Scranton Tribune.

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State Library 1 Ja 1900

NEW TROLLEY ROAD NOW A CERTAINTY

Quo Warranto Proceedings Against Connell Park and Speedway Transit Company Removed.

ONLY OBSTACLE REMOVED

Nothing Now Stands in the Way of the Immediate Construction of the Modern Double Track Trolley Road from Carbondale to Wilkes-Barre Through Scranton and to the Speedway.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

Harrisburg, March 19.—The quo warranto proceedings instituted against the Connell Park and Speedway Transit company by the Scranton Railway company, were today dismissed by Attorney General Elkin. This removes the only obstacle in the way of the immediate construction from Carbondale to Wilkes-Barre, through Scranton and to the Scranton speedway, of a modern double-track, high-speed railway.

The Westinghouse company will equip the road with the most modern street railway appliances. Hogan & Begley, of Philadelphia, will do the excavating and grading. T. J. Duffy.

LIQUOR LICENSE BILL.

The Measure Introduced by Mr. Vaughan Will Come Up for Third Reading.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 19.—The Vaughan bill, making the liquor license fee $550 for three years, passed second reading unanimously in the senate this afternoon, and will come up on third reading tomorrow.

Ex-Sheriff Robinson arrived in the city this evening to help the bill through the house.

The Roth pool bill and the Voorhees bucket shop bill were tonight reported out of the house law and order committee.

The bill increasing the judges' salaries was reported favorably from the judiciary general committee of the house, as was also the Philbin semi-monthly pay bill. T. J. Duffy.

FERREBEE BILL SIDETRACKED

Held Up on Third Reading to Give the Garner Bill the Right of Way.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

Harrisburg, March 19.—Deferring to the wishes of the miners, as expressed at the Hazleton convention, Representative Ferrebee sidetracked his mine inspectors' bill, when it was reached on third reading this morning, to give the right of way to the Garner bill, which received the approbation of the convention, except as to the provision reducing the salaries. Mr. Ferrebee still declares his bill the better one, and believes it is a mistake to attempt to elect inspectors by a vote of the people at large. He is disposed, however, to further defer to the wishes of the miners by refraining from fighting this clause of the Garner bill.

The Ferrebee bill provides, among other things, that the inspectors shall examine each colliery in their respective districts, at least once a month, personally visiting every working and making a record of the conditions as found there as regards the air; report every three months, to the bureau chief, the condition of all collieries, and enforce the law providing that when five men or more are at the foot they must be immediately hoisted. It increases the number of inspectors from eight to sixteen, and decreases the salary from $3,000 to $2,000.

The Garner bill differs from the Ferrebee bill in that it provides for bi-monthly reports to the bureau chief; makes the inspector's salary $1,200, and makes the inspectors elective by districts. At the behest of the convention, Mr. Garner will amend his bill by striking out the clause reducing the salary and substituting a provision for the present salary of $3,000. He will also agree, he says, to have the inspectors report every three months instead of bi-monthly, if it is shown to him that bi-monthly reports would work a hardship on the inspectors. He will fight to the last, however, for the provision making the inspectors elective.

The four other miners' bills were at the foot of today's third reading calendar and could not be reached. There are sixty-one bills ahead of them. Unless specially called up, they will hardly be reached till the latter part of next week. A lobby, of which J. J. Kearney, of Archbald, and Henry Collins, of Carbondale, are the Lackawanna members, is here every day watching the progress of the bills. T. J. Duffy.

TOUR OF INVESTIGATION.

Sub-Committee of General Appropriation Committee to Come Here.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

Harrisburg, March 19.—A sub-committee of the general appropriation committee will go to Northeastern Pennsylvania Friday to spend two days inspecting the charitable institutions that have applied for state aid. Friday will be devoted to the towns of Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Carbondale. All of Saturday will be given up to the city of Scranton. Especial attention will be given to an investigation of the proposition to make the Lackawanna hospital a state institution under the title of the State Hospital of the Northern Coal Fields.

The committee will consist of Representatives McClain, Hope, Howard, McTighe and Baker. Mr. Scheuer is on the sub-committee which goes to Allegheny county. He hopes to be able to recommend liberal treatment of the applications from Allegheny, and it is not improbable that the western delegation will reciprocate when it comes to deal with the Lackawanna appropriations.

Representative Philbin will tomorrow introduce a bill appropriating $17,000 to the Carbondale hospital. T. J. Duffy.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS.

Glance at the Measures Before Senate and House.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

Harrisburg, March 19.—The bill providing for an additional law judge in Luzerne county was favorably reported from the judiciary general committee of the house this morning by Mr. Stroh, of Carbon.

Despite the vigorous attacks made on the bill for an Orphans' court judge in Montgomery county, it passed the house by a vote of 113 to 48. The Insurgents charged that the office was unnecessary and that it was being created solely to make a place for Colonel Solly, who succeeded in giving a solid Quay delegation from that county. The fact that so many judicial districts throughout the state are seeking new judgeships or increased salaries for the present judges had not a little to do with the big majority which the stalwarts succeeded in rolling up for this bill.

Primarily because it was fathered by an insurgent, Mr. Ford, of Allegheny, and secondly, because it was intended to deprive industrial concerns of the labor of children until after they are fourteen, instead of thirteen, as is provided by the factory laws, the new compulsory education law was defeated on final passage in the house by a vote of 83 to 74, the affirmative being twenty short of the requisite constitutional majority.

Mr. Harris, of Philadelphia, who is a large manufacturer and employer of children, made a vigorous fight against the bill. He said he knew from personal experience that the limit prescribed by the factory law is a hardship on hundreds of poor families; that there were many children shut out of employment who had to loaf around their homes because their widowed mothers could not earn enough to clothe them sufficiently to send them to school. Thirteen years, therefore, was limit enough, he said. To raise the limit to fourteen years would be an outrage.

Chairman Orr, of the elections committee, without a blush or a tremor, in his office, in the house, this morning moved to recommit all the election bills. Mr. Bedford, foster father of the Keator bill, raised formal objection and Speaker Marshall refused to entertain the motion. Had it passed, the Beacom bill would have gone back to the pigeon-hole from which it was extracted by the accidental circumstance that a motion prevailed directing the election committee to report to the house last Tuesday all bills which it had before it. No one was sufficiently interested in one way or another to make an exception of the Lackawanna contest bill, and it came out with the rest. The bill was not reached today on second reading, but will likely come up tomorrow.

The new building and loan association bill introduced by Senator Vaughan is simply intended to legalize the custom that has prevailed generally of permitting the bidding for loans in writing instead of by personal offers at the auction. This proviso is included in one of the general building and loan association bills now before the house, but there are strong indications that the bill will fail, and that this clause may be saved the Lackawanna members have incorporated it in a separate bill. This action was agreed upon at a meeting of prominent building and loan association men in Scranton recently.

The bill introduced last night, by Senator Vaughan permitting cities of the third class to sell or lease coal lying under public parks or commons owned by the city and to devote the proceeds to the improvement or policing of the park or commons, is intended to specially apply to Wilkes-Barre. The city owns the coal lying under the river common along River street, and it is said has a market for it. There is enough coal there to provide means of building a parapet wall along the whole river front and make the commons a very attractive pleasure ground.

For the fourth time Senator Vaughan last night launched the municipal home rule amendment of which E. H. Chase, of Wilkes-Barre, is the father. The bill is designed to overcome the constitutional bar to special legislation. It provides that the legislature may pass any law specially for a particular municipality when the law shall have received the approval of a majority of the electors thereof. Should the amendment be adopted it would be possible, for instance, for Scranton to have a city charter of her own making and totally different from that of Pittsburg and Allegheny, or any other city for that matter.

Three times the bill proposing the amendments has passed the senate, but each time it has been allowed to die in the house. It is proposed to leave no stone unturned this time to steer it safely through both houses. Before becoming a law, of course, it must pass at two sessions of the legislature and be approved by a vote of the people. At the best it will be three years before the measure can be made operative.

Colonel Guffey, the leader of the state Democracy, will come here tomorrow to help direct the Democratic ballot reform campaign, and incidentally to deal with the matter of selecting a successor to State Chairman John S. Rilling, of Erie. T. J. Duffy.

LAST WILL OF GEN. HARRISON

Union Trust Company Made Trustee of His Wife Should She Survive Him.

MANY SMALL BEQUESTS

His Sisters, Children and Grandchildren Are All Remembered—All Debts Owing Him by His Son, Russell Harrison, Are Cancelled. Portraits, Family Relics and Furniture Divided.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 19.—The will of General Harrison was filed for probate late today. He bequeaths to the Union Trust company, as trustee of his wife, should she survive him, $125,000, to be invested, the interest to be paid to her during the term of her life.

At the death of his wife, any earned interest not paid to her shall become part of his residuary estate. To his wife he also leaves $15,000; to his daughter, Elizabeth, $10,000, to be paid to his wife as trustee. When Elizabeth becomes of age or marries, she is to have any unexpended balance. If she dies before receiving it, such unused balance shall go to her mother. He leaves $10,000 to be invested by the Union Trust company and to accumulate until his grandson, Benjamin Harrison McKee, shall become of age, when he shall have the principal and accumulated interest. The trustee is authorized, however, to use the interest in the support of the grandson, if necessary. If the grandson dies before becoming of age, the fund shall become a part of the residuary estate. To each of his grandchildren, Mary Lodge McKee, Marthena Harrison and William Henry Harrison, he leaves the sum of $2,500, in addition to other gifts mentioned.

Item sixteen of the will reads as follows: "If another child should be born to me of my present marriage, I give and bequeath to such child the sum of ten thousand dollars. If a boy shall be born to me he shall bear my name and my sword and sash shall be given to him instead of to my son Russell."

He gives to his sisters, Sarah B. Devin and Anna H. Morris, and to his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Scott Parker, each the sum of $500. He bequeaths to his sister, Betty H. Eaton, an annuity of $600, to be paid to her by his executor every year during her natural life, in quarter payments. He bequeaths to his nephew and namesake, Benjamin Harrison, jr., son of his brother John, $500.

To the Indianapolis Orphan asylum he leaves $500; to the Eleanor Home, $500; to the Summer Mission for Sick Children, $100; to his secretary, E. Frank Tibbott, $500.

He sets out that he has already given to his children, Russell and Mary, the jewelry and other things belonging to their mother. These and other articles belonging to their mother he bequeaths to these children. This gift, he says, is not taken to include articles of furniture purchased by their mother for the home and paid for by him. He confirms to his wife all the gifts she has received, all the articles in the house that were purchased within six months before his marriage with her, and all that has been purchased by either of them since this time. He also gives to his wife for the term of her life all other articles of the household used or owned by him at a period earlier than six months before, and that were in the house at the time of his death, except such articles as are otherwise disposed of. He gives to his wife all horses, vehicles and stable furnishings. He directs that all the personal property left to his wife shall at her death be divided among his surviving children, the issue of any that may have died taking the parent's share. His wife is not required to file any inventory of property, nor to give any bond, nor be liable for any loss. He leaves to his wife for the term of her life the North Delaware homestead. He also leaves to his wife and to her heirs six lots in Herkimer county, N. Y. If another child should have been born he would have received $10,000.

All debts owing to him by his son Russell are remitted and the executor is directed to cancel any evidence of such debts. To his wife he leaves all photographs and portraits about the house, his library, table, inkstands, shirt studs and all other personal trinkets not otherwise disposed of.

For His Daughter Elizabeth.

The watches given to him by his wife's mother and his Grand Army cane are to be kept for his daughter Elizabeth. Other canes are to be bestowed as his wife chooses.

To his son Russell he give the portraits of the first Mrs. Harrison, some other portraits and family relics. To his daughter, Mary Harrison McKee, he leaves a portrait of her mother and some other portraits and family relics.

To his daughter, Elizabeth, he leaves some family portraits, medals and relics, together with the gold watch chain, silver toilet set and all his souvenir spoons.

To his grandson, Benjamin Harrison McKee, he leaves his watch and chain and his shotgun. To his brother, Carter, his Loyal Legion badge and a cane to be selected by his wife. To his brother, John, his gold sleeve buttons and a cane.

It is directed that the provisions made for his wife are in lieu of all her interests in the estate as his widow.

All the rest of his estate is left as follows:

It is to be divided into as many equal shares as he leaves children and one additional share for the issue of any child that may have died leaving issue. One such share is given to his son, Russell, in trust for the children of Russell, to be used for the support and education of such children; such portion as is not used before shall be turned over to the child on his becoming of age. In the event of the death of any of such children his share shall be divided among the surviving children. The second equal share is given to his daughter, Mary Harrison McKee, in fee simple. If another child or children should have been born to him, each such child would have one equal share.

The will was drawn up April 20, 1899, and witnessed by W. H. H. Miller, Harry J. Milligan and Howard Cale. In this will he leaves his wife the sum of $100,000, but in a codicil written February 13, 1901, he increases it to $125,000.

SONS OF ST. PATRICK.

They Enjoy a Dinner at the Commonwealth in Harrisburg.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, March 19.—The biennial dinner of the Sons of St. Patrck took place tonight at the Commonwealth. The Sons of Erin is an organization composed of newspaper men and members of the legislature of Irish descent. It has on its rolls as a rule three-fourths of the men on Capitol hill. They, of course, are not all of pure Irish descent, but the anxiety to be in on the St. Patrick's Day celebration leads to the practice of a little deception in surmounting the constitutional bar resulting from carelessness in having ancestors born in places other than the Emerald Isle, and as the committee on membership believes in that good old saying "What does the constitution matter among friends" the applicant finds no trouble in making the deception successful. The deception consist in simply adding a little Hibernian flavor to the name when making application for membership. Alongside of such names as Brennan, Burke, Dougherty, Fahey, McGlathery, Maloney, Murphy, Philbin, Sweeney, Hoban, McClain and the like, are to be found on the society's roster the equally Milesian appellations of O'Stubb, McBerkelbach, O'Koontz, Fitzscheuer, Kilkopp, O'Focht, McHeidelbach, Fitzhumaker and O'James.

Representative Frank McClain, of Lancaster, is the chairman of the society, and its executive committee is composed of George Nox McClain, of the Press; Hugh Donnelly, of the Bulletin; Peter J. Hughes, of the Times; P. J. Hoban, of the Ledger; Peter Bolger, of the Record; R. W. Herbert, of the Pittsburg Times; James A. Sweeney, of the Hazleton Standard, and Representative Harry Hall, of Allegheny.

There were over two hundred present at the Clinks. Peter J. Hughes was toastmaster and responses were made by Representative Thomas V. O'Cooper, ex-Representative John McFaughorn Fow, Representative McClain, George Nox McClain, Representative Fritz Theodore Melkeler, and others.

The hit of the musical part of the programme was the singing of that plaintive old Irish air "Bringet Mein Schaetzlein zu Mehr," by Senator Vaughan and Representative Fitz-Scheuer.

EFFECTS OF STRIKE TALK

Wilkes-Barre Board of Trade Calls Upon President Nicholls to Avert the Calamity.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., March 19.—At a meeting of the board of trade tonight the following communication was addressed to T. D. Nicholls, president of District No. 1, United Mine Workers of America:

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., March 19, 1901.

T. D. Nicholls:

The board of trade of the city of Wilkes-Barre calls upon you in your capacity as president of District No. 1, to resist to the extent of your ability a strike in the anthracite coal region for a recognition of the union on a purely technical point, which will bring widespread havoc and disaster to the miners and business of the anthracite region.

As representatives of the business interests of this community, we look to you, and depend upon you to avert this terrible calamity.

Garrett Smith, Secretary.

Hazleton, Pa., March 19.—The fear of another general anthracite coal strike is causing a great exodus among the foreign speaking miners of the Hazleton region. Tomorrow fifty Italians will go to Johnstown, where they have secured work in the iron mills. Many Hungarians and Italians have engaged passage on outgoing steamers and will remain in Europe until the strike, if one occurs, is over. The probability of a strike has also caused stagnation in business circles.

Shamokin, Pa., March 19.—George Hartlein, secretary of District No. 9 of the United Mine Workers' union, said today that if a general tie-up is ordered two strike calls will be issued simultaneously, one to the miners and another to the engineers, pumpmen and firemen. In this event, he says, the mines will flood of their own accord unless the officials operate the machinery.

Lives on Peatnuts and Milk.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Auburn, N. Y., March 19.—A plat of peanuts and a glass of milk have been the daily diet of John A. Kraus, aged 21 years, since the beginning of Lent. He has gained eight pounds in weight. The cost per week is 42 cents. "I eat the peanuts and drink the milk at noon every day," he said. "I never felt better and believe I could live on peanuts and milk the rest of my life."

Indictment Against Barker.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, March 19.—The grand jury of Hudson county, N. J., today handed down an indictment against Thomas G. Barker for the shooting of the Rev. John Keller at Arlington on February 8 last. The indictment has three counts, one for atrocious assault, one for assault with intent to kill, and one for simple assault.

Superior Court Decisions.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, March 19.—Among other decisions handed down by the Superior court today were the following: McCollum vs. Perrigo, Susquehanna county; affirmed. Smith, J., Rodinhorrick township, Susquehanna county; affirmed. Potter's estate, Susquehanna county; affirmed.

SESSIONS AT HARRISBURG

The Doings of a Day in the Senate and House of Representatives.

MEASURES INTRODUCED

A Bill Making Horse Racing and Pool Selling Lawful Is Reported Favorably from Committee—Poultry Bill Defeated on Second Reading—Mr. Haines by Request Introduces a Bill to Increase Taxation.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, March 19.—Among the bills reported favorably from committees to the senate this afternoon was that of Mr. Boyd, of Fayette, which makes pool selling and bookmaking lawful and provides for the appointment of a state racing commission to regulate horse racing.

The bill of Mr. Stiles, of Lehigh, which permits agricultural societies and driving clubs to carry on horse racing and allows them to sell pools and make books, which was on the calendar for final passage, was laid over for the present, on request of Mr. Stiles.

The bill providing for bicycle side paths in townships and providing for the election of side path commissioners, was defeated.

The senate concurred in the house amendments to the senate bill enabling city, county, poor, township, ward, school and borough tax collectors to collect taxes, for the payment of which they have become personally liable, or for which they shall, during 1901, become personally liable without having collected the same by reason of the expiration of his term of office, and to extend the time for the collection of the same for one year from the passage of the act.

The bill authorizing the trustees of any state normal school to refund its bonded indebtedness at a lower rate of interest and to include in the reissue of bonds a limited amount of additional indebtedness contracted prior to the passage of the act, was recommitted to the education committee for a further hearing.

The bill prohibiting the buying of or contracting for, in order to sell again, any poultry or other farm products while on their way to public market, was defeated when it came up on second reading.

Bills Passed Finally.

These bills were passed finally:

Authorizing any borough on the written request of the board of health to cosine and pave or completely enclose any creek, run or natural waterway other than navigable streams, and for this purpose to enter upon, condemn and take property and material necessary for such purpose.

House bill amending an act authorizing the state treasurer to refund collateral inheritance taxes so as to provide for an extension of the limitation of time within which applications shall be made in certain cases.

Authorizing judges of the court of quarter sessions, magistrates and justices of the peace to commit vicious and incorrigible minors of the male sex to the Philadelphia protectory for boys in Montgomery county, providing that parents or guardians give their consent.

House bill regulating the manufacture and sale of commercial fertilizers and providing for any violations of the act.

Providing for the care of persons of aggravated intemperance habits.

House bill making an appropriation for extraordinary expenses incurred by the soldiers' orphan commission.

Authorizing courts of quarter sessions to grant licenses to sell intoxicating liquors at retail, wholesale, or by brewers for a longer or shorter period than one year in certain cases:

Bills Introduced.

These bills were introduced:

By Mr. Focht, of Union—Providing that all contracts for printing, the payment of which is made by the state, shall be awarded to residents of Pennsylvania, and the work shall be done in printing establishments located in the state.

This bill was drafted by Colonel Thomas M. Jones, of the Harrisburg Telegraph. At present the reports of the Supreme and Superior court are printed by a firm in Massachusetts, which was able to underbid the Pennsylvania printers because it employs cheap female labor. The judges of the court in question will heartily endorse the bill, it is claimed, as they complain of aggravating delays in the transmission of proof sheets and the delivery of finished work.

By Mr. Williams, of Butler—Prohibiting the sale of cigarettes and providing a penalty of $100 for the first offense and $300 for each subsequent violation.

By Mr. Edmiston, of Bradford—Providing for reviewing the proceedings of township road commissioners in laying out, opening and vacating roads.

By Mr. Weiler, of Bedford—Amending section 8 of the act creating the Superior court so that it shall read as follows: "Whenever hereafter four or more judges of the Superior court are to be elected for the same term of service, and whenever after the first Monday in January, 1909, two or more judges of the court are to be elected for the same term of service, each elector may vote for as many persons, less one, as there are judges to be chosen at said election."

By Mr. Haines, of York—By request, taxing money and stocks and bonds and other property now taxed for state purposes an additional mill on the dollar, taxing all real estate one mill on the dollar, taxing all telegraph and telephones and wires from forty cents upward for each pole according to the size of the pole and the number of wires it carries, taxing vehicles, automobiles and traction engines according to their size, all of which tax shall be paid into the state treasury to be set apart and be known as "the state fund for public roads, streets, highways and bridges." And providing that the said state fund shall be equitably distributed and paid to the county commissioners of the counties and into the treasuries of the counties and into the treasuries of first and second class cities, and by the county commissioners equitably distributed and set apart to the credit of the several townships, boroughs and third class cities therein; providing for the expenditure of the said state fund in the opening, construction and maintaining of a system of improved roads, streets and highways in all cities, boroughs and townships of the commonwealth, in cities by the municipal authorities and in all townships and boroughs by the county commissioners, with the advice of the respective road supervisors; providing for a side-path in the townships for bicycle riders and pedestrians; providing for a maximum charge for the transportation companies of stone and other materials to be used for the purpose of road construction, as provided in the act, and providing for a limitation of the act to ten years from July 1, 1901.

The senate, at 5.45 p. m., adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Work in the House.

Philip H. Johnston, of Philadelphia, was today elected architect for the proposed Pennsylvania building at the Buffalo exposition, at a meeting of the Keystone state commission.

These bills were passed finally:

Amending the act of May 14, 1874, exempting from taxation public property used for public purposes and places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit and institutions of purely public charity, so as to include all assessments for paving, sewers, water pipe and other municipal charges.

Repealing an act relating to the election of supervisors in Middletown, Susquehanna county, and for other purposes.

Amending section 4 of the act of April 28, 1899, relating to the employment of male prisoners of jails and workhouses, providing that in certain cases the prison board shall be permitted to direct the work of prisoners to be done in the streets of the borough where the prisoner has been imprisoned.

Providing for the taking of depositions in cases pending before magistrates and justices of the peace.

The game commission bill was defeated on final passage.

A bill establishing interstate comity in teachers' license, by authorizing the endorsement and validation in Pennsylvania of Normal school diplomas and permanent certificates granted in other states, was also defeated.

The house adjourned at 5 o'clock until 10 tomorrow.

PRISONERS IN MUTINY.

Convicts at Leavenworth Are in a Mine Holding Some of the Officials as Hostages.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Leavenworth, Kan., March 19.—In the Kansas state penitentiary coal mine at Lansing, 288 prisoners, who went down into the mine on Monday morning, have mutinied and are holding fifteen guards as hostages. They refuse to let the guards come to the surface until Warden Tomlinson promises to give them better food. They threaten to kill the guards if their demands are not complied with. The mines are worked by the worst class of convicts, and among those who have mutinied are twenty life prisoners.

Warden Tomlinson has refused to grant the demands.

The mutinous convicts have killed the mules used in the mine and are living on this meat. Serious trouble is apprehended if it is found necessary to send deputies into the colliery.

ANOTHER SEELEY DINNER.

Seventeen Colored Persons Arrested in Dishabille in Philadelphia.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, March 19.—Despite Philadelphia's reputation for alleged slowness, the police of the Nineteenth district last night raided a masquerade party in a private house at 915 Giving street, which in some respects gave the celebrated Seeley dinner cards and spades. Seventeen negro prisoners of both sexes were arraigned this morning in the police court in various stages of dishabille.

One man was attired in a small piece of rag carpet wrapped around his body, while a woman whose attire was a tablecloth and had been hastily donned when the police entered. Another man's garment was a piece of feminine underclothing, while still another wore a similar covering. All the prisoners were committed to the house of correction.

WOULD NOT APPEAR IN TIGHTS

Bertha Watzinger Therefore Lost Her Situation in Operatic Troupe.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Milwaukee, March 19.—Bertha Watzinger, of grand and comic opera fame, has refused to appear in tights in this city and the management of "The Rounders" has let her go.

Miss Watzinger is a Madison, Wis., girl, but most of her family live in Milwaukee. Several hundred students were arranging to give her a great reception. She has been on the stage for several years. She had sworn that she would never appear near her home in anything less than a long gown.

Mr. Schwab's Salary Not Fixed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, March 19.—The Leader says: It was learned today that the reports that Mr. Schwab is to be the head of the combine at a salary of from $800,000 to $1,000,000 have no basis in fact. Mr. Schwab will become the president if he wishes, but that will have to come about in the legal selection of officers after the combine is formed, at which time the salary question will be settled.

Murray Hall's Will.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, March 19.—The will of the late Murray H. Hall, the woman who masqueraded as a man for many years, was filed for probate today. All the property is left to Imelda A. Hall, and she is requested to have a headstone erected "over the grave of my deceased wife, Celia F. L. Hall." Imelda A. Hall is said to be the adopted daughter of Murray H. Hall.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today.

RAIN; WARMER.

1 General—New Trolley Road Now Assured.
Will of Ex-President Harrison.
Boers Will Continue the War.
Work of the Legislature.

2 General—Carbondale Department.

3 Local—Wade M. Finn Indicted.
Silk Mill Operators Refuse to Arbitrate.

4 Editorial.
Note and Comment.

5 Local—Great Damage by Yesterday's Fire.
Reorganization Ordinance Will Be Amended.

6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.
Financial and Commercial.

7 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania.

8 Local—Operators Invited to a Conference April 1.
Live Notes of the World of Labor.

GEN. BOTHA DECLINES

The Proposed British Terms for Surrender Are Unsatisfactory to Him.

BOER WAR WILL CONTINUE

Secretary Chamberlain Informs the House of Commons That General Botha Has Rejected Peace Terms. Devastation of De Wet's Old Camping Grounds—Status of the Former Republics in the Eyes of the United States Government.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, March 19.—Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, today informed the house of commons that General Botha had rejected the peace terms offered by England.

General Botha, Mr. Chamberlain said, had conveyed the information in a letter to General Kitchener, in which he announced that he was not disposed to recommend the terms of peace General Kitchener had been instructed to offer him to the earnest consideration of his government. He added that his government and its chief officers entirely agreed with his views. Mr. Chamberlain added:

"I propose to lay the papers connected with the negotiations on the table tonight."

Washington, March 19.—The status of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony in the eyes of the government of the United States probably will be for the first time fixed when a consul general is sent to Pretoria to succeed Adelbert S. Hay. The latter will not return to South Africa.

DEVASTATING DE WET'S CAMP

British Destroy 30,000 Bags of Grain at Wepener—Cattle Captured.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Mafeking, Cape Colony, March 19.—General Bruce Hamilton's force, which is sweeping over the southeast portion of Orange River Colony, has reached Wepener (on the frontier of Basutoland), where the troops found stocks of grain and cattle. They carried away as much as possible, but had to destroy 30,000 bags of grain. The houses at Wepener were found to be intact.

METHODISTS AT STROUDSBURG.

The 114th Session of the Society Is Opened by Rev. S. W. Thomas.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Stroudsburg, Pa., March 19.—The one hundred and fourteenth session of the Philadelphia Methodist Episcopal conference was opened this evening with the thirty-fourth anniversary of the historical service. The meeting opened with prayer by Rev. S. W. Thomas, editor of the Philadelphia Methodist. The main address of the evening was made by Rev. George Reed, president of Dickinson college. Remarks were also made by Rev. C. M. Boswell, of Philadelphia, and President Amos Johnson, pastor of the Cookman church, of Philadelphia.

Reports were listened to from Rev. G. W. MacLaughlin, the treasurer, and Rev. S. G. Grove, the librarian. Rev. J. S. J. McConnell, pastor of the Bustleton Methodist Episcopal church, gave a short history of Stroudsburg Methodists. Over one-half the preachers were present tonight. The first business session of the conference will be held tomorrow morning.

MAY VISIT THE PAN.

Second Brigade, National Guard, Hope to Camp on the Grounds.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 19.—Negotiations are now on between General Wiley, of the Second brigade, National Guard of Pennsylvania, and the Pan-American exposition authorities, that will probably result in a ten days' encampment of the Second brigade at Buffalo some time during August.

The exposition managers have expressed themselves as anxious to have this military organization come in a body. General Willis Huling, of the Sixteenth regiment, who is now in the city, is enthusiastic over the project of such a trip. The Second brigade includes the Fifth, Tenth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth and Eighteenth regiments and Battery B and Sheridan troop, in all about 3,200 men.

Officer Northcraft Acquitted.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Hollidaysburg, Pa., March 19.—W. P. Northcraft, a constable of Johnstown, Pa., was acquitted in the Blair county court today of the charge of feloniously killing Edmund T. Miller at Sabbath Rest, this county, on December 6 last. Northcraft had arrested Miller on the charge of deserting his wife. The latter drew a knife on the officer, but was shot by Northcraft before he could stab him. The plea of self-defence was accepted by the jury.

Seven Gunners Killed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Bombay, Wednesday, March 20.—Seven gunners were killed by the explosion of a howitzer shell at Secundarabaud, India, today.

Postmaster at Chicago.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, March 19.—The president has appointed Frederick E. Coyne, now collector at Chicago, postmaster of that city.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, March 19.—Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: For eastern Pennsylvania, occasional rains Wednesday; much warmer; winds becoming brisk to high southeasterly; Thursday, probably rain.