

BILL WOULD WIPE OUT MANY POSTS

Brumbaugh's Conservation Measure Has Sweeping "Ripper" Provisions

FULL DISCUSSION IS CALLED FOR

Proposed Law Would Do Away With Several Departments and Boards and Combine Their Functions Under One Commissioner

What is regarded as the most sweeping "ripper" bill of the present legislative session is the Conservation bill. It creates a Department of Conservation and charges its head with the enforcement of all laws heretofore enforced by the Departments of Fisheries and Forests; the Board of Game Commissioners; Water Supply Commission, and State Forestry Reservation Commission, and abolishes these respective bodies as a whole.

It was announced that the bill has been sent to interested persons in all parts of the State, the object being to get their views on the various changes proposed. According to the bill there would be at the head of the new department a Commissioner of Conservation, to be appointed by the Governor, and he would name a deputy. The department would be divided into four bureaus to be known as the Bureau of Game, Fish, Forestry and Water, and a bureau to be known as the Bureau of Conservation, to be appointed by the Governor, and he would name a deputy.

The duties of the Department of Conservation, as defined in the bill, are as follows: "Protect and preserve and aid in propagating the game animals, game fowl, song birds and insectivorous birds in Pennsylvania, and collect, classify, preserve and make available to the public information relative to such protection, preservation and propagation."

Provisions of the Bill "Protect and preserve and aid in propagating the game animals, game fowl, song birds and insectivorous birds in Pennsylvania, and collect, classify, preserve and make available to the public information relative to such protection, preservation and propagation."

"Encourage and promote the development of the fishery interests of the State. "Protect and preserve and aid in propagating fish in Pennsylvania, and collect, classify, preserve and make available to the public information relative to such protection, preservation and propagation."

"Encourage and promote the development of forestry in Pennsylvania. "Protect and preserve and increase the timber resources of Pennsylvania, including their protection against fire, and collect, classify, preserve and make available to the public information relative to such protection, preservation and propagation."

"Make a complete inventory of the water resources of Pennsylvania, and classify, preserve and make available to the public the information so obtained; ascertain where waters should be impounded for any purpose, including protection against floods and the increasing of the low water flow in streams for navigation and other purposes, and establish and maintain gauging stations, publish results of information so obtained, and give timely warning of approaching floods."

"Devise and provide for the practical application of methods of conserving, utilizing, purifying and distributing the waters of Pennsylvania. "Adopt and enforce regulations for the proper performance of any duty imposed in the department."

It is not proposed to have the bill introduced for some time, or not until its plan and scope are fully understood by the State. It will probably be introduced in the Senate the latter part of the present month, the Governor in the meanwhile having such alterations made as to meet his views when suggested by those to whom the bill has been sent for examination.

WEINER GETS COAL CONTRACT Lowest of Three Bidders Who Sought to Furnish City Coal

City Commissioner Harry P. Bowman at the meeting of the Commissioners to-morrow afternoon will recommend awarding the contract for furnishing 5,000 tons of river coal to be used at the filter plant and pumping station to Jacob Weiner, at his bid of sixty-eight cents per gross ton.

Weiner was the lowest of three bidders who to-day submitted proposals. Stroh Brothers & Filling Company bid ninety cents and the Harrisburg River Coal and Stone Company bid eighty-nine cents. The coal is to be supplied at the rate of not less than 100 tons daily.

Address Hill Meeting A large audience attended the mass meeting of the Allison Hill Men's Christian Association in Lenny's theatre, 5 South Thirtieth street, yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The meeting was addressed by J. P. Braselmann, president of the association, and G. S. Hartman. A feature of the meeting was a cornet solo by George Carl.

To Entertain at Tea Mrs. C. M. Montgomery, 1903 Market street, will entertain the members of the Queen Esther Society of the Stevens Memorial Methodist Episcopal church, at a tea to-morrow. All members of the society are invited to attend.

COURT HOUSE DENIED RIGHT TO APPEAL

Court Holds That Alderman's Alleged Error Is No Excuse For Suspending Rule on Procedure

An alderman's failure to prepare a transcript of his docket entry in a summary conviction which is to be appealed to the county courts, is not a legal reason for suspending the court rules governing the procedure in such cases, so Judge Kunkel decided in an opinion filed to-day in an action brought by the Commonwealth against the alderman. The court would not allow the defendant's appeal. Eldridge sold Kohr a piano for \$495 but because of alleged defects in the instrument they became involved in a legal controversy. Eldridge obtained a \$50 judgment against Kohr through a decision of Alderman Hovetter and the defendant filed notice of his plan to appeal from the decision.

FIVE SEEKING TO BE DIVORCED

Lloyd Shearer Charged Wife Deserted Him 3 Months After Marriage

Five divorce suits were begun this morning, in four of which the wives are the complainants. Three of those charge cruel treatment. On the grounds of desertion Lloyd Shearer is suing his wife Emma, for divorce, alleging that they were married on October 17, 1913, and that Mrs. Shearer deserted him on January 6, 1914, fewer than three months later.

Barbara E. and John Hartman were married February 16, 1877, and it is charged the husband deserted her in March, 1880. Mrs. Hartman now is suing for legal separation papers. In these suits cruel treatment is charged: Maud vs. John H. Prowley, Blanche vs. Eugene Shirk, Florence vs. Joseph C. Martin.

Bridge Viewers Named Paul G. Smith, Earl E. Graeff and Joseph W. Umberger this morning were appointed a board of viewers to determine whether a new concrete bridge shall replace the old iron structure crossing Wisconsin creek east of Lykens. The viewers are to report to the court next Monday.

Wills Are Probated The will of James S. McClure, late of this city, was probated this morning, and letters testamentary on the estate granted to Anna McClure. On the estate of Teresa Rich, late of Harrisburg, letters were granted to Bernard Schmidt.

Assignee's Bond Approved The \$10,000 bond of Frank J. Schaffner, a local attorney who has been appointed assignee of the estate of I. L. and Derry township, this morning was approved by the court.

City's Financial Statement The financial statement issued by the City Treasurer for the month of February shows that the city's cash balance on February 1, was \$503,122.28; the receipts during the month were \$30,524.72 and the expenditures \$72,895.51.

Neither Side Satisfied Both plaintiff and defendant in the suit of John H. Palm for an insurance claim against the National Ben Franklin Fire Insurance Company, have appealed from the decision of the common pleas court jury. Palm seeks a new trial while the insurance company asks that judgment be entered in its favor and that the verdict of \$280 in favor of Palm be set aside. The court placed the motions on the argument list.

MISSION WORK HINDERED The Rev. E. E. Calverley, Returned From War Zone, Tells of Trouble

The Rev. E. E. Calverley, recently returned from Arabia, yesterday morning preached in the Olivet Presbyterian church. He described his and his wife's work among Moslems. The missionaries at that part of the world, he said, are very anxious for victory for the English as such victory means protection in their work.

Last evening Mr. Calverley spoke at the Immanuel Presbyterian church on "How the War is Hindering Missions in Arabia." The Arabian mission has two missions in the war area. One is at Muskat, where the British are assisting the local Sultan in suppressing a rebellion. The rebellion is being led by a blind Mulla who plays upon the superstitions of the Arabs, claiming that he is able to turn the bullets of the enemy into water so they will not hurt his followers. The uprising prevents the missionaries from visiting their sub-stations.

Another station of the mission is at Busrah, which is a part of Mesopotamia, that fertile valley of the Euphrates—the big river of the Bible. Busrah has recently been captured by the British expeditionary force from India. The war has hindered the missionaries from their usual school and mission work, but increased their medical work. The American missionaries joined the Turkish Red Cross Society, which takes the place of the Red Cross Society, and crowded their homes and hospitals with wounded Turkish soldiers.

MEN TO "UNLIMBER" Members of Olivet Class Plan Good Time at Social To-morrow Night

The Men's Bible class of Olivet Presbyterian church, Derry and Kittittany streets, will hold a social meeting following a short business session to-morrow evening in the basement of the church.

Miss Anna Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Dr. Charles Smith, of Linstown, died yesterday afternoon at 12:30 o'clock from tuberculosis. She was 29 years of age. Surviving her are her father and two sisters.

Funeral services will be held at the home of her father Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the Rev. Mr. Zimmerman officiating. Interment will be in the Linstown cemetery.

2-cent Passenger Rate Law Void Washington, March 8.—The West Virginia two-cent passenger rate was annulled as unconstitutional to-day by the Supreme Court as to the business of the Norfolk and Western Railway Company.

SUPERIOR COURT TAKES UP A MECHANICSBURG CASE

Hears Argument This Afternoon on Appeal Based on Cumberland Valley Railroad Controversy About the Placing of a Track

The Superior Court for the Middle Pennsylvania district began its regular spring session at the Capitol this afternoon, all of the members, with the exception of Judge Porter, being present. Chief Justice Rice presided and with him were Justices Orady, Head, Henderson, Kephart and Tredex. Justice Porter, who has been quite ill for some time, is still confined to his home. No opinions were handed down, but it is expected that before the court adjourns this week it will make public a number of decisions.

Twenty cases were marked for argument, among them the following from Dauphin county: Adams Express Co. vs. Harrisburg; Commonwealth vs. Tradesmen's Trust Company, appeal of William Bryant; same, appeal of Charles D. Kachline; Commonwealth vs. Athas George, appellant.

The case of Corman vs. Central Pennsylvania Traction Company, Dauphin county, was non-pressed. Three cases from Venango county, Commonwealth vs. Bowser, dealing with white slavery, were ordered to be heard in Pittsburgh on April 12. The case of Snyder vs. Snyder, Dauphin, appeal, libel in divorce, was also non-pressed.

The appeal of the Borough of Mechanicsburg from a decision of the Cumberland Valley court was the first case argued. In 1909 the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company laid tracks across Chestnut street in Mechanicsburg without making application for leave to do so from the municipal authorities, and John Gray, foreman of the track layers for the company, was arrested and fined \$50.

The company took an appeal to the Cumberland county court, which reversed the action of the justice, whereupon the Borough of Mechanicsburg appealed to the Superior Court, and the case was argued to-day. E. M. Biddle, Jr., appeared for the borough, and S. B. Sailer for John Gray.

The members of the court, with a number of State officials and attorneys, will be the guests of Governor Brumbaugh at a dinner at the executive mansion this evening.

URGES AID BY DEMOCRATS

Palmer Asks Legislators of His Party to Support Local Option

Democratic members of the Legislature now in this city to-day received letters from former Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer, in Washington, requesting them to vote for the local option bill. Mr. Palmer writes that the request of Governor Brumbaugh, and says that in voting for the local option bill the Democrats are supporting a plank in their platform which declared for local option. He insists that it is not a question of prohibition, but purely one of home rule, and says the will of the people should prevail.

Some of the Democrats in the House said to-day that they know of at least twelve Democratic members who will support the local option bill, and that they intend to make a thorough canvass to see where they stand as a party.

Representative Flynn, of Elk, the Democratic House leader, speaking of the Palmer letter, said that Mr. Palmer's request would have little influence with any Democrat, as the Democratic legislators had all made up their minds one way or the other on the question of local option before hearing from the "Reorganization" leader.

MANY HEAR DR. CAMPBELL

Men's Class of Redeemer Lutheran Church Has Large Attendance

A gathering of a hundred and five men in the Men's Bible class room at Redeemer Lutheran church, Nineteenth and Kensington streets, yesterday morning heard the lesson of the day taught by Dr. E. E. Campbell, of Mechanicsburg, president of Irving College, and the teacher of the large men's class at Zion Lutheran church.

The Young Men's Bible class of Redeemer church holds services Sunday mornings at 9:30 o'clock and is at present making special efforts for increased attendance and membership. Of the hundred and five men present yesterday, many of whom brought their wives to increase the adult class taught by the pastor, the Rev. E. Victor Roland, there were ninety members of the class at fifteen visitors.

The young men's class will hold a meeting to-morrow night. All members are requested to be present as business of importance will be transacted.

SOCIAL AT IMMANUEL

Dr. Jackson Will Address Men's Class on Wednesday Evening

The men's Bible class of Immanuel Presbyterian church will hold a social on Wednesday evening, with Dr. John Price Jackson, Commissioner of Labor and Industry, as lecturer; Mrs. Wilbur Harris, vocalist, and M. E. Bushman, violinist.

The entertainment starts at 8 o'clock and is free. Dr. Jackson will lecture on "Safety First in Europe." Motion pictures will be used.

Mrs. Eliza V. Crist, aged 69 years, widow of William H. Crist, formerly of Buckeytown, Md., died Saturday morning at her home, 646 Camp street, following a two years' illness of heart trouble. She is survived by two sons, Samuel C. and Charles H. Crist. Funeral services will be held at her late home to-morrow evening at 7:30 o'clock, the Rev. Amos M. Starnes, pastor of Augsburg Lutheran church, officiating. The body will be taken to Frederick City, Md., Wednesday morning on the 6:55 train. Interment will be made in Mount Olive cemetery.

Miss Anna Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Dr. Charles Smith, of Linstown, died yesterday afternoon at 12:30 o'clock from tuberculosis. She was 29 years of age. Surviving her are her father and two sisters.

Funeral services will be held at the home of her father Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the Rev. Mr. Zimmerman officiating. Interment will be in the Linstown cemetery.

Vote to Continue Strike When men of the local Pennsylvania railroad shops who went on a strike here last winter put it to a vote yesterday whether to continue the strike, the ballot returns showed a proposition of four to one in favor of the strike. The voting took place at a special meeting of the members of the Brotherhood of Federated Railway Employees in Eagles' hall, Sixth and Cumberland streets. The railroad company has put men in the places of the strikers.

MAY CALL STATE POLICE TO HALT CATTLE TRAINS

Governor Says He Is Ready to Use Them If the Railroads Disobey Shipping Ban—Nickel Plate Lines Promise to Comply With Order

The president of the New York Central Railroad Company, which controls the management of the roads embraced in the Nickel Plate system, was quick to take the hint from the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Department that it must cease the shipping of cattle from western points to the eastern markets through Pennsylvania or suffer prosecution, while the foot and mouth disease quarantine lasts.

This morning Attorney General Brown received a telegram from the president of the New York Central saying for his road and the roads controlled by it, meaning the Nickel Plate, that "no more shipments of live stock will be made until further notice from the quarantined districts."

This is held to mean that all shipments have been held up, or routed outside of this State until it has been ascertained that the foot and mouth disease, which has again broken out in the West, has been stamped out. The officials of the Erie Railroad Company have not yet been heard from in response to the Attorney General's letter, but it is not thought that it will defy the order of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board by shipping any more cattle.

Meanwhile the board is keeping close watch on all cattle shipping points from the West into Pennsylvania and will halt them at the border should an attempt be made to ship by any company. Governor Brumbaugh has been kept informed of the situation and says that if necessary the State police will be placed on guard at the State line to halt any cattle trains from the west, and he insists that the order of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board shall be carried out to the letter.

The cattle shippers in Chicago and other western points have been given to understand that they ship cattle at great risk if the cattle are to be sent through Pennsylvania, and although they consider it a hardship, the State authorities are determined that no more outbreaks from this source shall afflict the Pennsylvania cattle.

WOMEN MADE VICTIMS OF BAND OF PURSE SNATCHERS

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from behind. She put up a struggle and soon the man who attacked her ran away. It was not until he had disappeared that she noticed that her hand bag had been cut from the handle and was missing. Miss Allen span an alarm but her assailant had disappeared. She could give no accurate description of him and she was uncertain whether it was the man who alighted from the trolley car or the one who got out of the automobile, who had attacked her.

A pocketbook containing a gold watch and gold rimmed glasses was stolen from Mrs. Anna McDaniels, 1417 Market street, at Fourth and Market streets, Saturday night. This was reported to the police last night. Mrs. McDaniels could give no description of the thief and the police have nothing to work on.

The thieves have been snatching pocketbooks, taking the money or other valuables out and throwing the empty boxes away or dropping them in mail boxes and thus covering up incriminating evidence.

Women are cautioned by the police to be careful of the way they carry handbags and pocketbooks and to report losses to the police as promptly as possible. A report made several hours late is valueless to the police, but if a search is made immediately following the theft there is a chance that the thief may be arrested.

Often women hesitate to report such thefts and it is believed that scores of women are committed without the police being informed. On one occasion it came to the knowledge of the police that a woman was "held up" on Fifteenth street, but the thief got nothing. She would make no formal complaint to the police but the police subsequently sought her out. Five complaints from the Allison Hill district have been made in the last few days.

MANY MEN AT DERRY STREET

O. P. Beckley Speaks to Class of 275 At United Brethren Church

That men are becoming interested in Sunday school work was shown yesterday in a report from a class of boys taught by Lewis R. Hibshman in the Derry Street United Brethren Sunday school, Fifteenth and Derry streets. In Mr. Hibshman's class were twenty-five boys.

"How many boys here have fathers in the men's class downstairs?" was asked, whereupon twenty-four hands shot into the air.

Despite the storm 275 men gathered at the session of the men's class of Derry street church yesterday to hear of stirring address by O. P. Beckley, one of the teachers. Mr. Beckley spoke on "Filling Your Job," pointing out that the men's class is a dignified and important job of mind driving that the Lord made him a king.

"How many of you fellows that are whining because you are not promoted," asked Mr. Beckley, "are laying down on the job where you now are? Are you so dignifying your place that the boss will be justified in calling you into the office some bright morning to tell you he has a better place for you? You mustn't forget that the man who doesn't work at the job he has is likely to loaf on the next he gets."

Prayers were offered for local option yesterday by a score of men in a season of sentence prayer. At the suggestion of H. L. Carl, another of the teachers, the men of the class determined to send personal letters to Representatives Whitman and Swartz, and to Senator Beidleman asking that they support Governor Brumbaugh in the local option fight.

Vote to Continue Strike When men of the local Pennsylvania railroad shops who went on a strike here last winter put it to a vote yesterday whether to continue the strike, the ballot returns showed a proposition of four to one in favor of the strike. The voting took place at a special meeting of the members of the Brotherhood of Federated Railway Employees in Eagles' hall, Sixth and Cumberland streets. The railroad company has put men in the places of the strikers.

Gospel Crew Goes to York The Gospel Crew of the local Pennsylvania Railroad Young Men's Christian Association will have charge of the services in the Epworth Methodist Episcopal church at York, Sunday, March 14.

LOWER TEMPERATURES WILL STAVE OFF FLOOD

Mercury Will Go Below Freezing and Keep Snow Water From a General Flood—Fourteen Inches of Snow in Greatest March Blizzard Since 1898

Generally fair conditions prevail to-day over the Susquehanna river watershed and with below freezing temperatures expected to-night no material changes will occur in the river stages. C. J. Doherty, observer temporarily in charge of the local office of the Weather Bureau, forecasts a stationary stage of 5 feet for Harrisburg.

Up river stations with the exception of Waterville reported a fall yesterday. Little snow water that has not already been released will run off because of the lowering temperatures. A minimum of 25 degrees is expected for to-night, five degrees lower than the minimum stage of last night. The temperature will not rise high enough during the day to cause a general run of snow water and no precipitation is in prospect.

This storm was the greatest March storm since 1888, the total fall of snow since 7 o'clock Friday evening being 14 inches. It was likewise the heaviest snowfall of the present winter. The previous heaviest fall was February 13 and 14, the total being 11 inches.

Generally fair weather continues over the entire section of the country with the exception of a strip along the Atlantic coast line. Much lower temperatures are expected in the Middle West and Plain States. Fair and colder weather is the prospect for most of the week.

GIBB AND HAGY GO TO PEN

Steal Men Who Robbed Senator's Friend Get From Two and One Half to Five Years

John E. Gibb and Albert Hagy, the Steeltown men who attacked and robbed J. E. Higgins, personal friend of Senator Baldwin, pleaded guilty before Judges Kunkel and McCarrell this afternoon and were each sentenced to pay a fine of \$5 and undergo imprisonment in the Eastern penitentiary for not less than two years and six months and not more than five years.

Senator Beidleman and William B. Boyd, counsel for the defendants, presented petitions, signed by many Steeltown residents, who asked that the young men be shown leniency. Hagy's wife and baby were in court. Much of the jewelry and money, amounting to well on to \$500, that had been taken from Higgins, has been recovered by the police.

RAILROAD CASE BEFORE COURT

Argument Head in Appeal From Public Service Commission

The session of motion court scheduled for the morning, at which it was expected a dozen or more defendants would be sentenced on criminal charges to which they have entered pleas of guilty, got a setback because the court's time was taken up with hearing arguments of attorneys on an appeal from a decision of the Public Service Commission.

The argument involved the question of who shall bear the expense of bridging Centre street, Butler, across the tracks of the Pittsburgh & Western and the Pittsburgh, Lake Erie & Bossmer Railroads, an improvement costing \$150,000. The Butler Passenger Railway Company, which plans to extend its lines over the bridge, was assessed by the Service Commission to pay ten per cent of the cost and the steam railroad companies and the borough each were directed to pay thirty per cent.

The Bessmer Railroad Company appealed. The attorneys argued that the Public Service Commission failed to ascertain the consequential damages to adjacent property that would be entailed through the construction of that bridge and because of that alleged failure the question was raised by the court whether the Public Service Commission in allowing the building of the bridge, "as a convenience to the public in general" had the right to issue such a certificate.

RETAIN FOUR YEAR TERM

United Evangelical Conference Votes Down Extension of One Year

Carlisle, March 8.—The United Evangelical Conference, in session here, has voted down the proposal to change the term of ministers from four to five years. Adjournment will take place to-morrow morning, after the place of meeting for next year has been selected. Saturday's session was important because the ranks of ordained Evangelical ministers were strengthened by recruits. Among those who have been licensed to preach are Halbert Jacobs, W. E. Yingley and C. H. Loyer, of Hanover; Elmer Hill, Jersey Shore; Guy Morgenthaler, York; H. E. Davis, Berwick; A. W. Cample, Nesquepeck; Clarence Getz, Linden; Herman Flick, Salidaysburg.

Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock the ordination sermon was given by Bishop U. F. Swengel, of Harrisburg. At 2:30 p. m. the ordination services were held.

S. P. C. A. Prosecutes Two Men George Jones, 1603 Elm street, charged by Charles J. O'Donnell, agent for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, with driving a horse with a sore shoulder, was fined \$5 before Alderman Hilton Saturday. O'Donnell also arraigned Charles Downey before Alderman Caveny Saturday for allowing three horses to stand in water at Lochiel. He was fined \$10.

Stricken With Acute Indigestion Alex L. Stober, 905 North Fifteenth street, a locomotive inspector at roundhouse No. 2, was taken suddenly ill with acute indigestion while at work at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He was taken to the Harrisburg hospital for treatment. He was much improved to-day.

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HE PLANS BURIAL; THEN HANGS SELF

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before 7 o'clock in the morning, Mr. Geyer shoveled the snow from his path. The note he wrote to his family was found near his body. In that note he directed that his body be buried in the Hillside cemetery, within a stone's throw of his home and adjoining Geyer's church which was named after his father, the late Jacob Geyer. He suggested that the funeral be in charge of the Rev. William Beach, of Royalton, pastor of the church, and the Rev. D. F. Longenecker, of Lebanon. The Rev. Mr. Longenecker years ago was pastor of Geyer's church.

Mr. Geyer had been a farmer and resident in Londonderry township for about sixty years. He moved there with his parents, from Mt. Joy, Lancaster county. Up to the time of his death and for forty years, he was a trustee of Geyer's church. He was church sexton for many years. He served three terms as supervisor of Londonderry township, and was instrumental in the success of the Hillside camp meetings which for a long time have been held annually.

Left Four Sons and Three Daughters Besides his widow, Mr. Geyer left four sons, Samuel, of Conewago; Jacob, who resides on the homestead farm, in Hillside; Abram, of Middleton, and Harry, at Round Top; three daughters, Mrs. A. K. Winters, of Hershey; Mrs. Irvin Shope, Hillside, and Miss Katy Geyer, at home; also two brothers, George, of Royalton, father of John R. Geyer, an attorney practicing before the Dauphin county bar, and Michael, of Hillside.

The funeral services will be held at Geyer's church on Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock and, as suggested by Mr. Geyer, will be in charge of the Rev. Mr. Beach and the Rev. Mr. Longenecker.

LA TOURAINNE NEARS HAYRE

Fire on French Liner Now Under Control and the Vessel May Reach Port To-night

By Associated Press. London, March 8, 2:16 P. M.—The fire on board the French steamer La Touraine has been almost extinguished, and the vessel is steaming to her destination, the French port of Havre, at a speed of 14 knots an hour.

The information here given is the latest report received in Paris. It was sent at 10 o'clock last night by wireless telegraph from a cruiser which is escorting La Touraine.

La Touraine, belonging to the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, left New York February 27 for Havre with 84 passengers on board, including a group of five American doctors and ten American nurses on their way to France for hospital service.

Saturday morning La Touraine was reported on fire at a point about 1,000 miles off the French coast. Help was summoned by wireless, and several vessels responded. The fire was gotten under control and La Touraine, with all on board safe, should reach Havre to-night.

Paris, March 8, 1:01 P. M.—The French Ministry of Marine announced to-day that the fire on La Touraine was "practically out." Word to this effect was received at midnight from one of the cruiser's escort.

NEW OFFICERS AT OTTERBEIN

Pastor of U. B. Church Starts Series of Eight Sermons

At the Otterbein U. B. church, Fourth and Reily streets, the following Sunday school officers have been elected for the ensuing year: General superintendent, Charles Shaffner; assistant superintendent, Clarence Zarger; general secretary, William Ream; treasurer, John Runkle; librarian, William Brownwell; advisory committee, Harry Sollenberger, John Fortenbaugh, Frank Slike; auditing committee, Christian Houseman, Harry Garrett and Russell Kawel.

The Sunday school attendance has increased 150 per cent. over the past year.

A series of eight sermons on "The Attitude of Christ" by the pastor, the Rev. Edwin S. Rupp, began yesterday, as follows: "Christ and the Father," evening; "Christ and the Home," March 14, "Christ and the Saved," evening; "Christ and the City," March 21, morning; "Christ and the Church," evening; "Christ and the Nation," Palm Sunday, March 28, morning; "Christ and the Multitude," evening; "Christ and the Cross"; Easter Sunday, April 4, morning; communion, reception of members, infant baptism and free will Easter offering; evening, "The Risen Christ."

PAYS WIFE \$130 TO LEAVE HIM

Boesch, However, Is Sued for Non-Support by Woman He Married in 1914

Whether agreements entered into by a couple at the time of their separation are binding and act as a bar to a court order directing the husband to pay his wife weekly maintenance money, are questions that will be discussed before the judges at the next term of argument court on March 23, under an order made by Judge McCarrell this morning in the suit of Mary A. against William B. Boesch.

The couple were married in June, 1914, and lived together less than three months, the wife, at the time of her leaving, complaining that "she was physically unable to do the farm work." Both Boesch and his wife had been married before.

When the couple parted, it is alleged, Boesch gave his wife \$130 in consideration that she make no further claim for maintenance, but she subsequently charged him with "non-support" and the court made a \$2-a-week maintenance order in her favor. The legal question on which hinges the husband's liability now will be threshed out by the attorneys in the case.

Secretaries to Meet at Camden The semi-annual meeting of the System Secretaries' Conference of the Pennsylvania Railroad Young Men's Christian Association east of Pittsburgh and Erie, will be held at Camden, N. J., Thursday, March 11. Important features of the program will be reports on the "System Education Work" and "System Religious Work."

CAPITOL HILL

LAWMAKERS MEET TO-NIGHT

The Senate will meet to-night at 9:30 o'clock and the House at 9 o'clock, for the transaction of general business.

The Senate has 16 bills on third reading, nine on second, including the amendments to the Philadelphia port laws, and 13 on first reading, including the measure prohibiting unnaturalized foreigners from fishing in streams of the State and creating a third judgeship in Dauphin county.

In the House more than 40 bills are on the calendar. On third reading there is the general repealer of obsolete, invalid and other laws which have been superseded or declared unconstitutional; bills to establish pension funds in first and second-class cities, for civil service in police, fire and electrical departments in third-class cities, and the Philadelphia housing code repealer. The Spangler bill, fixing salaries for county officials in counties having over 150,000 population, is on first reading.

On second reading are 28 bills, including the Juvenile Court and Allegheny County Court amendments, requiring all public printing to be done within the State, requiring newspapers to file advertising rates before taking State advertising contracts and making third-class city treasurers elective by the people.

Officers Dropped A general order issued from National Guard headquarters announces the discharge of Captain William C. Gesner, Company D, Fourth infantry, and Second Lieutenant Oliver Woods, Company E, Sixth infantry, for failing to comply with regulations.

It is also announced that a commission was refused Irving Achmoody, elected captain of Company I, Sixteenth infantry, who failed to qualify as an officer of that grade.

Complaints Dismissed The Public Service Commission has dismissed the complaints of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company and Kelly Brothers Coal Company against