

A BOOM FOR ROADS.

Prominent Pennsylvanians Moving for Better Country Highways.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS

To Be Invoked to Aid in the Passage of a Suitable Measure.

PATTISON'S OPINION WANTED.

A Desire to Satisfy the Governor and the Rural Residents.

WHY THE LAST ROAD BILL WAS VETOED

Charles F. Ellis, the executive officer of the old naval commission, was in Pittsburgh yesterday on his way to New Castle and Erie. It will be remembered that the commission spent considerable time and money in preparing a bill providing for the permanent improvement of the State highways. It was passed by the last Legislature, but the granger influence was strong enough with Governor Pattison to persuade him to veto the measure. The farmers were afraid of a make, and the Governor's main objection was the manner in which the annual appropriation was to be distributed among the various counties.

Drafting a New Road Bill.

Now the chances are that the members of the old commission at their own expense this time will draft another bill and present it to the Legislature. Mr. Ellis said he had talked with several of the members lately, and he found them as enthusiastic as ever on the subject of better roads. He is positive that the granger influence will be lessened, and that the commission is willing to contribute his time and money in a second attempt to carry the Legislature and the Governor. "I expect to be back here in a few days," said Mr. Ellis, "to have a talk with Mr. McCargo. I know how he feels about the improvements, and I have no doubt of his hearty co-operation. I saw Stanley Goodwin at Bethlehem in a few days ago. He is anxious to make another attempt. He complimented THE PITTSBURGH DISPATCH and said if other papers in the State took as much interest in the road question as THE DISPATCH the problem would be speedily solved. There is no reason why the State should not appropriate annually \$1,000,000 for permanent improvements of the roads. I don't mean to spend the money for patch work. We have had enough of that. We need a system of betterment. I wouldn't care whether the road was macadamized, or some other plan adopted, as long as the improvement was substantial and made the roads passable during all seasons of the year.

Governor Pattison's Objections.

"In the bill we prepared we provided that the money should be divided among the counties according to the enterprise displayed. We had no objection to a man working out his taxes when he did it at one time, and not in a jerky manner, as so many farmers do, working a little now, and then quitting to return to the job some day later. We thought the best basis of distribution was in proportion to the amount of road tax paid in cash, and Governor Pattison took exception to this proposition. The members of the Road Commission are so interested in this subject that they are preparing a bill themselves or through his friends. It indicates what kind of a bill he will endorse we will gladly draft it according to his ideas, and do our best to push it through the Legislature.

It is useless for us to do anything toward preparing a bill until we know who is appointed on the different committees and how they intend to proceed.

Then we will certainly go to work and prepare a second bill. I intend to issue a circular letter shortly to the newspapers of the State asking them to say how much money they think should be appropriated annually for improvements, and how it can be best distributed among the counties. I expect to receive the views of all of them in return. The newspapers are the great educators, and we intend to look to them to stir up public enthusiasm.

Twenty of Money to Spare.

"So far as the money is concerned I know the State can easily spare \$1,000,000 yearly. The last Legislature appropriated \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 annually, and the coming Legislature will advance the sum to \$5,000,000. This is a great deal of money, and I have no objection to increasing the amount of money spent on school work. It is a good thing, but that is no reason why other great interests of the State should be neglected. The money is being raised by the State Treasurer, the Auditor General, the Secretary of Internal Affairs and the Tax Commission, with all the income of the State. The newspapers are interested in this subject, and there will be enough money left to spend \$1,000,000 annually on the roads. Some uniform system of improvement should be adopted, and the roads should be carried out from year to year until not a bad road is left in the State.

I never could understand why the farmers opposed the last road bill.

The bulk of the State's revenue comes from Philadelphia and Allegheny counties and the larger towns. The farmers in the interior counties don't raise much of it. We don't ask them to contribute \$1,000,000 a year. We were practically giving them something for nothing, and they were afraid to take it. The money wouldn't help the cause and hence for them the property holders pay for street improvements and their maintenance. The money was to be devoted entirely, almost, to bettering the condition of the country roads, and yet the grangers wouldn't have it.

quarries in New York to be used on the public roads in the northwestern counties for the cost of the fuel burned in the engines and the wages of the crew. This only shows what many people were willing to do toward improving the roads if the bill had not miscarried. "I want to say that it is no small matter to pass a measure through the Legislature. It takes lots of coaxing and prodding to get a bill out of committee once it gets in. While our work went by default, we do not think that nothing was accomplished. The people were educated, and we hope to be successful this winter."

A LIBERTY STREET FIRE.

One Man Is Run Over by a Fire Engine and May Die. Last evening the heat from the river stove in Bulger & Wilbert's produce house, at 706 Liberty street, set fire to a lot of paper. The flames communicated to the floor and a fire broke out into quite a little conflagration. When the engines arrived a blaze was leaping through the window. A stream from one of the chemical engines soon subdued it. Damage to the extent of some \$300 was done to the building, which is owned by T. and J. McCance, and is insured.

THE COMET DUE TO-NIGHT.

Wise Men Are Squabbling Over the Visitor's Percentage. The long-looked-for comet is due between 9 and 10 o'clock night, and astronomers big and little are expecting a great treat. This visitor, which is so soon to arrive, has not been christened yet. The wise men are still squabbling over its percentage, but it will probably go down in history as Holmes' comet. Great efforts are being put forward to prove that it is one of the Biela system. There is still a reasonable doubt. Prof. Verr, of the Allegheny Observatory, has been a close observer of this unnamed expected visitor. He says it has become hazy in appearance and indefinite in shape. This makes it difficult to determine its center or head. During the last two or three nights the comet has increased in size, but faded in luminosity. This is credited to the fact that it is approaching the earth, and the haziness is accounted for on the principle that a faint object is more distinct a great distance. Meteoric showers are expected to follow in the wake of the comet.

WANT A CITY HOSPITAL.

The Coroner's Jury Recommend It in the Beach Inquest. The inquest was held in the case of William Beach yesterday. He is the man who died at the City Farm. Beach had erysipelas and none of the hospitals would take him. He had to be taken overland to the City Farm, and the exposure is said to have led to his death. The coroner's jury recommended that the city establish a hospital for such cases. This is a scheme that Superintendent Baker, of the Health Department, is favoring, and Coroner McDowell is helping him in as much as possible. The City Farm is the only place to send such cases, and then they have to be taken overland, as the railroad will not carry them. Coroner McDowell thinks from the fact that the new farm is to be farther away than the present one, the city hospital should be erected at once.

HE WOULD NOT WORK.

George A. Young Arrested for Deserting His Young Wife. George A. Young was arrested on the Southside yesterday by Officer Sprout on a charge of desertion and non-support made by his wife. For several months past he has neglected to provide for her. She had no means of support and had been reduced to destitute circumstances. Becoming tired of the delay she went before Alderman Gripp on November 7, and swore out a warrant. Young heard of it, and left for Ohio, where he remained until yesterday, when he began working at a twenty-second street ferry. His whereabouts becoming known, he was arrested and locked up for a hearing this morning.

Fell From an Electric Car.

John M. Pinkerton, of 58 Baker street, Allegheny, fell from a Pleasant Valley car at Jack's Run yesterday afternoon and was seriously, but not fatally, injured, about the face and body. He was taken to the Allegheny General Hospital.

Her Story Didn't Go.

Mrs. Thomas Deering was at the Department of Charities yesterday and wanted help. She told a very pitiful story and said her husband had deserted her. Her story was not believed, and it was soon learned she was an impostor.

A Perfect Piano Is a Losing Pleasure.

Mellor & Hoene, 77 Fifth Avenue. Such a piano can only be secured through the intelligence of the buyer, coupled with the services of a reliable dealer. Such a faith is the portion of those who patronize the firm of MELLOR & HOENE.

The Greatest Sixtette in the World.

Henriks Music Co., Ltd. If you wish to hear a musical treat go to 101 and 103 Fifth Avenue, where you can hear the greatest sixtette in the world. WEISS, WERBROCK, LINDENAU, STUBVENANT, Pianos, assisted by a fine orchestra and the famous Palace orchestra. Any of the above instruments will make a splendid present for Christmas. Special low prices will be made and payments arranged to suit the purchaser. Call and see the finest and largest music store in the State. Watch newspapers for grand opening to take place December 7 and 8. 101 and 103 Fifth Avenue.

THE PITTSBURGH FILTER COMPANY.

No. 39 Sandusky Street, Allegheny, Pa., Manufacturers the Davis Filter. Clear, pure, wholesome water at all times. Send postal for catalogue and price list. 475 East Pennsylvania Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

PIANOS! ORGAN!

Special Holiday Prices. New organs at \$30. New pianos \$225. Second-hand organs at \$25. Second-hand pianos at \$75. Easy payments. Every instrument fully warranted. LAUCHLIN & SCHROEDER, 69 Fifth Avenue.

Solomon & Ruben's

Is becoming the favorite shopping place for pronounced novelties in boys' and children's suits and overcoats. Come in to-morrow. A large consignment will be opened and sold on sale. Unexceptional values in this department. 343 suits of natural wool and camel's hair made in the States, weights, suit-to-morrow suits, \$50 suits, \$40 suits, \$30 suits, \$20 suits, \$15 suits, \$10 suits, \$5 suits, \$4 suits, \$3 suits, \$2 suits, \$1 suits, \$0.50 suits, \$0.25 suits, \$0.10 suits, \$0.05 suits, \$0.02 suits, \$0.01 suits.

To Help the Homeless Men.

McKeesport is coming forward as willing to aid the destitute Homestead ex-strikers. The number of pots and tanks in and out of operation is given in a summary, as follows: Factories under jurisdiction of the P. E. W. U., 116; furnaces under the jurisdiction of the A. E. G. W. U., 183; furnaces in operation, 151; furnaces out of operation, 32; pots in operation, 1,735; pots out of operation, 238; tanks in operation, 15; tanks out of operation, 2. The present balance on hand is \$80,000. The report contains valuable statistical matter with reference to the affairs of the union.

BOTH SIDES STICKING.

But a Change in the River Coal Miners' Strike May Come Soon. AFTER THE NON-UNION MEN. The Old Men Being Given Their Former Positions at Homestead—Those Who Broke the Strike Will Have to Look for Work Elsewhere.

THE EFFECT OF BOATING WATER.

Old Employes Replacing Non-Union Workers at Homestead.

NEWS OF THE GREAT LABOR WORLD

The close of the eleventh week of the river miners' strike finds both sides firm. The strike was declared on a reduction of half a cent a bushel asked by the operators, so as to put them on an equal footing with the railroads. The operators have been claiming that the strike was practically over for the past month, but there has been no considerable break and the fight is being pushed with vigor on both sides. At a special meeting of the Coal Exchange yesterday considerable business was transacted. Much of the time was spent in considering the strike and hearing the committee's report on the number of men at work. Some men were reported to have returned, but there are only a few working in each mine. These are principally engaged in driving headings and turning rooms. No coal of any consequence is being mined, and the operators are very uneasy, as the season is much advanced. The Effect of Barge Water. Water is expected at any time, and when it does come it will be in large quantities. It will be sent out, so that the market will be practically left to the railroads. The price for this fuel in the Southern markets is high and the demand good. This leaves the operators in a bad way, and it is no secret that many of them are becoming very uneasy. In order to break the strike many of them are offering to give the miners a cent a bushel more, but their efforts have not been very successful, as in some instances the new men being driven out by the strikers. Captain I. N. Brown, in speaking of the outlook yesterday, said that the operators will not give in and pay 1/2 cent a bushel more for their coal than the railroads are now giving. It simply means death to the operators if the operators will not give in, but from reports I don't think anything like this will be necessary, as I think the mines will soon be at work at the reduced rates. Reports point to that, and I see no reason to doubt them. I think the strike will be over before December 1.

ALL THOUGHT THE SAME WAY.

The Men at the Globe Mines Decide Unanimously to Continue the Strike. The miners at the Globe mines owned by Jones & Laughlins, in the fourth pool, held another meeting yesterday to further consider returning to work. It was well attended, as at a meeting on Friday an urgent appeal had been made that all be present today. The question of returning at the reduced rate was discussed from all standpoints. With the expectation that there would be a large attendance, the meeting was held a good chance of winning. The assertion of the company that they would run the mines at the reduced rates whether the men returned or not caused a good deal of feeling to be manifested by the strikers. When the question came up for a vote it was unanimously decided to stand out. At the Friday meeting six had voted to return, but yesterday they were as determined as the others. Do You Eat? Don't complain about hard times and that the necessities of life are high priced, and that your income will not allow you and your family to enjoy the good things of this world as you would like to. This is all foolishness. YOU ARE NOT ALIVE or you could not only enjoy the good things that our customers enjoy, but also by a few of your hard-earned dollars for a "long time" to put me off my track. If I put you out of the way, I shall have no trouble in capturing him. He then poured forth a tirade of abuse against her, and tore around his cell like a wild beast. "What do you want with pistols?" asked the nurse. "To kill you with," Ellis replied. "You are the woman who is the accomplice of the traitor who is shadowing me, and you are trying to put me off my track. If I put you out of the way, I shall have no trouble in capturing him. He then poured forth a tirade of abuse against her, and tore around his cell like a wild beast. "What do you want with pistols?" asked the nurse. 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