

VICTIMS OF A PLOT.

Weighmaster Smith, of the Homestead Mills, Is Waylaid at Braddock.

HE IS BADLY BEATEN.

Two Strikers Are Captured While Attacking a Deckhand.

DEPUTY SHERIFFS MAKE ARRESTS.

Coroner Not Allowed to View Private Benninghoff's Body.

EXCITING FIRE IN THE BOROUGH

Weighmaster Smith, of the 33-inch mill at Homestead, was badly beaten at Braddock last night by four men, supposed to be strikers.

Mr. Smith lives at Braddock and goes up there every day. The strikers or their friends were evidently aware of this fact. Smith went up to Braddock yesterday afternoon and intended to come down on the 5 o'clock train on the Pennicoy road. He arrived at the station on time and went inside, shortly afterwards he noticed four men on the outside. They seemed to be looking for some one. Everybody coming to the station was closely scrutinized by the men.

When the train came Smith started to board it. Just as his foot was on the step he was grabbed by the four men and pulled back. Smith cried out to the conductor, but his cry was unheard and the train moved off.

Smith Fought Against Odds.

The men attacked him, knocking him down. Smith fought the men as long as he could, and then started to run up the track, closely followed by his assailants. He escaped, and late in the evening got down to the mill. His head was badly cut, and his face and body were horribly bruised. He was cared for by the mill physicians.

Two hours later a deckhand named Webster from the Little Bill alighted from the ferry. He was caught by William Walters and Benjamin Thomas, two strikers. Webster was asked if he was a mill man. He replied that he was not, but he worked on the Little Bill. His captors said this was as grave an offense. Just at this juncture a non-union man came along, and one of Webster's assailants made a grab for him, but the fellow escaped, ran up to the provost guard and told them what was going on. Colonel Melchior sent a squad of men down. When the militia got there one of the strikers was raising a huge club to hit Webster. The men were arrested and brought up to the guard-house, where they will be kept until this morning, when Colonel Gray will bring them to the Pittsburg jail. Webster was taken back to his home and a coroner's inquest was held at a residence on a description Smith gave of two of his Braddock assailants.

Prepared to Resist an Attack. After the men were placed in the guard-house the sentinel around the Provost Marshal's headquarters was strengthened by a number of additional men. There was some fear that an attempt might be made to rescue the men.

The Cook for Company I, of the Sixteenth Regiment, Stationed across the river, came over into Homestead yesterday afternoon.

When he landed the strikers caught him. He was badly abused and finally escaped with his life. The provost guard was notified of the affair while it was in progress, but before the militia could get there the strikers had fled.

The deputy sheriffs around the Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston are continually receiving abuse from the strikers. Yesterday several of them were walking down Sixth avenue from the depot. Peter Moran, a striker, followed them. He commenced whistling the "Rogue's March." The deputies kept on and Moran followed, grinding out the air in a trombone tone. Finally Deputy Ritchey turned around and placed his rifle under his arm. He was taken before Colonel Gray, chief of the deputies. The Colonel gave him a severe reprimand and the man promised to behave. He was then dismissed.

Could Not View the Body.

Squire John G. Oeffner about noon yesterday called on Colonel Creps, of the Fifteenth Regiment, at the camp in Greenville, where he had been sent there by the Coroner of Allegheny county to view the remains of Private Benninghoff. Colonel Creps told him he could not do so as the body had been sent to the young man's home in Greenville on an early morning train. The Assistant Coroner said that the military officials had no right to remove the body without the coroner having viewed it. The Colonel told him that a death in the military, while it was in active duty, did not come under the jurisdiction of civil authorities. Even if the Coroner had come before the body was removed Colonel Creps said he could not have allowed an inquest unless he had been ordered by higher military power. The camp of the Fifteenth Regiment was plunged in deepest gloom yesterday. The men were all feeling sad over the sudden taking off of one of their members. Private Smith, who fired the revolver, is still very nervous and is being kept under guard. Early yesterday morning Captain Brown of Company K, Fifteenth Regiment, received a letter of condolence from Governor Pattison. It was dated Cresson Springs and read: "Convey to the officers and men of Company K my heart-felt sympathy on the loss of Comrade Jerry Benninghoff. While the unfortunate event saddens our hearts, yet we cannot fail to derive some consolation in the thought that he fell while in the service of the State, maintaining her Constitution and laws and protecting her citizens in the enjoyment of their rights."

The Guards May Be Withdrawn.

The Associated Press last night sent out a dispatch from Harrisburg saying it was understood that the troops at Homestead were to be withdrawn in a few days. This is news in Camp Sam Black. Adolph Doerr, the butcher who was boycotted out of business, has had a man placed on him in another direction. He tried to get his horses shod in a Homestead shop yesterday and the proprietor refused to do so. The Advisory Board says it had nothing to do with placing the boycott.

Four of the old men came back to work yesterday.

The man who came back from the East with John McLeukie last week and was spoken of as "Mr. Butler" yesterday turned out to be "Ficketts," a Boston newspaper man. He was brought on here to write up what he saw in the mill. Superintendent Potter was asked about the man yesterday. He said: "I discharged a man to-day answering Ficketts' description for laziness and general inability. If he came here and worked in the mill just to get information he was a fool. He had to work for our system of 'rounding-up' does away with any chance of loafing. Every hour in the day we know just what all our employes are doing."

Could Have Saved Himself Work.

"That man had he come to me and asked for permission to write our plant would have gotten it. From the way he got at it

his story must be defective. While he was working he would have no time to loaf around, and after working hours he would have to stay in or near his quarters. The principal thing the strikers attack the company on is the operation of the armor-plate department. They say we have not been making any that was accepted by the Government. During this month we have shipped 35 tons of this material. As for the old man saying that the present men cannot make plate it is all foolishness. The old men did not understand the work themselves. We have only been manufacturing plate for six months. It does not necessarily follow that it takes a man skilled in the manufacture of other steels to make armor plate. These men do not know how to handle crowbars and like tools."

Exciting Fire at Homestead.

At 10 o'clock last night Homestead was visited by a \$6,000 fire, and it looked for a few minutes as though the whole town was to burn. The fire started in the fire station at Aaron Walker's livery stable on Fifth avenue. The building is a story and a half frame 42x100. It burned like tinder and in 30 minutes was a smoldering ruin. The stable contained 22 horses. Two of them were blooded animals valued at \$500 each. The other 20 horses were estimated at \$100 apiece. They were all burned. There were also contained 12 buggies and an undertaker's wagon, besides large quantities of hay and feed and all the harness. These were also burned. The building was valued at \$6000. Mr. Walker could not get to the stable last night, but it was the general impression that he did not carry any insurance. The stable was lit with electric light, and the origin of the fire is a mystery.

The burned building stands between two brick residences. One, a double house, is owned by Isaac Brown and Philip Hileman. The other is owned by James Wilson. Both buildings were damaged considerably.

EXPLODING AN EXPLOSION.

Now Claimed That Hot Stink Caused the Report at the Union Mills.

The explosion that occurred several days ago in the Upper Union Mills, if the account of a man who works in the mill can be credited, was not occasioned by dynamite, but was caused by a mass of cinders coming in contact with water. "In boiling iron," he said, "a stream of cinders and metal runs out of the furnace into what is termed a buggy. This is about 15 inches at the top and 10 inches at the bottom. The molten mass running into this, cools on the outside, but retains its heat in the center for hours. This mass coming in contact with water, when it is dumped from the buggy, would cause a loud explosion. It was this that caused the report at the mill the night of the explosion. It would have been very poor dynamite, indeed, to have caused as little damage as was done."

The police do not take much stock in the dynamite part of the story either, and are not following the matter closely.

STONING THE TIDE.

Women and Children Bombard the Boat From the Bank.

Some trouble is still experienced by the officers of the Tide in her daily trips to Homestead from boys and women throwing stones and yelling at her whenever she passes near a point in the river bank. A volley of stones greeted her yesterday, near the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad station, and further up the river a great deal of yelling was done. The stones rattled about the cabin and went through some of the skylights, but no one was hit. The police are doing all they can to drive off all loiterers. The boat took up a large amount of provisions and household goods for some half a dozen families. The police are also doing all they can to drive off all loiterers. The boat took up a large amount of provisions and household goods for some half a dozen families. The police are also doing all they can to drive off all loiterers.

MILK MEN IN TROUBLE.

Fourteen Farmers Found Guilty and Fined for Disturbing Their Wars.

Inspector McCutcheon inspected the milk coming into the city last Thursday morning at the various railroad stations. He found that the quality was being adulterated, and all such was promptly consigned to the sewer. Proceedings were instituted against the owners, and a number of warrants were made out for farmers from Washington, Beaver and Allegheny counties by Magistrate Seecop, of the Southside. Constable Sheering has been kept busy during the past week serving orders upon farmers who are scattering over such large areas that he could not do more than three or four warrants could be served daily. Yesterday 14 farmers were brought up for a hearing for adulterating their milk. They could make little defense, and were found guilty.

THE CASE OF W. H. WILSON.

The case of W. H. Wilson, of Washington county, was held over, while H. P. Mullenhour and J. R. Herron took out appeals. Samuel Cawson was fined \$50 and costs, and each of the following had to pay \$10 and costs to get off: W. H. Brewer, John Sandington, Jacob Born, Peter Yolin, of Allegheny county; John Ebert, D. F. Eason, J. S. Miller, C. J. Bruce, John Smith, of Beaver county, and Adam Rumus, of Washington county. More arrests are expected to be made within a few days.

BUT THREE MONTHS MARRIED.

A Sixteen-Year-Old Wife Testifies Against Her Husband.

Before Alderman Donovan last evening James Vanderpant was charged with beating his wife. While the defendant is 22 years old, his wife is but 16. "Squire Donovan married the couple on Decoration Day. They have since been living in Atlantic avenue. The wife testified that her husband has grown very abusive the last two months. On two occasions, she said, he had threatened to kill her. Once he threatened to cut her with a butcher knife, and another time he tried to throw her over an embankment near their home. He would have succeeded but for the intervention of a neighbor. On last Tuesday they had a quarrel, in which the woman claims her husband choked her and abused her."

Mrs. Vanderpant is a very pretty little girl-wife, and seems to have the sympathy of a large number of her neighbors. They flocked into the "Squire's" office during the hearing, crowding it to the door. Vanderpant is a waiter in a down-town restaurant. He was held for court, and in default of bail was sent to jail.

AN UNFORTUNATE LAD.

His Father Deserts Him and He Is Left penniless Far From Home.

Among the lodgers at the Central police station last night was a bright 15-year-old boy who gave his name as Paul W. Miller and his home as Oil City. The boy requested lodgings for the night. He told a story to the effect that some months ago he accompanied his father to Tallapoosa, Ga., to work for the Howe Ventilating Slave Works. The father and son secured work and continued in the employ of the company until about three weeks ago, when his father left the place mysteriously. Two weeks ago the Sheriff closed the stove works and the boys were thrown on their own. They had with them a money order, the company owed him a month's wages. The lad succeeded in stealing his way to this city on freight trains, and was both hungry and tired. Sergeant Gray made the lad comfortable for the night, after giving him a hearty supper, and will this morning endeavor to secure him transportation to his home at Oil City.

BANKS MAKE A PLEA.

To Be Exonerated From the Payment of City Taxes on Property.

CONTROLLER MORROW REFUSES.

He Rejects the Proposition That They Come Within the Law.

EXEMPTING PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

The action of the City Assessors and Controller Morrow is exciting several big corporations of the city from taxes, as announced in yesterday's DISPATCH, caused considerable discussion in financial circles. The question was, how far would the exonerations extend. The directors of one downtown national bank got together at noon and decided that if public corporations were not expected to pay city taxes, banks should be exempted as well as the others. A little later a member of the board walked on the board of directors of the city, in the line of telling of it, and made a strong plea for the exonerations of his bank.

The gentleman argued that a bank was as much a public corporation as the Allegheny County Light Company or the Monongahela Water Company, and paid State taxes the same as they. It had an equal right to exemption from local taxes. The director even asked to have the taxes paid by his bank for several years past refunded because they had been illegally collected.

Banks Not on the Free List.

The Controller had but little to say in reply, except that he would oppose an exemption of any bank from taxation, or any other company except those mentioned in the City Attorney's opinion, which he had been compelled to approve. Later he found a Supreme Court decision in the case of the Titinville National Bank versus Caldwell, rendered in 1886, which reads: "The real estate of national banks is subject to taxation distinct from their other capital. This satisfies the constitution, for the exemptions must extend to other corporations, banks at least would not be included in the free list."

As to the question of refunding taxes heretofore paid by corporations, which, under the law as laid down by the City Attorney, are legally exempt from taxation, the Controller needed no time to make a reply. He informed the bank director that the refunding of taxes was not under any circumstances. "Even if Councils pass a resolution ordering such action," said he, "it is illegal, and any citizen could easily go into court and have it stopped. But the law is not the law if it would be granted every year and it would be an injustice not to grant them."

Every Taxpayer His Own Judge.

"There have been a number of Supreme Court decisions on that point, and they show that a man cannot satisfy himself by paying his taxes that they are legal. When he pays them he admits they are proper and he cannot legally recover them."

There was much discussion of the question among attorneys, but the Controller's opinion was final. As to the Allegheny County Light Company, it was argued that, having been chartered under the act of 1874 as a manufacturing company and not a public corporation, it had no legal right to claim exemption as such a corporation. The discussion of this complex piece of law made in 1874 developed that under the charter of the Allegheny County Light Company it has the exclusive right to furnish electric light to the whole city for a long period of years, the period being only limited by a succession of ten years in which the company must increase its output. It was brought out that the East End Electric Company, which was started as a branch of this company, is now being operated by the banks and the Controller is inclined to start with its capital stock.

No Money Will Be Refunded.

In regard to the several companies exonerated by the assessors on Tuesday it was learned that some of them have not been paying city taxes for several years. Whether any of those that have paid will demand their money refunded could not be ascertained, but in view of the fact presented by the Controller it is hardly expected they will. Controller Morrow was asked last night if the traction companies would be likely to demand their money refunded. "If they imagine they can get it I have no doubt they will," was his reply. "I am firmly convinced that it is an injustice to exempt any of these big money-making concerns, but under the law laid down by our Supreme Court it seems the fault lies in the law. That being the case it is the duty of the next Legislature to repeal such an iniquitous law. From a reading of the Constitution it is evident that the property of these corporations are exempt, and it only shows the ordinary citizen the construction possible on good English."

THE ONLY EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

"The only exemptions allowed by the Constitution are for religious societies, religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit and institutions of purely public charity. If it adds anything to these exemptions from taxation other than the property of such corporations shall be void. Now, what could be plainer to the layman's mind than that? Who would suppose the Allegheny County Light Company or the Monongahela Water Company could be regarded as one of the objects allowed exemption in that article?"

As Viewed by the Supreme Court.

"Let the Supreme Court in a large number of cases has decided that public works, such as bridges, turnpikes, canals, railroads and water works, are exempt from taxation, together with their necessary appurtenances as public works, are exempt from taxation as real estate, except so far as expressly imposed by the Legislature. It was also held that property owned by a corporation is exempt from taxation by the Legislature to impose a tax on all subjects taxable for State or county purposes, but see how the courts have curtailed the list. See how many rich corporations are exempted. The traction companies and even the newspaper companies seem to have the same right to demand exemption as being public corporations. It is hard to draw a line between a newspaper and a light company. To the fair mind one is equally entitled to exemption with the other."

But I can't see why any of them should be.

The last Legislature passed a revenue bill. I am not acquainted with its contents, but it may contain a clause which commutes all other taxes of corporations on condition that they pay a certain tax to the State. If such is the case the city will lose a vast amount of money, not to speak of the charge the public exorbitant rates for the service rendered and the law prevents the people from collecting anything in return. I propose to make a fight somewhere in the city being waged against an injustice, but am not now prepared to say where. I am looking for an opening."

Escaped From a Hospital.

McQuinn, the crook captured in this city Wednesday, is said by the police to have "gone time" on several charges. Sergeant Conlon arrested him a few years ago. He was ill at the time and pretended he was in such bad condition that he was sent to the hospital. A few days later he escaped and robbed the building. A revolver and black jack were found on him. He is being held while the police investigate his record.

The Delinquent Tax List.

The time for payment of delinquent taxes of 1921, closes at 5 o'clock this afternoon. The list of delinquents will be published to-morrow morning, adding a considerable sum to the expense of negligent taxpayers. It is not known how much the delinquent list will foot up, but it contains about 1,200 names, nearly the average number.

THEY WANT THREE FEET.

The Local Grocers Will Ask for That Much of the City Sidewalks—Chief Brown's Concessions Gladly Accepted—Preparing a New Ordinance.

The Pittsburg Grocers' Association met last night at their headquarters on Smithfield street. About 100 grocers attended and all present are anxious to carry out the suggestions made to them recently by Chief Brown in regard to the blockading of the sidewalk. Several speeches were made. P. McEneaney, Vice President of the association, presided. An ordinance strictly in harmony with Chief Brown's suggestions and providing for the use of the sidewalk of three feet of the sidewalk walks upon which to exhibit perishable goods, was ordered to be prepared and presented to the city council. Each member of the association was instructed to personally see the Councilman from his ward to urge the passage of said ordinance. The following grocers were named as a committee to draft the ordinance: S. B. Chambers, Chairman; Charles Hubber, J. H. Friday, J. L. Hahn and W. H. Sheaffer.

Councilman O'Donnell, a member of the association, made an earnest speech in support of the position assumed by Mayor Courty. He said the grocers had no right to say part of the sidewalk was their property and that they only occupy three feet of pavement from house lines; that no obstruction should be placed on the sidewalk, but that the sidewalk was only a privilege which at times has been abused. He suggested the committee of five to draft the ordinance, and he advised that the committee should have full charge of the work, and should be charged with the responsibility of its passage.

The following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we pledge all of our members to adhere strictly to the ordinance granted; that we only occupy three feet of pavement from house lines; that no obstruction should be placed on the sidewalk, but that the sidewalk was only a privilege which at times has been abused. He suggested the committee of five to draft the ordinance, and he advised that the committee should have full charge of the work, and should be charged with the responsibility of its passage.

TROUBLE AMONG SOLONS.

A Member of the Organization Charges One of His Fellows With Embezzlement.

These are troublesome times for the officers and members of the Supreme Order of the Solons. Months ago R. J. Godfrey, the Supreme Treasurer of the order, was charged with embezzling the funds of the Solons. The man who made the information was W. C. McKelvey, a prominent member of the order. McKelvey charged Godfrey with embezzlement, and R. J. Jackson, the Supreme President; John M. Hall, the Secretary; and A. S. Munday, the Solicitor, with conspiracy. At that time the difficulty was adjusted outside the court, and it was thought the members of the order had settled their differences to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Yesterdays, however, Mr. McKelvey

walked into Alderman McMaister's office and announced his desire to appear against Godfrey and the other officers of the order. The new information reads: "The said Robert J. Godfrey as the treasurer of the order of Solon, having possession of the funds and money of the order, did on the said society, did on the day and year mentioned fraudulently embezzle and appropriate to his own use the sum of \$14,000." Alderman McMaister announced that he would hear both sides and dispose of the case on September 1 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

PAUPER IMMIGRANTS RETURNED.

The New York Authorities Called Down by the Department of Charities.

Jacob Schumaker and his wife were sent to New York Wednesday night by the Department of Charities. They were taken aboard the steamer Normandy last night, to be returned to their home in Germany as pauper immigrants. During the latter part of May Schumaker and his wife applied to the Department of Charities for their names. They had just arrived from their home and had only 5 cents to their name. The husband had consumption and was terribly weakened by his long journey, so the department sent them to the City Farm. Special Examiner Goodman proceeded to investigate the case. He collected all the data and forwarded it to the Commissioner of Immigration who claimed the couple did not have sufficient money to pay their passage to New York. The Commissioner had no objection to the case, but he claimed the couple had undoubtedly been permitted to land in direct violation of the law. A letter was received from the Commissioner of Charities, from the Commissioner, who acknowledged the couple were pauper immigrants, and if they would send them to New York they would be returned to Germany. They were sent to New York in charge of Daniel Deik.

WANT THEIR STREET IMPROVED.

Property Owners on West End Avenue, Allegheny, Meet and Indignate.

A number of the property owners of West End avenue, Allegheny, met last night at Ecker's Hall to protest against the condition of the street upon which they live. Fred L. Schelein presided. Acting Mayor L. Schick, William Windsor, Rudolph Eckart and Alex. Henry. All claimed that the street was dangerously dirty and was badly paved. The Councilman for the ward was censured for not caring for the street and it was decided to present, at the next meeting of Council, a petition asking for relief.

Another meeting of the property holders

will be held next Thursday.

Arranging a Congressional Nomination.

John Kuhns and Sillas Kline, of Westmoreland county, and a number of Democrats from the other counties in the Twenty-first Congressional district met yesterday at the Central Hotel and discussed the Congressional nomination for the district. No definite action was taken. It was partially arranged that the Democratic nomination will be given to Indiana county.

Democratic Pole Raising.

Alexander Wilson, Lee Frasher, and 30 other Democrats went to Ferrysville yesterday and secured a hickory pole 150 feet in length, which will be erected in Lower Allegheny to-morrow. The raising of the pole will be the formal opening of the campaign. Several speeches will be made.

Does an Education Pay?

Certainly, if you attend a good school. United States Commissioner C. E. Johnson says every young person for the practical affairs of life. Every year brings a larger attendance. Its collegiate department is rapidly coming to the front. It is a great thing of modern times and the world at large should know it. Do not quote me, however, as saying I am favorable to the general extension of college. But as a man who is opening up of a new market, it is a great necessity. The extension of the Erie Canal I heartily approve of, as I also do the building of the Michigan and the Pittsburg Canal. These canals open up vast

WANTED, A PROMOTER.

Colonel T. P. Roberts is Assured That Allegheny County Has the CASH TO BUILD THE SHIP CANAL.

A Very Important Resolution Pigeonholed at Harrisburg.

HON. JOHN DALZELL WRITES A LETTER.

"A promoter with private energy is needed to organize a private corporation to build the ship canal from Lake Erie to the Ohio river," said Colonel T. P. Roberts last evening. "The needed \$95,000,000 can be raised in Allegheny county if the United States Government will guarantee interest on one-third of it."

Colonel Roberts yesterday received a letter from Congressman Dalzell, who said that the matter of securing the \$40,000,000 appropriation for the governmental survey would be pushed during the winter session of Congress.

"There has been considerable delay in this matter," said Colonel Roberts; "but it is the fault of the Canal Commissioners. The mistake lay in allowing the bill to get into the hands of the Committee on Commerce instead of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, where it should have gone."

"At the opening of the next Congress this mistake will be corrected, and the measure will be put through with all expedition. Now a bill is pending before the official survey, which must be made to verify the State survey, was considered insufficient by the Government engineers. The bill now asks for \$40,000, which is most reasonable, considering the importance of the work. Notwithstanding the prospects of the appropriation being made we are still in a state of uncertainty. Public work is too slow. This matter should be pushed. Hence, I favor the idea of private capital taking up the work and pushing it. This private capital may be secured by an energetic promoter."

Allegheny County Has the Cash.

"There are capitalists enough in this county who would be glad enough to invest their money if they properly understood the matter. The Government could be induced to guarantee the interest on one-third of the total cost, and there would be no probability of a greater loss. Charles Meyran, the late banker and capitalist, was enthusiastic over the enterprise. He told me several times before his death that the financial support of Alleghenians, and there could be no question but that the Government would assist."

"This entire matter might have been brought to a head before the meeting of the commissioners being handicapped by the last session of the State Legislature. The matter has had some little publicity, but not enough to properly present the entire case. The State is going to spend out of \$10,000 for the purpose of making a survey to lay out the course of the canal. By dint of frugal management and strictest economy we saved out of that sum \$700, and with it I propose to buy a bill of exchange for \$10,000 to pay for the survey. The latter was exhaustive, and presented the entire subject in a comprehensive manner. The accompanying maps were carefully detailed, and with the aid of the County Engineer and the manufacturers of Allegheny county there interest could be aroused. The report was accepted and passed through both House and Senate, with a bill providing for the publication of 3,000 copies of the report and maps."

Disappeared in a Pigeonhole.

"Everything was favorable until the bill disappeared by the pigeonholing process and was not drawn out for the signature of the Governor until ten days had elapsed after the expiration of the time for the official appropriation. By that we were delayed for just two years. Whether it was done by interested parties or by the oversight of the Governor I have no way of learning, but it was evidently the work of some one antagonistic to the enterprise. Of course, the bill will be signed at the next session of the Legislature, but we are two years behindhand."

"By engaging private capital the canal would be finished and opened within three years. Public work is always monotonously slow, and the work of building this canal is for the Government to take up years will elapse before its completion. Therefore for its great benefit to Pittsburg and the adjacent territory it would be advisable for this enterprise to be taken up by private individuals before the Government could guarantee an interest; and this would not be as difficult a matter as many would suppose."

"This ship canal will be as important to the Government from a military standpoint as it is to the canal and the commerce. The important feature was strongly brought out by Governor Beaver at the appointment of the canal commissioners. The Government realizes this and will undoubtedly show its wisdom by aiding the projectors of the enterprise."

Bound to Be a Financial Success.

"Is there any possibility of the venture being a losing one?" "The possibilities are so very rare that I may safely say it is highly improbable. The ship canal between Pittsburg and Lake Erie is of far more importance from a financial standpoint than the Michigan Canal connecting Lake Michigan with the Mississippi river. By gleazing the entire agricultural lands reached by the Michigan Canal there can be put 3,000,000 tons of cereals and other products. The right, in the Monongahela Valley, there are 5,000,000 tons of fuel. By water transportation \$1.25 per ton may be saved by the shipper, and the canal may be paid for, as only 25 cents a ton is necessary on account of the great amount of business done."

"The man difficulty we find is in the ignorance of the general public regarding the importance of the ship canal of to-day. Nearly everyone not directly interested in waterway transportation imagine the old 10 or 12 foot canal is meant. That is a grave error. The canal proposed will be large enough to freely permit the passage of 3,000-ton vessels. These vessels have a draft of 25 feet. They will be a train heavily loaded half a mile in length. There is nothing of the old snail pace moving dugouts with a lazy mule to slowly drag the barge, but rapid work. The canal will be built for the country by a great contractor, and the old time monotony of movement will be unknown. The canal evidently should be made free by governmental purchase, but for a while the toll system will be adopted."

Not Feared on Ship Canals.

"Is this indifference noticeable elsewhere?" "Yes, in all parts of the country. America is backward in this regard. But there will be a grand awakening at Chicago during the Exposition. Practically every one from all parts of the civilized world will be present at an international convention and the public will receive the full benefit of the time untold. The ship canal is one of the greatest things of modern times and the world at large should know it. Do not quote me, however, as saying I am favorable to the general extension of canals, but as a man who is opening up of a new market, it is a great necessity. The extension of the Erie Canal I heartily approve of, as I also do the building of the Michigan and the Pittsburg Canal. These canals open up vast

countries. Smaller ones, with no great center at either end are extravaganzas. "Returning to the subject of starting the project and the question of organizing an association, I believe the States of Ohio and Pennsylvania may be interested. Both States will be vastly benefited by this canal in many ways. Its course is the shortest cheapest and most practicable of any that could be found. It is over a country remarkably level. At one point the land for 20 miles is so level that it is difficult to tell which way the water runs. Streams, reservoirs, lakes and creeks are contiguous, and the water may be utilized with comparatively little cost. It is merely a matter of digging.

Very Easy to Construct.

"There are no mountains to cut through, no gigantic engineering feats to perform, nothing is necessary but the mere work of building the canal. There will be but 50 locks, 25 going up to the summit and 25 going down to the lake. There were 138 locks in the old canal, and the great difference in cost may be appreciated."

"This canal will open this great fuel country to Duluth, Minn. There is no question as to the fact that the Northwest is in the course of vessels from the great East. By rail it is connected with the Eastern coast, Northwest and British Columbia. The coal of Monongahela Valley is known everywhere. The only hindrance in the way of its general use in America is in the matter of transportation. It is the cheapest and most available fuel in America. Alleghenians will have their fuel in Duluth, in Chicago and the other great points of distribution. So it is with the ore item. Steel manufacturers can compete with any market if their material can be brought at a smaller cost than is at present charged. Reduce the transportation rates, and the Monongahela Valley will grow more wealthy than it ever was in its history."

"The antagonism of other industrial centers to the proposed ship canal is evidence conclusive that they fear competition with our steel industry. Let a promoter come forward; study the matter thoroughly; present it in its proper light; secure financial aid for its immediate completion, and the ship canal will soon prove a great success."

ASKING FOR HOME RULE.

The Daughters of Liberty Want State Constitution Rewritten.

A meeting of Pittsburg Allegheny representatives to the National Council of the Daughters of Liberty, which meets in Philadelphia next week, will be held in the hall of Unity Council, on the Southside, tonight. It has been called for the purpose of discussing measures either pending before the National body, or that are to be introduced next Tuesday. The coming session of the National Council will be the most important since its organization. It will be held in all about 400 representatives in Philadelphia, coming from fifteen States, where the order is firmly established. Some very important changes will be made in the general laws and constitution of the order. The question of establishing State Councils will be among those considered. At present the entire membership of the order is controlled by the National Council, and a great many are of the opinion that the interest of the several districts could be better served by establishing