. Conrad Ott, referee in bankruptcy, today at Camden appointed Henry J. West, of Gloucester County, receiver for Ancker Brothers, Inc., instalment dealers, 10th and Race streets. Bond was fixed at \$10,000.

The firm, which is incorporated in New Jersey, was forced into involuntary bankruptcy. While no statement of liabilities and assets has been made, it is understood that \$20,000 is due on unpaid instalments and that the stock is worth \$50,000.

W. F. Wallis, treasurer of the First National Bank, of Williamstown, was appointed receiver for McAvoy & Bateman, brick manufacturers, of Rosanna, Gloucester County, N. J., and H. W. Miller, of Woodbury, was named as receiver for Wilkinson & Giblin, general contractors, of Paulsboro.

Vice Chancellor Leaning today adjudged the Central Service Garage Company, on William street, bankrupt, and appointed George W. Potter receiver under \$100 bond.

Ladies' 14 Kt. Gold Watches

We offer an unusual variety of 14-kt. gold watches of the better grade. The cases are beautiful in design and the movements guaranteed for their reliability.

A fine selection at \$25 to \$75

C. R. SMITH & SON

Market Street at 18th



MISS OLIVE MAY WILSON, THE "SANTA CLAUS GIRL." At her Jenkintown home she is already preparing her holiday presents for the children of the poor. This year she hopes to have 15,000 gifts. She raises money by appearing before prominent clubs. She welcomes contributions from all sources.

SANTA CLAUS GIRL WILL MAKE 10,000 CHILDREN JOYOUS

Miss Olive May Wilson to Again Send Christmas Gifts to Little Unfortunates in Tenements.

There are 18 more shopping days before Christmas, exclusive of today.

Don't leave everything until the last minute. Consider the salespeople. Decide what you want NOW and buy it today.

Do your Christmas shopping now.

When Christmas morning dawns in the dingy tenement districts this year, where the gaiety of the season is shut out by poverty and suffering, there will be 10,000 happy little kiddies, for they will find that old Santa Claus has not forgotten them. They will understand that, Kris Kringle is really, truly Kris, who brings joy into the hearts of the poor as well as the rich.

Right now their Santa is working day and night to obtain money to send these little tots, many of whom never knew what "Merry Christmas" really meant, toys, dolls, tin soldiers, drums, bugles, fire engines and everything that delights the heart of the child.

The Santa Claus for these children is not a man, but a woman, Miss Olive May Wilson, 301 West avenue, Jenkintown, Pa. For several years Miss Wilson has brought the spirit of the Yuletide season into these lonely little homes, where the shadow of want has blighted everything bright.

Miss Wilson raises money to buy presents for these poor children by going to various cities and speaking before prominent clubs. Recently she visited New York and appealed to the members at the Minerva Club at a luncheon. From that visit she received \$30 with which to buy presents.

WANTS 15,000 GIFTS.

One dollar sends presents to four little youngsters who had about decided there was no Santa Claus. She hopes that before Christmas is many days nearer she will have money enough to purchase 15,000 presents. Of this number 10,000 will be distributed in Philadelphia and the other 5,000 sent to the poor children in other cities.

"No, I am in no way connected with organized charity," Miss Wilson said in answer to a question. "We, I mean my mother and I, just love our work. We feel so much happier on Christmas morning when we realize that we have done a little bit to make those children so happy. I can just picture those poor little tots opening their packages on Christmas morning, then turning to their mother and saying: 'I guess there must be a Santa at that, ma.'"

"Just think how sad those children must feel to wake up on Christmas morning and find that the Kris Kringle they have heard so much about had forgotten them. The world believes the sweetest baby ever born was born in the manger at Bethlehem. The world cannot properly celebrate His birthday unless it remembers that every baby born is entitled to some sweetness and light."

The object of Miss Wilson's work is to spread the real spirit of Christmas to hundreds of destitute children by sending them toys. The names, ages and addresses of the children are being obtained by skilled social workers and are vouchsafed as being trustworthy.

All of the toys are sent to Miss Wilson's home at Jenkintown. She has two rooms stacked to the ceiling with gifts for the little kiddies, gifts that will make their eyes sparkle with a new light when they tear off the wrapping Christmas morning.

Any and all contributions will be gladly accepted by Miss Wilson. They should be addressed to her at Jenkintown and will be cared for until the time for sending them to some child, whose surprise will be all the greater at receiving the gift because it was unexpected.

Two Men Burned to Death

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 3.—Earl Wright and William Doyle were burned to death and six other men badly hurt in a \$100,000 fire here today. Wright and Doyle were trapped on the second floor of a boarding house in which the blaze originated.

FOLLOW THESE RULES FOR MERRY CHRISTMAS

Don'ts and Do's for the Christmas shopper advocated by the Consumers' League:

Don't leave your Christmas shopping until the week before Christmas. Don't give people who work for you hurried orders in the holiday season. Don't receive packages delivered to you after 6 o'clock in the evening without protest to the management. Don't give your address carelessly to the salespeople.

Don't shop after 5 o'clock or on Saturday afternoons. Do pay your bills promptly. This is of vital importance to the dealer with small capital.

Do avoid rush orders, so that employers will be under no temptations to break the law restricting the hours of labor of women and children. Do look out for small boys. If one enters your house with a message or a parcel make a pretext to his employer.

Do report to the Consumers' League any instance of undesirable or illegal conditions of employment that come to your notice.

WILSON TAKES UP QUESTION OF GREATER ARMY AND NAVY

To Confer With Sherman Tomorrow. Daniels Praises Fleet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The question of a greater army and navy is being carefully considered by President Wilson. Tomorrow he will discuss the question with Representative Sherman, of Kentucky. On Monday Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, who wants a Congressional investigation of the adequacy of the army and navy, will urge the President to favor his scheme. He will be accompanied by former Secretary of War Dickinson.

Democratic leaders who are visiting the White House openly declare they oppose the Gardner investigation by a special committee and that it will probably be smothered by the Rules Committee.

Answering Senator Lodge's charges of unpreparedness, Secretary of the Navy Daniels said today: "The United States navy is in fine shape. It is true that drill practices and maneuvers have not been conducted as often as usual during the past year, but we have had what is of infinitely greater value—actual experience in warfare at Vera Cruz. Besides there was constant drilling and practice by the fleet while off Vera Cruz."

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WAITING FOR PLUM TO DROP

Delaware Republicans Interested in Next Secretary of State.

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 3.—Republican politicians are becoming anxious as to whom Governor Miller will appoint Secretary of State to succeed his son, Thomas W. Miller, who has been elected to Congress. William H. Reaid, a former Congressman and former postmaster, and H. H. Billings, former city auditor and former assistant postmaster under Mr. Reaid, are the only ones who are mentioned.

Democrats are interested in the question of who is to succeed Major Chauncey P. Holcomb as private secretary to United States Senator Willard Saulsbury. They are unable to understand why the major should have given up a job which paid perhaps \$200 a year for one which pays but \$100. The major has become deputy collector of internal revenue.

Catholic Speakers to Compete

Forty societies will be represented in the elocution contest tomorrow night in St. Michael's Parish Hall, 3d and Master streets, under the auspices of the Catholic Young Men's Archdiocesan Union. The contest will be preceded by a musical.

COMIC CLUBS GET PERMITS FOR NEW YEAR'S PARADE

Promise Their Section Will Predominate in Annual Pageant of Mummies.

Additional requests for permits for the mummies' parade on New Year's Day were made by captains of clubs today. A striking feature of the parade, to judge by the requests for permits, will be the unusual number of comic clubs.

Among the comic clubs that applied for and received permits today were: The Clearfield New Year's Association, Captain Joseph Veltin, 200 West Lippincott street. The John Borrell New Year's Association, Captain John W. Myers, 124 Gerritt street.

The Spirits of South Philadelphia, Captain W. Boyle, 2512 South Rees street. The Daniel R. Oswald Club, Captain Augustus D. Wilson, 189 South 5th street. The South Philadelphia String Band, Captain Thomas J. Morrissey, 225 South 13th street.

The Fralinger String Band, Captain Joseph A. Ferko, 207 Sigel street. The Pleasant New Year's Association, Captain Harry Bockelman, 2411 South Mildred street.

Among the fancy clubs granted permits were: The Silver Crown Club, Captain Michael Quigley, 2020 Tasker street. The William M. Waltham Club, Captain Leo Moss, 212 McClellan street.

SCHEME FOR NEUTRAL ZONE IN WEST SEEMS HOPELESS

Belligerents Not Likely to Join Latin-American Plan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—If the South American Republics can agree on a plan for neutralization of trade between their ports and those of the United States, they will receive sympathetic aid from this Government. But there can be no success for any such scheme unless the belligerents themselves voluntarily become parties to a mutual agreement. Grave doubts were expressed in official circles here today that they would do so.

It was pointed out that Germany to do so would agree to immediately sign the death warrant of its fleet of warships now in South Atlantic or Pacific waters as they would either have to make a neutral port and intern or risk annihilation trying to make their way to a home port.

The entire problem will be threshed out before the governing board of the Pan-American Union meets next Tuesday. An attempt will be made to reach an agreement on some one of a half dozen plans which will aid all of the countries on this hemisphere, Canada excepted, in preserving their neutrality.

The plan that most of the diplomats are reported to favor is the creation of a neutral zone defined by latitude and longitude, within which merchant vessels of all kinds would be safe from capture or destruction.

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VARE WILL FIGHT AGAINST FAVORED U. S. DEPOSITORIES

Congressman to Urge Amendment to Currency Bill as Means to Prevent Discrimination Against City.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Congressman William S. Vare, who is here attending meetings of the Appropriation Committee, today outlined in brief some of the measures he will fight for during the short session. His principal effort will be made to amend the banking and currency act so as to take away from the Secretary of the Treasury his present arbitrary power over the banks.

"I feel that Government deposits should be distributed fairly and without favoring any section," said Mr. Vare. "The district of which the Philadelphia Reserve Bank is the headquarters contributes a very large proportion of the reserve funds, and I believe business men in this section should not be made to bear the burden of discrimination."

"I hope and expect a rivers and harbors bill, more scientifically prepared than the last one, will be passed by the House at the coming short session. The Delaware River received only half the amount deemed advisable at the last session."

"One million dollars was appropriated for the actual needs of the present work, but the \$1,000,000 allotted for contracts for future work was withdrawn when the Senate threw out the entire House bill. I intend to do everything in my power to bring about the enactment of a bill that will recognize the national importance of the Delaware River."

"There is now pending in the House a bill which I introduced for the establishment of a central foundry for the manufacture of castings used by the Navy and I am hopeful of having this inserted in the naval bill. We already have the shipways and the next step is to get the foundry at League Island. The foundry, however, should not be confused with the proposed government armor plate. The foundry is simply designed to centralize the manufacture of castings at League Island."

It is too early to advocate the enlargement of the shipways, but at the regular session of the next Congress I intend to take this matter up with a view to the construction of larger sized ships there. It is also necessary we should work for the needs of the arsenal in Philadelphia and pull together for a more liberal policy towards all Federal institutions in Philadelphia."

BAILEY, BANKS & BIDDLE CO. NEW JEWEL

Ring, Pendant, Brooch combined in one.

Diamonds mounted in Platinum.

Chestnut Street

Useful gift is a compliment to your intelligence—whether you give or receive it.

In the Electric Shop at Tenth and Chestnut Streets you will find a splendid array of such gifts.

There are beautiful Electric Lamps of every kind and shape at exceedingly attractive prices. There are also the necessary Electric devices for everyday household use, distinctive in design, at prices ranging from \$2 to \$200.

You will find it a pleasure to make your Christmas purchases in our Electric Shop—a visit places you under no obligation to buy.

26 PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

Goes to Press January 4th

Will your name appear in the important Spring issue of the Bell Directory?

Call Filbert 2790

For telephone service and changes in listings, ask for "Business Office," for advertising space, ask for Directory "Advertising Manager."

Useful gift is a compliment to your intelligence—whether you give or receive it.

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