EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1915.

GAFFNEY'S FAMILY LIFE SPURS HIM TO WORK FOR A BETTER CITY

4 **

Slated to Be Next Chairman of Councils' Finance Committee, He's an "Humble Councilman"

NOT TALKING MUCH NOW

His "amily life will cause Joseph P. Galfney, who has been slated to succeed John P. Connelly as chairman of the Pinance Committee, the most powerful body in Councils, to work for the imrovement of Philadelphia on a compre-

"I have a wife and five children," said "I have a wife and five children, said Mr. Gaffney todas, "and for that reason I will do whatever I can to make Phila-delphia a better place for them to live in. I suppose that is a selfsh reason, but it's the reason why every one wants to better conditions in his home city." Mr. Gaffney insisted that he is still a "humble Councilman." notwithstanding

the fact that the Organization leaders have decided to place him at the head of the Finance Committee, and he declined to give his views on the important mat-ters that will come before the Finance Committee in the next two years.

"There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," he remarked.

SILENT JUST NOW

Whether he meant that he is not cer-Whether he meant that he is not cer-tain that "the wind won't change," and that Charles F Kelley, Common Coun-eliman from the 17th Ward, who was the McNichol candidate for chairman, may yet be appointed, insisted that until after he had been appointed he would not discuss the important matters he would have to pass upon as finance chairman.

"If I am appointed chairman of the Finance Committee I will be glad to state my views on any matter that comes before the Finance Committee." he said. "If I cannot express my own opinion, I will at least say why. At present, I am only a humble Councilman, and my views a humble Councilman are not not

Mr. Gaffney, however, said that whether he "remains a humble Cusel" on or becomes chairman of the Finance Com-mittee" he will give the new Mayor all the support he can in his program for the development of Philadelphia.

THE TRANSIT PROBLEM.

Concerning transit, which is the most important matter that will come before the Finance Committee under the next win in his first effort to obtain transit iministration, Mr. Gaffney had this to

"I have lived in South Philadelphia-in the 26th Ward-all of my life, and the South Broad street subway is going to work wonders for that section. The san is true of other sections of the city,

suppose." Mr. Gaffney's opinion of the job of chairman of the Finance Committee in the next two years is this: "It's enough to paralyze a man. "With \$90,000,000 to spend for great public improvements, every one will be watching how it is spent. Mr. Smith her outlined a neutran of improvements. has outlined a program of improvements that will benefit the entire city. The Finance Committee, however, will have to bear the real burden of expending this

vast sum." Joseph P. Gaffney is a young man-he is only 35 years old-and is a member of one of the most noted law firms in Phila-delphia, that of Brown, Simpson & Wilitams. He has been associated with Francis Shunk Brown during most of the time he has practiced law, and that may be a reason why he was selected as the Vare candidate for chairman of the Finance Committee.

BOY SCOUTS OFFER TO SEARCH FOR CHILD LOVED HIM AND "LICKED" HIM

Continued from Page One

from Station D, located at 18th and Chris-tian streets. Every detective assigned to find the Meekins boy feels satisfied today that the

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 8-Love caused Mrs. Helen Bennott Marsh, New York woman lawyer, to push her husband's head theoretic a glass methlos while fidmapper is beginning to show signs of weakening. The police expressed the opinion today that it wouldn't surprise head through a glass partition while

wish I could tell you just how I feel, you are a mother or a papa I guess you can imagine how I am suffering. This Richard loves his maxima. I how he does because every night be-ing the went to bed he would sit in my hap and tell me that he loves his aumma. If you don't believe me just at Richard about it. The reves are all unstrung. I feel hat I can't live much longer without you little Richard. Unless Richard ha wetwee to me I wild die, and thou wetwee and he will tell you that he doesn't want her to die. Treat my he key has you would the out the doesn't want her to die. Treat my he boy little koo would the out the doesn't want her to die. Treat my

Item of \$2,356,400 for Unused Property Held Regarded

Should you he a kind person I wish you would kiss Richard for me. Tell DEFENDED BY ENGINEER you would kiss Richard for me. Tell him also that his mamma sent him the kisses. I feel sure that some day you will return him to me. When Richard asks for me tell him that I am away buying him Christmas pres-The incorporation of a land item of \$2,352,400 in the \$51,362,045 appraisal of the physical valuation of the Philadelphia Electric Company was attacked at today's

Won't you brighten the heart of

Won't you brighten the heart of a little lad by returning him safely to his distracted mother? Please take care of Richard, an the weather is cold and his lungs are not strong. I wonder whether you are a mother or father? If you are, I feel sure you will grant my dying wish.

(Signed) MRS. ANNIE MEEKINS.

Lowest Bidder to Construct Frank-

ford Elevated Foundation From

Unity to Dyre Street

ected to be nothing more than a for-

The firms bidding and the amounts of

Danfel J. Lynch, 4127 Mantua ave. 57,460,00
Edain H. Vare, Lincoln Hidg. 17,769,60
Frank Nardy & Uro, 1128 Effavator, 50,415,60
James F. Leary Construction Co., 311
Gutler Hidz, Recienter, N. Y. ..., 19,100,00
Richard Walah & Sons, Inc., 5022 Ta

R. Camp, Trozer Bidg. 21,500,00
R. Camp, Trozer Bidg. 21,511,00
T. Laondardi, ede Lincoln Bidg. 27,600,30
Im A. Mumly 228,500 8 Alder 31,550,00
Gotphin Fayling Co. 1345 Arch 27,575,65
Tick T. Buckins, Jr. 4050 Ken Tom ave 72,825,00

ton ave. a D. Dorney, 1284 E. Montgorn-20.950.00

Wife Says She Also Pushed Husband's

Head Through Glass

25,825.00

City

mallty.

their estimates follow:

onvenience

The just valuation of the land was not questioned, but the item was attacked because it contained the valuation of vacant, unused plots of ground not in-tended for immediate use, which the Director maintains does not yield revenue Marshes and meadows in the southwestand therefore should not be included. rn part of West Philadelphia were again ern part of West Philadelphia were again searched today by a squad of policemen working under the direction of Police Licutenant Marple. The searchers went over acres of ground in the vicinity of 76th street and Elimwood avenue. This search was instituted by the police at the request of the mother, who, although the la suize part has was kildearood, research The item, which does not include The item, which does not include the valuation of buildings, placed at \$2.857,600, was defended by William C. L. Eziln, sec-end vice president and chief engineer, who has been connected with the com-pany since it was organized in 1889. He was the first company witness called for direct examination by Ralph J. Baker, Jr., of the company's counsel. Frank H. Massey, a real estate dealer, of 13th and Green streets, who made the estimate of the land value, was the second witness Is sure ner boy was kidnapped, respects the opinion of those who think her son may have wandered to that section and perished after meeting with an accident. For a little while the police thought tothe land value, was the second witness called that they had found the Meekins y. A cialryogant told the police that s boy was alive and could be found dermeath a bed at 634 Tasker street. Joseph H. McCall, president of the con eutenant Marple telephoned to the po-e of the Moyamensing averae and okinson street station, and several po-

pany, will be called today, it is expected. to take the stand The importance of acquiring land far The importance of acquiring land far in advance of the time when it will be utilized was emphasized by Mr. Eglin, who pointed out the site at Beach and Palmer streets, on the Delaware River, as an example. This site was purchased licemen were sent to that address. At the Tasker street address the police found a little boy who here a striking resem-blance to the Meekins boy. Shortly atter-

Service

the company.

by the company after having surrendered ward other clues began to reach the po-lice from clairvoyants. Its option at the urgent request of the city.

CITY ATTACKS HIGH

ELECTRIC COMPANY

as an Exorbitant

Valuation

Public Works, against the alleged es

essive rates and inadequate service of

The Just valuation of the land was not

"This site is very desirable because it fits two prime needs of a power plant, an available coal and water supply." he VARE MAY GET TRANSIT WORK said. "The plant which we contemplate creating there, skeleton plans for which are ready, will be a 225,009-horsepower station. We will save \$500,600 by building it there in preference to other sites only half a mile away. It is intended to supply electric power to the northeast manufacturing district." Senator Edwin H. Vare probably will

nstruction work, as his estimate of 7,500 for foundations for the Frankford evated, from Unity to Dyre street, was manufacturing district." How necessary it is for a power com-pany such as the Philadelphia Electric Company to plan ahead in obtaining sites safe from fire menace, was filustrated by the lowest received by the Department of City Transit. The contract will be granted after the Public Service Com-mission grants a certificate of public Mr. Eglin, who said that his company furnishes light or power for all trolley lines in the city, all telegraph and telephone systems, and most of the amuse Senator Vare refused to bid on the subments, elevators, newspaper plants and street lamps. Stations A1 and A2, on the Schuylkill water front, at the foot of way and earlier Frankford elevated con-tracts last fall, and his action was attributed to an unwillingness to embarrass Christian street, which are equipped with a conduit 10 feet 4 inches in diameter, use as much water per minute as the his brother, Congressman William S. Vare, in the event of his election as Mayor. The hearing for a certificate will be held on Monday, but this is exentire water system of the city per min-

PHILADELPHIA

ute, he testified.

BOY OF 14 SAVES FAMILY Rushes to Summon Firemen, Returns LAND APPRAISAL OF and Assists Mother and Sisters From House

A 14-year-old boy, the oldest of a fam-ily of nine children, awakened from his sleep at 3 o'clock this morning and dis-covered that the house was on fire. He ran five squares to summon firemen and then returned to assist his mother, brothers and sisters to escape from the house by climbing down a shed in the rear. rear.

The boy is Thomas Dobiosky. of 104 The boy is Thomas Dobloaky, of 104 League street. Askeep on the third floor, he was aroused by the odor of smoke. He quickly slipped on some clothing and ran to Water and League streets, where the station of Engine Company 46 is sit-uated. There he gave the alarm, but learned that meanwhile some one had summoned Engine Company No. 3, from Unexe cheest heater 24

session of the hearing before the Public Service Commission of charges by Di-rector Cooke, of the Department of

Queen street below 2d. He rushed back to the house and dashed into the smoke-filled structure. His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Doblosky, a 1mother, Mrs. Eligabeth Dobiosky, a r-year-oid baby, and his four sisters were asleep on this floor. He guided them to the rear and helped them out on the roof of a one-story shed in the back of the house. There neighbors and firemen

assisted the members of the family to he ground.

Firemen extinguished the blaze without great loss.



Phila. Representative Determined to Get E. R. Kiess on Congressional Committee

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.-Representative William S. Vare, of Philadelphia, is start-ing out early in an attempt to assume at least a partial leadership of the Pennsyl vania Republican delegation in Congress and his first move in this direction is to be Found in the canvass be is making to have Edgar R. Kless, a stanch Brumbaugh booster from the Willamsport district, placed on the Republican Congressional Committee. Mr. Vare, however, is meet-

ing with some unexpected oposition in the person of Mahlon M. Garland, Congress-man-at-Large, a Penrose adherent, who is mateat-large, a renove auterent, who is grooming Representative Charles H. Row-land, of Phillipsburg, for the place The Pennsylvania Republican deloga-tion is divided on this question and it is difficult to contact the section and it is tion is divided on this question and it is difficult to predict the outcome, although Mr. Vare asserts that Kless will be an easy winner should there be a fight. On the other hand, Mr. Garland has been very active in behalf of Representative Rowland and he says his candidate for the committee will win. Both the Philadelphia and the Pitts-burgh delegations are split on the ques-

burgh delegations are split on the ques-tion, although several of the members have taken no definite stand as yet. The same division of opinion is noticeable among the other members. Several mem-bers who are very friendly to Senator Penrose declare that the action of Rep-resentative Vare in fostering the Kleas candidacy is merely reflecting the wishes of Governor Brumbaugh, and they resent it, because they declare the Governor should not interfere in a purely Congressional matter.

PEARL

MERCHANTS

PIROSCAFI AFFONDATI AL LARGO DI DURAZZO DA NAVI AUSTRIACHE

La Spedizione Italiana Per la Serbia E' in Viaggio-I Vapori Sbarcavano Munizioni pei Serbi

SUCCESSI SUL CARSO

ROMA, S Dicembre. Ieri sera il Ministero della Guerra pub-blicava un comunicato ufficiale nel quale si annunciava che gli italiani avevano preso agli austriaci una quantita' di mu-nizioni sul Carso. Ecco il testo dei comu-uicato: nicato:

"Vi sono state intense azioni di arti-Vi sono gate inches avecationente gileria da ambe le parti ieri, specialmente nella valle Giudicaria e nella Val Concia e sul fronte della Carnia. "In seguito all'attivita" della nostra fanteria sul Carso noi abbiamo potuto im-

padronirci di una grande quantita' di ma-nizioni e di altro materiale da guerra, compresi fucili e granate a mano."

GLI ITALIANI VERSO LA SERBIA. Un telegramma da Londra dice che dispacci giunti cola' da Vienna an-nunciano che la apedizione italiana in uluto della Serbia e' gia in viaggio, Infatti un comunicato ufficiale austriaco annuncia che cinque piroscali esrichi di munizioni destinate ai serbi sono statti affondati sulla costa albanise da domenica scoraa. Sebbene il comunicato austriaco scoras, Seconde a scondita' del piroscatt affondati, si ritiene che essi non possono che essere italiani, anche perche' si an-bunciava piu' tardi a Vienna che un piroscafo armato italiano era stato af-fondato, mentre si dirizeva dalla costa italiano a cuella di Durazzo da uno

tallana a ouella di Durazzo, da una pundriglia di siluranti austriache.

Dai comunicati ufficiali austriaci risulta unque che la promessa fatta da Sonnino ii mandare aiuti alla Serbia ai materialzza, e cio' viene a costituire un nuovo mportantiasimo elemento nella situazione alconica.

1 PIROSCAFI AFFONDATL

Il comunicato ufficiale austriaco dice che l'incrociatore Nevara accompagnato da parecchie siluranti affondo' al largo di San Giovanni di Medua il 5 corrente tre grandi e due piccoli vapori e parecchio barche a vela mentre scarica-vano ministeni da guerra. Uno dei ano munizioni da guerra. Uno del irrescal salto' in aria, La soundriglia austriaca fu bombardata violentement da terra da una ventina di cannoni, ma senza



risultato, dice il comunicato austriaco, Il comunicato dice pure che il 23 No-vembre le siluranti austriache affondarono vembre le siluranti austriache affondarono un vapore italiano armato di tre cannoni e con carico completo, mentre navigava da Brindisi a Durazzo, ed un sottomarino francese, il Fresnel che era stato varato nel 1909 ANCHE UN VAPORE AMERICANO.

Giunge notizia che un piroscafo ameri-Giunge notizia che un piroscafo ameri-cano, il Communipaw, che era carloo di petrolio, e' stato affondato sulla costa della Libia, al largo di Tobruk, da un rottomarino la cui nazionalita' non e' ben stabilita. Aluni piroscati greci ed italiani che accorsero al segnalii di aiuto del Communicay non trocche tracche del Communipaw non trovarono traccia dell'equipaggio. Il piroscafo affondato portava un equipaggio di 39 uomini e cinque ufficiali americani, ed era comandato dal capitano Nordstrom. Il piroscafo era diretto ad Alessandria. Apparteneva alla Standard Oll Company.

LO STATO ED IL VATICANO.

Le parole pronunciate al Concistoro dal papa hanno avuto un'eco nella Camera dei Deputati. Gia' l'asserzione che gli inviati teutonici premo il Vaticano ave-vano dovuto lasciare Roma per proteggere la lore dignata' ha sollevato in Italia un la loro dignata' ha sollevato in Italia un interesse piu' grande quasi di quello della guerra, tanto che l'Idea Nazionale vac-coglie oggi la voce che il segretario di Stato pontificio, cardinale Gasparri, sta pensando di dimettersi perche' non ap-prova pienamente le parole del papa. La voce e' smontita nei circoli vati cani, ma le discussioni sono vivacissimo.

Nella seduta di martedi' alla Camera Nella senota di mariedi alla Canera l'on Lombardo presento: un'interroga-zione per sapere dal ministro Orlando che cosa il governo pensasse delle parole del papa che "sono contrarie agli inter-casi dell'Italia." Il ministro rispose che il governo non aveva nulla da aggiungere alla herze delle cuarenticie, dichascanto sill'interpretazione che dal 1570 si era data nilla lezge delle guarentigie, dichiarando anche energi camente che gli inviati te-deaco ed austriaco presso il Vaticano avevano insciato Roma di loro spotta-nen volonta'. "Ritengo sia una gioria del'Italia-aggionse il ministro di Grazia e Giustizia-che il pontefice remano abbia poputo godere in Roma la piu' larga liberta ed indipendenza. Cio' e' mostrato dal fatto che si e' appena tenuto un con-cistore a cui han partecipato cardinali di ogni protenza belligerante."

di ogni protenza belligerante."

Shipyard to Go Under the Hammer The real estate and machinery of the John H. Dialogue and Sona' shipyard, at Kaighn Point, Camden, will be sold at auction today by Samuel T. Freeman and Company. The sale will begin at in o'clock and will be continued tomorrow at 10 o'clock. The company went into bankrupicy more than a year and and the sale is to be made on the order of Henry F. Stockwell, trustee in bank.

H. G. WELLS'

ruptey.

NEW NOVEL

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Christmas Cards and Calendars.

them at all if the writer of yesterday's them at all if the writer of yesterday's letter would ultimately surrender himself to the authorities or desert the boy in some part of the city when he realizes that his capture is rapidly becoming in-syltable. Though the police refused to name the man when they augment of kiloanning

man whom they suspect of kidnapping the Meekins boy, and also of being the author of yesterday's missive, it was learned that since last evening their sussicions have been turned toward a certain person whose handwriting is being compared today with that of yesterday's

EXPECT SECOND LETTER.

Another letter from the same source will reach the Meekins family, the de-tectives believe. The writer of yester-day's letter, which was written on the back of an advertisement forn from an evening newspaper, promised that he would write again.

Mrs. Annie Meekins, mother of the missing boy, and other relatives today are patiently awaiting the arrival of the in. Detectives were also at the waiting for the letter carrier to stman. house arrive.

Director of Public Safety Dripps today wald that his department was doing everything possible in the way of restor-ing the boy to his mother. He said that no was taking a personal interest in the case. Since the receipt of yesterday's latter, Director Dripps has issued instructions to his secretary that he be notified at once by telephone of new developments in the event he is absent from his office. in the event he is absent from his office. "There have been several cases of miss-ing children in this city, some of whom have been abducted for spite," said Di-rector Dripps. "The severest penalty should be meted out to any person who didmaps any child. The Detective Bu-reau has been instructed to assign the best men on the Meekins case. I feel cor-ision that something will develop which will lead to the recovery of the boy. Most Ill lead to the recovery of the boy. Most the detectives and policemen who are prehing for Richard Meekins and his bductor are fathers, and they and his uctor are fathers, and they are work-with great zeal."

MOTHER MAKES APPEAL.

The mother of the boy requested that he newspapers publish her appeal to the disappers of her child and which she enned herself. The appeal, which is ad-tessed "To the kidnappers of my little of" and signed by Mrs. Meekins, reads follows:

Ever since my little Richard was taken away I have been crying. I

Hurrah

invith's Rainbow Club will be here tomorrow. Join now! Peek at Page 19.

The buttons for Farmer

FARMER SMITH, The Children's Editor, Evening Ledger yowing eternal devotion, and helped her shap his face in the midst of writing a sonnet to him.

This was Mrs. Marsh's testimony in the hearing of her sult for divorce from James H. Marsh. She explained that she both loved and hated Marsh and read aloud a poem she had written to him.

Canadian Government Rug Stolen The theft of a rug valued at \$25 from he office of the Canadian Government, at 135 Walnut street, was reported to the police today. The robbery occurred last night, when the thleves gained admittance to the office by forcing a glass in the door.

The Gift for All Cunningham-Made

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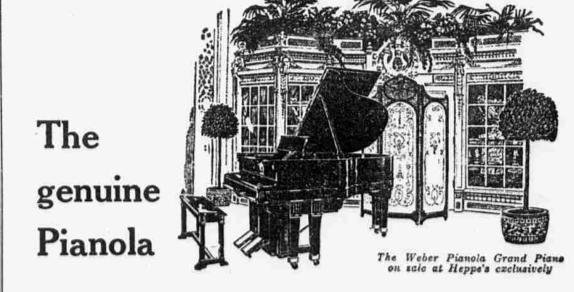
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