



66th YEAR.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1909.

NO. 24

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Last Month of Legislative Session

Grand Total of Appropriations \$82,000,000—The State Automobile Road Gets a Black Eye—Several Important Bills Signed by the Governor.

MARCH 20th.—Next week the Legislature will start on the final month's work for this session and the Rules Committee has provided for three sessions a day for most of the time, in order to get away with the major part of the work ahead.

The General Appropriation bill was read for the first time this week, and will be referred back to the Committee for the purpose of amendment. It carries a total of \$27,461,824, but will probably be larger when it comes up for final passage.

The big appropriation bill carries \$15,000,000 for the use of the public schools, which means that there will be no increase over the amount given two years ago.

The Health Department gets over \$3,000,000, which is a substantial increase, and brings this next to the schools and charitable institutions as a heavy charge on the State's income.

Some unworthy ones will fall by the wayside also. There will be few increases in the number of office holders in the State, by legislative enactment, and fewer increases of salaries.

Not much will be done for the rest of the session, except as to appropriations. The school law finds hard sledding, the mine act meets stumbling blocks, the pension bills are nearly dead.

The osteopaths won a victory this week when the Governor signed a bill providing for a State Board of Examiners for that school of doctors.

When King Edward travels abroad "strictly as a private citizen" he takes along a retinue of retainers and a bodyguard of police so as to prevent the common people from seeing through his nature fake.

Even the "first lady in the land" has her troubles, for hired girls in the White House get "sassy" and quit the same as they do outside.

In the fight for national supremacy in sea power it's the longest purse that gets there.

If congress will press the button on tariff settlement the people will do the rest.

The Point of View. The Organ Grinder—How's business? The Scissors Grinder—Fine! I've never seen it so dull.—Cleveland Leader.

Africa's cannibals and fever microbes alike will forever regret the hour they start in to regulate strenuousness in Theodore Roosevelt's corporation.

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cide cases, but limiting compensation to \$400 per year.

Candidates for State offices to be filled this year and next are out with announcements. This year will be chosen an Auditor General, State Treasurer and Judge of the Supreme Court.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Closing Stock Quotations.

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes items like Amal. Copper, Atchison, B. & O., Brooklyn R. T., Ches. & Ohio, C. C. & St. L., D. & H., Erie, Gen. Electric, Ill. Central, Int.-Met., Louis. & Nash, Manhattan, Missouri Pac., N. Y. Central.

Market Reports.

WHEAT—One cent lower; contract grade, March, \$1.23 1/2. CORN—One cent lower; March, 70 1/2 c. OATS—Steady; No. 2 white, natural, 58 1/2 c.

Judging from the space which a certain class of periodicals devote to the exposition and discussion of various uplift problems, such as children in the public schools, public playgrounds for children, sanitation in the home and home surroundings, social betterment and social morals, woman suffragists have strong grounds for their argument that this is pre-eminently an age when women should acquire a firmer hold upon public affairs.

Sir Conan Doyle nobly acknowledges having received the inspiration for his Sherlock Holmes stories from Poe. He got a pallet of straw and a crust for the output of his genius, while the Briton who worked out the vein got rich.

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MRS. FARMER ILL

Woman Collapses When Told She Must Die.

TO BE ELECTROCUTED MONDAY

Governor Hughes Intimates That No Further Application For Clemency on Her Behalf Will Be Considered.

Auburn, N. Y., March 23.—Mrs. Mary Farmer, the convicted murderer of Mrs. Sarah Brennan, broke down today when told that she must die in the electric chair next week, as Governor Hughes had refused to consider any further application for clemency in her behalf.

The woman wept profusely and became so ill that the jail physician was called to attend her.

Mrs. Farmer will be the second woman in this state to die in the electric chair. Mrs. Martha Place, who killed her daughter in Brooklyn, was the first, she having been put to death on March 20, 1899, in Sing Sing prison.

Governor Hughes in denying the application for executive clemency, made on the ground that the woman was insane when she committed the crime, issued a statement in which he gives his reasons for so doing.

"In this case or in other capital cases," says Governor Hughes, "there are those who ask for executive interference because they are opposed to capital punishment, but the law of the state is that 'murder in the first degree is punishable by death.'"

"However important to the interests of justice may be the exercise of the pardoning power in exceptional cases, the executive has no right to use this power for the purpose of effecting a practical repeal of the law. It is his duty to see that the sphere of his executive action that the law of the state as to murder as well as other laws is faithfully executed."

"As the prisoner is a woman, there are those who urge that capital punishment in such a case is revolting and that the sentence should be commuted upon the ground of sex. The law of the state regarding murder makes no distinction between the sexes, and a woman who is found guilty of this crime is subject to the same penalty as a man. The law should be impartially enforced."

The governor points out that the appeal for executive clemency was made on the ground that the prisoner is insane, but that the case differs from one in which it is claimed that insanity has supervened since conviction. The plea of insanity was made at the trial, and the governor says the question was "fully and fairly litigated." The governor quotes the law defining insanity and continues:

"It is important for the protection of society that this test should not be obscured and that those who are deliberate murderers within this test should not escape conviction and punishment. It should be clearly understood that depraved persons and so called degenerates who are nevertheless responsible under the law cannot commit murder with impunity."

"A most careful examination of the facts in this case leads to the conclusion that the conviction was just. The murder was most brutal and was unattended by any circumstances affording the slightest basis for extenuation or appeal to sympathy on the prisoner's behalf."

CORNELL STEEL FIRM FAILS.

One of the Oldest Companies Forced Into Bankruptcy.

New York, March 23.—One of the oldest and best known firms manufacturing structural steel was thrown into bankruptcy when an involuntary petition was filed in the United States district court against the J. B. & J. M. Cornell Co. of this city.

A petition was filed by the Bethlehem Steel company, Fremont & Co. and T. P. Kelly & Co., with claims for goods sold amounting to \$46,375.99. A. Gordon Murray and Michael Blake were appointed receivers, with bonds of \$100,000 each.

The alleged bankrupt company is said to have unsecured liabilities of \$500,000, with uncompleted contracts of more than \$1,000,000, and outstanding bonds, secured by a mortgage on the plant, amounting to \$600,000.

This failure is regarded as one of the most important that has occurred in the iron and steel industry since the existing period of business depression set in.

LOCAL MATTERS.

ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT

What Townsfolk are Doing—Business Changes and Other Happenings.

Lambert Artman met with an accident on Thursday afternoon last. He was driving along River street, near the Brandamore house, and tried to turn the horse and wagon around. At this place there is no guard rail along the thoroughfare, and the horse backed the wagon down the embankment, which is about fifteen feet high.

On Friday afternoon last a horse owned by Sheriff M. Lee Braman became frightened by a noisy carpet-cleaning machine, operating on South Church street. The animal made a dash up the street, throwing the driver, Edward Hempstead, from the wagon. Mr. Hempstead was cut about the face and head, and was taken into the office of Dr. W. T. McConville, whence, after treatment, he was removed to his home on Main street.

Horace Dexter, of Laurella, was brought before Justice of the Peace R. A. Smith, on Thursday afternoon, March 18th, charged with threatening to kill J. W. Mills, and also with cruelty to animals. He was found guilty in each case, on the first charge being put under bonds to keep the peace, and on the second fined thirty dollars and costs, the whole amounting to \$50.61. He gave cash bail.

While driving to Honesdale, last Thursday afternoon, William Strofa, a butcher employed at Herzog's meat market, fell from the wagon and sustained a fracture of two ribs. Mr. Strofa and George Masker went to Prompton that day for a wagon-load of wood, and when near Dein's hill, on the return trip, the former attempted to take hold of the brake, but fell to the ground and was passed over him.

Conductor Ward and his crew of the Delaware & Hudson passenger train, enjoyed their monthly three days' vacation last week. A crew from Carbon-dale had charge of the train during their absence.

An unusual number of business changes are taking place in Honesdale this spring. Commencing down town, C. J. Weaver will shortly occupy his new Commercial Hotel, formerly the Coyne House; the Boston Store will remove to the A. A. Grambs establishment. Mr. Grambs going out of the mercantile business; Smith's shoe store will be removed to the Dittrich building.

Mr. Oscar Terrel is offering his store and stock for sale; George B. Kimble is closing out his stock of merchandise at cost, and will devote himself exclusively to the carting business, his store having been leased to the Wayne Cooperative Company, who will remove from the Kidge-way building; Martin Galvin has sold his livery business to Herbert Plum, of Hawley; the Theatorium on 7th street is to be renovated and brought fully up-to-date as a family theatre for moving picture and vaudeville entertainments; the Galvin living rooms over the Herald office are being adapted to the uses of the Knights of Columbus; Schwenker, the baker and confectioner, has established himself in the Powell building; the manufacturing corporation of the Durland-Thompson Co. has been changed to the Durland-Weston Shoe Co.; William H. Kranz has withdrawn from the Honesdale Shoe Co.; and will be at the head of the Honesdale Footwear Co., with a new concrete factory at the foot of Park street; a new photographic gallery will be opened by Thomas Charlesworth, in the Schuerholz building; and many minor changes have been made or are contemplated in the personnel and management of other business concerns.

The Carbondale Leader announces the arrival in that city from Albany of C. E. McKim, a prominent official of the Del. & Hud. Company, for the purpose of putting in commission a number of Pennsylvania engines hired to assist in relieving the coal congestion now existing there. It will be some time before the local firemen, who are used to handling hard coal, will be able to manage the soft coal burners. There are several thousand cars of coal in the local yard and along the road that are standing still because of the lack of power.

The Wayne County Fair will be held Oct. 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. The Association has secured at a great expense Fred. D. Darling's Animal Circus, as a free attraction. The show consists of dogs, ponies and monkeys, and has performed in all the large cities of the United States, Europe and Mexico.

Elijah Swingle, formerly a resident of South Canaan, who, after 47 years of service as a brakeman, lost both legs in an accident at No. 5 Pennsylvania Coal Co.'s colliery, Dunmore, on March 21, 1906, was in the Lackawanna court last week, as plaintiff in a suit against that company for damages. Swingle is now 66 years old, and is a survivor of the old gravity days when a brakeman had none of the safety appliances now provided for him by the government laws. He survived the days of the link and pin coupler and all other death traps to be finally caught after nearly a half century of experience.

WM. CONNELL'S DEATH.

Scranton's Multimillionaire at Rest—An Active and Useful Life Ended.

William Connell, former congressman, extensive coal operator, capitalist and philanthropist, died at his home in Scranton on Sunday last, March 21st, 1909, from a stroke of apoplexy.

He was born at Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Sept. 20, 1827, his parents being of Scotch-Irish descent. When he was a child his parents moved to Hazleton, Luzerne county, and it was there he began his life's work in the mines at 40 cents a day. He died a multi-millionaire.

In 1856, Mr. Connell went to Scranton, and shortly after was placed in charge of the mines of the Susquehanna and Wyoming Valley Railroad and Coal Company, with offices at Scranton. In 1870, when the charter of that corporation lapsed, he was enabled to purchase the plant, and reorganized under the firm name of William Connell & Co.

From this beginning he developed into the largest individual coal operator in the Wyoming region, and later organized and virtually owned the Connell Coal Company which he soon developed into a great operating company, and later sold to the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

Mr. Connell was actively connected with numerous important interests in and around Scranton, and it was largely due to his financial assistance and his influence among capitalists of Scranton, that the National Elevator and Machine works were established in Honesdale.

In politics he had always been a staunch Republican and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1896 and also to the recent convention. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Republican Committee, and was elected to the Fifty-fifth, Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Congresses.

Six of his eleven children survive him. Mrs. Connell died seven years ago, and Mr. Connell's decline in health dated from her death.

One of the biggest tasks Mr. Connell ever undertook was when he was arbitrator for the Lehigh Valley road, in settling claims arising from the Mud Run disaster of Oct. 10, 1888, when sixty-three were killed and 120 injured. Only one case went to court. Mr. Connell was also active as a mediator in the attempted settlement of coal strikes and other industrial disputes.

Funeral services were held at the Connell home yesterday afternoon.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

The approaching completion of the High School buildings will soon necessitate the grading and arrangement of the school property grounds. No one is more interested in having this work properly done than the pupils who are to use them, and no landscape gardener should attempt the task without consulting them. In order to stimulate suggestion on this point THE CITIZEN offers the scholars of the Public School two prizes of \$1.00 each for the best two essays on "The Best Way to Arrange the New School House Grounds," the competition to close April 15th. The articles, which must not exceed four hundred words in length, are not to be signed, but the name of the writer must be written on a separate slip, and enclosed in an envelope with the essay. The contributions will be numbered and submitted to competent judges who will decide on their respective merits. The winning essays with the names of the authors will appear in the first number of THE CITIZEN following the award.

Now is the time when the English language will receive numerous additions in the base ball pages of the daily papers. Whether or not the additions will enrich the language is another question.

KIDNAPED BOY BACK

Willie Whitle Returned to His Home In Sharon.

FATHER PAID \$10,000 RANSOM

On Receiving the Money the Abductors Promised to Deliver the Child After Dark and Kept Their Word.

Sharon, Pa., March 23.—Disgusted with the bungling work of the police, J. P. Whitle made a private deal with the abductors of his son Willie and early today arrived home, bringing the little fellow with him safe and sound. The boy's mother went almost wild with joy, hugging and caressing him as one returned from the dead.

The whole town was in an uproar of excitement, which set in some hours earlier when it leaked out that Mr. Whitle had recovered the stolen child and was coming home as fast as train and trolley could carry them.

That the case did not end in a duplication of the famous Charlie Ross kidnaping is due entirely to the lad's father. Mr. Whitle positively declined to have any more to do with the authorities and went about the recovery of his offspring in his own way. Whitle had declared all along that he was willing to pay the ransom demanded and only wanted his son back. Overzealous police officials and private detectives, with an eye to possible reward, fairly tread on each other's toes in their efforts to capture the men who successfully carried out one of the boldest cases of abduction in recent criminal history.

After the fiasco at Ashtabula, Whitle received another letter from these men and determined to act on his own resources. He blindly followed their instructions. At a drug store in Cleveland was another letter telling him to pay \$10,000 to a woman at a certain address and promising to deliver the boy later. Mr. Whitle found this woman at the designated place and gave her the \$10,000 in cash, taking the simple promise of the abductors for what it was worth. They kept their word, however, for, to the great joy of the parent, the little fellow walked into the corridor of the Holland hotel at Cleveland and was quickly enfolded in the father's arms. Mr. Whitle was so overcome with emotion that he could only fondle the boy and hug him to his breast. After the excitement had passed the reunited pair started for Sharon after telegraphing of the successful outcome of the trip.

According to those in touch with the affairs of the family, in the last communication from the abductor Mr. Whitle was instructed to go at once to Cleveland and visit a certain drug store, where he would find a letter containing further instructions.

Having paid over the money and received the promise that the boy would be restored to him after dark, Mr. Whitle went to the hotel and waited. About three hours afterward Willie walked into the lobby, putting an end to the family's worry.

After assuring himself that Willie was absolutely well and strong Mr. Whitle started with him for Sharon.

MORE GRAFT INDICTMENTS.

Pittsburg Millionaire, Councilman and a Banker in the Net.

Pittsburg, March 23.—Six indictments—three for conspiracy, one for perjury and two for bribery—were returned in the councilmanic graft cases, upon which the grand jury has been deliberating several days.

The men indicted are Dallas C. Byers, millionaire manufacturer, indicted jointly with Councilman John F. Klein, already twice convicted in the graft cases, and Councilman W. H. Weber on a charge of conspiring to secure the passage of a street paving ordinance; F. A. Griffin, vice president of the Columbia National bank, charged with perjury in one of the graft trials; Councilman Charles Stewart, charged with soliciting a bribe of \$2,500, and H. L. Bolger, hotel proprietor, charged with being an accomplice of John F. Klein in demanding and accepting a bribe.

Dallas C. Byers left for Europe for his health about the time the graft investigation began and has not returned.

The perjury charge against Griffin is in connection with a recent councilmanic graft trial. He has resigned his position as vice president of the bank.

\$15,000 For Kidnapers.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 23.—The senate has unanimously adopted a concurrent resolution offering a reward of \$15,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the kidnapers of Willie Whitle.