

MYSTERIOUS RICH MAN GIVES THOUSANDS TO AID NEGRO CHURCH

Hides Identity and Promises to Pay Off Debt and Repair Building in Which "Black Billy Sunday" Is Holding Revival.

A mysterious rich young man, who already has given \$5000 to the Rev. Sylvester L. Corrothers, negro pastor of the A. M. E. Zion Church, at 19th and Catharine streets, and has promised to pay off the entire debt of the church and put it into first-class repair, is in this city under the name of "W. T. Austen," of Massachusetts.

"Austen" humbly frankly this name is not his own. He says he has taken it so that he will have time to accomplish his purpose in coming to Philadelphia. If he made his name known he would be harassed, he would be kept busy answering appeals for help from all corners of the city. Three thousand letters were sent to him asking for money in one day at San Francisco.

The philanthropist says he will announce his real name next Thursday night at the Varick Temple, where the Rev. Alexander Williams is holding a revival for Negroes. "Austen" came to this city last Sunday with Bishop Alexander Walters, of New York, whom he says he has helped in numerous church enterprises.

LIBERAL CONTRIBUTIONS. The stranger threw a total of \$15 into the collection plate at various services Sunday, handed the pastor a check for \$5000 and said he would pay for the repairs to the church. He also promised to give the pastor one dollar for every dollar collected in the church within the next year.

Last night "Austen" stood at the foot of the pulpit and made a collection. He got Mr. Corrothers to announce that he would "cover" every dollar laid down. Then "Austen" started the collection with \$1. A moment later \$1000 in contributions came in, but they were not sufficiently rapid to suit "Austen," so he made his donation, \$5.

When the total was counted up "Austen" presented the church officers with a similar amount. The collection at the pulpit was about \$20. Before leaving the church the mysterious philanthropist had Mr. Corrothers to sign a check for \$5000 at the service next Thursday night with his two brothers, that he would make arrangements then to repair the church and otherwise to help it.

Later, at a note, "Austen" declared he has made up his mind to pay off the entire indebtedness of the Varick Temple. This, with repairs, will cost him about \$50,000. He also says he will not interfere with the plan to give the pastor a dollar for every one collected.

TO FOUND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. Out of the fund thus created is to be founded a great institute for the Negroes. The plan of Mr. Corrothers to start manual training, domestic science and sewing classes at his church will be amplified and expanded. If sufficient funds are forthcoming, a school for Negroes of all ages, in which they can study any trade or profession and through which, at the same time, they will be able to get employment, will be set on foot.

The pastor hopes to make his institute the greatest of his race in the north. "Austen" has promised to help.

"Austen" is about five feet seven inches tall. He has blue eyes and light hair and would be taken for an Englishman. He will not talk about himself other than to say his method is to spend a minimum of \$50,000 a year on church work.

Admission to the temple Thursday night, when "Austen" will tell his real name and announce his plans to pay off the church debt, will be by ticket only. These may be had from Mr. Corrothers.

WILLBANKS' VIVID PICTURE. The subject of Willbanks' sermon last night was "The Devil's Hog Killing." He told his hearers that many thousands of hogs in Philadelphia and said the devil is running excursion trips to hell.

For a time he had his audience chuckling with other stories carrying out this simile. He then took to the description of hell the laughter died down and his hearers leaned forward in their seats, tense and interested. Forty-two minutes he responded to the evangelist's call for converts, and most of them "got religion" after being prayed over by the congregation for a short time.

JEWISH FAMILY AT FEAST OF THE PASSOVER



The ceremonies or Seider connected with the holiday began last night and will be continued through tonight. The Passover period lasts eight days. The picture shows a Jewish father instructing his son in the meaning of the Passover. An American flag is in the center of the table.

HOUSES OF ILL REPUTE YET RUN, COURT HEARS

Case Against Cafe in License Court Reveals Conditions Believed to Be Suppressed.

Additional evidence in support of the remonstrance against the cafe conducted by Marcus N. Carroll, at Ridge and Girard avenues, taken before Judges Staake and Patterson in the License Court today, revealed to the surprise of the court that at least two houses of ill repute are open for business despite the police drag net which was spread recently.

The Governor's plan for reorganizing the State Highway Department is not completed as yet, and the retirement of Bigelow, which involves almost 10,000 miles of roads, as cumbersome, and too unwieldy to handle in the present financial condition of the State.

BIGELOW QUILTS JOB ON REQUEST

Continued from Page One. Republican State Committee in Pittsburg, in September of last year, refused to permit an endorsement of the Tender administration to be included in the Republican State platform because of Bigelow's resignation.

Charges of the use of his office for political purposes, and of exorbitant cost of constructing and maintaining the highways of the State were made during Bigelow's term of office, and the "scandal" was considered so serious a blot upon the Tender administration by the Republican leaders that they refused to endorse publicly that administration because of it.

"BECAUSE OF BIGELOW." Senator Penrose's refusal to endorse the Tender administration was made in the Fort Pitt Hotel, at a conference attended by Senator Penrose, Doctor Brumbaugh and the Republican leaders who were drafting the Republican State platform.

Doctor Brumbaugh, all during his campaign, was negotiating for the retirement of Bigelow before election, but the Governor in Allegheny County, which placed Bigelow in office as State Highway Commissioner, blocked his efforts.

Doctor Brumbaugh, after the Williams Grove meeting last September and in the presence of Senator Penrose, asked Governor Tender to request Bigelow's resignation.

Governor Tender at that time refused, probably because of the fact that he was retiring as chief executive of Pennsylvania without the endorsement of his administration by the Republican leaders.

Three weeks before election, however, Governor Tender is said to have requested Bigelow's resignation. It was to have been received a few days before election, so that the Republican State machine's skirts would be cleaned of the blot of "Bigelowism" before the vote for United States Senator and Governor was cast on November 3.

This plan was never carried out, however, and since his election Governor Brumbaugh has gone ahead with his plans for reorganizing the State Highway Department and the State highway system on the basis of the elimination of Bigelow.

Bigelow would have resigned several weeks ago, it was said today, had he not been seriously ill recently. He is far from well now, but his resignation at this time is the result of a direct request from Governor Brumbaugh, who headed the plea of county leaders for an early start on road repair work.

PASSOVER OBSERVED WITH JOY AND FEASTING

Jewish Religious Celebration Here Marked by Happy Family Gatherings.

When the Hebrews of Russia were holding services last night behind bolted doors, praying in whispers that God might spare them from the blood accusation and murder at the hands of the anti-Semites, Jews in Philadelphia celebrated the advent of Passover seated at tables ornamented with American flags.

To the millions in the ghettos of St. Petersburg, Moscow and Kiev, Passover meant the possibility of slaughter and torture. Here there was freedom of worship, and that the younger generation might be reminded of the advantages that they enjoyed, no Philadelphia Jewish household was without its flag.

To stir the hearts of the Russian mobs with greater hatred against the Jews, the Russians for centuries are said to have circulated the story that on each Passover Christian children are slaughtered by the Hebrews, and that their blood is used in the making of matzo. The retelling of this bitter heresy, a dish that is responsible for bloodshed, and instead of a festival of joy the Passover is an occasion of sorrow to millions of Russians.

White secrecy surrounded the celebration in the czar's country. Americans invited their Christian friends to witness the Seder, the picturesque ceremony that attends the beginning of the eight-day festival.

Seder is one of the most delightful of Jewish services. Grandparents and children mingle with the heads of the house, while rare dishes are being served and strange Oriental melodies are chanted. Rabin wine, a non-alcoholic beverage, is an important part of the menu.

Each course is supplemented by a tray of unleavened bread, while every diner must taste the bitter herbs, a dish that furnishes a contrast to the chicken and candied apples. Children as well as adults must swallow a bit, according to an old tradition.

The rabbis declare that this is a reminder of the bitterness of life that the Israelites endured in Egypt when slavery was their lot.

YALE STUDENTS HERE

Members of Emergency Class on Visit of Inspection. Busy young men from Yale University thronged the lobby of the Adelphi Hotel today throwing admiring hellos to their schedules and impressing other guests with their huge proportions. They are 40 members of the senior class of the mechanical engineering department of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale, and under escort of Prof. Joseph W. Roe, are here on their annual inspection trip, calculated to teach them the practical side of engineering.

BIGELOW'S RESIGNATION WAS NOT UNEXPECTED

The resignation of Highway Commissioner Edward M. Bigelow was not unexpected by those acquainted with highway conditions in the State. Bigelow's action clears the tracks finally for a new highway program, and the announcement, although official announcement of its acceptance has not been made.

The Governor during his campaign frequently declared that if elected he would resign the office of Highway Commissioner on a highly efficient basis. From the definite steps which the Governor has taken since he went into office, friends of Bigelow pointed out that the Governor meant to resign.

Complaints from farmers and contractors on account of Doctor Bigelow's methods were frequent and there were many suits which brought out the fact that Bigelow favored certain contractors. The retiring Commissioner succeeded John W. Hunter during the Stuart Administration.

E. M. Bigelow is the father of the system of Pittsburgh parks and boulevards. He was Director of the Department of Public Works under several city administrations prior to the upheaval which led to the adoption of the Pittsburg "ripper" bill in 1901. His brother, the late Thomas E. Bigelow, was mainly responsible for the passage of the "ripper" and the campaign which led to its adoption was inspired by the summary removal of E. M. Bigelow as head of the Department of Public Works because he had quarreled with William Flinn over some city contracts, the Flinn firm having done the bulk of the street work in Pittsburgh for many years.

The "ripper" drove out of office and power men who had been instrumental in causing Bigelow, and with the election of Mayor Hays, the first of the "ripper" Mayors, Bigelow was reinstated as Director of Public Works, a position he held until the fiscal campaign which resulted in the election of George W. Guthrie, Democrat, as Mayor. Bigelow then tendered his resignation.

DOGGY MILLER'S BRAG IS VERIFIED BY POLICE

New York Gunman, Promised Pal in Hold-up, Arrested at Millville.

The boast of Jacob, alias "Doggie" Miller, the youthful slayer of Detective James Manely, that he was "in right" with some of the most notorious gunmen in New York, was verified by detectives today. They obtained a confession from the prisoner that he had planned to hold up Wilbert Goodwin, paying teller of the Millville Trust Company, in company with J. J. Kelly, alias "Spider," a professional crook wanted for the murder of Thomas Sheridan in a Newark saloon on February 6.

The young prisoner, who may also have to answer the charge of killing Detective Harry Tucker, told Lieutenant of Detectives Tate and Wood that only bad train connections had prevented him from joining "Spider" Kelly in the proposed Millville robbery. Kelly, growing impatient at the failure of young Miller to put in an appearance, tried to rob the cashier alone and was arrested, the detectives learned.

According to Tate, Kelly is a professional gunman and one of the most dangerous characters in the country. The detective believes Kelly killed a man when he was caught in the act of robbing a safe in Elmira 15 years ago, and was sentenced to 10 years. Young Miller's willingness to commit any crime is believed to be indicated by the fact that such an old and experienced thug as Kelly would have accepted him as a partner.

This admission, the detective thinks, proved Miller correct about his prowess last Thursday night. They also think he shot the detectives wantonly, pouring three bullets into Manely solely to show Kelly that he was worthy to be a member of his New York gang of desperadoes.

OLIVER INDORSES LOCAL OPTION BILL

Continued from Page One. of the liquor lobby. The admission carried with it the concession of attending the local option fight. Senator Vare could control probably 21 of the Philadelphia members. The liquor lobby admits that there are enough local option votes pledged in the House to pass the bill, with half this number of votes added to the number that Governor Brumbaugh now has pledged for.

The attitude of Senator Vare has "stumped" the liquor men, and finally caused them to doubt the defeat of the local option bill. It comes up for a vote in the House the second week in April.

The developments in the local option situation during the last few days have made Senator Vare more the keynote of the situation than he has been before. Unless he turns in to defeat the bill the liquor men themselves virtually admit that the bill may pass the House. This is a big admission from them, as they have heretofore been claiming at least 135 votes against local option in the lower branch.

Both P. F. Cusick, of Scranton, the head of the brewer's lobby, and Neil Bonner, of Philadelphia, head of the retail dealers' lobby, today admitted that their previous claims of 135 to 140 votes against local option are now wrong. There are a number of members, they said, upon whom they have been counting to vote against the bill, but who still remain on the fence.

THE MERRY, MERRY ONION HAS ITS BLITHESOME JOKE

Mokemacher, Weather Prophet, Finds Proof in Today's Snow That His Garden Pets Have Sense of Humor.

Old Simson Mokemacher sat on the steps of his little cabin home near Andalusia early this morning. The north wind whistled through the hidden garden patch with such terrific force that every blast threatened to lift up the little man and carry him off, but Simson paid no attention to the wind nor to the biting cold. He just sat there with his eyes bulging and his mouth open.

"Clinched," he muttered, finally, to a reporter, "assayed, checked up, balanced, double checked and clinched, and I'm convinced. Darned if I expected to put this across for 10 more years."

Mokemacher jumped to his feet. He waved his arms wildly about his head and began to shout.

"Onions have a sense of humor," he yelled, and then he laughed immoderately. "I've not only got full proof of that, but I've got the evidence of the connection between animal and vegetable life, and I'll show it to you."

MAJORITY OF FRIENDS FAVOR MAINTAINING THE OLD PRINCIPLES

Attendance at Places of Worship Where Clergymen "Appear at Stated Times and for Pay" Is Met With Disfavor.

Attendance at places of worship where clergymen "appear at stated times and for pay" is contrary to the moral and social principles stipulated by George Fox and William Penn, in the opinion of many members of the Society of Friends who are attending the annual meeting of the denomination at 4th and Arch streets. Most of this afternoon's session was taken up with presenting and answering the queries which have been submitted by the seven quarterly meetings of the society.

The reading of the answers, which will continue during tomorrow morning's session, indicated that most of the Friends attending the meeting are in favor of maintaining the original principles laid down by the founders. Many of the questions seek information relative to ministers receiving money and point out that this is contrary to the rules of the Friends who do not believe in "prepared sermons."

WORLDLY "HABITS" DISLIKED

Answers also were read with reference to intoxicants, attending theaters and "other places of worldly amusement"; card playing, dancing and smoking. Most of the queries indicated that while the custom of wearing the simple dress of the old Quakers was losing favor, most of the active members still retained their dislike for worldly amusements and "habits."

The session will conclude resolutions of protest to Governor Brumbaugh and members of the Legislature against Senator Farley's bill providing for military training. Such a law, putting all the members of the State on a military basis, is contrary to the teachings and beliefs of the members attending the meeting. The remonstrance was drawn up under the direction of President Sharpless, of Haverford College, and Stanley Yarnall, principal of Germantown Academy. They declare that military training at school is opposed, in the opinion of all recognized experts, to the best interests of the scholar.

LOCAL OPTION TOPIC TONIGHT

Local option will be given the attention of the Friends at this evening's session. There will be a meeting at the Meeting House, on 12th street below Market, under the auspices of the emergence Association of Friends of the Yearly Meeting. It is expected that Governor Brumbaugh's local option bill will receive the unanimous support of the members.

8 LICENSES REFUSED; 9 GRANTED BY COURT

Three Norristown Places Warned to Discontinue Sale of Liquor in Bottles. NORRISTOWN, Pa., March 28.—Eight licenses were refused, nine granted and three withdrawn by Judges Swartz and Miller in License Court this morning. Those refused were: John R. Wood, Eagle Hotel, Pennsburg; Patrick H. Rittley, Rockledge Hotel, Rockledge; Harry S. Nash, Horsham Hotel, Horsham; Darius Kline, Eagleville Hotel, Lower Providence; John F. Sowers, Sunnyside, Marlborough; Warren Kolb, Sorrel Horse, Marlborough; Wilson H. Freed, Palm Hotel, Upper Hanover; Ella J. Butt, Black Rock Hotel, Upper Hanover; Those granted were: Adam Scheidt Brewing Company, Norristown; William E. Toner, Conshohocken Hotel, Conshohocken; Henry Dull, Ward Restaurant, Norristown; William E. Titus, Central Hotel, Norristown; John J. O'Donnell, Hotel Penn, Norristown; Niels Henry Jensen, Sanatoga Inn, Lower Pottsgrove; Charles Schneebell, Perkiomen Heights Hotel, Upper Hanover; Thomas A. Brown, Jeffersonville, Norristown; William H. Blank, Broadway Hotel, Lansdale.

Licenses still pending are Frank H. Hayes, Burns Hotel, Norristown; May, St. Clair Hotel, Conshohocken; Alvin C. Alderfer, Mainland Hotel, Lower Merion; Walter S. Scheldt Brewing Company, the court said that it had a right under the decision of the Superior Court to own real estate, and there was no evidence that the brewing companies had compelled the use of their products on any one.

In granting a license to the Central Hotel, Penn Hotel and Ward restaurant, Norristown, the court did so with the understanding that the applicants were understanding to stop the sale of liquor by the bottle.

"Carelessness," said Judge Swartz, "has been shown here, but not enough to deny a license. If we had the right to deny the sale of liquor in bottles we would do so, and feel that it would greatly decrease drunkenness."

Of the Black Rock Hotel, where liquor was sold to inmates of the Montgomery County Home, the court said: "Our admonition of last year was unnecessary. This license is no longer needed."

In refusing the Eagle Hotel, Pennsburg, the court said the applicant was "unfit for a license."

In granting a license for the Perkiomen Heights Hotel was granted with the suggestion that greater care be used in the conduct of the business. "To refuse this license," said Judge Swartz, "would be too severe."

In refusing the Eagle Hotel, Pennsburg, the court said the applicant was "unfit for a license."

LITTLETON W. JOHNSON DEAD. Son of Delaware County Judge, Victim of Heart Disease. Littleton W. Johnson, of Chadds Ford, Delaware County, a son of Judge Isaac Johnson, President Judge of the Delaware County Common Pleas Court, died in the Keeley Institute, 313 North Broad street, last night of heart disease. According to attaches of the coroner's office, the disease was brought about by the use of alcohol and cocaine, and an investigation has been ordered by Coroner Falgout.

Johnson, who was 39 years old, came to the institute last night for treatment. He arrived at the North Broad street institute in a cab about 8 o'clock. Upon his arrival, it was immediately seen that he was in a highly nervous condition. His condition became worse after he was there a few hours, and W. K. Seaton, superintendent, suggested that Johnson go to bed.

The superintendent assisted Johnson to bed, and the ill man collapsed when he reached his room on the second floor. Dr. D. T. Taylor, a physician at the institute, was called and worked over Johnson for two hours, but his heart was found to be dead at 10 o'clock.

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast. WASHINGTON, March 29. For eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Fair and continued cold tonight; Wednesday increasing cloudiness; moderate northwest to north winds.

The cold area spread eastward from the Lake region and the Ohio valley to the Atlantic coast last night, causing a drop in temperature of about 20 degrees from Maryland to New England. The cooling was accompanied by snow flurries in the lower Lake region, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Precipitation is also reported from a low narrow belt extending from the north Pacific coast south-eastward almost to the Gulf coast. Except along the north Atlantic slope the temperature changes have been irregular and generally unimportant.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin. Observations made 8 a. m. Eastern Time.

Table with columns for Station, Wind, Rain, and other weather data for various locations including Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and others.

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Easter Specials SEASHORE Train Service

BY THE PENNSYLVANIA R.R. Ask Ticket Agents for Special Time Tables of Seashore Service.

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