

BUSINESS MEN SEEK HEARING ON DELAYED GAS LAMP ORDINANCE

Councils' Failure to Act on Proposal Evokes Protest of Market Street Association.

Councils' delay of 10 months in considering the ordinance authorizing the United Gas Improvement Company to change 11,000 gasoline lamps to gas, thereby saving the city \$70,000 annually and providing at the present time considerable work for the unemployed, without a cent at cost to the city, has aroused the Market Street Business Men's Association to demand a public hearing.

Nearly two weeks ago a committee representing the association wrote to John P. Connelly, chairman of the Finance Committee, where the ordinance has been since March 5, 1914, and requested that the Finance Committee arrange a date for a public hearing in order that the merchants might learn what reasons there are, if any, why the bill should not be passed.

After waiting a week without hearing any word from Mr. Connelly, Thomas Martindale, representing the association, has written a second letter pointing out the neglect of the committee to acknowledge the suggestion of the Market Street merchants. Mr. Martindale today said that he was at a loss to understand the motives behind Councils' inaction.

MR. MARTINDALE'S LETTER.
The letter to Mr. Connelly follows:
"On January 15 a committee of the Market Street Business Men's Association sent you a letter, to which so far we have had no answer, asking you for a public hearing on the bill to change 11,000 gasoline lamps to gas at a saving of \$70,000 approximately a year, and to provide for the addition to the plant of the Philadelphia Gas Works, approximately \$400,000 of value, which will ultimately become the property of the city."

"The ordinance covering this matter was referred to your committee on March 5, 1914, but so far no action has been taken."
"I shall be pleased if you will fix a date for a hearing on the said ordinance, as we, the Market Street Business Men's Association, deem the matter of importance to the business men and manufacturers of the city."

EXPLANATION NOT FORTHCOMING.
Chairman Connelly, of the Finance Committee, refused to be interviewed on the matter. Select Councilman Seger, chairman of the all-powerful Subcommittee on Finance, which frequently serves as a "smothering" or "graveyard" committee, also declined to explain the delay, merely stating that the ordinance had reached the subcommittee. The prompt passage of the ordinance, it was pointed out, would mean work for a large number of the city's unemployed without any cost to the city, for under House terms of the agreement with the United Gas Improvement Company the latter would have to spend approximately \$400,000 for the necessary extensions of gas mains and other work incidental to making the changes.

The United Gas Improvement Company is on record as approving the changes, and in a letter to Director Cooke has declared that the attitude of the company has not changed in the least.

ACTION URGED BY MAYOR.
Mayor Blankenburg has written three special messages to Councils urging action. Each time he has pointed out that the city would save approximately \$70,000 annually by the passage of the ordinance, and, further, that the property, which would revert to the city at the termination of the gas lease, would be increased in value "to upward of \$500,000" by the changes.

Neither the members of the Finance Committee have offered a single excuse for the inaction. When questioned about their neglect of Thomas Martindale's letter, it was said that the committee has not met for two weeks, and therefore has had no opportunity to consider the advisability of a public hearing.

JOHN W. CONVERSE TO SAIL

Hint That He Is to Fulfill Diplomatic Mission in Europe.

John W. Converse, millionaire sportsman and clubman, son of the late John H. Converse, for many years president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, will sail for Europe tomorrow. It is hinted that he is going abroad to fulfill a diplomatic mission for the United States in one of the Balkan States. Recently, Mr. Converse took an examination for the corps, in which he was successful. He reports that he was to be named for a special mission to the Balkan States were held in Washington. It was stated that the Government had an acceptable Minister and there was no demand at this time by the Government for a special representative. If Mr. Converse obtains an appointment it will probably be of a secretarial nature. Mrs. Converse will sail with him.

RECORD TRIP TO SICK WIFE

Edward Crozer Charters Special Train When Notified of Operation.

Mrs. Edward Crozer, 2123 Locust street, was reported to be resting easily today after an operation for appendicitis, performed at the University Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Crozer, who made a record-breaking trip to this city, was at his wife's side during the operation. He was notified of her serious illness while on a pleasure trip in the South, and chartered a special train in order to make connection with an Atlantic Coast Line express in this city.

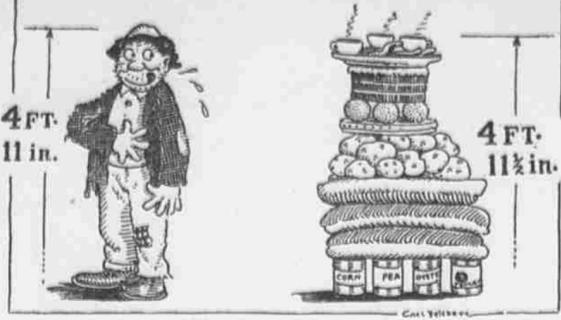
MEN'S AUXILIARY TO DINE

The Men's Auxiliary of the Oak Lane Presbyterian Church will hold its eighth annual banquet at the church tonight.

The speakers will be Judge John M. Patterson, Director Porter, of the Department of Public Safety; Edward J. Cattell, city statistician; Harrison S. Morris, and Rev. E. J. Hunston, pastor of the church. Edward M. Abbott, president of the Oak Lane Improvement Association, will act as toastmaster.

Bishop-elect Considering Call

BURTON, Mass., Jan. 29.—A conference will be held tonight between the Rev. Alexander Mann, rector of Trinity Church and recently called to New Jersey to be the Suffragan Bishop of the Newark diocese, and a delegation of clergy and laymen. At this conference the Rev. Mann will consider whether or not he will accept the call to Newark.



HUNGRY MAN EATS NEARLY FIVE FEET OF FOOD

Counting Feathers His Favorite Job, Sent to Chicken Farm at Correction.

The hungriest man in Philadelphia probably is Jimmy Magee. He said today that if he could smell the odor of fried pork chops mixed up with the alluring aroma of a cup of Java—and hear the crunching sound of a Vienna roll on the side—that would be the nearest approach to heaven in this life.

"I know you won't believe me," he said to the sergeant at the Front and Westmoreland streets police station, "when I say I ain't et since yistiddy, but I kin prove it if the opportunity presents itself."

"Do you think you could eat your own height in food?" asked Magistrate Campbell, who was doling out justice.

"I could eat nine yards a grub right off the reel," said Magee.

Policeman Davis, who brought Magee from the street, measured him and found that he was exactly four feet eleven and a half inches.

"If I can't eat every inch of me own height," declared the hungry man, "I'll work a week around here for nothin'."

The Judge stood for the cost, and two biscuits went to a restaurant nearby, where they got enough food to equal the altitude of Magee. It consisted of one can of corn, one of peas, another of oysters and tomatoes, three loaves of bread, if potatoes, one raisin pie, three oranges, one triple-deck layer cake, six pork chops and three cups of coffee.

When it was piled up in uncooked form the feast measured just four feet eleven and a half inches.

Magee started in with the coffee and went all the way to the canned goods without losing a moment.

Timed from the first bite, or, to be correct, from the first sip, he made the distance in 14 minutes and 24 seconds.

He was rewarded with a good cigar. After he got his breath, he said, "This makes me feel like hinin' fer me valet."

"How would you like some light work?" asked the Judge.

"I'd like something like counting feathers or on that order."

"All right, you fer the chicken farm at the House of Correction."

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAY DRAFT ALL SUPPLY BILLS

Change Suggested in Method of Framing Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Creation of a central appropriations committee to handle all supply bills in the House was a prospect today, as the result of the Administration's latest economy dictum.

Chairman Fitzgerald, of the present Appropriations Committee, is favorable to such a plan, it is understood, and there is strong probability that it will be urged in the next session of Congress. Such a body would be charged with framing all appropriation bills, instead of the few now handled by the Appropriations Committee.

ITALIAN GIRL TELLS PATHETIC STORY OF DAYLIGHT ABDUCTION

Clara Cozzi's Tale of Vital Concern to Every Mother and Daughter in the City of Philadelphia.

"I might have been your daughter or your neighbor's, but it wasn't. It was only a pretty little Italian girl living down in the Italian quarter in South Philadelphia, and therefore, if you read her story at all yesterday you probably didn't think anything more about it."

But Clara Cozzi's story, the police say today, is of vital concern to every one, for in the broad light of day, this 18-year-old girl says she was lured into an automobile, drugged and whirled away to a house of bad repute, from which she escaped after eight hours of confinement.

"That is the story told by the girl at her home, 1314 South Hicks street."

Surrounded by a weeping mother, sympathetic neighbors and a whole raft of hambones turning at her skirts and wanting to know what "Clara is crying for," the girl told it piecemeal.

"I was coming home from the place where my brother works up on Pine street," she said, "and when I got to 15th and Catherine streets I noticed this great big automobile stop still. A lady opened the door and called me. Then, before I knew what had happened, two men, one of them was dark and looked like an Italian, had shoved me in where the lady was and she said, 'Shut up,' and then put her hand over my mouth and nose."

"In her hand she held something that smelled strong. It made the whole place smell. I didn't know anything after that until I woke up again. Then I was lying down in a beautiful dining room. I tried to get up, but I couldn't. I heard some girls laughing in the next room, and soon one of them opened the door and then closed it again real quiet. My head was feeling so funny I couldn't just say what they looked like, but they had on short skirts."

"Right after this the man who looked like an Italian came in. In his hand he had a big bottle that he put to my mouth. 'If you scream I'll kill you,' he said, but I hollered as loud as I could. 'Let me out of here!'"

"Then he took my head in his arm and squeezed my throat until I almost choked, and poured some of the stuff down my throat. I think I must have gone to sleep again, for I don't remember; but when I woke up there was a colored woman hanging over me."

"Do you want me to save you?" she said quietly.

"She let me climb out a window and run out in the alley."

"I remember sliding. I think it was somewhere on Race street, near 15th, but my head was so funny, my hair was all hanging down, and I must have looked awful funny, but my God, it wasn't funny. After awhile I came to a white man, and I said to him, 'Mister is this 15th street?' and he said, 'No, little girl, this ain't 15th street; it's 4th street.'"

"The policeman and he took me to the police station. The policeman tried to make me say I was lying and that I had stayed out late and was afraid of my mother, but, my God, what would a girl want to lie about anything like that for?"

WILSON FRIEND OF FAR EAST, SAYS NOTED PHYSICIAN

Dr. Dugald Christie Discusses Chinese Affairs With President.

Dr. Dugald Christie, C. M. G., of Scotland, author of "Thirty Years in the Manchu Capital," who is on a visit to this country, yesterday had an interview with President Wilson in the White House. The doctor has carried medical work among the Chinese in Manchuria for more than 30 years and has received decorations of the highest order from many sovereigns.

Doctor Christie said today that the interview with President Wilson was a most pleasant one, and that the President impressed him as a man of wide sympathies.

Store Opens 8:30 A. M.
WANAMAKER'S
Store Closes 5:30 P. M.

Over 1000 Pieces of Mission Furniture (Our Own Standard Grades) From the Stickley Shops Are Here at One-Third Less Than the Regular Prices

50 Complete Period Dining Room and Bedroom Suits—Fine in Quality, Pure in Design—Are at Half the Regular Fair Prices

Putting Down in Black and White the Simple, Inside Facts of the Most Helpful Furniture Sale Ever Started

FIRST and foremost it is true that the only deliberately improved furniture obtainable in Philadelphia is in this sale and that this better kind of furniture is priced as low as the kinds in which no improvements have been made; comparatively speaking, lower.

It is a simple proposition all through. It is illustrated in a thousand ways.

Look at this mahogany chifonier at \$43. It has a rubbed and finished mahogany interior. Since last year it has been improved by the dividing up of one of the small-top drawers into two compartments and the putting in of a convenient sliding tray. One of the long drawers has been divided by removable mahogany partitions into three sections for shirts.

Which would you prefer—this improved chifonier or an unimproved one at the same price and with an interior of cheap wood? There is no other choice.

Look at this—the most improved dining table known.

It comes at various prices, but the improved principle is the same in all. Here is one of oak at \$25. See how the different pieces in the top are finished to match each other, not as in so many tables, to laugh at each other!

At a glance you can see that this oak is a good, clean growth, sound and well seasoned. But now pull the parts asunder. Notice how that patent lock holds the top together, no matter how much or how little you pull the parts asunder. In extension tables of all other makes the leaves have to remain unlocked once the table has been extended. Let it be extended just a bit beyond a certain point, as may happen, and down goes the feast.

The sides of these improved tables are equipped with steel bearings, so that they won't bind or stick with change of weather, but will always pull in and out freely. Opening or closing of this improved table is as simple as throwing a switch.

Then its socket pins (that fit into the leaves opposite) are of steel instead of wood, so they won't swell, stick or snap off. This is the only store in Philadelphia in which these

SELECTIONS of furniture may be made today or tomorrow, in advance of the Sale, and orders given for it at Sale prices, the transactions to date from February 1.

improved tables can be had. Qualities considered, their prices are at least one-third less than those asked for tables that have as many disadvantages as these tables have betterments.

We leave the choosing to your common sense. We leave it to your common sense to judge between these strong, simple oak or mahogany finished bureaus at \$14.75 and any others similarly priced, or priced even lower. Everything in these is of solid material except the drawer bottoms and bureau backs, in which three-ply built-up stock is used, because it is best for the purpose. The locks are good hardware, not metallic putty, and so they lock and unlock. The mirror, instead of being just put to swing uncontrolled on a pair of pivots, is equipped with screws, which will hold it fast at any angle.

We know you might get a bureau for \$10 or \$12 that would look like this, but it would be what is known to cabinetmakers as "plunder." These low-priced bureaus of ours could not be made better and sold for so little.

Such betterments are seen everywhere through the stock—the largest, the most diverse stock ever seen in Philadelphia. If they mean anything, they mean that this sale is disappointment-proof.

The assortments at one-fourth to one-half less than standard prices are the largest and by a good deal the finest we have ever had; all new, clean-cut, excellently made and designed goods, and no job lots of factory left-overs, but

Please bear this in mind—there are no better investments in the sale than the hundreds of splendid pieces showing a reduction of only 10 per cent.

(Fifth and Sixth Floors)

JOHN WANAMAKER

TREFFIELD, ARTIST, DIES

Josef B. Treffield, an artist, whose painting, "Youth," hangs in the Tate Art Gallery, London, died Sunday in Dinard, France, as a result of injuries received in a motor accident six months ago. Mr. Treffield was well known in this city, having made his home at one time at Wayne, Pa. It was there that "Youth" was painted, a figure of a boy standing with arms outstretched.

Senator Penrose Going to Florida

Senator Penrose, who has been confined to his home with a severe cold for nearly a month past, will be able to leave in the course of the next day or so on a trip to Florida to recuperate. His doctors announced today that he was well on the way to recovery and is better off physically than he has been for some time.

Negro Held on Serious Charge

Charles Addison, a Negro, identified as the man who took 19-year-old Edna Oberholser into a vacant house at 115 West Coulter street yesterday afternoon, was today held in \$1000 bail by Magistrate Penock at the Germantown police station. The Negro said he came from Smyrna, Del.