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PRICE ONE CENT

MAYOR IN MESSAGE ECHOES DEMAND OF PEOPLE FOR REFORM

Necessity of Providing Funds for Transit Development and South Philadelphia Improvements Are Especially Emphasized.

Mayor Blankenburg's third annual message, submitted to Councils this afternoon, brought to the attention of the legislative bodies the demands of the people for great municipal improvements.

WANTS WASTE AREA RECLAIMED

Realization of the plan to transform South Philadelphia below Oregon avenue from a waste area to an important industrial, commercial and residential part of the city by the elimination of railroad grade crossings is declared by the Mayor to occupy the place of first importance among the achievements of his administration in 1914.

It means the realization of improvements which have been talked of for more than a score of years," he says. "It includes the completion of the Belt Line system and the transfer of the terminals of a great railroad from a point on the Delaware where the development of South Philadelphia was held in check, to a point contiguous to League Island, adding a new value to this great naval station.

The Mayor calls attention to the economies in floating loans effected through the efforts of his administration by having an act passed by the Legislature making it possible for bonds of an authorized loan to be sold only when the money is actually needed, thus effecting savings in interest and sinking fund charges. All of the Mayor's requests for appropriations were referred to the Finance Committee.

COUSILS SCORED FOR INACTIVITY

Councils are scored by the Mayor for failure to co-operate with him in an effort to put the city's finances on a sound basis.

"I entered office determined as far as lay in my power to put the finances of the city in such shape that the 'pay-as-you-go' act could be honestly obeyed and there would be no excuse for paying current expenses out of borrowed money," he says.

"My efforts were not seconded by Councils and as a result, the old unworkable system of resorting to loans to pay current expenses still exists.

"Appropriations have been made in a haphazard way and regardless of the year have been ignored and sometimes the original appropriations for certain items budget have not amounted to one-quarter of the money needed.

"The city's income has been inadequate for its wants, largely owing to the fact, as a cursory investigation showed, that the assessment of real estate was unjust and inequitable. A readjustment of assessments seemed imperative before the city could be placed in proper financial condition.

VICIOUS SYSTEM OF OFFICE HOLDING

The practice of office holders serving in Councils is declared by the Mayor to be against all good Government policy. "The vicious character of this practice, it seems to me, should be recognized without any argument by everybody who has the real interests of the city at heart," he says.

GULF STREAM AND SPONSOR WHO CHRISTENED THE SHIP TODAY



MISS AGNES HAIG, THE SPONSOR



DELAWARE RIVER RECEIVES GULFSTREAM

BIG OIL TANKER GULF STREAM JOINS MERCHANT MARINE

Launched Today at Yards of the New York Shipbuilding Company in Camden.

The Gulf Stream, an oil tanker, went down the ways at the New York Shipbuilding Company's yards shortly after noon today in a manner that characterizes what she was built for.

The Gulf Stream will never be one of those dolled up ocean liners with greyhound speed and a press agent's staff. She will just tote oil for the Gulf Oil Company.

The scheduled time for the Gulf Stream to plunge into the full tide of the Delaware river was set at 12:15 o'clock. At 12 o'clock most of the stows had been out away. Only a few remained.

Miss Haig swung a gaily decorated bottle of champagne at the disappearing bow of the ship. She struck the steel plates harder than most sponsors do. Workmen who were standing below to catch the spilled wine were disappointed. The wine dribbled and still there was not a drop to drink. It fell in a drizzle.

Then Miss Haig named the ship and wished it good luck and all that sort of thing if she did the proper thing. Her arms after it, but changed her mind.

She struggled the roses under her chin, held her hand out for congratulations and then started for the luncheon party given in the yards in her honor.

tempting to restrict by certain qualifications the office of Assistant Director of the Department of Health and Charities. That action the Mayor declares to be exactly the same as if Councils had attempted to dictate whom he should appoint as members of his cabinet, or control absolutely the appointing power conferred on him by the charter of the city.

MAYOR ASKS \$50,000 FOR HIRING OF STREET LABORERS

Urges Councils to Appropriate Money So Many May Be Re-employed.

An appropriation of \$50,000 to enable the Bureau of Highways to re-employ a number of men who have been thrown out of work through the lack of funds, was urged upon Councils today in a special message from Mayor Blankenburg.

For the past six weeks the men have been without work, and it was impossible for the Bureau of Highways to employ them although there was plenty of work to be done. Dilatory tactics on the part of Councils are held responsible for this situation.

In his message to Councils the Mayor included a letter from Director of the Department of Public Works Cooke which explained the situation. The letter stated during the past six weeks 43 men had to be laid off because of the lack of funds.

It was pointed out that because of the apparent carelessness or heedlessness of Councils the streets of Philadelphia were suffering from the lack of proper attention, and in addition to this it was impossible for the Highway Bureau to get the full value out of the work already done.

In his letter to Mayor Blankenburg urging that he ask Councils to appropriate the money, Director Cooke said: "The repair work cannot be done by contract. It must be done by city employees under the direction of the Highway Bureau. Furthermore, it is absolutely impossible for the city or any other employer to build up and maintain a competent corps of employees if they are not given fairly steady employment, or handled in reasonable accordance with present-day standards.

"If it is intended to relieve the Municipal Court," said the Mayor, "because of scattered quarters now provided for it in City Hall, there are other ways in which increased accommodations could be secured for them there at much less public expense than would be involved in the present ordinance. If the Board of Public Education would, as they easily could, surrender the space they are still occupying in the City Hall, part of which is used only rarely, eight additional rooms would be made available.

2015 GERMAN CASUALTIES

BERLIN by way of Copenhagen Sept. 17.—The twenty-fourth German casualty list given out today gives a total of 243 killed, wounded or missing.

BURY MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

Mrs. Sara Graff Newlin Strangled Child and Herself.

Union Hill Cemetery was the scene of a double burial this afternoon in the funeral of Mrs. Sara Graff Newlin and her 8-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, of Chadds Ford, Pa., who were found strangled near Elizabethtown, N. Y., last Saturday.

The Rev. W. Harry Graff, former rector of the Holy Comforter Memorial Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Thomas Taylor, rector of the Kennett Square Episcopal Church, conducted the funeral services, attended only by a few relatives. Mrs. Newlin strangled her daughter and herself in the verdict reached by Coroner's jury.

MT. AIRY TO PLAY PROFS

One of the best games of the season between local teams will be played next Sunday afternoon at Chestnut Hill between the Chestnut Hill Professionals and the Mt. Airy nine. This is the second year of a series of three to decide the championship of the Northeast section of the city. Chestnut Hill winning the first of last Sunday by the score of 2 to 1. Johnny Barker will occupy the box for Chestnut Hill with his brother, Charlie, from the Trenton Tri-State team on the receiving end.

ELMIRA BEATS HARRISBURG CHAMPS

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17.—The Harrisburg Club, champions of the Tri-state League, lost the second game of the post-season series to Elmira, the New York State League title holders, yesterday by the score of 2 to 1. The game went in innings. Elmira's victory even up the series.

FIRE IN KNITTING MILL

Fire starting this afternoon in the barn room of the Royal Knitting Mill, 4300 Chestnut street, Germantown, was extinguished by employees before it did serious damage.

The damage was discovered in a pile of yarn and extinguished with a few buckets of water before the arrival of engines. The damage, according to officials of the plant, will not exceed \$100.

COUNCILS ASKED TO GRANT FRANCHISE FOR AUTO BUS LINE

New Company Plans to Operate 120 Heavy Cars. Damage to Pavements Feared—Director Taylor Won't Comment.

An effort to obtain a city franchise for an omnibus line on the principal streets was made today at the meeting of Common Council. For days a story has been current that part of the program of opposition to the subway proposition was to be a petition for an omnibus line, on the plea that it would relieve the need for improved traffic facilities. This, the story ran, would be seized upon as an excuse to delay action on the subway.

Walter C. McIntire, an electrical contractor at 12 North Fifth street, is the man in charge of the omnibus project. He is related to George C. Pifer, of the Board of Registration Commissioners. The belief that the scheme may be urged as a substitute for other transit plans is supported by a statement issued by McIntire for the United Traction Improvement Company, which will operate the line.

McIntire says: "The petition for the franchise puts the question of immediate relief of passenger traffic conditions in the residential sections squarely up to the city government."

"Of course, a bus line never would take the place of a subway," said one man prominently concerned in the subway plans, "but, at the same time, those opposed to the subway might use it as a pretext for delaying action."

McIntire denied this in a statement today. He said: "If the subway is the franchise asked for by this company will first have to be offered to the present Traction Company. We are advised by counsel that this is not true, and that no reference is made to electric railway companies in the franchises in this city. A careful reading of the act will make this quite clear to anyone, and, in addition, there are Supreme Court decisions bearing out this position."

TAYLOR WON'T COMMENT

Director Taylor, of the City Transit Department, declined to discuss the plan for an omnibus line. He had not heard a petition for a franchise was to be introduced.

Electricity generated by gasoline motors carried on the cars will be the motive power for the new bus line. The "United Traction Improvement Company" has the name of the organization which seeks the franchise. McIntire is the president.

According to McIntire the organizing officials have visited England, Germany and France to study modern omnibus construction. The United Traction Improvement Company will have 120 cars, according to McIntire, each can carry 25 passengers at a speed of 14 miles an hour. The cars will weigh 10,000 pounds, and that is not too great a weight for the pavement, McIntire asserts.

Overseas cars are designated in the petition to Common Council. The petition says that the cars will start at Front and Market streets, and will traverse Market, Broad, Diamond, 25th streets, and DuPont and Front streets.

Route number two will start at Front and Market streets, and will traverse Market, Broad, Porter, 21st, Wolf, 22d, and DuPont streets.

Route number three will start at Front and Market streets, and will traverse Market, 32d, Chestnut, 33d, Walnut and 62d streets.

William D. Under, assistant engineer in the Highway Bureau, was asked today whether he thought an omnibus weighing 16,500 pounds would damage paving. The bus line project was news to Mr. Under.

"I had not heard that anyone planned to operate a bus line," he said, "and until I have some details as to what the trucks will be built it would be impossible to tell what effect they would have on the pavement. Some of the Baldwin locomotive works trucks are heavier than those proposed for the bus route and Chief Connell is investigating now to see how much damage heavy trucks inflict on the city streets."

MAYOR VEToes BILLS AS UNFAIR OR BADLY DRAWN

Measures Include One Placing 3 City Squares and Parkway Under Care of Fairmount Park Commission.

Among seven measures vetoed by Mayor Blankenburg and returned to Councils today was an ordinance designed to place Washington, Rittenhouse and Logan Squares and the Parkway in the care of the Fairmount Park Commission.

In signifying his disapproval of this measure, the Mayor said, while there might be some advantage in such action, at the same time it was not a fair policy to select from the large number of city squares only four and place them under the care of the Park Commission for improvement and at the same time neglect the others.

Five of the remaining acts vetoed by the Mayor provided: One, for the opening of 30th street, from Dickinson street to Moore; two, for paying city employees during vacations and for overtime work; a fourth was a section of an ordinance providing an appropriation to the Bureau of Highways for street sprinkling, and another was part of a transfer ordinance providing an appropriation of \$250,000 to the Municipal Department for "Promoting the Interests of Philadelphia."

VETO OF PARK BILL

In connection with his disapproval of the ordinance designed to place certain grounds under the care of the Park Commission, Mayor Blankenburg, in this connection, wrote to Councils saying: "The ordinance has apparently been somewhat hastily drawn up. It includes Washington, Rittenhouse and Logan squares, but omits Franklin square, the remaining one of the four principal squares near the center of the city. The grounds near the Parkway were placed under the jurisdiction of the Fairmount Park Commission, their police protection would doubtless be put in the hands of Park guards, and not of city police. This would result in an unexpensive, extensive and inefficient arrangement and could hardly lead to lead to doubt and trouble as to the respective authority of the two."

The Mayor vetoed the ordinance providing for the opening of 30th street between Dickinson and Moore streets, and also a section of an ordinance providing that the playgrounds had not been dedicated to the city and its opening would cost the public at least \$5,000. Because the street had not been dedicated to the city, Mayor Blankenburg thought it should not be opened at public expense.

Of the two acts dealing with the payment of city employees, one was an ordinance authorizing directors of various departments to pay regular per diem employees for work necessarily required on holidays and for disability or sickness contracted while in the employ of the city.

This ordinance, said the Mayor in a letter, "as far as its mandatory nature, contains nothing which is not fully provided for by the resolution of Councils, approved July 15, 1913."

"While I am entirely in accord with the principle of the light-work ordinance, the ordinance appears to me to be very badly drawn. In the first place, by its broad application, all workmen and mechanics, those on a per diem list as well as those upon an annual salary basis, would be entitled to extra payment for all overtime work. Again, it has not been prepared with consideration of the actual working conditions now existing in the department in number of men and the service is continuous in shifts. It would manifestly be no greater hardship for those in the night shift to work overtime than for those in the day shift; but under this ordinance the first might receive double pay for all overtime, whereas the second would receive but time and half time. Also, under this ordinance the work necessarily required on some Saturdays would call for the payment of two days' wages for eight hours' work."

The Mayor vetoed a section of the ordinance appropriating to the Bureau of Highways for street sprinkling because of an error which would have duplicated a payment of \$382 to James Irwin, a contractor for work already paid for in the third highway district.

CAUSTIC CRITICISM

Caustic criticism was directed against the section of a transfer ordinance providing money to be paid to clerks of Councils for "promoting the interests of Philadelphia."

This section had the support of Common Councilman Morris E. Conn, a Republican leader in the Eighth Ward. The Mayor said the section certainly did not carry sufficient information and that methods would be employed by clerks of Councils in promoting the interests of Philadelphia.

"The appropriation of money to the clerks of Councils for promoting the interests of the City of Philadelphia is a proposition so out of keeping with the principles that I cannot support it, and I strike even the casual observer as deserving of criticism. It is certainly not the place of the clerks of your honorable bodies to have conferred upon them administrative functions, even under the supervision of the Committee on Finance."

"There also is so little in this appropriation to indicate its real purpose that it is difficult to consider or discuss it satisfactorily. Unofficial information, however, has reached me that its purpose was to provide for the purchase of a moving picture machine and the employment of a mechanic to operate it, the machine to remain the property of the city and to be lent from time to time to various business men's organizations and others for use in conventions in Philadelphia in displaying films advertising Philadelphia.

FIRST STEP TAKEN IN FORWARD MARCH OF CITY'S ADVANCE

Councils' Finance Committee Reapportions Loan and Provides for Start on Subway and Abolition of Exchange Tickets.

The first step toward the actual construction of the subway and elevated lines and the abolition of exchange tickets was taken this afternoon, when the Finance Committee of Councils reapportioned the new loan so as to include the \$300,000 asked by Director Taylor for preliminary work in the transit plan.

The draft of the transit loan bill was presented for passage in Common Council at its special session late this afternoon by John P. Connelly, chairman of the Finance Committee.

The reapportionment was made by the Subcommittee on Appropriations and reported to the general Finance Committee prior to the session of Common Council. Drastic cuts in many items of the proposed \$11,900,000 loan that reduce the total of the loan to \$11,300,000 and that may result in holding up the construction of the Municipal Art Museum were made by the Finance Committee. In addition to the \$300,000 for the preliminary work, the \$400,000 was added for buildings to house the Juvenile, Domestic Relations and Municipal Courts.

Almost coincident with this action by the councilman's subcommittee, Mayor Blankenburg sent to Councils a message vetoing the ordinance providing for the construction of the buildings for the three courts named.

The items cut by the new allotment were: Sedimentation basin at the Ter-re-deale filter plant, from \$500,000 to \$400,000; grading, \$200,000 to \$200,000; elimination of grade crossings, \$1,250,000 to \$800,000; main sewers, \$300,000 to \$200,000; bridges, \$400,000 to \$300,000; Fairmount Park, \$200,000 to \$200,000; Art Museum, \$1,000,000 to \$950,000; Parkway, \$1,000,000 to \$800,000; mandamus fund, \$1,900,000 to \$800,000.

Action is expected to be taken by Councils this afternoon to appropriate \$225,000 from a surplus of \$407,140 held by the Sinking Fund Commission to the Department of Health and Charities for necessary work at the Home for the Feeble Minded at Byberry and for the Home for the Indigent at Holmesburg. This appropriation will be in addition to the \$1,050,000 to that department provided for in the proposed loan and to be used for the Philadelphia Hospital.

There was considerable discussion preceding the subcommittee meeting about a plan accredited to Councilman Lewis to cut the payroll of the Transit Department. It was said that Councils planned to transfer \$85,000 from Director Taylor's unexpended salary appropriation as part of the \$272,000 asked by Councilman Lewis for the completion of work at Byberry, Holmesburg and for repairs at the Municipal Hospital.

The appropriation to the Transit Department for salaries this year was \$730,000, and on August 1 there was a balance of \$133,340.57. The transit payroll that month was \$11,417.45, leaving a balance of \$121,923.12. Councils, it was said, would only \$35,000 would be needed for the rest of the year, leaving a balance of approximately \$86,923.

On the other hand, it has been said that the salary of the visiting to a grand jury, the original attitude of Councilman Lewis, they have been ordered to keep hands off the Transit Department for the present.

INCURABLY ILL WOMAN ENDS HER LIFE IN PARK

"Life Not Worth the Struggle," Final Note of Suicide.

Miss Dinah Pinkinson, 39 years old of 324 Pensgrove street, committed suicide by drinking a large quantity of poison in Fairmount Park early this morning.

The young woman was identified late this afternoon by her brother, Samuel Pinkinson, who conducts a grocery store at 139 South Second street.

According to her brother, her sister had been "downhearted for some time, and her act bore out her statement that she would soon end all her troubles. She had been suffering from an incurable disease for almost a year and had only recently moved to the Pensgrove street address in order to get close to the fresh air of Fairmount Park.

The young woman had become known as an every-day visitor to the park to the many guards about the Smith Memorial district. This morning when Parkguard Scott started on his first round he discovered the body close to a stump in a brush. Beside the body was found a white envelope, which had scribbled on it: "Life is not worth the struggle. I want my body cremated."

The empty bottle, which had contained an overdose of potassium cyanide, which the woman picked to end her life is one of the most frequented in the park, being near the intersection of 1st street and Lansdowne drive. The guard who discovered the body said that he thought the woman picked this location in order that her body would soon be found after her death.

