

MAYOR'S BONDING CONCERN BOOMING

Six Months' Business With City Contracts Aggregating \$4,590,032.62

\$1,000,000 GAIN IN YEAR

Notwithstanding Increase, Smith Says His Income Is Decreased

The Thomas B. Smith Company, of which Mayor Smith was formerly an official and in which he is said to own eighty per cent of the stock, acting as agent for the National Security Company, of New York, did a bonding business in connection with contracts for city work during the last six months of 1916 of \$4,590,032.62, far exceeding the total for all the other bonding companies which made reports. This is shown by sworn statements filed with Select Council yesterday, which were open for public inspection this afternoon.

The nearest competitor was the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, of Baltimore, which carried bonds totaling \$738,509.64. Other bonding companies were the Globe Indemnity Company, of New York, \$370,743.41; the Commercial Trust Company, of this city, \$33,000 in municipal contract bonds; the Maryland Casualty Company and several other companies carried amounts of \$250,000 and less.

The Thomas B. Smith Company's business for the six months consisted of 490 separate bonding items, ranging from bonds of \$25 or \$50 each for small dealers and individual contractors to bonds aggregating \$744,450 taken out by State Senator Edwin H. Vane for street cleaning contracts.

M'NICHOLO'S SHARE

The Keystone State Construction Company, which holds the contract for the City Hall section of the Broad street subway, and which is controlled by Senator James P. McNichol, a factional opponent of Mayor Smith, took \$42,400 worth of bonding from the Smith agency. The McNichol Paying and Construction Company also took \$65,000.

Other large items in the report of the National Surety Company for the six months were:

Table listing various contractors and their bonding amounts, such as Philadelphia Electric Company (\$636,918.75), James G. Dorney, ash removal contract (\$88,995.00), etc.

MAYOR'S INCOME DECREASED

The amount of business done through the Smith concern as indicated in this report is more than \$1,000,000 in excess of the business done in the corresponding period last year, when the Mayor was the personal agent for the company. When he was asked what profits he has received or will receive from the bonding business of the Thomas B. Smith Company, he said: "Since I became Mayor my income has been reduced even if the Smith Company is doing a greater business. Prior to becoming Mayor the National Surety Company paid me a salary as its agent of \$10,000 a year. Then I also received a salary of \$10,000 a year as a Public Service Commissioner, which position I, of course, resigned to become a candidate for Mayor. It is easy to calculate, therefore, that I lost last year \$5000 by becoming Mayor."

FIREMEN'S PLEA BACKED BY RESEARCH BUREAU

Director Gruenberg Says Its Plan for Standardizing Pay Does Not Include Theirs

Frederick P. Gruenberg, director of the Bureau of Municipal Research, takes issue with Joseph P. Gaffney, chairman of Council Finance Committee, on the subject of firemen's salaries.

Mr. Gaffney recently has informed members of the firemen's campaign committee that when he received the Bureau of Municipal Research its findings on municipal salary standardization, his committee would take up the adjustment of firemen's pay. The frequent iteration of this statement led the firemen to believe that in some measure their campaign's success depended upon the recommendation of the Bureau of Municipal Research.

Director Gruenberg denies that his bureau has ever had, or now has, any thought of including the firemen in its standardization work. "Mr. Gaffney," said Mr. Gruenberg, "has called upon me and assured me that if he made the assertions attributed to him the statement was an error."

"During the last two years the Bureau of Municipal Research has repeatedly urged an equalization of pay for similar work and a standardization of all other conditions of employment under the city government."

"The task is so large, however, that if it is to be performed in a thorough manner only a part of it can be completed this year."

"The fire and police services are the least in need of such an overhauling; in fact, they are the only two services that already have the more important essentials of standardization, namely, uniform titles, uniform pay and uniform grading of all positions having similar duties, and definite lines of promotion from the lower to the higher ranks within each service."

"So far as the merits of the demands of both firemen and policemen are concerned, this bureau will state that it stands unqualifiedly for more adequate compensation than is now being paid to these two groups of city employees and that it would urge upon City Councils to give consideration to these demands as early as possible, and grant relief as soon as the city is financially able to do so."

DR. ASA STONE COUCH DIES

Noted Anatomical Expert Expires at Son's Home in New York

Dr. Asa Stone Couch, eighty-five years old, a prominent anatomical expert, who formerly lived in this city, died yesterday at the home of his son, Meredith C. Couch, New York. Before going to live in New York, Doctor Couch lived in Chicago, Prentiss, N. Y., and Cleveland.

Doctor Couch was a former president of the Homeopathic Society of the State of New York. He often lectured before prominent organizations in this country and Europe. He was one of the founders of the New York State Hospitals for the Insane at Middletown and Tonawanda.

NEW FISHWAY INVENTED

Device Likely to Be Put in Use at McCall's Ferry Dam

PHILA., Pa., Feb. 2.—Bisto Fish Commission N. R. Fuller was favorably impressed with the model of a fishway which was presented in this city yesterday, which is particularly adaptable for construction at McCall's Ferry dam.

WILD AUTO SMASHES INTO DRUG STORE



This limousine, which got beyond the control of its driver, climbed the curb and ran into a drug store at Broad and South streets. It had been stolen from the Continental Garage. A man who says he was standing on the street corner when struck by the machine was taken to a hospital badly injured. The auto is the property of Harry Evans, 2010 North Park avenue.

GIBBONEY AIDS WOMAN TO OBTAIN A LICENSE

Argues in Behalf of Equality of Sexes While Court Hesitates Over Transfer

Several cases in the License Court involving women prompted the court today to question the fitness of members of the weaker sex to act as saloonkeepers. Judges and lawyers engaged in a discussion of the question and D. Clarence Gibboney, head of the Law and Order Society, helped one woman to win a liquor license by arguing for equality of the sexes.

In the case of Mrs. Cecelia Mitchell at the southeast corner of Eighth and Parrish streets, to transfer the license to Peter Stanley, the court was considerably irritated by the remark of Albert H. Ladner, Jr., who said that Mrs. Mitchell's place was a menace to the community, and that they wanted her to sell out to save the investment of \$14,000.

Judge Davis said: "If that is the case the license ought to be revoked. What right have we to say to this woman that we won't revoke your license, but we will make you sell. You brewers (Mr. Ladner represents brewing interests) ask a good bit, but I think you are going the limit this time."

Judge Davis turned to Mr. Gibboney and asked him why he didn't move to revoke the license, and Mr. Gibboney said he intended to do so at the next court. The petition to transfer was denied.

In the case of Otto Wolf, 262 East Girard avenue, to transfer to Miss Frances Schaeffer, Judge Davis said he did not think it was desirable for women to go into the retail liquor business. Her counsel mentioned that this was a progressive age and Judge Barratt said that this was certainly a "progressive step."

GHOSTS FIGURE IN CASE

Ghosts figured largely in the petition of John Latzusch, who wanted to have his license changed from 1301 Germantown avenue to Orianna and Bristol streets. He testified that the fear of neighbors of a certain alleged ghost had well nigh ruined his business and he wanted to move.

The ghost was first brought to light in a rumor some time ago and purported to be that of William Trost, who was murdered several years ago by his wife Frieda, when he kept a saloon at the Germantown avenue address.

Latzusch said that he didn't believe in ghosts, but that his neighbors did and that the printing of the story had hurt his trade. He also said much liquor was illegally sold in the neighborhood and in this was borne out by Mr. Gibboney, who told the court there were sixteen disorderly houses, speak easies and gambling clubs immediately around the saloon. Judges Davis and Barratt refused the petition, however, saying that Latzusch's remedy was to get damages from whoever circulated the ghost rumor.

MAYOR TO GET REPORT ON BORROWING LIMIT

If It Is Above \$11,000,000, Figure of \$10,000,000 for Loan Will Stand

A report showing the borrowing capacity of the city, upon which loan figures must be based, will be forwarded to Mayor Smith early next week by Controller Walton, who has a force of clerks at work compiling the necessary data from figures obtained from the Board of Revision of Taxes. In the event of the borrowing capacity being above \$11,000,000, the tentative figure of \$10,000,000 for the loan will stand.

Convinced that the city is obliged to build the Art Museum at an estimated cost of \$5,000,000, Mayor Smith intends the loan bill, which will be completed in Council's Finance Committee between now and February 15, to include \$3,000,000 for that purpose. These \$1,800,000 now available from old loans. This, with the \$2,000,000 allowed for Convention Hall, will take one-half of all the money the city can hope to borrow this spring.

The \$5,000,000 making up the last half of the loan bill will be apportioned between the needs of the Bureau of Water, man-damus items, sewers, street improvements, etc. The exact figures have not been decided upon, but it is known that enough money cannot be found to provide for the improvements that Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, deems necessary to put the city streets and thoroughfares in good condition.

No further funds will be asked for a free library to be erected on the Parkway. There is \$240,000 now available for the erection of a main building. There is also a credit of \$843,267 for the library and site, making a total of \$1,083,267. The original sum was \$1,000,000, out of which the present site at Nineteenth street and the Parkway was purchased.

"QUIET TALKER" TELLS HOW TO GET MORAL AID

S. D. Gordon Says Bible and His Man Provide Strength and Courage

The need of moral help to sustain ourselves through life was pointed out today by S. D. Gordon in his "quiet talk" at the Garrick Theatre. Prayer as a means of bringing about enlightenment was also advocated by the speaker.

The meeting was largely attended. In the course of his remarks Mr. Gordon said: "God comes to us in this old Book. He speaks in it. He reaches into our lives through its pages. We need help. Our moral sidewalks get pretty slippery sometimes. Some of us get bad falls. This Book will help steady our feet. We do not read the Book for its own sake merely, much as we may love it."

"We must not think of it as a charm of magic power against evil. But there's a Man in the Book. There's a living presence here. And through its pages He speaks to us. He instructs our mind and strengthens our purpose. He steadies our feet."

"I want to give you three words. They help to a simple mastery of the old pages. Prayerfully is the first word. A simple bit of prayer will open the Book anew and open your mind to its meaning. This Book gives up its meaning not to the keen mind merely, but to the spirit-enlightened mind."

"Through the quiet moment of prayer as you read, and the Spirit of prayer, there comes a fresh touch upon page and upon you."

"Then read thoughtfully. Meditate means to chew the cud. Do as the cow does. Get a cud at your morning reading, and chew it through the day."

"And read it obediently. Square your life with what comes to you here as necessary for your life."

"Light obeyed increaseth light; Light resisted bringeth night; Who will give us power to choose. If the love of light we lose."

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LOCOMOTIVE A RUNAWAY

But It Was Not Engine's Fault, Opener of Throttle Must Face Court

The curiosity of a Grand Simms, which led him to take a "joy-ride" in a dinky shifting engine of the Hoopes & Townsend Mills, near Fort Washington, today resulted in his being held in \$500 bail by Magistrate Rhoads, of Fort Washington, for trial before the Montgomery County Court.

Simms, an employe of the mills, climbed into the cab of the locomotive, opened the throttle and jumped for his life. The engine crashed into a traveling crane, damaging itself and the crane, and probably would have gone over a twenty-foot embankment had not other employes shut off the power.

FIGHTS LICENSE REFUSAL

Hotel Man Takes Case to Higher Court in New Jersey

PENNSGROVE, N. J., Feb. 2.—Harry M. Green has obtained a writ of certiorari to carry to the Supreme Court for review the decision of Judge Edward C. Waddington, in the Salem County court, when application was denied for a liquor license.

A test is to be made of the status of the Pennsgrove Camp-meeting Association to learn whether or not it is such an organization as contemplated in the law cited when Green was denied a license. A hotel

Trail Man to Abandoned House

WILKES-BARRE, Feb. 2.—Alvin Syamakoz, wanted by the police of Newark, N. J., on a charge of jumping his bail on a serious accusation, was found hiding in the cellar of an abandoned house at Pennsgrove, N. J., who had trailed him there. He was taken back at once to stand trial.

Yeggmen Blow Safe; Flee With \$6200

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 2.—Yeggmen blew a safe in the bank at Worthington, near here, today, and escaped with \$6200.

Advertisement for Mawson & DeMany fur coats and accessories. Features 'Special Fur Reductions Tomorrow' with a list of items and prices: Hudson Seal Coats (58.50 to 138.00), Russian Pony Coats (27.00), French Seal Coats (49.50), Muffs (11.00 to 28.00), Scarfs (7.50 to 9.50), and Fur Sets (17.50 to 78.50). Includes a 'Sale of New Hats For Saturday' with prices starting at 8.50 each.

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