P. R. T. BONUS LEGAL, COUNSEL DECLARES

Former Judge Gordon Says Company Has Right in Law to Reward Employes

"A COST OF OPERATION"

The legal right of the Rapid Transit Company to pay a bonus to its employes is upheld in an opinion furnished Thomas E. Mitten, the president, by former Judge James Gay Gordon, counsel for the company.

Mr. Gordon holds that the proposed extra compensation would be a cost of operation and therefore not "earnings properly distributable as dividends," a phrase employed in the 1907 contract between the city and the company.

The issue was raised by Mayor Moore, who questioned the legality of the bonus, which also had been described as a "co-operative dividend." The 1907 contract provides that the city is to share in P. R. T. profits after a 6 per cent dividend has been paid stockholders.

As an incentive to good service, the company plans to distribute among employes an amount equal to 40 per cent of the total payroll. This is contingent on a reduction of expenses by $1,500,000 and the declaration of a 6 per cent dividend to P. R. T. stockholders.

Mr. Mitten's Letter

Mr. Mitten's letter to the Mayor said:

"The opinion of Judge Gordon, which was dictated by him at a conference of counsel and concurred in by Mr. Ballard and Mr. Joyce, a copy of which you request, is as follows:

"'The amount paid to the men is extra compensation paid for services as a commission, in addition to their regular wages, and is a cost of operation. It is, therefore, not earnings properly distributable as dividends, to use the language of the 1907 contract with the city, and hence, the city has no right or interest in the sums thus to be paid to the men for their work.'

"This opinion was given after I had proposed to the men the method of compensation by a commission on profits earned in addition to their regular wage and after you had suggested the objection that such a method of paying labor would violate some right of the city under its contract with the company.

"'It is no unusual thing for service to be so paid. On the contrary, it is quite common, and is only a method of rewarding labor according to the results produced. It promotes efficiency and is an ordinary expense of operation.

"'To this mode I am committed, the stockholders by their recent vote have ratified that commitment, the men have accepted it, and I intend to carry it out and believe all your doubts are illusory.'"

The Mayor's Reply

The Mayor's reply to Mr. Mitten reads:

"Thank you for sending me, under date of March 22, an extract of Judge Gordon's opinion holding that the sum you proposed to pay the men at your Ice Palace meeting was not a dividend in excess of 6 per cent, which would be in violation of the contract of 1907, but 'extra compensation paid for services as a commission, in addition to their regular wage, and is a cost of operation.' This letter I am referring to the City Solicitor, to whom I referred the question of your right to apply surplus in excess of 6 per cent to any others than the stockholders and the city.

"I have not raised the question of your right to compensate the employes of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company out of funds properly usable for that purpose, but the statement you made to the men at the Ice Palace with regard to dividends appeared to be in violation of the 1907 agreement, and, therefore, might be regarded as illusory.

"I have been puzzled by your statements as to the exact amounts which are to be paid to the men, and what, if any, measure you may have for determining this amount. The only statement which was made public was that it was contingent upon increased efficiency to a sufficient extent that the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company might be able to pay 6 per cent on its stock. To that extent, it would certainly come after dividends, and, therefore, be a part of surplus charged back against operating expenses."

CAMDEN TAX RATE IS BOOSTED TO 2.80

Levies in Some Townships and Cities in County Are Sliced

The Camden Board of Taxation today announced a complete schedule of the tax rates for the various municipalities and townships of Camden County. The increase in Camden City is due to the larger appropriation obtained for the maintenance of schools.

The following table shows the new 1922 tax rate, as compared with that of last year:

	1922	1921
Camden City	2.80	2.70
Gloucester City	3.48	3.30
Audubon	4.20	5.08
Harrington	3.81	3.87
Chesilhurst	4.31	4.21
Collingswood	3.17	3.25
Haddonfield	3.70	3.66
Laurel Springs	3.32	3.48
Magnolia	3.60	3.85
Merchantville	3.48	3.37
Oaklyn	2.64	2.76
Tavistock	2.63	[illegible]
Woodlynne	2.76	3.73
Haddon Heights	3.12	3.02
Berlin Township	3.80	3.88
Center Township	3.45	3.03
Clementon Township	4.50	3.30
Delaware Township	2.60	2.42
Gloucester Township	3.66	3.58
Haddon Township	2.78	2.48
Pennsauken Township	2.70	2.61
Voorhees Township	3.03	2.76
Waterford Township	4.57	3.87
Winslow Township	4.06	4.00

FOUND: AN HONEST BEGGAR

Arrested, Then Forgotten in Auto Crash, He Walks to Station

"A panhandler, but an honest man," is the description given Earl B. Nyce, fifty-three years old, by the Lower Merion police.

Nyce was "picked up" last night by the Lower Merion police on complaint of several Cynwyd residents from whom he had asked money. While taking Nyce to the station in the patrol, officers stopped to investigate a crash between two other machines.

The captive was virtually forgotten until a half-hour later, when he walked into the station and said, "Well here I am and here's your broom I borrowed to sweep away some of the broken glass."

WALLS FALL; NONE HURT

Building at 3524 North Seventeenth Street Collapses

Ambulances answered a hurry call to 3524 North Seventeenth street about 11:30 o'clock this morning when a two-story brick house undergoing alterations collapsed.

Bricklayers were working on the structure at the time, but all the workmen emerged from the wreckage unhurt.

OLD SEA DOG LIKES JAZZ

Alex Melville, seventy-six years old, amid his "pal," Harry K. Stringer, steward at the Naval Home and leader of its jazz band

VETERAN SNORTS AT IDEA OF SCRAPPING WARSHIPS

Old "Sea Dog" at Home Says Nation Should Keep Prepared for Possible Future Ocean Battles

"What do I think about this peace talk? I think it's bunk. The good old U. S. A. doesn't need to worry about making peace with anybody. We can fight and I'd go tomorrow if the call came. So would every one of the boys in here."

Alexander Melville, seventy-six years old, a Civil War navy veteran, who is spending his remaining days in the Naval Home, Twenty-fourth street and Grays Ferry road, fairly snorted his indignation at the idea of cutting down the personnel of the undefeated American Navy.

Melville is a perfect type of the old "sea dog" of sailing-ship days who are rapidly disappearing. He served two years in the navy during the Civil War and followed the merchant marine service afterward for nearly thirty years.

His brother, the late Admiral George Melville, made three exploration trips to the Arctic region, one of them on the Jeanette, which was fitted out by the late James Gordon Bennett. Another brother, John, was in the Union army.

Had Some Lively Times

"We had some lively times back in '64," reflected the veteran as he sat on the edge of his bed in his cozy little room on the third floor of the Naval Home. "The most important thing I helped do was early Christmas morning of '64 when a big landing party under General Butler, charged on Fort Fisher, North Carolina, at the mouth of Cape Fear River. We were repulsed with great loss then, but we took the fort six weeks later."

Following the sea in the old days was a rough and hazardous occupation, according to Melville. Then it took thirty instead of ten days to make a trip across the Atlantic and it was nothing uncommon for a three-masted schooner to be blown many hundred miles out of its course.

"Back about 1875," he said, "we sighted land off New York City when a gale sprung up and blew us so far out of our course that we didn't reach port for two weeks."

Is for Preparedness

Before ending his narrative, the veteran simply could not refrain from touching again on the subject of "Americanism and Preparedness."

"These fresh-water rivers," he said, "aren't hard on the finely built steel vessels that they have today. I surely hope Uncle Sam keeps a lot of ships ready so that he can get into action on a few days' notice. I'm not as young as I once was, but watch me hop over the gangway when they need me."

Harry K. Stinger, steward of the Naval Home and organizer of the first jazz band in the navy, is a great friend of Melville's. Stinger was particularly well known as a jazz-band leader five years ago, when he gave many concerts for the entertainment of the old sailors.

"All the old boys out here think a lot of Harry," commented Melville.

KEMPEN STORIES CONFLICT

Father Says Report of Son's Marriage Only Yesterday Is Ridiculous

Characterizing as "ridiculous" the reports that his son was married only yesterday, George Kempen, of Ardmore, said today that he had just returned from a visit to his "week-old bridegroom" in Atlantic City.

Kempen, supposed to be in Atlantic City on a honeymoon trip, yesterday charged the manager of a beach-front cafe, a musician and special officer with having held him and his "wife" prisoners during the dispute of a $70 bill. He also declared he had been robbed of a watch and chain valued at $200.

Conflicting with the statement of the father, an Associated Press dispatch from Wilmington said that Kempen and Miss Alice Fisher were married there yesterday afternoon by the Rev. Daniel F. Locherbie.

FASHION SHOW OPENED

Canary Appears to Be New Color for Spring Styles

What with a rumbling in the world of fashion these many months past, and convulsion expected at any moment, the Fashion Show opened at the Bellevue-Stratford today.

Sixty-five models displayed the hats, gowns, shoes and other necessary and unnecessary items of clothing that will be "ton" for the coming months.

The predominating colors, it is claimed by visitors, will be canary for afternoon and cinnamon brown for evening.

NAB BRAZILIAN AND GEMS

New York Customs Officials Seize Diamonds Worth $100,000

New York, March 23.—(By A. P.)—Diamonds valued at $85,000 and $110,000 were seized today by customs officials. Francisco Chamie, a rubber dealer of Para, Brazil, alleged to have illegally imported the gems, was arrested while trying to dispose of them in a West Twenty-third street jewelry shop.

Tinner Wants Big Estate

Minshall Riggins, a tinner, of Prospect Park, has filed a claim for his share of the Israel Coppeck estate, a multi-millionaire, who lived in Cartertown and died in 1885, leaving most of his property tied up in ninety-year leases. The leases have now expired and Mr. Riggins is one of four brothers who are contesting for shares in the estate.

ADVENTURES IN THE JUNGLE

Philadelphia scientists are off to Nicaragua to collect specimens. They are armed against a thousand and one enemies of the explorer. An account of how they planned their trip appears in the Magazine Section of next Sunday's PUBLIC LEDGER. "Make it a Habit."—Adv.

New Scale of Reduced Prices!
Window, Office and General House Cleaning—Get Our Estimate.
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1210 FILBERT ST. Locust 6235

It's a Miller Box!
A GOOD ad—a distinctive box holding that new effort in merchandising.
WALTER P. MILLER CO., INC.
448-452 York Ave., Phila.
Manufacturers of
SPECIAL PAPER BOXES

WRIGLEY STARTS HIS 'REST'

To Stay at Wernersville Some Time, Then May Go West

Former Magistrate Byron E. Wrigley, who was released from Moyamensing Prison Tuesday after serving one year of a three-year sentence for involuntary manslaughter, rested comfortably last night in a Wernersville sanatorium, where he is trying to regain his health.

According to members of the family who are with him, the former magistrate will remain there for an indefinite period. They also said no definite plans for the future have been decided upon, though he intends to visit his brother, William Wrigley, "gum king" and owner of the Chicago Cubs, who lives in California.

Jot down "S. E. Cor. 11th & Chestnut Sts." It's our new address — and you'll want it some day soon!
THE CHESTNUT STREET ENGRAVING CO. INC.
S. E. Cor. 11th & Chestnut Sts

GLASS
Four Acres
In our four plants we require 175,000 sq. ft. of floor space—four acres—to accomodate our stock of Window Glass, Plate Glass, Ornamental Glass, Wire Glass, Skylight Glass, Mirrors, Bevel Plate and Furniture and Desk Tops to supply our customers' requirements. This is your assurance of promptness and satisfaction.
Founded 1864
HIRES TURNER GLASS COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA
Rochester Albany Washington

SHOULD OBEY DRY LAWS, SAYS RECTOR

Rev. Dr. Empringham Makes Respect for 18th Amendment Theme for Talk

URGES STRICT OBEDIENCE

"If we don't like prohibition we can work hard for its repeal when the time comes, but let's obey that law until then," declared the Rev. Dr. James Empringham, of Yonkers, New York, in a noonday Lenten address at St. Stephen's Church today.

Dr. Empringham said: "There are many of us who are opposed to the eighteenth amendment, but that is no reason why we should overstep the boundaries that that law marks off. When a person disregards the laws of nature by abusing his body he is always paid in full. The laws of nature correspond to the laws of the country in that no good can come from breaking either.

"History tells us that survival of nations depends upon conformity to law. Whether we are rich or poor we can obey the law of prohibition until the time comes to repeal it by vote. It was the majority of American people that made the law and let's obey it like loyal Americans.

Prayer's power to strengthen the hearts of men was the theme of the Rev. Dr. Clarence Edward Macartney today at the noonday Lenten services in Keith's Theatre.

"Three kinds of prayer," said Dr. Macartney, "help a man in his time of trouble and temptation—the prayers that he says himself, the prayers that others offer for him and the prayers of Jesus Christ.

"It was Christ's prayer for Peter that saved the apostle from the abyss and brought him back to serve mankind.

"Every man at some time in his life has made a real prayer for himself. In time of danger, it will help and strengthen him to remember this prayer, offered by his best self.

"But better than all is the intercession of Jesus Christ. Our friends inspire us by their words and teach us by their example, but when they are gone, as living personalities, they no longer influence us. But Christ, having died, ever liveth to make intercession for us."

Man's sins cause God to suffer more than does the offender, the Rev. Dr. Reinsen B. Ogilvy, of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., said in his address today in old Christ Church.

He said the aim and end of religion is to establish union between God and man, and that punishment for sins is only incidental to the progress of man.

Realization, he said, that God suffers when men sin should draw men to him.

Speaking of the problems of the church, he said that in the mission field the problems become a tragedy when efforts are made to carry the Gospel to the childlike nations of the earth.

URGES SMALL ELECTRIC PLANTS BE ABOLISHED

Saving in Coal Cited as Reason for Centralizing Power Supply

Abolition of the small private power plant and centralization of the power supply was urged as a matter of coal conservation by M. C. Huse, assistant general commercial manager of the Philadelphia Electric Company, addressing the meeting of the Eastern section of the Pennsylvania Electrical Association today. Several hundred men interested in electrical development are attending the session in the Adelphia Hotel.

Mr. Huse said such attractive offers should be made to the individual plant owners that they would consent to the big central-plant idea.

"At present the average central station," he said, "can supply a kilowat hour on about two pounds of coal, while the individual plant uses from seven to twelve pounds of coal."

At a luncheon the delegates were addressed by Joseph B. McCall, president of the Philadelphia Electric Company. The most important feature of the afternoon session will be an address by G. B. Regar, illuminating engineer of the Philadelphia Electric Company, who will speak on "Better Business Through Better Lighting."

FINE FRAMING
Etchings—Prints
Water Colors—Paintings
THE ROSENBACH GALLERIES
1320 Walnut Street

A stitch in time's fine, but—
A stitch of the right kind, right at the start, is better!
In Rogers Peet clothes the tailoring's as fine as the fabrics.
Rogers Peet Spring suits and overcoats ready now!
FERRO & COMPANY
Rogers Peet Clothes
Chestnut St. at Juniper

1500 Vacuum Suckers — Emery 4 — 1000 Electric Ironers
SUPERB VACUUM CLEANER
Philadelphia Made
Phila. Guaranteed

The secret of thorough cleaning is air suction. But picking up thread and lint without harming the carpet can only be done with a slow-speed "Carpet Sweeper Brush." These are exclusive features of the Emery 4 Superb.
Charles W. Emery & Sons
1304 Diamond St. Estab. 15 years

Gentlemen's Spring Coats
By Burberrys and the other very excellent makers in London and Manchester. $40 to $65.
Hats by A. J. White and Herbert Johnson, London.
BLAYLOCK & BLYNN, Inc.
Established 1850 — 1528 Chestnut Street

THE TEST YOU ALWAYS MAKE
Your business stationery may be, well, say ordinary, and you entirely unconscious of it. One gets used to things and loses that sharp sense with which one appraises new and fresh things.
When you go through your morning mail you are aware that some letters are better than others, better written, on better paper—better "turned out" in fact.
And such a letter makes a little especial appeal to you in spite of yourself, doesn't it?
It is suggested that your letters should have that effect, that slight but very tangible and definite distinction in the morning mail of your most valued customers and prospective customers.
It is also suggested that Crane's Bond would contribute to that effect.
100% selected new rag stock
121 years' experience
Bank notes of 22 countries
Paper money of 438,000,000 people
Government bonds of 18 nations
Crane's
BUSINESS PAPERS

SEIZED BY THUGS, ROBBED

Wissahickon Man Has $125 and Watch Taken From Him

Two bandits seized William Sperry, 5723 Wissahickon avenue, at Eighteenth and Ransted streets, early this morning, and robbed him of $125 and a gold watch.

Sperry told police that as he passed Ransted street he noticed an automobile standing at the curb. Two men sprang from the side of the house and seized him, threatening him with revolvers. After taking what he had, they drove off in the car.

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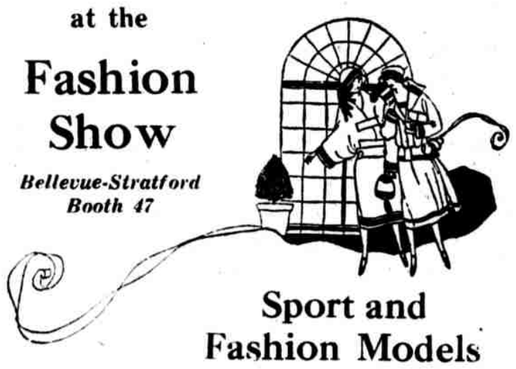
FLAT TABLE SILVER and SINGLE PIECES
The largest and most important collection of Sterling Silver in Philadelphia

MacDonald & Campbell
New Spring Suits of Refined Distinction
$30 to $65
Engagingly individual in style, fabrics and tailoring, yet lacking the conspicuousness that invariably characterizes usual clothing; these garments are modelled and finished for the men used to fine custom clothes. The styling, rich woolen fabrics and the perfect fitting are of the character erroneously supposed to be the exclusive property of costly merchant tailors, and assure real clothes luxury. The choice in colorings and pattern effects is very great.
Note
Top Coats of greatest distinction—
Our Full-Back and Raglan models and imported English Top Coats.
1334-1336 Chestnut Street

WALK-OVER
at the Fashion Show
Bellevue-Stratford
Booth 47

Sport and Fashion Models
by America's foremost designers of smart Sport and Walking Shoes.
Displayed on runway, afternoon and evening, at the Philadelphia Fashion Show and Pageant, March 23, 24 and 25.
HARPER'S 1228 MARKET
Walk-Over
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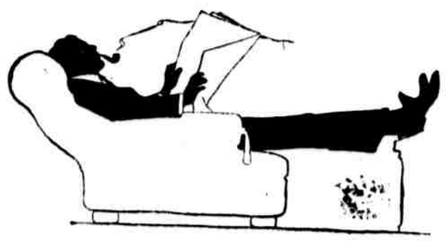
Consider Your Clothes an Investment
¶ Some people know good investments. But a good investment is determined not by how much you pay, but how much you get for what you pay. No man ever made a better investment than to buy clothing made on Reed's Standard of Quality and of Tailoring, because you get the most of everything that's essentially good for the least money.
¶ The moderate prices of this season make clothes investment possible with a small outlay. The Spring Top Coats and Suits are priced $30 and upward, with especially good investments at $40, $45 and $50.
JACOB REED'S SONS
1424-1426 Chestnut Street

NBT

Feast Your Eyes on the handsome new
Spring Suits Top Coats and Overcoats
and in your enthusiasm don't forget to notice our impossible to equal
SUPER-VALUE Prices
$28 $33 $38 and $43
Each day of Spring brings us scores of shrewd men ambitious enough to want the very best in quality; sensible enough to want Super-Values — the most for their money.
Here's what they're buying:
SUITS of cheviots, worsteds and homespuns.
SPORTS SUITS of tweeds (with knickers, too).
OVERCOATS of gay tweeds — the fabric of Spring — made in America's and England's best mills. Tailored, of course, up to N. B. T. standard.
First Long-Trouser Suits. Perry's Juniors. In light Spring mixtures.
You CAN'T CHOOSE WRONGLY. Every one is a Super-Value and saves you $5 to $12. Look around for yourself and be convinced.
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SUPER-VALUES in Clothes for Men

YOUR business stationery should be distinctive. We can make it so.
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Front Room Good Light
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