

The Evening Journal

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Monday, April 1, 1907.

STATE TAX COMMISSION.

BY HIS appointment of T. Allen Hilles, of this city, Henry Ridgely of Dover, and the Hon. Philip L. Cannon, of Bridgeville, to complete the commission that is to consider the revision of the taxation system of the State, Governor Lea has strengthened that body.

The appointees of the Governor will add confidence and respect to the commission, and save it from being regarded with indifference by the public. The legislative end of the commission does not impress the public, but the Governor's selection will prevent this most important body from being considered as more or less farcical.

The Senate end of the commission needs no comment. The records of Senators Conner, Sparks and Rose are well known. The people are aware of what they stand for and what their views on the question of general taxation will probably be. The House part of the committee comprises two members from this city and one from Sussex county. Speaker Hodgson, in fairness, should have given Kent county one of the House members. The record of Mr. Newton does not promise that he will be of great service to the commission. Representative Conwell, one of the most intelligent members of the House, should have been appointed on that commission, as no one at the sessions at Dover was better equipped for such duties than this Kent county member.

The appointees of the Governor are well-known throughout the State. Mr. Hilles is an admirable selection. He may be expected to look after the interests of the Wilmington manufacturers, and at the same time his services and general knowledge will be of great benefit to the commission. It was highly important that our manufacturers should have a potent voice in the deliberations of the commission. They are heavy and usually uncomplaining taxpayers. They know full well that any injustice in taxation methods, any avoidance by the public service corporations of a payment of a fair share of taxes results in a heavier taxation of the property of the manufacturing concerns as well as of the house owners and holders of other real estate.

Mr. Ridgely is one of the ablest lawyers of the State, a learned man, who has, so far as we know, no corporation affiliations that would give him a corporation bias in the discharge of his duties. He will sit in the commission not as paid agent of corporations that are trying to avoid taxation. He will be the only lawyer member of the commission and, therefore, his place will be one of much influence.

Mr. Cannon is one of the best equipped men in the State. He filled the position of Lieutenant-Governor with much ability and dignity. While he is a canner himself, he is in close touch with the farming interests, and should he not be a useful and just commissioner he will belie his record.

There is, however, a criticism of the composition of the commission. The farming interests of the State and the granger element have been practically ignored. They are not really represented in the legislative end of it, and the Governor perhaps overlooked the fact that the grangers, or, at least, the distinctively farming element, should have been well represented on the commission. Outside of Wilmington, Delaware is an agricultural community. The farmers are heavy taxpayers. They should have adequate representation on such an important body as that of the commission which is confronted by one of the most difficult problems of government—that of taxation.

The farmers, the State grangers, and the subordinate granges, will not, however, keep in the background during the discussion of new taxation laws.

The laboring class of the community, who are heavy, though often indirect taxpayers, are also not directly represented, although Mr. Pardee will be accredited to them.

The commission is not well balanced, but it has enough strong men on it to make the effort to secure a just and fair plan of State taxation worth while.

The brewery workers of St. Louis are on a strike for higher wages. Judging from the enormous profits made by these great concerns, it would seem that they ought to meet the demands of their men. Working in a brewery is not the easiest job on earth at that.

PROBLEM IN NEW YORK.

THE New York Legislature has plunged into a consideration of the regulation of the public service corporations of that State in compliance with a demand for better service and a relief from extortionate charges. The bill before the New York lawmakers provides for the appointment of a commission that will have ample authority to enforce its demands and compel the companies to live up to their agreements with public officials. It is proposed, however, to amend the measure and provide for a "broader court review." In other words, after a decision by the commission shall have been made by an appeal to the courts, indefinite delay can be secured by the objecting corporations. Then there would be a chance to compromise and the defendant companies would be permitted to settle for a smaller amount than they really owed the State or the municipality.

There is also a demand that the proposed commission shall have authority to prevent the corporations from watering their stock and forbid the issuing of stock except for a real money value. And this is where the troubles of such companies start. The popularity of public service corporation stock as an investment because of the monopolistic franchises that they enjoy, has enabled high financiers to manipulate them and issue stocks and bonds for an almost unlimited amount of water—nothing tangible.

Then, when such companies seek to earn sufficient to keep up interest charges on these fictitious values, crippled service follows and the public bears the brunt. In smaller communities the companies often become involved in financial difficulties. Of the truth of this we have had several instances here in Delaware. Railways that would pay a safe and reasonable interest and be a good investment, are unable to do so simply because they try to earn on a swelled capital and bond issue, whereas on a normal basis of capitalization their income would be enough to meet all charges.

Some of the lower country Democratic papers in criticizing the recent session of the Legislature, throw the blame entirely on the Republicans. The Republicans have to stand their share of it, but Democratic members showed no inclination to serve the State well. When the affairs of special interests are considered at Dover, however, party lines are dropped, and the voice of the oligarchy is potent. There is nothing in the records of three-fourths of the Democratic members of the Legislature of which the party could feel proud. No one knows this better than those who try to fasten all the condemnation for the legislative shortcomings upon the majority party.

A bill that met overwhelming defeat before the Massachusetts Legislature provided that the larger share of the money for licenses for the sale of liquor should go into the State treasury instead of being received by the towns and cities where the licenses are granted. The opponents of the bill argued that as the towns were compelled to bear the burdens of the administration of the license laws, they should receive the revenue. An exactly opposite condition exists here, where all the license money from this city and from the towns goes into the State treasury. Thus Wilmington is drained of a large revenue and the Legislature likewise refuses us permission to tax other sources of wealth as we see fit.

Wealth does not always bring happiness, and it is powerless to restore health. William A. Proctor, head of the firm of Proctor & Gamble, of Cincinnati, Ohio, committed suicide the other day. He was very rich and his soap factories do a worldwide business. Mr. Proctor was known for the interest he took in his employees. He started a co-operative scheme of distribution of the profits of his factories among his employes, and proved in his case at least that a modified co-operation conduct of business could be carried out successfully and with satisfaction.

While the panic mongers of Wall street are endeavoring to make it appear that dire distress threatens the country unless they are permitted to do as they please, reports from business headquarters tell a different story. For instance, the jobbers and merchants of Baltimore broke all the records of March sales in that city this year. These little straws show that there is no falling off in the prosperous conditions and no apprehension on the part of those who are engaged in the real business of the nation.

Jests and Jingles

Miss Peppery—No, he didn't like your eyebrows. He said they were too black. Miss Painter—The idea! Miss Peppery—However, I assured him they were as black as they were painted.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"What is a brain storm?" "Well," answered Farmer Corntassel, "as near as I kin make out, it's somethin' like sayin' appendicitis stid of stomach ache. It's an expensive name for a mighty common complaint."—Washington Star.

Senator Oldschool—Who is that young man at Senator Steele's death? Senator Grabbit—Oh, that Steele's secretary. Steele has two or three franchise grabs that he's trying to get through at home, and hadn't time to come here in person.—Puck.

Magistrate—You didn't steal this watch? Prisoner—No, sir. Magistrate—Then how did you get it? Prisoner—I won it on a bet. Magistrate—What was the bet? Prisoner—I bet he says I stole it.—Illustrated Bits.

Peoples Column

A. Anonymous communications for the Peoples Column will not be printed. Names of contributors to the column will not be printed, but must be furnished The Evening Journal as an evidence of good faith on the part of the contributor.

Clean the Alleys.

Editor The Evening Journal. A number of alleys in various parts of the city are badly in need of cleaning, and at this season of the year this work is very urgent. During the winter months many persons throw garbage into the back alleys, and after the snow melts it is a sight to behold. Now, this is a very bad state of affairs, and unless it is remedied serious harm may result.

This concerns the health of many citizens, and should be attended to at once, for as soon as the warm weather reaches here the refuse will decay and the odor will be unbearable.

Yours truly, For Health. Wilmington, April 1.

Help the Conductors.

Editor The Evening Journal. Now is the time of the year when the conductors on the street cars come in for their share of hard knocks, even to those that have a disposition to call them all kinds of names. When the summer cars are placed in service the conductors have to swing along the footboards, at the risk of being thrown off, all day long, and when they happen to do something to offend a passenger, although it is not done intentionally, the abuse heaped upon them is something great. Few passengers have any respect for the conductors who labor so hard for their weekly wage. They apparently do not recognize the fact that these men, who have many troubles to contend with, and that, on the whole, they are exceedingly courteous and kind in their treatment of passengers, even to those that have a disposition to call them all kinds of names.

The people should endeavor to lighten the burdens of these men as much as possible without putting trouble in their way. Our conductors are more polite than those in any other city in this country, and this fact has been commented upon by people who have visited us. They will do more for the comfort of passengers than will the conductors in other cities, but the people here seem not to appreciate this. We should give some thought to the positions of these men, and if we did so I feel that we would be a little more lenient in our treatment of them.

Respectfully, W. C. E. Wilmington, April 1.

Editorial Opinion

Dr. Layton Not Busting.

The Evening Journal prints this week some absurd remarks of the Sea-ford News about C. B. Layton going to "bust" the Republican party. We imagined that the editorial columns of the Journal were too valuable for such trash, but inasmuch as the subject is mentioned we do say that the danger attending the future of the Republican party lies not at the door of any individual in Sussex county, but in the things that were done during the last campaign in buying up primaries and breaking pledges. The use of money to buy primaries will "bust" any party. It "busted" the Democratic party wide open and will "bust" ours if the practice begun last fall is continued. There is no "bust" in our political makeup. We simply want, and are going to have, a fair and square primary election, and let the best man win.

Legislature's Work.

Sussex Republican. The Legislature adjourned on Monday. A great many bills were considered and some good legislation enacted. The Legislature deserves credit for having accomplished more than some of its predecessors. It was apparent that a different influence dominated its action. While some of the same spirit, which has made some of our recent Legislatures a by-word and reproach to the State, was apparent, it did not dominate the Legislature and was confined to a few members of the Legislature, who allowed themselves to be used by Allee and Layton in a futile effort to secure revenge for the defeat of Allee for the Senate. These few members only succeeded in making themselves obnoxious and disclosing to the public what small potatoes they really are. By their actions they have eliminated themselves from any consideration in the future, because they have proven unworthy of trust and confidence of their party, by betraying the trust reposed in them by their constituents this time.

We are justified in saying this Legislature accomplished more because they passed certain needed legislation, which the people of this State have been demanding from many Legislatures, only to be refused. This is not only the case of the Local Option Law, but of other laws as well. It is very apparent that the liquor influence did not control this Legislature. It is very apparent that Allee and Layton did not control and trade off legislation for political influence. The old railroad influence was still there, however. Opposition to it was more open, more potent, and more aggressive and succeeded in making itself felt in certain revenue legislation. Of course, we must not forget to give this Legislature full credit for the prompt election of a Senator and the admirable selection they made.

EASTER MAILS HEAVY

Postal Cards Containing Greetings Made Clerks Work Hard.

Postoffice officials said that the mails had been heavily burdened during the last few days with fancy postal cards containing Easter greetings. Though not so numerous as the cards and other tokens handled at the Christmas season, the Easter postcards, nevertheless, totaled many thousand, half of which were delivered here on Friday and Saturday, and half sent to other cities.

Guardmen to Attend School.

At the Army-to-morrow evening will be held the regular officers' school of the Delaware National Guard. It is likely that one of the commissioned men will give a lecture on the particular department under his supervision. These schools are of great benefit to the guardmen, as the workings of all departments are thoroughly explained at the sessions.

PREACHER'S WIFE USES REVOLVER

Rouls Constable and Bailiff, Who Tried to Put Her Out of Parsonage

HOLDS HOUSE FOUR MONTHS

Special to The Evening Journal. CLAYTON, April 1.—Since November last Mrs. Eady, wife of the Rev. A. C. Boyd, former pastor of the Clayton Methodist Protestant Church, has successfully resisted all efforts of the trustees to get her and her family out of the parsonage, and when Constable Dillaway of Dover, and Bailiff Fisher entered the house to eject her she put both to flight with a revolver. Mr. Boyd was deposed from the parsonage some months ago upon charges of irregularities, and since last November has been doing missionary work in Northern States. When he left he told his wife that she was under no circumstances, to permit any member of the board of trustees to enter the house, nor was she to receive any sort of legal advice to vacate. Since his departure the parsonage has been barricaded against all but known and trusted friends. With her four children the little woman held the fort, her eldest daughter, a girl about 15, doing all the errands and friends furnishing her with support.

TOOTHsome SHAD ARE NOW RUNNING

Special to The Evening Journal. NEW CASTLE, April 1.—William Furell caught twenty-seven shad and now the local fishermen are busy after the fish despite the April fog weather that arrived to-day.

City Council will hold a special meeting this evening to consider the purchase of a chemical preparation to be used in the city buildings in case of fire. At 7 o'clock the storehouse at Delaware street wharf will be fired to demonstrate the value of the chemical. The funeral of Mrs. Hildings took place this afternoon. Services were conducted by the Rev. George T. Alderson and interment was made in the Globe cemetery.

Rev. Father Keen, S. J., preached two forcible sermons yesterday in St. Peter's Church. Howard Bungy, colored, a driver for James G. Shaw, was seriously, if not fatally injured yesterday afternoon in a runaway accident. Bungy was driving Mr. Shaw's car when the body bolt of the carriage fell out. The horse ran away and the carriage was broken to pieces by colliding with a tree. Bungy was thrown head-first into the air and landed in the consciousness. It was sent in the Delaware Hospital last evening. James Loveless, a Delaware Railroad foreman, died on Saturday, aged 44 years, from pneumonia.

The funeral of George C. Brough, of Philadelphia, will take place to-morrow. Interment will be made in the Trinity cemetery. Mr. Brough was a former resident of this city. George Pennett had the index finger of his right hand amputated on Saturday, as the member had been severely lacerated.

FLOOD REFORMS HUSBANDS

Chicago Judge "Sentences" Wives to Provide Erring Ones With Good Dinners.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 1.—Pure food is to be an important factor in the reform of delinquent husbands, conducted by Municipal Judge McKenzie Cleland, of the Maxwell street district. After several weeks of psychological research, conducted upon practical lines, Judge Cleland has discovered that food served in indifferent style by most indifferent husbands to the corner saloon for solace than any other one thing. Experiments have shown that good food will force the most delinquent husband to forget his evil ways and return to the straight and narrow path. Now wives are "sentenced" to provide good dinners for the erring man and he is pardoned. If there were any doubt as to the truth of this theory it was forthcoming at a recent review of paroled husbands in Judge Cleland's court. There were fifty husbands who had been placed upon their honor and good food. The latter had stimulated the former to such an extent that there were few wives who had any complaint to make of their husbands.

REDUCE ENGINEER FORCE

B. and O. to Lay Off Many Men To-day.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to-day greatly reduced its engineering force. This is due to the fact that much of the work begun last year is now completed, and there is no longer the necessity for a large force in the engineer's department. The Baltimore and Ohio is not undertaking much new work at the present time, mainly owing to the fact that conditions in the money market are not favorable to new financing.

MORE PAY FOR OPERATORS

Postal Raises Salaries of Clerks and Chief Operators.

NEW YORK, April 1.—William H. Baker, vice president and general manager of the Postal Telegraph Cable Company, announces an increase in the wages of the company's chief operators and clerks. The increase in each case will be graded according to length of service, efficiency and responsibility of the position. The increase took effect today. This is in addition to the 10 per cent. increase which was granted March 1.

Peach Buds Safe.

Reports from down State points are that the peach buds have progressed safely thus far, although there are the usual predictions of a short crop. It is also stated that the peach crop this year will be confined principally to the white variety.

M. F. CONFERENCE OPENS WEDNESDAY

Wilmington Pastors Will Make Report of Work to Washington Meeting

The Maryland annual conference of the Methodist Protestant Church will be held in Washington commencing Wednesday. The Delaware churches of the denomination including the First and Second churches, of this city, are members of the Conference.

It is expected that there will be a number of changes among the ministers of the Conference. Besides the assignment of ministers, another matter of importance will be the selection of a new presiding officer of the Conference to succeed President Rev. F. T. Little.

Eightieth Anniversary. In all probability the question of celebrating the eightieth anniversary of the Conference next year will come up before the body. With such a splendid record of usefulness, the ministers in general are of the opinion that the anniversary should not be allowed to pass unnoticed.

During this long period the Conference has had on its rolls 437 ministers as members. Of this number, 139 are now on the Conference roll, 108 have died in Conference relationship and 190 have been transferred to other conferences. Twenty-four sessions of the Methodist Protestant Conference were held in Baltimore, 10 in Washington, 6 in Westminister, 6 in Alexandria, Va., 5 in Easton, 5 in Chestertown, and in several other places only.

The body now has 128 circuits, stations and missions; 291 churches, 106 parsonages, a president's parsonage, a college, a seminary and a home for the aged. It paid last year for general interests \$28,512, and for local interests \$257,174. The value of church and parsonage property is estimated at \$1,889,260.

The Conference also possesses a large invested fund for superannuates, a church extension fund, and a Conference trustee fund which holds property and other values of more than \$20,000.

PRESIDENT'S NIECE IS ENGAGED

NEW YORK, April 1.—Although no formal announcement has yet been made, the more intimate friends of Miss Corinne Robinson, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson, and favorite niece of President Roosevelt, are spreading the report that she is engaged to George Draper, youngest son of the late Dr. William Henry Draper and grandson of Charles A. Dana.

Miss Robinson is at present in Italy with her father and mother. She is one of the most popular girls in society, both here and in Washington, where she is almost as well known as in New York. She came out about two years ago at a cotillion given by her mother at Sherry's.

Mr. Draper was graduated from Harvard in 1905. His brother Charles was graduated from the same university in 1906, and Miss Robinson's two brothers there. Miss Robinson's mother was Corinne Roosevelt, sister of President Roosevelt and of Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles. Her eldest son, Theodore Douglas Robinson, married Miss Helen Roosevelt, a distant cousin and granddaughter of Mrs. Astor.

LOU DILLON'S BABY

The Sire Is the Great Horse John McKerron, Wagon Champion.

CLEVELAND, April 1.—Lou Dillon, the world's champion trotter, foaled a pretty bay filly at C. K. G. Dillon's stable at the Glenville track. The foal's sire is the champion wagon trotting stallion, John A. McKerron, thus making her one of the most distinguished equine juveniles living, in point of speed inheritance.

TO REPLACE LOST CROSSES

Daughters of Confederacy to Duplicate Them.

NEW ORLEANS, April 1.—Duplicate crosses of honor will be supplied by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to those veterans who have been unfortunate enough to lose their originals. This announcement was made in the form of a general order by General Stephen D. Lee, general commanding the United Confederate Veterans.

PATIOS IN A DOLLAR BILL

Inscription Says It Was All Left of a Fortune of \$47,600.

OIL CITY, Pa., April 1.—Charles M. Newton, a Warren county grocer, has come into possession of a dollar-bill that seems like an echo of the recent disastrous slump in Wall street. Across its back is written the following: "The last of \$47,600, mostly lost in Wall street, in Union Pacific, Reading, St. Paul, Northern Pacific, and a few others." The grocer will frame the bill as a souvenir.

MARYLAND NEWS NOTES

Ridgely will shortly possess a new skating rink.

The maskraat season in Kent county closed yesterday.

The colored public schools in Caroline county have closed for the year.

Rising Sun's streets will shortly be lighted by a hydro-electric plant to be established at McKinsey's Mill, Northeast River.

A probably fatal shot was fired into Frank Cooper, colored, during a quarrel over a woman among several Elkton negroes Saturday night.

Dr. Louis E. Barrett, the new pastor of the Elkton M. E. Church, addressed the men's religious meeting held in the Elkton Opera House yesterday afternoon.

A branch of the non-sectarian Needlework Guild of America has been organized in Easton with Mrs. Clifton Wharton as president, and Mrs. William G. McCready, secretary.

Wilson Farm Not Sold. The statement that the David Wilson farm at Thompson's Bridge has been sold is erroneous. Several other properties in that section have been sold recently.

FINANCIAL CARDS.



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With us, we want every individual, Merchant, Mechanic, Firm and Corporation, and the treasurer of Societies, to realize the safety of funds deposited here. A statement over our last statement will impress you with a sense of security. We invite new accounts.

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CHILD MISSING FIVE WEEKS

Theory of Drowning Abandoned—Believed That He Was Kidnapped.

PAWTUCKET, R. I., April 1.—It is now five weeks since little George Ross mysteriously disappeared from his home in this city. Despite the efforts of the police and private detectives no trace of him has been found. The theory that the child drowned in the river has been abandoned, and it is believed that he was kidnapped.

Ambulance Horse Collided With Pole

So accustomed to the horse of the Phoenix ambulance was turned into the driveway of the Delaware Hospital St. Paul, Northern Pacific, and a few others. The grocer will frame the bill as a souvenir.

Wilson County Engineer.

The Republican members of the New Castle County Levy Court have selected James Wilson for office of county engineer, created under the new "good roads" bill. It is expected that Mr. Wilson will resign the position of city engineer at Wilmington, and that Francis A. Price will succeed him in that office.

Divorce Hearings May Be Public.

Under the new divorce law passed by the Legislature just adjourned hearings in such cases hereafter are to be conducted publicly, instead of in private before commissioners, who handed to the judges their sealed recommendations for or against divorce, along with the evidence.

Hilles W. C. T. U. Meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the Hilles W. C. T. U. will be held at the home of Miss Carrie Rankin, No. 17 Ivy Road to-morrow afternoon.

Candidate for Council.

Matthew L. Kyle will be the Republican candidate from Council in the Twelfth ward.