

## COMMITTEE ACTS ON LOCAL OPTION TO-MORROW NIGHT

Bill Will Be Favorably Reported and May Reach Final Passage Stage in House By Week From To-morrow—Vare Following in Doubt

The Law and Order Committee of the House is called to meet to-morrow night by Chairman Williams, when it is probable that the local option bill will be ordered to be reported out favorably and it will then come up for first reading on Thursday, second reading on the Monday evening following, and on final passage on Tuesday, April 20.

In the meantime both the "wets" and the "drys" are bending every effort to win. It is conceded that the friends of the bill have over eighty votes, and some of them claim ninety, and that the Vars members of the House in Philadelphia have the balance of power, numbering seventeen. They are all said to be awaiting their cue from Senator Vare, and will vote on the local option matter as he desires.

Senator Vare is reported to have said that in the matter of local option he will not attempt to influence his followers in any manner.

With ninety votes in favor of the bill, the "drys" need but fourteen more to pass it, 104 being a majority of the entire House. On the other hand the opponents of the bill deny that it has any number near ninety pledged for it, and say that it has but few over sixty. Great influence is being brought to bear on men who are said to be "on the fence" to bring them into the cold water camp.

Senator Snyder is said to want a hearing by the Judiciary Special Committee on the child labor bill, which would mean that it will not be reported from the Senate committee this week. Of all the platform pledge bills this is the one nearest of accomplishment.

The House will meet to-night and the Senate to-morrow night.

## HER HONEYMOON WAS BRIEF

Wife Seeking a Divorce Says Husband Left Her on Wedding Day

A hearing has been set for June 14, next, in the divorce suit of Bertha vs. Wilcox C. Potteiger, and therein lies the climax to a brief courtship, a elopement and hurried marriage, half a day of domestic bliss, desertion and, eventually, court troubles galore.

Desertion, willful and malicious, is charged by the young wife, who, through her attorney, W. Justin Carter, this morning began the legal fight for separation. The husband in March was paroled in a criminal case for another three-month period on his promise to Judge Kunkel to accept the alternative of returning to and living with his wife, rather than undergoing imprisonment in the county jail or the penitentiary.

Young Potteiger's court troubles date from the summer of 1913, when he pleaded guilty to a serious criminal offense. Subsequently, on August 6, 1913, it was held that he was paroled, eloped to Hagerstown and married the woman now suing him. The wife now charges that he never lived with her for even one day thereafter.

## NEW CHARGE AGAINST FORRY

Man Under Arrest in Lebanon Now Accused of Concealing Weapon

Lebanon, April 12.—Ray Forry, who has been in the police eye for some time and who recently escaped from the Lebanon City Hall and later was captured and arrested on the charge of having robbed Campbell's hardware store, was served with still another warrant on Saturday in his cell at the county jail here.

Forry escaped from the City Hall cell after being locked up by P. & R. Detective Fornwalt. B. H. Booser, chief of the detective force of the Harrisburg division of the P. & R. railroad, and Officer Fornwalt appeared before Alderman R. L. Miller and swore out a warrant against Forry on the charge of having carried concealed deadly weapons, the weapon being a loaded revolver.

## Death of Mrs. Mary Witmer

Lebanon, April 12.—Mrs. Mary Witmer, nee Bachman, widow of the late Professor Peter B. Witmer, of West Main street, Palmyra, died at her home of senile debility, at the advanced age of 86 years. Her health had been excellent all winter but on Sunday she was taken ill and her death was not unexpected. She was a resident of Palmyra since 1877, and one of the oldest residents of the borough. Mrs. Witmer was born on the present Kitzinger farm near Fontana, the daughter of the late Peter Bachman, and married the late Professor Peter B. Witmer, founder and principal of the Witmer Academy, Palmyra. She was a member of Trinity Reformed church, Palmyra. These children survive: Charles K. Witmer, Chief Burgess of Palmyra borough, and Miss Rose Witmer, of Palmyra; Mrs. H. B. Felty and Dr. Peter B. Witmer, of Abilene, Kansas. She was the last of her family. Mrs. Witmer was the sister of the late Mrs. C. C. Gingrich, of Lawn, this county.

## General Strike Is Averted

Syracuse, N. Y., April 12.—Traction officials and labor leaders expressed themselves as well pleased with the outcome of the conference early to-day between the railway authorities and the labor unions, whereby the strike on the lines of the Empire United Railways was declared off and an agreement reached to submit other matters of dispute to arbitration. The settlement was reached after a conference lasting until 1.30 this morning and eliminated the possibility of a general strike that threatened to affect virtually every large electric line in the State.

## Edward P. Moxey Is Dead

Philadelphia, April 12.—Edward P. Moxey, an expert accountant who appeared as a witness for the government in many prosecutions of offenders against the national banking laws, died suddenly in Chicago to-day of heart disease. Mr. Moxey, whose home was in this city, had a national reputation of untangling muddled accounts. He was a witness for the government in the cases against Charles W. Morse, in New York, and John R. Welsh, in Chicago, convicted of violating national bank laws.

Artistic Printing at Star-Independent.

## CRUISER WILHELM MAY MAKE DASH

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early to-day, although Commander Thierfelder expressed the hope that he would be able to do so. It is generally believed, however, that will interne has ship.

One hundred and fifty tons of coal, fifty tons of fresh water and three days' supply of fresh meats, fruits and vegetables were loaded on barges during the night, and were alongside the cruiser at sunrise. These provisions were allotted the raider by Collector of Customs Hamilton after conference with the Washington authorities.

To Remove the 61 Prisoners Arrangements also were under way for removal from the ship of sixty-one British sailors taken by the Kronprinz Wilhelm from the steamships Tamar and Colby, destroyed in the South Atlantic.

Lieutenant Commander Thierfelder, commander of the cruiser, has asked for time to survey his ship and to submit to examination by a board of United States naval officers before making a formal request as to the time he wishes to remain in American waters for full supplies and repairs. His machinery affords a 255 days' voyage from New York harbor to the eastward in fairly good condition, evidenced by the fact that the ship was able to make at least 23 knots an hour Saturday night and Sunday morning in her dash into Hampton Roads through a lane that echoed and re-echoed with the spluttering of wireless instruments of enemy warships. All was shipshape on the Wilhelm at sunrise to-day, officers and sailors in their queer-striking gray uniforms of French army cloth captured from the steamer Gadeloupe presenting a fresh appearance after the first undisturbed night's rest in eight months of persistent and elusive operation on the high seas.

"It was a long voyage from New York to Newport News," said Over Loeant Wanneke, first officer of the Wilhelm, as he looked out on the brilliant sunrise. "But it was a pleasant voyage and in all that time we never touched land. Always we were on the big ocean and now at last we have arrived. Two hundred and fifty-five days from New York to Newport News and the distance is only 270 miles. I wonder what she will be the matter with this ship." The officer smiled as he enjoyed his own joke.

Sank a Neutral Vessel Sinking by the Wilhelm of the neutral Norwegian bark Semanah, bound for Plymouth, February 5, last, promised to-day to present an interesting international case similar to that precipitated by the sinking of the American bark William P. Frye by the German raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich, now interned here. The Semanah was loaded with wheat for England.

The Norwegian ship's cargo was found intact, said Lieutenant Commander Wanneke when asked about the destruction of this neutral ship to-day. "There was no alternative for us. The cargo of wheat was worth far more than the ship itself and from the ship's papers we found that the wheat was insured by the British government. What could we do? We had to destroy her."

Investigation is being made of the conditions under which the Wilhelm slipped out of New York harbor August 3, last, it being reported that she did not have proper clearance papers when she made her dash, as it now develops, under direct orders from the German government. Should it be found that the ship did not secure clearance papers, she would be subject to "pains and penalties" for breach of the customs law of the United States.

Several of the officers and men of the cruiser were wearing the "iron cross," but they refused to discuss the feats performed to gain it.

The sixty-one prisoners now on board the ship, who were taken from the Royal Mail steamer Tamar and the British steamer Colby, still were cooped up in a space on the upper deck and guarded by armed sailors. Efforts to talk to the prisoners were prevented by the guard, but later to-day they will be brought ashore.

Newspapers Banned on Ship A newspaper taken on board and offered to one who begged for it in order to get news from home was confiscated by an officer. Several of the prisoners, including Captain Grichton, of the Colby, and Chief Officer Matthews, of the Tamar, asked that cable messages be sent to their families in England, but before the addresses could be secured the guard intervened and newspapersmen were ordered from that part of the ship.

The crew of the Kronprinz is composed almost entirely of former prisoners, are naturalized Americans and have lived in the United States for many years. Some of them are former members of the crew of the United States battleship Kearsarge and of the German cruiser Karlsruhe, transferred to the Kronprinz in the South Atlantic. Several others were members of the crews of ships sunk by the auxiliary cruiser.

British Vice Consul Kenworthy is in communication with Collector Hamilton concerning the disposition of the prisoners. It is the intention to send them back to England on the British steamer Casandra, now in this port. The Casandra is fitted for carrying passengers, but has been engaged in the freight carrying trade of late. German Vice Consul Grassau also paid an official visit to the cruiser.

Early to-day United States naval patrol of the James river was begun in the vicinity of the Wilhelm's anchorage. The naval tug Patuxent took a position alongside the German raider, while torpedo boats and submarines anchored in positions leading to Hampton Roads.

The provisions taken on by the cruiser were for use in this port only, the last of which was responsible for the epidemic of beri beri.

## MRS. CATHERINE NEFF DIES

Burial Will Be Made at Oberlin on Wednesday Afternoon

Mrs. Catherine Elizabeth Neff, 58 years of age, wife of Amos Neff, died yesterday afternoon at 5.45 o'clock at her home, 1527 Penn street. She was a member of the First United Brethren church.

## AMERICAN SHIPS IN BRITISH PRIZE COURT SEEK RELIEF

London, April 12, 1.30 P. M.—The American steamers Navejo and Joseph W. Fordney, both under detention at the present time by the British marine authorities at Kirkwall, have appealed to the American embassy here to procure their release.

The captain of the Joseph W. Fordney has advised the embassy that British prize crew took charge of his ship off the Norwegian coast.

The Navejo from Galveston to Bremen, has on board a cargo of cotton. She has been ordered to the prize court on the order of council, cutting off all trade to Germany. She was taken into Kirkwall April 7.

The Joseph W. Fordney left New York March 20 for Baltimore. She was taken into Kirkwall April 8.

## LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

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that alone resulted in the recapture of a trench at Epargues the French have not advanced beyond the positions captured by them April 9. Paris admits also that the Germans have recovered some ground temporarily lost by them between Pontamousson and St. Mihiel, but even there the French claim to hold most of their gain.

The fighting in the Carpathians continues along a seventy mile front with apparently undiminished vigor with Russia claiming to have repulsed a determined counter offensive on the part of the Austrians and the Germans. On the eastern bank the Russians are drawing near to Usok Pass. If they carry this position they will command another easy road to Hungary.

Interest in the near eastern situation has been stimulated by the receipt in London of two special dispatches, one of which declares that the recent mission to Berlin of Field Marshal Von Goltz was instigated by the young Turk, who had which Germany must send a strong force to invade Russia and threaten Bulgaria in order that munitions of war might be sent to Turkey, while the other quotes the Prime Minister of Bulgaria as saying a new situation has been brought about by the actions of the allies in the east in which Bulgaria sees a possibility of realizing her national aspirations.

The sinking of the Belgian relief ship Darpaloye on her voyage to the American Relief Commission is awaiting official confirmation of the report that this ship was sent down by a German submarine before making a protest.

Interest in prohibition in England continues unabated with the latest material for discussion supplied by a morning paper which stated that the government is prepared to take the industry of manufacturing light beer at the same time suppressing all other intoxicating drinks.

From Russian sources it is reported that the invasion of Hungary has been begun. A dispatch from Lemberg, Galicia, says the Russians are advancing successfully along a wide front between Bartfeld and Ussok, descending the southern slope of the Carpathians and pressing back the Austrians. In the Duka region also the Russians are said to have routed the Austrians, forcing them to abandon stores and transports in their retreat.

The Meuse-Moselle region is still the scene of the principal contest in the west. Although the French attacks have been made with increasing vigor, Berlin reports that virtually nothing had been accomplished by these tactics. An official review of these operations contains the statement that the Germans have regained all the positions lost earlier in the fighting, with a few unimportant exceptions, and that the French have sustained extremely heavy losses.

London heard rumors to-day of another naval engagement off the English coast. It is said heavy firing was under way off Scarborough, one of the coast towns attacked by the squadron in its raid several months ago.

The bare announcement was received in London to-day that the British steamer Wayfarer had been attacked and torpedoed by a German submarine.

## VON BERNSTORFF COMPLAINED UNDER HOME INSTRUCTIONS

Washington, April 12.—German embassy officials stated to-day that the Ambassador acted under instructions from the Berlin foreign office in presenting the recent note to the State Department complaining that while the United States had failed to maintain its right to export foodstuffs to Germany, American manufacturers were permitted to continue shipping munitions of war in unlimited quantities to Great Britain and her allies.

Some question had arisen as to what Count Von Bernstorff, the Ambassador asked on his own authorities, since the document, a diplomatic "memorandum," was phrased by the embassy.

The memorandum delivered some days ago, was made public last night by the Ambassador. He said that he did so without arrangement with the State Department, recalling that the department itself recently published the American note to Germany on the Frye case, though there had been no agreement for its simultaneous publication in Berlin.

## BERLIN SAYS FRENCH LOSE HEAVILY TAKING TRENCHES

Berlin, via Amsterdam to London, April 12, 4.36 A. M.—The main army headquarters has made public a detailed description of the battle between the Meuse and the Moselle.

While up to April 7 the French attacks were directed exclusively by both German wings, the descriptions say the enemy now is also attacking the center, having gathered forces near St. Mihiel, each succeeding day has ended with a full German success on all the attack fronts. All the trenches lost in these fights have been regained with the exception of a small unimportant part.

The details assert that fighting of the fiercest character has been continued from Wednesday to Friday with the French troops vigorously taking the offensive at a bright white of night, wounded and prisoners, and with the Germans occasionally yielding a trench or two under severe artillery fire but later counter attacking and resuming their old positions.

## Birth of a Daughter Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Saussaman, of Paxtang, announced the birth of a daughter yesterday.

## INSTITUTIONS ASK STATE FOR TOTAL OF \$125,000,000

Chairman of House Appropriations Committee Says Cuts Will Be Made to Conform With Charities Board's Views—Confers With Governor

Representative Woodward, of Allegheny, chairman of the House Appropriation Committee, held a conference this morning with Governor Brumbaugh on appropriation matters.

The appropriations for almost all of the hospitals, State institutions and homes asking State aid, will be reported out of committee this week and Chairman Woodward says a special calendar will be made for their consideration which will have right of way on certain days until all are disposed of.

In almost every instance the sums asked, if beyond those recommended by the State Board of Charities, will be cut down, and in no instance is there to be any allowance for new buildings. The committee has bills in its hands, the total of which is about \$125,000,000, and these will have to be cut down to come within the revenues of the State, which are estimated at about \$62,000,000 to cover all the expenses of the State.

The general appropriation bill, which has passed second reading in the House has been referred to back to committee, will not come out before next week, and in the meantime the heads of departments will be conferred with as to their actual wants.

Governor Brumbaugh is quoted as saying that if the appropriations are kept within the revenues of the State, he will not use the ax, but there is fear that the House and Senate will disregard the recommendations of the Appropriations Committee and raise the appropriations in the bills on their way through the respective bodies, and if they go beyond the estimated revenues the Governor will certainly use his veto ax and will accept the responsibility thrust on him by reckless lawmakers.

## FINANCE

### NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS

	Open.	Close.
Amal Copper	68	68 3/4
Amer Beet Sugar	46 1/2	46
American Can	36	38
do pfd	98 3/4	97 1/2
Am Car and Foundry Co	49 1/4	48 3/4
Am Cotton Oil	49 1/2	52
Am Ice	32 1/2	32 1/2
Amer Loe	32	32 1/2
Amer Smelting	69 1/2	69 1/2
American Sugar	107 1/2	107 1/2
Amer Tel and Tel	120 1/2	120 1/2
Anaconda	34 1/2	34 1/2
Atchafalpa	102 1/2	102 1/2
Baltimore and Ohio	25 1/2	25 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	107 1/2	124
Brooklyn R T	90 1/2	90
California Petroleum	16	15 1/2
General Electric Co	148 1/2	149 1/2
Canadian Pacific	167 1/2	167 1/2
Central Leather	37 1/2	37 1/2
Chesapeake and Ohio	148 1/2	145 1/2
Chi, Mil and St. Paul	92 1/2	92
Chino Con Copper	40 1/2	40 1/2
Col Fuel and Iron	32 1/2	31 1/2
Corn Products	12 1/2	12 1/2
Distilling Securities	10	10
Erie	27 1/2	27 1/2
Erie, 1st pfd	43 1/2	43 1/2
General Electric Co	148 1/2	149 1/2
Great Nor	120 1/2	120 1/2
Great Nor Ore sub	36 1/2	38 1/2
Interboro Met pfd	67 1/2	67 1/2
Lehigh Valley	142 1/2	142 1/2
Louis and Nash	120 1/2	120 1/2
Mex Petroleum	74 1/2	73 1/2
Missouri Pac	14 1/2	15 1/2
National Lead	64	62 1/2
Nev Consol Copper	14 1/2	14 1/2
Norfolk and Western	88 1/2	87 1/2
N. Y. N H and H	81 1/2	81 1/2
Norfolk and Western	104 1/2	104 1/2
Northern Pac	108 1/2	107 1/2
Pacific Mail	22 1/2	22 1/2
Penna R R	109	108 1/2
Pittsburgh Coal	22 1/2	23 1/2
do pfd	95 1/2	95 1/2
Press Steel Car	34 1/2	34 1/2
Railway Steel Spg.	26	26
Ray Con. Copper	21 1/2	21 1/2
Repub. Iron and Steel	15 1/2	15 1/2
do pfd	28 1/2	28 1/2
Southern Pacific	91 1/2	91 1/2
Southern Ry	19 1/2	19 1/2
do pfd	61 1/2	61 1/2
Tennessee Copper	32 1/2	32 1/2
Third Ave	53 1/2	53
Union Pacific	128 1/2	129 1/2
U. S. Rubber	72 1/2	72 1/2
U. S. Steel	55 1/2	55 1/2
do pfd	108 1/2	108 1/2
Utah Copper	59	59
Vir. Carolina Chem	25 1/2	26 1/2
Western Maryland	26 1/2	26 1/2
W. U. Telegraph	66	66
Westinghouse Mfg.	77	76 1/2

## DEDICATE LODGE TEMPLE

Knights of Malta of Reading Open Building Which Cost \$60,000

Reading, Pa., April 12.—Visitors were present from Philadelphia, Lancaster, Pottsville, York and Harrisburg, and four prominent Reading ministers, who are members of the order, made addresses at the dedication of the new \$60,000 Knights of Malta Temple here yesterday afternoon. The exercises were part of a week's jubilee, which opened Saturday with a street parade, in which 2,000 participated.

The principal address was by Grand Commander H. F. Fisher, of Bradock, Pa. The other speakers were the Rev. G. P. Bierman, Dr. H. Gramm, J. Addison Kutz and H. G. Weaver. The festivities of each evening of the jubilee will be in charge of one of the local commanderies.

## HIKED TO READING SUNDAY

Roth Brothers Braved Storm on Jaunt to Berks County

Professor Frank G. Roth, of the Central High School faculty, and Professor Edward B. Roth, physical director at the Y. M. C. A., both sons of Frank J. Roth, court stenographer, yesterday hiked to Reading, a distance of 54 miles.

The brothers left Harrisburg at 4 a. m. arrived in Lebanon at 11 a. m. and after spending two hours in that city departed for Reading, arriving there between 7 and 8 p. m. Rain in the afternoon failed to halt the pair.

## New Jersey Minister Here

The Rev. G. B. C. Mosser, of Pemberton, N. J., will give a talk on "Dispersal of Truth" at the home of C. W. Fenstermacher, 929 North Third street, to-night at 7.45 o'clock.

## ACCUSED OF MOVING HIS NEW TENANT'S FURNITURE

S. Rifkin, Apartment House Owner, Charged by G. A. Wert With Putting Household Effects Into Street Because "Not Good Enough"

If S. Rifkin, the owner of an apartment house at 407 Verbeke street, has adopted a policy that the tenants of his houses must have "well" furniture or comparatively as "good as the house into which it is moved," he adhered to that policy on Thursday, according to a suit filed to-day in which he is charged with "deliberately and maliciously" removing a wagonload of household furnishings belonging to Ort Adair from the Verbeke street apartment and casting it into the street.

Wert found his furniture on the highway when he was about to transfer the second wagon load of his household goods from 1537 Fulton street to the Verbeke street apartment, he says. Much angered, he at once sought to know why he had been "dumped into the street," but he charges that the landlord's only excuse was that the "furniture is not good enough for the house."

Back Wert went to the Fulton street house, taking his furniture with him, and an hour or so later he was in the office of W. L. Looser, an attorney. This morning he began a \$1,500 damage suit against Rifkin, in which he demands "compensatory and exemplary damages." Wert alleges in his action for redress that he had contracted with Rifkin to pay \$2.50 a week for the Verbeke street apartments and that before attempting to move his furniture he paid \$1.50 to bind the bargain.

Rifkin, he charges, now has the \$1.50 and refuses to give it up. It also is alleged that Rifkin was aided in removing Wert's furniture from the house, although the names of the supposed accomplices are not contained in the bill of complaint.

## REPORTS ON UNIFORM LAWS

Commission Submits Its Findings to the Governor To-day

The report of the Commission on Uniform State Laws, consisting of Judge William H. Staake, Deputy Attorney General Hargrett and Walter George Smith, was this morning presented to Governor Brumbaugh. It contains the laws that Pennsylvania has adopted from time to time as prepared by the Uniform State Laws Commission.

The uniform partnership law already has been adopted, and the uniform sales law is now pending, and when passed these will complete the adoption by Pennsylvania of all the uniform commercial laws that have been recommended between States.

There already have been adopted by previous Pennsylvania Legislatures the uniform negotiable instruments act, the warehouse receipts act, the bills of lading act and the stock transfer act. The uniform divorce act will not be presented this year.

Included in the report was the minute adopted on the death of the late Robert Snodgrass, of Harrisburg, who was a member of the commission.

## 1,150 Canadian Soldiers Insured

Hartford, Conn., April 12.—Through the city of Toronto, insurance has just been taken out with a local company. It was learned, on the lives of 1,150 Canadian soldiers of the second expeditionary force for which Lord Kitchener has called to go to the fighting line. The amount on each man is \$1,000. For three years the city of Toronto will pay the aggregate premium of \$45,000. After that the men will be expected to pay the premiums themselves.

## Japs Aid Widows of U. S. Sailors

By Associated Press.

Honolulu, April 12.—The Japanese cruiser Tokiwa put in at Honolulu late Saturday and remained several hours before proceeding. Admiral Tachibana conveyed to the United States authorities here condoleance of the Japanese Emperor on the loss of the crew of the submarine F-4. Officers and crew of the Tokiwa contributed \$200 to the relief fund being raised for families of the F-4's dead.

## Kreider Shoe Factories Very Busy

Lebanon, April 12.—The Kreider shoe factories located at Annville, Palmyra, Elizabethtown and Middletown, have received a very extensive order for fall shoes from the various distributing houses operated by Congressman A. S. Kreider, of Annville. The local plant recently received its share of the order and now has enough orders on hand to keep the plant running steadily until July 18 of this year.

## 'Eben Plympton,' Actor, Dies

By Associated Press.

New York, April 12.—Eben Bradley, known on the stage as "Eben Plympton," one time leading man with Mary Anderson, died here to-day of pneumonia. He had been ill nine days and in poor health a long time. He played leading roles with many stars, including the Booths, Clara Morris and Mme. Modjeska.

## Eight Indicted For \$5,050,000 Deal

By Associated Press.

Chicago, April 12.—Indictments against John Parson, Jr., and his brother, William Parson, and six other men charged with misuse of the mails in the sale of securities amounting to \$5,050,000 in a Colorado Irrigation deal were announced to-day by the United States Attorney's office here.

## Thieves Break Skylight and Run

Thieves early this morning were frightened at the noise when they broke the skylight in the drug store of Croll Keller, 405 Market street, and they vanished before persons from the St. James' hotel adjoining got to the rear of the store. The screen was removed from the top of the skylight and the glass broken. Nothing else was disturbed.

## KNIGHTS OF ST. GEORGE MEET