

NICARAGUAN CANAL TALK

The Senate Spends Five Hours in Consideration of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

MR. TELLER'S OPINIONS

Thinks the United States Should Construct the Canal, if at All, Regardless of the English Position and Without Going Through the Formality of Ratifying the Pending Treaty.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The senate spent almost five hours today in executive session, considering the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. There were five or six speeches made, some of them by senators who had not spoken hitherto upon the treaty, and others by senators who had previously expressed their views. The chief speaker was Senator Teller, who returned to his former speech, elaborating somewhat his position as to the effect of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. He took issue with Senator Teller as to the purpose of the first clause of that treaty, claiming that it applied only to Great Britain's right to fortify the Nicaragua canal itself. Senator Teller replied at some length, asserting that the provision was of more general importance, he said, than any one could ascertain for himself by reading President Buchanan's views upon the subject when he was minister to England. The declaration then made showed plainly, he said, that England had attempted to extend her rights beyond the immediate vicinity of the canal. Mr. Teller then proceeded to again elaborate his views upon the general subject, repeating his declaration that the United States should construct the canal, if at all, regardless of the English position and without going through the formality of ratifying the pending treaty.

During the day speeches were made by Senators Money, Stewart and others. Senator Stewart announced that he was for the treaty without amendment and Senator Money said he was for the treaty in any form. He wanted the canal built as much as any senator could, he said, but he considered the pending treaty little less than an insult to the intelligence of the American people. He said he thought the proper diplomatic course should be made it would be possible to secure the complete abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and that was what he wanted. He did not believe the people of this country would be satisfied so long as any part of that treaty remained among existing international obligations. That convention, he said, was contrary to the wishes of the people of the United States and that they could be satisfied only by definitely ceasing it once and forever. There should be no treaty between the United States and both Nicaragua and Costa Rica, giving absolute control of the waterway to this country. He wanted no partnerships with any country in ownership or management of the canal when built.

Secretary Hay's Course

The possibility of Secretary Hay's resigning in case the foreign relations committee amendment to the treaty should prevail having been alluded to, Senator Frye said he was in position to make official denial of that report. The secretary has no such intention, Mr. Frye expressed himself favorably to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. He said he would not be surprised if the Bulwer treaty as much as we may it still is on the international records of this country and is given more or less recognition by every administration that has to deal with the subject of the construction of an inter-oceanic canal. It had been a constant source of vexation in connection with the canal subject and he apprehended that it would continue to be such until that portion of it relating to the canal should be disposed of. He was satisfied for instance, that the canal would have been constructed during the administration of President Arthur if the old negotiation had not been in existence. Senator Chandler asked Senator Frye to make Secretary Hay's position with reference to resigning public, but the Maine senator declined, saying that he was only authorized to make the statement to the senate. Mr. Chandler remarked that to do it was equivalent to giving it to the public and the senate then lapsed into a discussion of the ways in which the executive secrets get into the newspapers.

AMERICAN DIPLOMACY

Has Achieved a Victory Over the Powers at Peking.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—It is now dawning upon the German press and public that Mr. Hay, of the United States foreign office, has secured an out and out diplomatic victory in obliging the powers, Germany included, to yield to his arguments in favor of more moderate terms in the preliminary joint note to the Chinese peace plenipotentiaries.

It is clearly defined because Emperor William had set his heart on imposing the most humiliating conditions upon the Chinese and thus emphasizing Germany's power in their eyes.

Steamship Arrivals

New York, Dec. 10.—Arrived: Calabrian, Genoa; Lila, Boston, via Southampton. Departed: Aller, New York from Genoa. Sailed: First Bismarck, New York, Glasgow; Arrived: Ancona, New York, Gibraltar; Arrived: West, New York for Naples and Genoa; Southampton—Sailed: Vademar from Antwerp. New York, Lizard—Arrived: Statendam, New York for Genoa. London—Arrived: Minneapolis, New York.

WANTED FOR MURDER

George Christian, a Colored Man, Under Arrest in New York.

New York, Dec. 10.—Henry Mason, alias George Christian, a colored man, about fifty years old, is under arrest in this city. He is the man who shot and killed Peter Hobden and some other white men while on their way home, were met by the colored man at Short alley and Forbes street, Pittsburgh. They made some remark about the latter, and Mason, it is said, pulled a revolver and fired, killing Hobden. Mason then fled. When arrested Mason denied he was the man wanted. Detective Whitehouse, of Pittsburgh, reached here today with one of the men in the crowd with Hobden, and this man identified Mason as the man who had shot Hobden. Mason, it is declared, was sentenced in 1889 to the Madisonville, W. Va., prison for life for a murder, and was pardoned out by Governor Atkinson after he had served ten years.

BASE BALL WAR IS THREATENED

Important Session of the National League Held in New York. The Magnates Present.

New York, Dec. 10.—With another possible base ball war staring them in the face, the National League magnates entered upon their annual winter meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel tonight. This year the session is one of the most important ever held in the history of the league and will probably last throughout the week. With the American league, with Mr. Johnson steering its destinies, clamoring for equal recognition by the parent body and the threatened invasion of the National League territory by Johnson's organization, the members of the big league have their hands full.

The magnates began arriving in the city early this morning and up to tonight the following had put in an appearance: President E. Young, A. H. Soden, Boston; Charles Ebbetts, F. A. Abell and Edward Hanlon, Brooklyn; Colonel John I. Rogers and A. J. Reich, Philadelphia; Barney Dreyfus, Pittsburgh; John T. Brush, Cincinnati; James Hagan, Chicago; F. De Haas Robinson and Stanley Robinson, St. Louis; Fred Knowles, New York; J. B. Hillings, Boston; J. V. Kerr, of Pittsburgh, and Harry Vonder Horst, of Brooklyn, will arrive tomorrow.

The possibility of trouble with the new American league is not the only question that the magnates will have to handle. The much-talked-of retirement of President Young of the league's chief executive will also come up. That certain magnates are opposed to the committee of Young, A. H. Young, is an open secret. Several days ago, those opposed to Mr. Young put forth A. G. Spalding as a suitable successor. Mr. Spalding, however, has declined the honor. A committee composed of Hugh Jennings, of Brooklyn; Zimmer, of Pittsburgh, and Harry Taylor, the organization's consul, of Buffalo, will wait upon the magnates and present the players' claims relative to the "farming" and salary questions.

FEDERATION OF LABOR CONVENTION

Resolutions Adopted Asking Support of Congress in Aid of Several Bills.

Louisville, Dec. 10.—When the convention of the Federation of Labor met today the committee on resolutions submitted its first resolution, reaffirming the federation's favorable position on the initiative and referendum. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 82 to 56, after considerable debate. In rapid succession resolutions were recommended and adopted requesting support by congress of a bill for the higher education of the blind, and an eight-hour bill for all postoffice employees, and in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities. The executive committee reported unfavorably on a resolution for the increase and industry, and its action was sustained. The report of the auditing committee was then presented and accepted. Special committees were appointed on the eight-hour workday, compulsory arbitration and organization in Porto Rico.

SANTA FE STRIKE OVER

Topka, Kan., Dec. 10.—The officials of the Santa Fe railroad say tonight that the strike of telegraph operators is practically over. The operators themselves continue to say that their case is a winning one and say the prospects look better now than they have been any time to this point in the contest.

The Vote on Revision

New York, Dec. 10.—The New York Presbytery held its regular monthly meeting today, in the interval between the last meeting of the Presbytery and the meeting of today the vote on the revision of the confession of faith was recounted and it was found that the vote was not as it was announced at that time, but stood 75 to 72 against the revision.

Will Investigate Disorders

Berlin, Dec. 10.—Baron von Tschinaden, Prussian minister of the interior, has ordered the chief of police at Cologne to make a special report as to disorderly incidents connected with Mr. Kruger's visit to that city and especially with reference to the anti-British demonstration before the British consulate.

THE FINANCES OF GERMANY

A Gloomy View Is Taken by the Secretary of the Imperial Treasury.

EFFORTS TO RETRENCH

Gradual Shrinkage of Inflated Condition Predicted—Sparkling Wines and Saccharine to Be Taxed—Increased Expenditure of \$3,000,000 Marks in 1901 to Be Provided For. Transfer of Surplus Revenue to Federal States to Be Stopped.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—In the Reichstag today, during the debate of the estimates, the secretary of the imperial treasury, Baron von Tschinaden, took a decidedly gloomy view of the economic situation in Germany. He said the situation had been undergoing a radical change since summer and persons must be prepared for a number of years to see a gradual shrinkage of the inflated condition. The decline, however, would not take the form of a general financial crash, as in 1873. This period of diminished trade could not pass without affecting the imperial budget. Therefore, it was necessary to strengthen the reserves of the treasury.

In regard to the abolition of the sugar bounties, the secretary of the treasury said the negotiations between Austria, France and Germany had not been concluded, but they would probably provide a basis for definite agreements. The secretary also announced that a bill taxing sparkling wines would be presented to the Reichstag, and that another bill taxing saccharine was in course of preparation. In 1901, he said, an increased expenditure of \$3,000,000 marks must be provided for. Consequently the transfer of surplus revenues to the federal states would cease. A general survey of the present estimates afforded a less pleasing picture than last year.

BIG SCANDAL AT ST. PETERSBURG

Actors in an Anti-Jewish Play Are Pelting—Personal Conflicts Follow.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 10.—The scandal caused by the demonstration Thursday evening last on the first production of an anti-Jewish play entitled "The Children of Israel," during which the actors were pelting, personal conflicts followed and the performance had to be stopped, is still the subject of considerable discussion here and throughout the empire. The play, the university sympathizing largely with the demonstrative Christians. About 300 students met Saturday and, after listening to some fiery speeches, elected M. Suborin, chief of the Novos Vryazh, to be the first in the attempt to launch the anti-Semitic play, the theater management, the police and others. The police, late Thursday night, released all the persons, about fifty, arrested during the disturbance and no prosecutions have yet been announced. After the students' meeting it became known that the minister of the interior had sent the newspapers a circular positively forbidding further allusions to the scandal. The authors of the play, which was formerly called "The Children of Israel," printed two years ago, and which led to a similar demonstration, have relinquished their efforts to produce it.

MEETING OF LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMAN

Will Ask the Next Legislature for an Appropriation of \$1,000,000.

Philadelphia, Dec. 10.—The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania state division of officers of the League of American Wheelman was held here today. It was decided to ask the next legislature for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the improvement and building of roads and highways. The officers elected for 1901 were: Charles Boyle, Philadelphia, chief consul; P. O. Orr, Pittsburg, vice consul; P. S. Collins, Philadelphia, secretary and treasurer, and a full membership of the executive board by districts. Delegates chosen for the national assembly, to be held in Philadelphia on the second Wednesday of February next are: W. W. Randall, Joseph Estey, Carl Heitz, W. R. Tucker, Thomas Hare, H. B. Worrell and T. H. Haines, Philadelphia; E. J. Warner, Norristown; J. J. Van Nort, Scranton; A. D. Knapp, Williamsport; Dr. W. S. Cook, Beaver Falls; T. E. Myler, Pittsburg; and A. G. Medkins, Erie. The delegates will have to pay their expenses to the assembly, because of the depleted condition of the treasury.

Pettition in Bankruptcy

William H. Van Tine and his wife, Katie Van Tine, filed their petition in bankruptcy. The former owns \$288,912, and the latter \$115,972. The debts were contracted in 1894, when Van Tine was in the real estate business in Cleveland. His wife's indebtedness arose by her giving jointly with him and endorsing notes with him.

Drought Unbroken

Hachon, Dec. 10.—The recent heavy rainfall did not break the drought which prevailed here for some weeks. Today the Lehigh Valley put a water reservoir in service to supply the deficit of water to the Delaware, Susquehanna and Schuylkill railroads being hauling water to some of the mines of Cox Bros. & Co.

CONSPIRACY CASES AT HARRISBURG

John J. Coyle Acquitted and Ordered to Pay Half the Costs.

Harrisburg, Dec. 10.—The remaining bribery, perjury and conspiracy cases of the last session of the Pennsylvania state legislature on which true bills were found by a grand jury of Dauphin county, came to a close today, when District Attorney Millar entered a nolle prosequi. This was entered on the agreement of the defendants to pay the costs, which amounted to about \$2,000. The only case heard was that against John J. Coyle, who was acquitted and ordered to pay half the costs. The others against whom true bills were found were Michael J. Costello, Frank R. Jones, Robert Evans, Charles B. Spatz, Thomas M. Moyles and Monroe H. Kulp.

THE FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Suggestion Made at Meeting in Philadelphia—Good Work Accomplished.

Philadelphia, Dec. 10.—To save the forests from the devastation by fires the leaves should be burned each fall, was the suggestion advanced today by William Hartley, of Bedford, at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. Existing forestry laws are, in his judgment, all wrong. The suggestion, however, did not meet with favor from Dr. J. T. Rothrock, state forestry commissioner, and the theory was said by him to be untenable in the light of experience. Mr. Hartley defended his suggestion even after opposition, and then rather abruptly left the meeting. Representations submitted to the meeting were most encouraging and showed that the forestry work in forest preservation has been done in the last few years. President John Bierkenbin urged that the friends of forestry maintain a solid front in opposition to any change in the present protective laws, except to make them more effective. Dr. Rothrock, in his report as general secretary, said that the condition of the forestry movement was never so strong as at present. The state is now in actual possession of more than 100,000 acres of land as a nucleus upon which to build up its system on the state forestry reservations, and is only second to New York in this respect.

In the report of the secretary of council, P. L. Bitler, the membership of the association was given as 1,151. The report of Treasurer Charles E. Barncast showed a small cash balance on hand, December 1. The annual election resulted as follows: President, John Bierkenbin; vice-presidents, Herbert Welsh, William S. Harvey, Richard Wood, James C. Hayden, Howard M. Jenkins; general secretary, Joseph T. Rothrock; corresponding secretary, Mrs. John P. Lundy; treasurer, Charles E. Barncast. More than fifty counties are represented in the council.

WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL

Governors of States and Other High Officials Are Arriving at the National Capital.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Governors of states and other high officials are arriving here to attend the centennial celebration on Wednesday. The celebration of the centennial of the establishment of the national capital here will be opened at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, when President McKinley will receive the governors of states and territories. Subsequent to this the celebration will consist of an address by the president, a review of the military and naval forces, and a parade. The celebration will terminate with a torch procession to the governors of the states and territories at 9 o'clock in the evening.

Netherlands and Portugal Tension

The Hague, Dec. 10.—The Portuguese minister to the Netherlands, Count Desider, has stated for Lisbon and the Dutch minister to Portugal, Baron von Hecker, is expected here from Lisbon this evening. Count Van Bylandt, in the second chamber, today notified the foreign minister that he will interpellate the government in regard to the tension between the Netherlands and Portugal.

Senator Towne Takes the Oath

Washington, Dec. 10.—Hon. Charles A. Towne, the recently appointed successor to the late Senator Davis, of Minnesota, attended today a session of the senate, and took the oath of office. No business of importance was transacted in open session. The senate went into secret session on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as soon as routine business had been concluded.

THE MINORITY ON REVENUES

Democrats of the Ways and Means Committee Complete Their Statement.

REDUCTION IS TOO SMALL

They Are of the Opinion That the Proposed Reduction of Revenues Is Too Small—They Would Take Off the Taxes Which Are Most Annoying and Vexatious—The Democrats Will Not Oppose the Passage of the Revenue Bill but Will Try to Amend It.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The views of the minority members of the ways and means committee on the bill reducing war revenue taxes about \$40,000,000 was completed and made public this evening. It is signed by the entire Democratic membership of the committee, Messrs. Richardson, of Tennessee; Swanson, of Virginia; McClellan, of New York; Newlands, of Nevada; Cooper, of Texas, and Underwood, of Alabama. The report says that the minority are of opinion that the proposed reduction of revenues is too small and that the bill does not go far enough in relieving the people of the burdens imposed upon them for war purposes. The remaining taxes, says the report, are unnecessary and should be removed.

The minority take issue with Secretary Gage's \$36,000,000 surplus in 1902 and say that if congress observes proper economy in expenditures the surplus ought to be \$100,000,000. We are, therefore, clearly of the opinion that there can safely be a much further reduction than is contemplated in the bill presented by the committee and that now is the time to give such reduction. Instead of taking off the sum of forty millions, as is proposed, we would go further and reduce taxation not less than \$70,000,000. We would make those reductions on those articles which are most nearly the necessities of life. The burden of the taxes which are most annoying and vexatious to the people. This would in no way cripple or impair the public service. We believe that by a return to proper economy in appropriations a reducing greater than advocated could be made and we should at once enforce this economy. The war being over the war taxes should cease, and the "train" and "excise" taxes following, the war should also terminate.

Will Not Oppose the Bill

We shall not, however, oppose the passage of the bill for it gives some relief, but we will endeavor to properly amend it. If we were, by our efforts, to defeat its passage, we would leave the heavy burden of unjust taxation on the people. The serious objection to the tax levied by this bill, and as they will be left under the law, is that the burden of taxation throughout the country are unjustly distributed. This being true, it is necessary that the revenues collected are inequitable.

BICYCLE RACE

Nine Teams Are Still Whirling Around Madison Square Garden Ahead of All Records.

New York, Dec. 10.—The second day of the six-day bicycle race at Madison Square Garden started in at midnight tonight, with nine teams of the fourteen who first began the contest still on the track and whirling around the garden miles ahead of the record. The ten men are maintaining a frightful pace of speed, but in spite of this they incited one another to straining sprints throughout the day, while the crowds in attendance cheered the leaders wildly. There were many tumbles in the course of the day, but none of the riders were seriously hurt.

Miller and Walthour dropped out, and Colgan, of Trenton, and Dickerson, of Beaver Meadow, Pa., as a team succumbed to the swift pace. About the same time Herbert Bleeker, of Brooklyn, partner of Frank Albert, of New York, was removed to Bellevue hospital in an ambulance, suffering from poison. Bleeker was riding and dismounted at 3 o'clock for a five-minute rest. He was handed a bottle which was supposed to contain a stimulant, but instead contained ammonia, and he swallowed a quantity before he realized the mistake which he had made. Bleeker suffered considerable pain, but it is not believed that his condition is serious. Bleeker and Albert were at the tail end of the procession when the accident occurred.

NEW BASE BALL LEAGUE

Organized at Detroit with Ben Johnson as President—Circuit of Western Cities.

Detroit, Dec. 10.—A new base ball league has been organized, of which Ben Johnson, president of the American league, will be president, says the Evening News this afternoon. The following cities will make up the circuit: Detroit, Grand Rapids, Toledo, Louisville, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City and either Indianapolis or Buffalo. Papers were signed here today by Messrs. Burs and Stillins, owners of the Detroit American league team, leaving both their down town and Sunday ball parks for ten years to Attorney F. J. Navy, who represents the owners of the local franchise in the new league. In order to use these parks the schedule of the new league will be made up so that the Detroit team will be at home when the American league team is on the road, thus giving Detroit continuous base ball all summer.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today, GENERALLY FAIR.

- 1 General—One Good Point in Favor of Second-class City Charter.
- 2 Local—Good Men Demanded for Councils. School Board Acts on Facination Question. Lackawanna County News.
- 3 Local—Bribery Cases Off the List in Criminal Court. Important Bankruptcy Case. Second Week of Quarter Sessions.
- 4 Editorial.
- 5 Washington One Hundred Years Ago.
- 6 Local—Simon Scrushas on Trial for Murder. School Controllers Back from Pittsburg. Nolle Prosequi in McCann Case. Rimorod Coal Deal.
- 7 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania News. Financial and Commercial.
- 8 Local—Doings in the World of Labor.

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF 15

The Body Appointed to Wage War Against Vice in New York Deliberates One Hour.

New York, Dec. 10.—The committee of fifteen appointed by the chamber of commerce to wage war against vice in this city held a meeting today. There were ten men present at the meeting, which lasted only about an hour. The following members declined, for various reasons, to serve on the committee: James C. Carter, Fred D. Tappen, Alfred T. White, Robert W. De Forrest and Adrian Iselin. Mr. Carter sent a letter to Charles Stewart Smith in which he pleaded ill health as the cause of his resignation. Mr. Tappen on account of absence from the city. Mr. De Forrest and Mr. White are both members of the tenement house committee, and as such they are too busy to serve on the committee of fifteen. Mr. Iselin resigns on account of previous engagements, the nature of which he does not state. Mr. Charles Stewart Smith, who attended the meeting yesterday, accepted the resignations and steps were taken to fill their places.

Ten men were appointed to the committee, as well as the names of the gentlemen who will be asked to serve in place of those resigned, were kept secret.

WORKS PRACTICALLY DONE BY CONTRACT

Instead of Having a Delinquent Collector for Each Ward, Each Year, One Man Gives Bonds in the Sum of \$100,000 That He Will Collect and Turn Over Every Cent of Taxes Levied, and for Doing This He Is Allowed a Commission of Five Per Cent. Which the Law Imposes as a Penalty on the Delinquents—It Would Mean a Great Saving to the City of Scranton.

One thing on which all Pittsburg and Allegheny agrees is that the provision of the second class city laws, creating the office of delinquent tax collector and regulating the duties thereof is one of the best bits of legislation on the statute books. And it needs little argument to convince Scranton that what Pittsburg and Allegheny believes in this respect is pretty nearly right. In a third class city, or to be specific, in Scranton, there is a collector of delinquent taxes for nearly every ward in the city. Where two small wards adjoin one collector sometimes does the work.

Custom or some other unwritten law has made the delinquent tax collector immune from the ordinary operations of the law in this city. The statutes provide that the delinquent tax collectors in cities of the third class must collect and return all delinquent taxes excepting those which are exonerated by the councils or school board. A collector is considered as doing remarkably well if he makes his final settlement in five years and does not ask to be exonerated from more than twenty-five per cent. of his duplicate. There are accounts of delinquent tax collectors on the city's books that extend back almost to the time of the city's incorporation, with only a fractional part of the duplicate collected, or at least turned in. Eichen because of their bonds being of the straw or some like case it is impossible to enforce a collection and the consequence is the city is out thousands upon thousands of dollars.

WORKS PRACTICALLY DONE BY CONTRACT

Pittsburg and Allegheny both had this same trouble until they came under the provisions of the law doing away with ward collectors of delinquent taxes, and turning the work over to one collector, who is under heavy bonds and works by contract. He is elected by the joint councils for a term of five years. He collects all delinquent taxes, and in Pittsburg and Allegheny, all delinquent water rents, and makes monthly returns to the city treasurer, or if it is a district school tax, to the treasurer of the appropriate sub-board. The collector receives 5 per cent. commission on the amount collected, which said 5 per cent. is added to the delinquent taxes, as penalty for non-payment. Taxes become delinquent in March and September, one-half at each time. As an encouragement to the early payment of taxes, a 5 per cent. rebate is allowed on the amount owing those that the whole is paid before the end of March. The collector hires and pays his assistants and clerks out of his own pocket. The city must furnish him with an office, a desk, books and stationery as he requires. If the delinquent tax remains unpaid at the expiration of one year from the date of delinquency of the September installment it is the duty of the collector to file liens against the delinquent's property.

DEATHS OF A DAY

Waynesboro, Pa., Dec. 10.—Elder Jacob Snyder, of the German Baptist church, died suddenly today at his home in this city. Death was due to heart failure. He was 75 years of age. York, Pa., Dec. 10.—A telegram received here today from Chas. S. C. Pettit, of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church, Rev. Pettit was a presiding elder in Pennsylvania for a period of twenty years, but left for South Carolina last March where he became a bishop.

ONE SAVING NEW CHARTER WILL EFFECT

Arrangement for Collecting Delinquent Taxes Conceded by All an Excellent Provision.

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ARTICLE VII. T. J. DUFFY.

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WEATHER FORECAST

Washington, Dec. 10.—Forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday—Eastern Pennsylvania—Generally fair.