Of Course, if You Honestly Don't Want That ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS—!! Turn to Page

THE WEATHER
Fair tonight; lowest temperature about 20 degrees; Wednesday unsettled and warmer with probably snow.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
23	24	26	27	28	30	32	31		

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA
CLOSING STOCK PRICES

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ALL FOR MITTEN, P. R. T. MEN TELL FOE OF "CHIEF"

10,000 Sign Letter to Montgomery, Insurgent Director, Asking for His "Proxy"

BANKER TURNS DOWN PLEA; SEES ONE OF DELEGATION

Speech Year Ago Praising Head of Company Cited by Employes

"TURNCOAT," IS CHARGE

Workers Make Dramatic Move to Show United Loyalty in Control Fight

The "Union Traction bunch," said to be trying to curb or oust Thomas E. Mitten, president of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, were told bluntly today that the 10,000 employes of the company were united against them.

The declaration was made to William J. Montgomery, chairman of the P. R. T. Board of Directors as he sat in his office in the Eighth National Bank, Second street and Girard avenue.

G. W. Jackel and nine other chairmen, representing all the employes of the company, called at the bank, of which Mr. Montgomery is president. Mr. Montgomery would receive Mr. Jackel only.

"Deserted Chief" is Charge

A straight from the shoulder letter, drafted today at the Luzerne car barn, Tenth and Luzerne streets, which requested a proxy from Mr. Montgomery, was read to the chairman of the board by Mr. Jackel.

"It is only you that have gone back on our chief since you got mixed up with the Union Traction bunch," Mr. Montgomery was told in one passage of the letter which Mr. Jackel read as his fellow committeemen waited in the bank lobby.

The letter, prepared by delegates of the workers, in the interest of the management and addressed to a financial group back of the company, was an unusual document in industrial history.

Insists Men Are United

The letter follows:

"Mr. William J. Montgomery,
"Chairman of the Board of Directors,
"Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company.

"Dear Sir:

"We read in the morning papers that your spokesman, Mr. Tripple, said that the men are not together, and we hasten to tell you that they are united and we have brought with us the signatures of the whole 10,000, indorsing the purchase of P. R. T. stock to support the chief. If this does not convince you, we assure you that the whole 10,000 will come down and make any demonstration that may be required to satisfy your mind.

"We listened respectfully to you at Luzerne Auditorium on January 13, 1921, when you spoke to us as follows:

"'President Mitten has asked me to just say a few words about the saving fund, and I appreciate the opportunity more than I can tell you, because I have wanted to look into your faces and tell you, on behalf of the directors and the stockholders, how much we appreciated what you did in voluntarily determining to defer the payment of the wage that was due you.

"'Nothing like that has ever been done before to my knowledge.

"'The news has gone around the world, and to my mind it is one of the greatest accomplishments of this management and of you men. It was a fine thing to do, and it came at a time when the company needed your co-operation, needed just the assistance that you gave it, and I want to tell you, personally, looking into your faces, how much we all appreciated the thing that you did for P. R. T. It will never be forgotten.

"'Back of that thought and the thing that prompted that action was the fact that you had a man who was looking after your interests. You knew that he had never failed you, and that you had faith in him because he had never failed you, and that you showed your appreciation of him in the action that you took.'"

Says Things Haven't Changed

The letter to Mr. Montgomery goes on to say:

"All the things we read in the newspapers that you are complaining about—one-man control and so on—were just exactly the same on January 13, 1921, as they are today. It is only you that have changed, and gone back on our chief, since you got mixed up with the Union Traction bunch who are trying to force him out, so that they can do over again what they did to us in 1910.

"Mr. Montgomery, you are not going to get anywhere knocking Mr. Mitten for Union Traction, so we, representing 10,000 employe stockholders and owning over $800,000 P. R. T. bonds and car trust certificates, ask you to give us your proxy to vote in our interest so that we can go back and tell the men that the whole thing has been a big mistake and they can go on working contentedly, with renewed confidence in you, and stop the unrest you have brought about, which now so greatly disturbs them.

"Co-Operative Welfare Association

Continued on Page Two, Column Three

IF IT'S A USED AUTOMOBILE YOU want, you'll find it on pages 23 and 24.—Adv.

Husband Quits Her

Mrs. Peggy U'Dell Montgomery "Ziegfeld Follies" girl, who eloped to Elkton nineteen days ago with John W. Montgomery, broker

ELOPERS "SOBER," PARSON INSISTS

Dr. Lockerbie, of Elkton, Denies Young Broker Was "Stewed" When He Wed Coryphee

BRIDEGROOM NOW REPENTS

Chorus Girl's Mother on Way to Fight Suit

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 14.—Mrs. J. T. Unertel left here today to join her daughter, Peggy U'Dell, a chorus girl, who has been sued by her young husband whom she married after an elopement to Elkton.

Mrs. Unertel is going to Baltimore, where the girl-bride is playing and then will go to Philadelphia to take charge of the legal defense for her daughter.

The plea that it was liquor, not love, that intoxicated him at his daybreak wedding to a showgirl, made by John W. Montgomery, was denied today by the Rev. Daniel Lockerbie, Elkton's aged "marrying parson."

Montgomery has filed suit for annulment of his marriage in Elkton, asking for severance of the marriage that ties him to Peggy Unertle, also known as Peggy U'Dell, a coryphee in a beauty review.

Montgomery and the girl were married on January 26 when "rosy-fingered dawn" was peeping over Elkton, the haven where one may wed in haste and repent at leisure.

"Too Young," He Says Now

In his bill of annulment, Montgomery alleges he is only twenty, that he was intoxicated when the ceremony was performed by Mr. Lockerbie, and that the marriage was induced and procured by "fraud, connivance and deceit."

"That is not true," asserted Mr. Lockerbie today. "I remember the young man very well. He was sober, absolutely sober. I have been a prohibition lecturer and I wouldn't marry anybody who was drunk."

Montgomery and the showgirl rode in a taxicab from Philadelphia to Elkton, arriving about 2 A. M. with two other young couples, who had been companions at a "party."

Tells of Chilly Ride

For about two hours the cabby drove his charges from one house to another seeking a minister, apparently under the impression that all Elktonites were ready to unite any couple in marriage at a moment's notice.

In his statement, filed with the court, Montgomery alleged that one minister refused to perform the ceremony.

The Rev. George T. Alderman was the minister, and "intoxication" is the reason Montgomery gives for the refusal.

Mr. Alderman denied that statement today. He said the couple had no license and that he directed them to the home of J. W. McAllister, deputy county clerk. He said he told them to return with the license and he would do the rest.

Montgomery and his companions aroused McAllister who obligingly issued the license. McAllister today asserted the youth was "cold sober," although he might have had one or two drinks. He pointed to Montgomery's signature in the record book as proof of a steady hand.

She's Still on the Stage

Miss Unertle, or Mrs. Montgomery, is now in Baltimore, where her show is playing for the week. It is booked for Rochester next week.

When Sheriff Kirk Griffith served notice of the suit on her the young woman at first was incredulous. When she realized the affair was serious she began to protest.

"I like the boy and he is my husband; I won't consent to a divorce," she told the Sheriff. Then she added she had no money to engage a lawyer. Another chorus girl offered her money to get a lawyer. She has until March 15 to file an answer.

Montgomery's mother has established a residence in Elkton and expects her son there tomorrow. At the time of his marriage he claimed a New York residence.

Gets Five Years for Enticing Girl

Judge Rogers today sentenced Joseph Mauro, 330 South Fourth street, to four years and eleven months to five years in the Eastern Penitentiary, after a jury convicted him of enticing a fourteen-year-old girl.

MARDI GRAS, NEW ORLEANS—THIS YEAR Feb. 24-28. Inquire Southern Ry. Sys., 738 Real Estate Trust Bldg. Tel. Wal. 1170.—Adv.

IRISH FRONTIER NOT FAR REMOVED FROM STATE OF CIVIL WAR

Collins' Plot Charges and Suspension of Troop Evacuation Create Serious Situation

FOUR CHILDREN ARE KILLED BY BOMB IN BELFAST

By the Associated Press

London, Feb. 14.—Michael Collins' dramatic disclosure of an alleged Republican plot to overthrow the Provisional Government, the sudden and unexplained suspension of the British military evacuation, and the dangerous tension between the North and South have combined to produce a sensational situation in Ireland.

The outcome no one here ventures to forecast more definitely than by speculating on the dreaded possibilities, but dispatches show that the position on the frontier is not far removed from a state of war. Indeed, the prospect of civil war is being seriously discussed in Belfast and elsewhere in the North.

The dispatches sent by Belfast correspondents of the London newspapers represent the temper of the Ulstermen as being such that, unless the kidnapped Unionists are speedily released, there will certainly follow an explosion which may lead to war.

Discussion of Plot Withheld

Concerning the supposed plot against the Provisional Government, nothing is known here beyond what Mr. Collins revealed in his cable correspondence with Thomas Lyons, secretary of the American Association for Recognition of the Irish Republic, and the Dublin correspondents refrain from even speculating on it.

Discussing the suspension of troop movements in the House of Commons today, Winston Churchill, the Colonial Secretary, said the sole reason was the disturbed situation on the northern border and not because of anything that had happened in the southern part of Ireland.

He said that Michael Collins, who would cross to England tonight to confer with the Cabinet members, had informed the government he would take steps before leaving Dublin to secure the release of the kidnapped Unionists as soon as possible. Collins had stated in his message, added the Secretary, that he knew where a number of the kidnapped men were being held.

It is obvious from Mr. Collins' statements to the reporters in Dublin last night that he strongly dissents from the British action in holding up the evacuation, and will insist that "the contract shall be carried through." Last reports were that he was coming to London today to seek an explanation. On the other hand, the Dublin correspondent of the Times believes the sus-

Continued on Page Four, Column Two

P. R. T. SPENT $28,434,768 DURING 1921, REPORT SAYS

Figures Given at Valuation Hearing Satisfactory, Rosenbaum Says

P. R. T. expenses during 1921 totaled $28,434,768.68.

At a continuation of the P. R. T. valuation hearings today before Public Service Commissioner Clement in City Hall the Commissioner asked if this report submitted by the transit company was satisfactory.

Assistant City Solicitor Rosenbaum said he had examined it and as far as he could tell it provided the information that the city required. The report on the expenditures comprises sveral pages of detailed figures, explaining all phases of the company's expense. The major expenditures, according to the statement, were made as follows:

Ways and structure, $4,046,800; equipment, $4,090,000; power, $3,675,788.05; conducting transportation, $13,330,470.89; traffic, $27,841.90, and general and miscellaneous, $3,263,867.84.

NAB AUTO CLUB OFFICIAL FOR RECKLESS DRIVING

Thomas Keefe Reprimanded and Then Released by Magistrate Dugan

Thomas Keefe, acting secretary of the Keystone Automobile Club, was given a reprimand by Magistrate Dugan today for the manner in which he drove his automobile past the West Philadelphia High School yesterday afternoon.

Motorcycle Patrolman Guille said he stopped the car and arrested Keefe when he saw the machine going at about thirty miles an hour and zigzagging from one side of Walnut street to the other.

Keefe claimed the patrolman had been hasty in making the arrest. Magistrate Dugan informed Keefe that they were keeping a close watch on traffic conditions there, because of the school and because many people had been killed and injured. He upheld the patrolman's action and in releasing Keefe said he would deal more severely if he was caught driving a car in a like manner again.

WHEAT AND FLOUR JUMP

Prices Shoot Up at Chicago and Minneapolis

Chicago, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—Wheat prices jumped as much as 6½c a bushel today at the opening of the Board of Trade.

The reason was a sensational advance in Liverpool and other foreign market centers, while United States exchanges were closed during yesterday's holiday. May delivery, the most active trading option here, opened at $1.37 to $1.39½ against $1.33 and $1.33⅛ at the finish on Saturday.

Minneapolis, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—Flour scored an advance of sixty-five cents a barrel at one of the largest mills here today as a result of the strong wheat market. Range of prices today for family patent grades was $7.95@8.50 a barrel when sold in carload lots. The minimum quotation this year was $6.75 a barrel, in effect January 4.

Read Sharkleton's BOOK OF PHILADELPHIA—at all bookstores. Price $3.50—Adv.

Williamsport Newspaperman Finds Lim'ricks Are Lucrative Writing

This is the completed verse that won today's ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS:

Limerick No. 3

There once was a girlie named Kane,
Who made up again and again;
She thought it her duty
To be quite a beauty—
But at daybreak, gee whiz, she was plain!

There's another Limpin' Limerick today. You'll find it on the page opposite the funny pictures.

GEORGE STRAYER MAXWELL
132 W. Fourth Street,
Williamsport, Penna.

Far-Off Williamsport Wins Lim'rick Award

George Maxwell Fought Off Lure of Last Contest, but He's Glad He Fell For It This Time

Popularity—well, we should say so! Here's a man from Williamsport winning a Limerick, and we fully expect to find it necessary to call in a Chinese interpreter any day to decipher an answer from Hongkong.

George Strayer Maxwell, of 132 West Fourth street, Williamsport, has been breathlessly awaiting the arrival of the day's Limerick, that he might have a burst of genius and send it back post haste.

He is the happy owner of the coveted three-figure check because of the following:

Limerick No. 3

There was once a girlie named Kane,
Who made up again and again;
She thought it her duty
To be quite a beauty—
But at daybreak, gee whiz, she was plain.

Other contestants who won places on the ballots are:

V. R. Wilson, 2301 West Twelfth street, Wilmington, Del.

S. R. Oram, 503 North Eleventh street.

Mrs. R. A. Bacon, Marcus Hook, Pa.

Harry Weber, 2400 West Toronto street.

Edward Harden, 2120 Tasker street.

John Ward, 3804 Locust street.

C. McFarland, 6153 Market street.

M. E. O'Byrne, Bridgeport, Pa.

Mrs. Martha Sewalt, 2419 North Orkney street.

Mr. Maxwell was born in the same house in which he is now living, and incidentally, he is a fellow scribe, having been a newspaperman for a great many more years than he cared to recount.

During the last contest he didn't send in any answers, but this time he fell for the lure of the Lim'ricks. When we rang the doorbell Mrs. Maxwell called upstairs: "George, here's some one to see you." And when George found out who we were, wasn't he glad to see us, though!

He has been married; well, he didn't

Continued on Page Twenty-four, Column Four

N. Y. BROKERS WITH OFFICES HERE FAIL

Crawford, Patton & Cannon, 212 Morris Building, Have $3,300,000 Liabilities

SAY ASSETS ARE $3,000,000

The brokerage firm of Crawford, Patton & Cannon, of New York, with offices in the Morris Building, this city, went into the hands of a receiver today. A petition in involentary bankruptcy was filed in the New York District Federal Court this afternoon.

The extent to which Philadelphia investors are involved has not been determined.

Word of the firm's suspension of business came by wire from New York. The local offices were closed almost immediately.

A brief typewritten notice was pinned to the office door.

The statement follows:

"The firm of Crawford, Patton & Cannon has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors to William Otis Badger, Jr., of 75 Fulton street, New York City.

"The assignee will be represented in Philadelphia by H. P. Dorman and W. Y. C. Anderson, 1420 Chestnut street, to whom all inquiries may be addressed for the present.

"(Signed) Crawford, Patton & Cannon."

Liabilities About $3,300,000

Mr. Dorman supplemented this notice with a brief statement:

"William Otis Badger, Jr., states that accountants have been put on the books and that the exact figures will not be forthcoming for some days, but from the preliminary report in hand, the accountants estimate the liabilities to be some $3,300,000 and the assets to be about $3,000,000.

"This firm was formed in 1903, and in addition to a branch office in Philadelphia has an uptown office in the St. Andrew Hotel, Seventy-second street and Broadway, New York."

A. A. Wray, attorney in New York for Mr. Badger, said:

"Crawford, Patton & Cannon were not a fly-by-night concern, as was shown by the volume of business shown on their books. Preliminary survey of the firm's books shows that the financial affairs, while in a very serious way, do not presage any great loss to clients.

"I wish it understood the firms cannot be mistaken for one of the bucket shops. The firm was always known as a reputable one."

The local offices of the brokerage firm are at 210-11-12 Morris Building. They are large offices, furnished elaborately, with much mahogany furnitur and finishings and high glass partitions.

Henry Joseph Patton, who has been in charge of the firm's affairs here, is said to be a millionaire possessing rich timber lands in Lycoming County, and holdings in coal lands, left him by his father. It is said that he has an elaborate home on Riverside Drive.

Account Here Small

It is understood that the account of the firm here was small, that most of their dealing was done through the New York offices. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange the firm has

Continued on Page Two, Column Five

GOOD REAL ESTATE OFFERINGS ARE always available. Read Classified Real Estate Classification—pages 23 and 24.—Adv.

SNYDER SAYS STATE OWES $18,000,000

Treasurer Criticizes Auditor General for Not Collecting More to Meet Bills

GIVES HIMSELF BOOST

By a Staff Correspondent

Harrisburg, Feb. 14.—The State of Pennsylvania owes $18,000,000—and has no money to pay, according to State Treasurer Snyder.

Mr. Snyder testified before the Commission for Reorganization of the State Government this afternoon, and managed to pat himself on the back with one hand while with the other he dealt Auditor General Lewis a few sift-jolts in the neck.

Mr. Snyder, the State Treasurer, did his best to convey the idea that Mr. Snyder, the Auditor General—his previous State job—had been considerably more on his toes than the incumbent of that important post.

State Treasurer Snyder intimated that if he were stil Auditor General and bossing the job of collecting the State's revenue there would be plenty of money on hand for everything.

Snyder His Own Press Agent

Mr. Snyder's eulogy of himself before the commission followed the issuance of a self-laudatory pamphlet, broadcast over the State this morning, in which he gives the impression that he was just about the best Auditor General Pennsylvania ever had.

Mr. Snyder's remarks this afternoon before the commission plainly indicated that in his opinion Mr. Lewis has not collected all the money due the State.

"Today," said Treasurer Snyder, "there are bills for more than $8,000,000 on the State Treasurer's desk for general purposes and $3,000,000 for schools, due July 1, 1921, and then $7,000,000 more due under the Edmonds act for teachers' salaries, due February 1, 1922; a total of $18,000,000."

Mr. Snyder explained this sum was now due, but not all payable now, as warrants under the Edmonds act have not yet been received.

Mr. Snyder intimated that if he were still Auditor General he would have collected many more million dollars. Appropriations approved last year, including prior amounts due, he added, amounted to one hundred and eighteen million dollars.

Urges "Dilligence"

If "proper dilligence" had been exercised, he said, the State could meet these appropriations or such parts of them as are due during the 1921-23 biennial appropriation period.

If the coal tax is held constitutional, that tax plus the uncollected taxes which he says are due the State, Mr. Snyder predicts there will be several million dollars in the State Treasury in 1923-24.

Mr. Snyder took to the commission a 120-page list of corporations which he said have not paid their taxes. The list was prepared by the Revenue Bureau of the Treasury Department.

He charged $8,500,000 in back taxes is due the State, which he would have collected last year if he had continued as Auditor General.

"Instead of $39,000,000 collected last year for general purposes," said Mr. Snyder, "I would have collected $48,000,000 including these taxes re-

Continued on Page Two, Column Two

FOUR WITNESSES GIVE NEW TREND TO TAYLOR PROBE

Latest Shift in Case Threatens to Drag in Noted Figures Yet Unmentioned

SUSPECT BLACKMAIL RING OF NARCOTIC SYNDICATE

Los Angeles, Feb. 14.—Following the mysterious visit to his home of a man and woman, coming and driving off in a high-powered automobile, Prosecutor Woolwine yesterday quizzed four new witnesses in his effort to unravel the Taylor slaying mystery.

Important evidence that, it is hoped, will reveal the slayer of Taylor, is reported to have been furnished by the four, whose identity is closely guarded. They included two men and two women. One of the latter was attractive and most fashionably gowned. Her companion, too, was well dressed. They entered into conference with Woolwine after he had made a secret trip from the Hall of Records.

Prominent Names Involved

These four, it was said, told District Attorney Woolwine a story that involves a man high in Hollywood, and a woman, one of those whose names have been most prominently mentioned in the case. The crime motive, it was declared, was jealousy.

Reputations that have been built up by years of work and the expenditure of much money will wither in a night when the story becomes public, say those who know. The man in the case had not been linked with the murder until yesterday.

One of the women witnesses was attractively gowned. The other, it was reported, is a housekeeper, employed by a wealthy family. One of the men was distinguished in appearance and well dressed. The other appeared to be an actor out of work.

Woolwine would not reveal the names of any of the four and would not discuss what they had to say. He talked first to the richly dressed couple, then to the others. Most of his afternoon was taken up with them.

It was reported that a petite film beauty who made a statement to the District Attorney the other night would be questioned again in the light of new evidence; that a big director, once her sweetheart—but not the "new man in the case"—also would be called in to talk to the prosecutor.

May Tell of Infatuation

This man, who has been ill for some time, has not yet been questioned; or, if he has been, no word of the fact has come to the public. He has been shielded from interviewers. He has been protected in his self-inflicted isolation. It is known that he can give information concerning Taylor and his infatuation for a woman of the films.

Before the witnesses came to his office, Mr. Woolwine had been going over the letters written to Taylor by Mabel Normand and others that seemed to show a connection between the recipient and the rings of bootleggers and narcotic smugglers, and hinted that

Continued on Page Six, Column Three

POLICE CHIEF DECLARES FLANNERY KILLED WIFE

Evidence of First-Degree Murder Unearthed, He Says

Pittsburgh, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—That J. J. Flannery, prominent club and business man in jail here for the killing of his wife, was "not telling the truth" and that the police had "unearthed evidence that Flannery is guilty of murder in the first degree" were startling features of a statement given out this afternoon by J. C. Calhoun, superintendent of the Pittsburgh police.

NO PRETTY AURORA TONIGHT DESPITE SPOTS ON OLD SOL

Solar Phenomenon Causes Trouble to Telegraph Wires

New York, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—Aurora's pleasing colors aren't to be exhibited tonight, sun spots or no sun spots, announces Dr. Frank Schlesinger, observer at Yale Observatory. He advises against seeking the aurora, although dispatches from Miami, Fla., announced that the spots now visible on the sun's face were likely to cause a colorful display overhead.

"The spots are too small," the scientist reported, "and not likely to offer anything striking. It has been shown recently that there is an aurora in the sky every night. With the right instruments it can be photographed any clear night, but cannot be distinguished by the eye on ordinary nights."

Miami, Fla., Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—Remarkable changes in the sun spots have been noticed since last Friday, when they were first discovered, Dr. David Todd, formerly astronomer at Amherst College, said today.

"The big spot first discovered has blown itself into five or six portions," said Dr. Todd today. "There is a regular whirlwind occurring in the sun. Adjacent to the place where the big spot was first noticed are some fifteen smaller spots, which have grown much larger in the last twenty-four hours, and beyond these are some minute spots which apparently are in their early formation."

FRANCE ACCEPTS BRITISH GENOA COMMISSION PLAN

Suggests, However, Including Little Entente in Conversations

London, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—France has agreed to the appointment of Anglo-French experts as a commission to make a preliminary examination of the agenda of the Genoa economic conference, Reuter's says it has learned. She suggests, however, the inclusion of the Little Entente countries (Jugo-Slavia, Czecho-Slovakia and Rumania), together with Poland, in these conversations.

Paris, Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—Former Minister of Commerce Clementel, as president of the French National Commission, will co-operate with the French experts in preparing the ground for discussions at the Genoa Economic Conference, it was announced today.

The experts for France will comprise representatives of mining and manufacturing interests, with members from all the various ministeries.

Unless the London Government agrees with France on a more representative meeting than it now favors, opinion here points to the probability of the Genoa conference itself being split up into three groups. The Allies and the Little Entente nations have arranged their plans separately, while a third group would be formed by the Russians and the Germans.

BANKERS O. K. DAYLIGHT SAVING STARTING IN APRIL

Would Conform With New York Time, Committee Is Told

Daylight saving here, starting the last Sunday in April, is favored by the banks because it would conform with New York "sun saving," John B. Townsend, of Drexel & Co., told a Council Committee today.

The Committee on Law, with Councilman Hall in the chair, heard the views of the public on Councilman Rouer's bill which would set the clocks forward one hour from the last Sunday in April until the last Sunday in September.

The public hearing was held in the Finance Committee room in City Hall. Those present included John H. Mason, president of the Commercial Trust Company; Paul Thompson, vice president of the U. G. I. Co.; Agnew T. Dice, president of the Reading Railway; William Houston, of the Pennsylvania Railroad; Joseph Wayne, president of the Girard National Bank, and Samuel J. Dallas, president of the Middle Atlantic Division of the American Athletic Union.

Woman Gets Two Years for Theft

Judge Rogers sentenced Margaret Lay, 630 North Eighth street, today to two years in the County Prison for the theft of a $195 fur neckpiece from a Market street store. She was out under $600 bail awaiting trial when arrested in New York as a drug user, and served six months on Blackwells Island. Upon her release she was returned to this city.

P. AND R. TO ADOPT DAYLIGHT SAVING

The Reading Railway will change its clocks to conform with daylight saving time here, Agnew T. Dice, president of the road, told a Council committee today. A representative of the Pennsylvania Railroad said the clocks of that system would continue on standard time.

PERU-CHILE CONFERENCE MAY BE DELAYED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Possible postponement until the middle of April of the proposed conference in Washington between representatives of Chile and Peru to discuss disputed matters involved in the treaty of Ancon, was indicated today by Ambassador Pezet, of Peru, who stated that time necessary to make arrangements might operate to make necessary such a delay.

FIGHT BATHING SUIT PARADE

Women of Florida Resort Ask Mayor to Prohibit Proposed Spectacle

St. Petersburg, Fla., Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—St. Petersburg's bathing suit factions have clashed over the propriety of holding a bathing suit parade as a feature of gala week next month.

Three women's organizations have filed protests with Mayor Pulver, declaring that such a display of bathing apparel would be indecent "unless exhibited on lay figures."

Smoke IN-B-TWEEN—Finest little cigar for the world. 5c each—5 in foil, 25c.—Adv.

OBENCHAIN TRIAL RESUMED

Telegrams Sent by Defendant to Burch to Be Introduced

Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 14.—(By A. P.)—The trial of Madalynne C. Obenchain, charged with the murder of J. Belton Kennedy, broker, near here last August, was before the Superior Court today after a recess since Friday.

The State planned to call William Laughlin, employe of a telegraph company, to testify as to messages alleged to have been sent by Mrs. Obenchain, in Los Angeles, to Arthur C. Burch, her co-defendant, in Chicago.

PRESIDENT GIVES BLOW TO BONUS; BILL IS DOOMED

Opposes Bond Issue, Special Taxes or Return to Excess Profits Levies

WON'T PERMIT FINANCES OF U. S. TO BE DISTURBED

Leaves Way Open for Sales Tax, but Bloc Condemns That Plan

CONGRESS IN DILEMMA

Harding Will Send Communication to Committee Chairmen Expounding Views

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger
Copyright, 1922, by Public Ledger Company

Washington, Feb. 14.—President Harding today declared himself against payment of the soldier bonus through a bond issue. He is also unalterably opposed to the special taxes, including a return to the excess-profits tax, by which it has been proposed to raise money for adjusted compensation.

This practically kills the bonus for this session, unless Congress should adopt the sales tax, for the White House view seems to leave the way open to the adoption of the sales tax. But the farm bloc alone will kill the sales tax, and it is probable that the aroused business sentiment against the bonus will probably oppose the sales tax.

Mr. Harding will communicate his views upon the bonus in the form of a letter to the chairmen of the House and Senate committees which are conferring upon the bonus. His position is just what it has been right along. He is for the bonus if means of paying it can be provided which will not cause a disturbance of business conditions. He is pledged to a bonus, but not at this particular time.

Bond Issue Out of Question

A bond issue is out of the question because it is doubtful whether bonds can be sold, and because the selling of them would interfere with the big refunding operations which the Government must undertake this year or next. Mr. Harding became committed to the bonus when he was running in the Ohio primaries for the nomination for the presidency.

Since his entrance into the White House he has a large sense of his responsibilities, and of the difficulties of reconciling the bonus with the task of restoring business stability. He probably regrets his pledge made in the primaries, but considers himself as bound by it.

Every maneuver of the last few days among Congressmen has been directed to putting the blame for the death of the bonus bill where it will do the least harm to those who come up for re-election next fall.

In this maneuvering considerable feeling developed between the White House and Congress. The Representatives and the Senators who have to face their constituents next fall desired very much that the President should assume the entire responsibility for the defeat or postponement of the bonus.

They felt that the President does not come up for re-election and that he is stronger and more popular than they are. A postponement of the bonus at his suggestion, similar to that which resulted last year from his appearance before the Senate, would probably cost the party less votes than the failure of Congress to enact a bonus bill or than the passage of one which would arouse the taxpayers or bondholders.

Harding Still Favors Bonus

Mr. Harding, however, has not enjoyed the task of assuming the responsibility which should belong to Congress. His position all along has been perfectly consistent, namely, that he favors a bonus when means can be found of raising the money to pay one. The question of means has been one for Congress to decide.

He has opposed all suggestions of bills which would seem to make provision for the soldiers, but which would not raise the money, such as plans to pay the soldiers out of interest from foreign Governments, which interest those Governments are not paying and are not likely to pay for many years, or from the sale of bonds for which there is no market.

The President made a mistake last spring when, in taking a stand against bonus legislation at that time on account of the financial condition of the Government, he let it be known that he favored bonus legislation later on. There was no prospect at that time that financial conditions would sufficiently improve so that the paying of the bonus would not be an intolerable burden to the country. Mr. Harding might at that time have killed the bonus scheme for the rest of his Administration and it would have been better for his party if he had.

If the President could have foreseen then the immense opposition to the bonus which has since developed among taxpayers and bondholders, he would probably have taken a more positive stand. No such tide of sentiment against any measure can be re-

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DO YOU EVER READ THE PARADE, page columns? They're interesting. See pages 23 and 24.—Adv.