

THE WEATHER
Occasional rain tonight and Friday; moderate temperature; fresh southerly winds.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5
67 62 65 71 74 76 78

Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA

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WALLOP PET SCHEME FOR BOARD OF CLAIMS TO AID CONTRACTORS

Rep. Alexander Exposes Measure to Make State Bear Losses

LOOPHOLE TO DODGE DEFAULT PENALTIES

Would Have Saddled More Jobholders With Fat Pay on Commonwealth

GOOD CITY BILLS PICKLED

Fate of Mayor Moore's Legislation Shows Power of Vares at Work

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

Harrisburg, April 21.—There is a tremendous amount of bluster and bluff being raised in Harrisburg just now. It is the closing of the legislative sessions and it is the season for the usual outbreak of jazz politics.

The latest development, as I pointed out in yesterday's dispatches, is the projection of Senator Penrose's personality into the melee.

It comes in a very dignified and Penrosian fashion, though through a Senatorial elector, the senator's personal friend. It is a warning to the Assembly against reckless extravagance and an admonition to go slow in the matter of appropriations.

It would have been better had the senator's advice been given a trifle earlier in the session. The legislators have had their appetite whetted for blood and they would loot the treasury for their pet schemes if the law permitted.

Clout for One Scheme

One of the latest and boldest attempts to foist on the state a new set of officeholders, with unheard-of power, received a joint in the House last night. It was Representative Alexander, of Delaware, who exposed the scheme.

The bill was introduced by Representative Huett, of Philadelphia, some time ago. Its author and architect was said to be former Attorney General Francis Shank Brown. It bore the benevolent title of "An act for the relief of persons, corporations and associations from certain and uncompleted contracts entered into with the commonwealth and which on account of the war caused them financial loss."

In brief, it proposed to establish a board of claims to relieve the contractors, because it is known that the commonwealth cannot be sued in the courts.

When the bill reached the Senate somebody knocked out the title and revamped the bill till it was almost unrecognizable.

Would Abolish Appeals

It came back with the distinct proposition to create a new "court of claims" of three members with the power of a regulated court, but (and here was the unheard-of proposition) from whose findings no appeal could be made. The exact wording of this part of the extraordinary act reads:

"Whenever, after hearing and determining any claim as aforesaid, the board shall find in favor of the contractor and fix the amount to which the contractor is entitled, the amount so fixed shall be final and conclusive and no appeal therefrom shall be allowed in any court of law or equity of this commonwealth without right of appeal."

The whole bill was a flimsy attempt to help a lot of contractors, but it was chiefly advantageous to the contractor and fix the amount to which the contractor is entitled, the amount so fixed shall be final and conclusive and no appeal therefrom shall be allowed in any court of law or equity of this commonwealth without right of appeal."

Mayor's Bills Pickled

Of interest to the city is the fact that all of Mayor Moore's bills have gone into the Vares picking vat, there to sink unmoistened until they rot away in oblivion.

Important Activities in Legislative Session

Foes prepare to blackmail Miller bill, which would empower Public Service commission to regulate P. R. rentals paid to underlying companies.

Governor's anthracite tax bill which would add about \$8,000,000 to revenue passed House with determined, but weak opposition—125 to 63.

House passes bill to provide for voting by mail by voters absent on election day. Vares men oppose it. It goes to Senate.

Senate law and order committee reports on bill with provision for search of licensed saloons by district attorneys restored.

House votes down motion making full-crown law repealer special order for final passage next Monday. No repealer may never reach vote.

House passes bill reorganizing Insurance Department. Judicial reorganization committee refuses to let T. L. Eyre, its chairman, eliminate Judge House, of Chester county, a Democrat, who reported leaving Judge House undisturbed.

Senate passes bills providing for reorganization of Forestry Department and increasing of Chief Forester Pinchot's salary to \$8000.

AUTOIST IN "BORROWED" CAR ROBBED, QUESTIONED

Is Detained Even if He Gives Police Tip on Stolen Machine

Thomas E. Monaghan, 2712 North Judson street, played doubly in hard luck this morning for he was detained at the Sedgely garagehouse for driving a friend's car without permission when he came there to report that two highwaymen had just robbed him of \$108.

Monaghan had taken the number of the car which the highwaymen drove, and by a curious coincidence it was found to be that of a car just stolen from C. Brooks Jones, of Cwynoid.

At 11:15 o'clock this morning Monaghan was driving the car over Lincoln drive when he was stopped by two armed men in another machine at the intersection of the street. They covered him with revolvers and took his money. All he got in return was the number of their car, 162,128. He imparted this to the police clerk for a record and reported the hold-up. A "diner" just received showed that this car had been stolen from the corner of Sumac and Freehold streets last evening.

MOONSHINE LID ON TONIGHT

Eclipse Commences at 11:57 O'clock. Ends at 4:32 A. M. Tomorrow

There positively will be no moonshine in Philadelphia or anywhere else in the United States from 2:23 o'clock until 3:05 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The phenomenon will have no relation to the moon. It is caused by the due to a total eclipse of the moon, visible all over the country.

Early sleepers here will have to set their alarm clocks for a few minutes before 11:57 o'clock if they want to see the darkening of the moon begin. Precisely at that time the great silvery orb will slip into the outer shadow of the earth.

The totality of the eclipse will begin at 2:43 o'clock and end at 3:05 o'clock. The eclipse will be over at 4:42 o'clock. The moon has no light of its own and the moonlight simply is reflected solar light. Lunar eclipses are caused by the earth coming between the sun and the moon.

Although the earth will shut off all the light from the moon during the total eclipse of the big round globe, which gives mankind a foothold will send some light to the moon.

Observers will be able to see the moon dimly. It probably will have a dull reddish color.

BLACKJACK READY IN SENATE TO KILL P. R. T. RENT BILL

Enemies Will "Pickle" Measure Providing for Regulation of Payments to Lessors

PLAN CALLED ONLY ONE TO SOLVE CITY'S PROBLEM

By a Staff Correspondent

Harrisburg, April 21.—The Vares-Brown-Cunningham combination has taken a sudden interest in the Miller transit bill and as a result the measure will be "pickled."

This bill, empowering the Public Service commission to investigate the reasonableness of rentals paid by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. to the underlying companies and to regulate those rentals, all on the final passage end of the Senate today.

When it is reached, senators, probably Senator Max Aton, will move that it be committed to the committee on judicially racial, of which Senator McConnell is the chairman. The motion will not be opposed by Senator Vares.

Legislators observant of the situation recognized the senate the P. R. T. has an active lobby here, the people are not represented.

The Miller bill has passed the House. It will be stopped by the interests in its last step. The blackjack will be used to kill it.

Urges Similar Bill

Regulation of the rentals paid by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. to underlying companies is the only solution of the transit problem here, the United Business Men's Association declared today.

Stacy M. Barie, chairman of the association's transportation committee, called on all organizations and citizens to back the Miller bill now in the Legislature and facing death by "pickling."

"The bill is a good one," said Barie, "and it will benefit the city. It will regulate the rentals paid by the P. R. T. to the underlying companies and will give the Public Service Commission to investigate rentals, and after determining the facts, issue orders governing these rentals based on the commission's conclusions regarding the interest of the public."

With this authority conferred on the commission, Mr. Barie stated, all questions of scientific knowledge which the commission could be settled by an appeal to the Superior and the Supreme Courts.

No Attack on Contracts

"The Miller bill is not an attack on contracts," Mr. Barie continued, "but only a method of procedure by which the rights of the public, under such contracts, may be determined by the courts. Unless these rents are regulated by the public, the transit question in Philadelphia can never be solved. No rate of fare can be charged high enough to pay the present unaffiliated system of the city's high-speed lines."

The business association today sent to the Public Service Commission a protest against the continuance of seven years of judicially racial.

The organization contends the increase in fares goes largely to meet alleged exorbitant rentals paid to the transit companies by the P. R. T. The complainants contend if the P. R. T. requires more money to progress and make necessary extensions, this may be obtained through a reduction in rentals to the public.

A House bill giving transit companies the right to operate automobiles and "trackless" trolleys on all streets of this city, was commended today by O. Oscar Heasley, counsel for the United Business Men's Association.

Yields to Movies' Lure



MRS. LYDIA HOYT

New York society woman, noted for her beauty, who has grown tired of the social whirl and has entered a nunnery. She will appear first as a co-star with Norma Talmadge

FINDS REAL SENSE IN BACON'S CIPHER

Savant Says Monk Hid Real Scientific Facts in Alchemists' Jargon

ALCHEMISTS who for 600 years sought to find in Roger Bacon's cryptic writings directions for transmitting base metals into gold were victims of a gigantic hoax, Dr. William Romaine Newbold told members of the American Philosophical Society this afternoon, assembled for the opening meeting of their annual sessions at 104 South Fifth street.

Bacon, monk and scholar of medieval times, really hid under a jargon of alchemists' terms secrets more precious than all the gold in the world. In his manuscript, however, those who puzzled over its cryptic phrases saw only a possible means of discovering the "philosopher's stone."

Had they been able to read beneath the nonsensical jargon of old chemical terms they would have rediscovered a marvelous storehouse of scientific knowledge which Bacon locked away from the world.

Labeled Two Years

Dr. Newbold, professor of intellectual and moral philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania, has worked for two years deciphering the strange cryptograms in which Bacon wrote down the secrets of his science.

Dr. Newbold's paper shared interest at the first of the three days' sessions with a paper on a much different topic, read by Dr. Emory R. Johnson, professor of transportation and commerce at the University of Pennsylvania, and a noted authority on railroad matters.

Dr. Johnson, discussing the railroad problem of this city, declared himself in favor of private ownership, although under government control extending to intrastate as well as interstate commerce.

Dr. Newbold, speaking before Dr. Johnson, carried his auditors to a new fairland of science, rediscovering in past time knowledge that has come to the public.

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RAIL BOARD POWERLESS TO ACT IN WAGE DISPUTE

Judge Who Authorized Pay Reduction Held to Have Violated Law

Chicago, April 21.—The railroad labor board today ruled that the receiver of the Atlantic, Birmingham & Atlantic Railroad in reducing wages of its employees in compliance with a decision by Federal Judge S. H. Sibley, had acted in violation of the spirit and letter of the transportation act.

The board declared that it was powerless to take action in the case at hand. It suggested that the employees, most of whom now are on strike, again hold conferences with the owners and, if an agreement is not reached, bring the case back to the labor board.

THEFT OF SEIZED ROOM 'INSIDE JOB,' SLOANER ASSERTS

'Squarrest of Dry Agents' Might Have Been Tempted, He Says

REAL WATER, NOT LIQUOR, MAY BE IN BARRELS NOW

"An inside job" was responsible for the theft of "several thousand dollars' worth" of liquor from the Federal Building.

This was admitted today by J. G. Sloaner, prohibition enforcement officer, who yesterday minimized reports of the liquor theft.

The Department of Justice is ready to investigate as soon as it is supplied with tangible evidence.

Water or Liquor in Those Barrels? "I don't know whether the barrels in the seizure room contain liquor or water now," Mr. Sloaner said.

He said the liquor had been taken from the room by thieves who cut a door. This afternoon Mr. Sloaner ordered the barrels to be sealed in "internal revenue locks," upon the seizure room. These locks are sealed and register every time they are opened.

Complaints Awaited

These officials reiterated their willingness to start an investigation should any complaints be made to them. He made it plain, however, that until complaints are made, they will have nothing to do with the matter.

"Nigger in the Woodpile"

In a statement issued yesterday the prohibition officer minimized the proportions of the reported theft.

Patrolman of Fifty Years Ago Asks for Cast-Off Uniform

Convicted I. W. W. Official Reported in Moscow or Riga

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 21.—(By A. P.)—Federal officials today received confidential information that William P. Haywood, secretary of the Industrial Workers of the World, and scheduled to begin a sentence at the Leavenworth, Kan., penitentiary this week, has fled from the United States.

He is said to be now in either Moscow or Riga.

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 21.—(By A. P.)—Elizabeth M. Hertwig, twenty-three, of this city, was arrested at Atlantic City yesterday on a charge of passing counterfeit money.

Centennial State Passes Trial Trip

The combination passenger and freight steamer "Centennial State" left the New York Shipbuilding Co. yard at Camden today for a trial trip to the breaker and return. It is expected back tonight.

Pershing Named as Head of New U. S. War Staff

General to Take Charge of New Organization That Is Designed to Prepare for Military Operations

By the Associated Press

Washington, April 21.—Organization of a war staff headed by General Pershing to take charge of field operations of the United States in time of war was announced today by Secretary Weeks.

The organization headed by General Pershing will be entirely separate from the office of the chief of staff, Mr. Weeks said, which will continue to direct the administration of the military establishment in time of peace.

General Pershing will have a skeletonized staff, which will correspond to that of the chief of staff, Mr. Weeks said, which will concern itself entirely with problems of strategy, tactics and war organization.

Former Councilman Faces Arrest Following Escape With \$12.50 Fine

MILLS CALLS FOR ACTION

Pringle Borthwick, former councilman, is to be rearrested today on a charge of operating an automobile when intoxicated.

Borthwick, who lives at 5018 Germantown avenue, was arrested Monday at Broad street and Ridge avenue by Reserve Patrolman Ormond Moore.

Superintendent of Police Mills went for the patrolman, who was at home, on duty. He was instructed to come to City Hall at once and make an affidavit.

Statement Signed

LOS ANGELES SHAKEN AGAIN

GIBBONEY LEFT ESTATE OF \$11,000 TO HIS WIDOW

GREEKS MAINTAIN STRICT BLOCKADE OF BLACK SEA

BLAIR FOR REVENUE POST

DIES OF BLAST BURNS

Southern's Appointment as Commissioner Made by Harding

HARVEY VINDICTIVE STIRRER OF STRIFE, HARRISON DECLARES

Appointment as Ambassador 'Reward for Efforts to Discredit Wilson,' Says Senator

'CREATOR OF PREJUDICE AND POLITICAL ACCIDENT'

By the Associated Press

Washington, April 21.—Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, charged today in the Senate that the appointment of George Harvey by President Harding as ambassador to Great Britain was a "reward for his efforts" to discredit the Wilson administration.

The Mississippi senator said Mr. Harvey's "pursuit of Wilson through his journals and otherwise, were comparable only to Milton's Hell" founds that were station at the gates of the infernal regions.

Nomination Declared 'Peculiar'

Declaring that his attempt to obtain the consideration of Colonel Harvey's nomination is open session of the Senate had been blocked, Senator Harrison said the nomination was of such peculiar nature and such peculiar import that the country has a right to know the underlying facts that prompted the nomination and the influence that brought about its confirmation.

The Mississippi senator then launched into a long attack.

"Few men in the history of journalism," he said, "have possessed to a more extent the qualities of genius for violent expression, caustic criticism and the power, through fair or foul means, to employ cogent phrases intended to nipper and prey upon the mind, to arouse hatred and resentment. He is a remarkable man, in that his whole life has been one of inconsistency and vacillation. He never remained true to any purpose, loyal to any friend or steadfast to any conviction."

"He is wedded to no principle and bound by no conscience. He is a writer of the most cunning and dangerous species, the kind of politician who creates trouble and aggravating delicate situations. He has been constant in only one thing, and that is to attain high place in the career of a politician, to realize his life's ambition—political preferment."

"There is not a renowned statesman of this generation who has not been praised and maligned, elevated and debased, eulogized and eviscerated at one time or another by George Harvey—the violence or mildness of his expressions being controlled by the political situation and his temperamental conditions."

Unsuited for Diplomatic Post

Counsel Again Files Motion to Quash Indictment

Today's Developments in National Capital

Blair for Revenue Post

Dies of Blast Burns

Southern's Appointment as Commissioner Made by Harding