CHOICE OF MITTEN WIDELY APPROVED

Indicative of Greater Public Interest in Schools, Declares Superintendent Finegan

WOMAN MEMBER PLEASED

Public school officials and members of the Board of Education joined today in welcoming Thomas E. Mitten, president of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, to membership on the board, to which he was elected yesterday by the Board of Judges. Mr. Mitten succeeds the late John Wanamaker.

The selection of the Rapid Transit Company head met widespread approval. Dr. Thomas E. Finegan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who is attending a teachers' convention at Bethlehem, greeted the appointment enthusiastically.

"It is one of the greatest appointments made in recent years," said Dr. Finegan. "The appointment of a man like Mr. Mitten in Philadelphia, and the recent appointment of Homer D. Williams in Pittsburgh, is an indication of the great public interest in the schools."

Dr. Edwin C. Broome, Superintendent of Public Schools here, at Bethlehem also expressed approval of the appointment.

"The admirable selection of a man such as Mr. Mitten, who stands so high in the public esteem, and is so eminent as a leader in business and finance, and a man who already has shown his interest in the public schools," he said, "ought to prove highly satisfactory to those interested in public education in our city."

William Rowen, president of the board, said: "I'm perfectly satisfied with the choice of the Board of Judges. If Mr. Mitten gives the same attention to the duties of the Board of Education that he gives to other things he is interested in, he will be a valuable addition."

Mrs. William E. Lingelbach, a member of the board, said:

"Philadelphia is to be congratulated upon securing a capable business man of the type which Mr. Mitten represents."

Nine of the thirteen members of the Board of Judges voted for Mr. Mitten. The other four judges cast their ballots for Mrs. Barclay H. Warburton, vice chairman of the Republican State Committee.

Those voting for Mr. Mitten were Judges Monaghan, McDevitt, Bartlett, Gordon, Stanke, Shoemaker, Finletter, McCullen and Stern. The ballots for Mrs. Warburton were cast by Judges McMichael, Audenried, Martin and Ferguson.

Judge Barratt was prevented from attending the meeting by illness and Judge Davis was out of the city.

Mr. Mitten issued the following statement:

"I feel much honored at being appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education recently caused by the death of Mr. John Wanamaker, as it will bring me in closer contact with educational matters, in which I have always been deeply interested."

ONE LICENSE GRANTED

Court Reserves Decision on Saloon Application at Drexel Hill

A wholesale bottler's license was granted at Media today to Pasquale Amico, of Chester, by Judge Isaac Johnson, who refused three others applications.

Those refused were James Hyman, who wants a hotel license at Third and Market streets, Chester; Adam Bonkoski, who wanted a hotel license for the Eleventh Ward, Chester, and William Melker, who applied for a bottler's license in the Eleventh Ward, Chester.

The Judge reserved decision on the applications of Mrs. Annie P. Conahan and Robert Schoch, of Drexel Hill. Residents of that community object to a licensed hotel bar there.

Art School Faculty to Dine

The faculty of the Philadelphia Textile School of the School of Industrial Art, Broad and Pine streets, will hold a banquet this evening at the City Club. Among the guests will be Huger Elliott, principal of the School of Industrial Art, and Charles H. Winslow.

Reported Missing

Laura Bush, fourteen, of 2727 East Berks street. Height 5 feet, weight 130 pounds, light complexion. Wearing blue dress and brown overcoat.

Julius Koch, nineteen, of 2125 Cambria avenue. Height 5 feet 10 inches, weight 155 pounds. Dressed in a dark gray suit, blue shirt and light cap.

John Foster, sixty-five, of 3303 Powelton avenue. Height 5 feet 5 inches. Was last seen wearing gray overcoat and dark suit, at the Belmont filtering plant.

Howard Shaw, thirty-one, of 7916 Tonsilton avenue. Height 5 feet 8 inches. Weight, 170. Was last seen wearing green overcoat and a brown cap.

Willie Thomas, Negro, of 1235 Bainbridge street. Height 5 feet 10 inches. Weight about 150 pounds. Brown overcoat, gray cap and tan shoes.

Dorothy Zeller, twenty-two, of 2422 South Beulah street. Height 5 feet 5 inches. Weight 115. Wearing gray overcoat and blue dress, carrying small handbag.

GOLD BARPIN HER PRIZE

Miss Miriam Widmaier Wins It for Perfect Sunday School Attendance

MISS MIRIAM WIDMAIER

Miss Miriam Widmaier, 3926 North Elgin street, has not been absent from Sunday school in ten years. Christmas night she received a gold barpin in recognition of her faithful attendance when the St. Paul's Evangelical Sunday school, Germantown avenue and Butler street, held its annual Christmas festival.

"I have not missed one Sunday school class since 1912—that is ten years," Miss Widmaier said with pride. "Of course, it has not been very easy and I have had to give up a lot of good times to win this pin.

"Sunday school is in the afternoon in winter and in the morning in the summer, so I missed some fun.

"I was the head of the list for record attendance, and besides the gold bar I have a pin with the tenth bar on it—a bar for each year—but the gold bar is what I am proudest of."

PRISON REFORM GETS NEW IMPETUS

Judges Name Committee to Study Farm Plan as Corrective Means

The report of the Grand Jury in connection with its study of conditions at Holmesburg and Moyamensing prisons has been completed, and the jury's recommendations are expected to be presented to Judge Audenried tomorrow.

Meantime a committee of Judges today began devising plans for prison farms as provided in the act of 1919. At the same time E. J. Lafferty, who has resigned as chief of the Bureau of Restoration of the State Welfare Department to devote his entire time to a legislative campaign favoring prison reforms, took up a study of the actual details of the program he has decided upon.

The committee appointed at a meeting of the Board of Judges yesterday includes Judges Shoemaker, Barratt, Audenried and Martin. They will confer with the courts of Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Bucks Counties.

The act of 1919 divides the State into districts for prison farm purposes. Philadelphia and the four adjacent counties form a district. Under a prison-farm arrangement, the county prisons here would merely serve to confine those convicted of offenses of a more heinous nature.

Mr. Lafferty, despite his resignation, will continue as president of the Board of Inspectors at the Eastern Penitentiary.

GETTING BRITAIN'S VIEW

Signed editorials, appearing at intervals by Herbert N. Casson, a London financial writer of international standing, give the views of Great Britain on problems of international finance, war loan and other important topics. Always read the editorial page of the PUBLIC LEDGER. "Make It a Habit."—*Adv.*

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SAYS KLANSMEN HAVE OWN PROBE

Kleagle Here Asserts Officials of Order Are Investigating Louisiana Murders

DENIES K. K. K. GUILT

An investigation into the kidnapping and murder of two men in Mer Rouge, La., by masked men, for which Dr. S. N. McKoin, former Mayor of Mer Rouge, has been arrested in Baltimore, is being conducted by the Ku Klux Klan, according to Joseph R. Shoemaker, Philadelphia kleagle of the order.

"I don't think we had anything to do with these murders," Shoemaker said today. "We are investigating there now, and we will know who did it and why before the investigation is completed.

"The Klan is always placed in an awkward position by occurrences of this kind. Anybody can put on a white sheet and commit a crime and the public thinks it is committed by the Ku Klux Klan.

"Dr. McKoin, who was arrested in Baltimore, says he is not a Klansman and I believe him. I read his statement carefully and from it I am convinced that he is telling the truth about not being a member. A Klansman would have phrased his statement differently."

The Pennsylvania Grand Lodge of Free masons has ordered its members not to hold membership in the Ku Klux Klan, which is termed an outlaw organization by the Masons.

"No good Mason will hereafter hold membership in or be affiliated with the hooded outlaws," said Grand Master A. M. Beitler, former judge of Common Pleas Court.

The Grand Lodge met here yesterday to install officers elected December 7. Representatives of 540 lodges were present.

The action of the Grand Lodge is taken as a refutation of the reports throughout the country that members of the Masonic order were encouraging the organization of the "invisible empire."

CAMDEN MAN INJURED

Struck by Auto Driven by Philadelphia Physician

Louis Rose, 519 Knight avenue, Camden, was hit by an automobile which was driven by Dr. George King, 694 North Thirteenth street, Philadelphia, in Camden last night.

Rose was taken to a Camden hospital, where several stitches were taken in his head.

ROB COLLINGSWOOD HOME

Thieves Take $118 and Loot Valued at $400 in Family's Absence

During the absence of members of the family of Fred Zimmer, 622 Eldridge street, Collingswood, N. J., thieves broke in through a rear door and ransacked the house. They got $118 and clothing and jewelry valued at $400.

The return of Zimmer scared them off. They ran out the back door and escaped, leaving behind several bundles of plunder they had packed ready to carry away.

Spillane

You know him—through the Public Ledger. He starts, this month, a new department called "Along the Side Roads of Industry," in *The Nation's Business* (on page 15 of the magazine). Also look for the *Business Forecast for 1923*, with *Map*, and many other articles. (At principal newsstands.)

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PHILA. WOMEN LAWMAKERS NOT WORRYING ABOUT HOMES

Mrs. Speiser Says Maids Will Run Her House as Well as She Can; "Children Can Take Care of Themselves"

The homes of the three women Representatives elected from Philadelphia will not suffer when the mistresses are in Harrisburg making State laws. Mrs. Martha G. Speiser, Mrs. Lillie Pitts and Mrs. Rose de Young voiced the same opinion on this moot question, and demolish once for all the main plank of the "Antis"—that women in politics would necessarily neglect their homes.

"My house will be run as perfectly as when I am home; at that I will be away only two days a week," said Mrs. Speiser, 521 Tasker street, elected from the First District. "I have very dependable maids and the children are old enough to take intelligent care of themselves; if they can't now, they never will," she said with a laugh. "I have one son at Harvard, so it is not as though I had any babies to care for.

"If I had, of course, politics would be out of the question, for it is my home that is of the most importance; and if I thought for one moment that it would suffer because of politics, I would give them up in an instant."

Is Old-Fashioned

"I'm very old-fashioned in some ways," Mrs. Speiser said with her vivacious smile. "I love housekeeping—darning and mending and all that sort of thing, but in others I am quite modern.

"For instance, people ask me what I think about the men smoking in the House—why on earth shouldn't they smoke? It couldn't possibly be more objectionable than the smoke from ten cigarettes and cigars at a dinner party, and no one sees anything wrong with that. Why should I be prudish about it?

"And another thing my friends say to me is this, 'How on earth will you treat the men' and all I can say is, 'How on earth will the men treat us?' I get frightened every time I think about it, but the men from the House that I have met so far have been fine. I think they will sort of father us, but they will watch us too. Honestly, I am more scared than thrilled, and I wish I knew the attitude of the men to us. If they ever made sport of us, or treated us lightly, I would die; that is what makes me nervous," Mrs. Speiser explained, her dark eyes sparkling merrily.

"The boys and my husband are as much interested in my progress as I am, in fact, when my son in Harvard heard of my election, he wrote home: 'No more thrills like that, mother; my heart can't stand them.' No fear of my family ever being neglected by me, I should say not," she added laughing.

The second lady Solon, Mrs. Lillie H. Pitts, of 5443 Locust street, is as emphatic as Mrs. Speiser.

"No one will ever know that I am away, my home will run so smoothly—you see, I have no children and my husband is used to being left alone. All summer we have a cottage at the shore and he is here during the week without me, so he is well trained. I have an old servant that will come in and cook for him. He won't be neglected. If there was any doubt on that point, of course, politics would have to go, because the care of a home is of paramount importance, and the old saying about serving two masters is still true."

Will Miss Knitting

"I shall miss my knitting and handwork," remarked Mrs. Pitts, busy over a piece of tatting, "and my clubs and social life, but one must be willing to give up some things.

"As for the manners of the men in the Legislature, I have heard they are atrocious, but can't say until I see them for myself. But about smoking—what right would we women have to step in and request them to stop? Besides, I have been brought up on smoking. My husband and all his friends smoke, so they will not be able to smoke me out of Harrisburg."

And Mrs. de Young, who represents the Seventeenth District, says with a snap of her blue eyes:

"I have a daughter, Elizabeth, who is eighteen years old, and can keep house splendidly. She will manage and take charge of things while I am gone.

"I hope they will not treat us as superior beings, with slightly feeble minds. We would like to be considered their equal—there to work and do our best, and that's all. We want to be treated no different from the men—at least I know that I don't."

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U. OF P. ALUMNI HAIL PENNIMAN CHOICE

Will Become Head of Educational and Academic Activities of University

NEW POSITION CREATED

Gratification was expressed today by men of prominence in educational and professional circles at the election of Dr. Josiah H. Penniman as provost of the University of Pennsylvania.

Members of Dr. Penniman's office force congratulated him when he reached his desk this morning. He smilingly waved aside the felicitations, explaining he had had no official notice of his election.

"It would be out of place for me at this time to discuss any ideas I may have in mind," he said later. "I have received no official word of this appointment and therefore cannot say anything about it."

It was suggested that a banquet might accompany the official notification.

"Flowers? No," he replied with a broad smile. "Probably an onion. In onions there is strength."

The election of Dr. Penniman and creation of the office of president of the University were the most important actions taken yesterday at the meeting of the trustees. A revision of the University statutes was decided upon and it is proposed to elect an executive and administrative head.

Hope was expressed by alumni of Penn today that early selection of a competent man for the post of president would be made and that there be fitting ceremonies for the induction of the provost and president into office.

Major General Leonard Wood, Governor General of the Philippines, was to have filled the proposed office of president and as a matter of fact was titular president of the University, on special leave of absence, when he resigned recently.

The resolution adopted by the trustees makes provision for the president, who shall be the chief executive officer, and the provost, in charge of educational and academic matters.

The manner and method of defining the duties of these respective officers and the changes in the existing statutes made necessary, were referred to a committee of five trustees, as follows: Charles L. Borie, Jr., John C. Bell, Charles Day, George W. Wickersham, Louis C. Madeira, chairman, and Randal Morgan, ex-officio.

RUBBISH BLAZE PUT OUT

Fire started in a pile of rubbish in the cellar of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charities today, but was extinguished quickly.

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