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SAT. DECEMBER 29, 1923

"ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH."

The patrolmen stationed at Towson during the night must surely be "asleep at the switch," otherwise three robberies within a week could never happen.

Some years ago the County-seat was terrorized by a series of robberies and when the gang responsible was finally apprehended, they proved to be bad youngsters residing right in our midst, and The Jeffersonian does not hesitate to say that the recent "jobs" pulled have all the "ear marks" of local talent.

We have always contended that it was bad policy to allow patrolmen to work beats where they resided, for they are looked upon as mere figure heads instead of law-enforcing officers, and sooner or later lose the respect and confidence of the people—in other words "familiarity breeds contempt."

We believe, that if the Marshal of Police would do a bit of shifting, conditions would be remedied materially.

COMPULSORY AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE.

A year ago we advocated in these columns, a law to compel all drivers of automobiles to take out casualty insurance; we are glad to see that we are not alone in this view; for now the City and State press has also taken up the matter. Why should the owner of a valuable automobile, who is a careful and considerate driver, and who carries casualty insurance for the protection of himself and others, be exposed to the risk of property loss and personal injury from incompetent, negligent or drunken drivers, with no possible chance of compensation for losses.

It is all wrong—a locomotive engineer in charge of a train that runs in a certain course on rails, is required to serve an apprenticeship of from three to four years, while the operator of a motor car of great power who is not confined to any fixed course on the road, may secure an operators' license after a demonstration over a score of City blocks.

There are, on the highways today, hundreds of patched-up cars from the scrap heaps, in the hands of irresponsible and reckless drivers, that are a greater menace by far than all the high powered cars on the road—and not one of them carries casualty insurance—and in no case will the owner be found to be responsible; in other words, if you are driving carefully on the highway with your car and it is damaged to half its value through the negligence, incompetence of one of the drivers, you simply pocket

Another thing to be gained by this legislation is, that each applicant for insurance would be carefully investigated by the companies, with the result that a great many incompetents and irresponsible owners would be weeded out.

With the great number of machines on the road, the State should see to it that the greatest safeguards should be adopted to reduce the dangers of the road. We should be very glad, indeed, to see our delegation take the initiative in securing this legislation.

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

A great amount of unhappiness, bad health and lack of prosperity we bring on ourselves. If we start out at the beginning of 1924 looking for happiness, health and prosperity and do the things that we should do, and leave undone the things we should not do, there is a great probability that our wish will be gratified.

Do you wish to be happy during 1924? Then avoid the things that breed unhappiness. The greatest pleasure and happiness in this life comes from service. Make it a point each day to do or say something that will make somebody happy.

Be careful of your speech; "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile," "a wholesome tongue is a tree of life," "if you cannot speak well of another, say nothing." To be brief, to be happy, practice the golden rule, "Whatsoever ye would, that men should do to you do even so to them." Where there is an echo, your voice will come back to you—and when you make another happy; happiness will come back to you.

Do you wish to be healthy? Study the laws of health; do you convert the purposes of refreshment into intemperance or excess? Are you burning the candle at both ends? The rule of the ancients for living was and 8 hours for refreshments and for the service of God and charity, and eight hours refreshment and sleep. How close do you come to that in your daily living? Remember it is not work that kills, it is worry. Do you worry much? If so quit it. Most of our bodily ills come from neglect, indiscretion and excesses. If you have not been careful in observing nature's laws, if you have, by excesses, injured your health, do not continue any longer to do so and the bloom will return to your cheeks and your health will be restored.

Do you wish to be prosperous? Then, no matter what your income may be, pay as you go—do not contract debts; for pay day is surer to come. Do you spend more than you make? Are you in debt at the end of the month and away behind at the end of the year? If so then you are anything but prosperous, and your pressing debts make you unhappy.

Try to remedy this condition this year and start 1924 right. It may require some self-denial at times, but in the end it will pay you a hundred fold.

In the first place, do not buy anything you cannot pay for, do without it, rather than go in debt. Second, put something in a savings bank or building association each week, even if you have to do without something you think you need. The poor unfortunate fellow who is always staring debt in the face and always at the mercy of his creditors is to be pitied, for he knows not peace.

We will guarantee that if you will adopt our suggestion for 1924 you will find the difference so great at the close of the year that you will never go beyond your means again, and you will know what it is to be prosperous, for no matter what your condition in life may be, if at the end of the year you have no debts and have saved up enough to tide over a rainy day—you have been prosperous.

This is a time for every one to take stock, as the merchants do, to see just where you stand. Have I been unhappy during the past year? Why? Find out the cause.

Have I been in bad health? Why? Look over your manner of living during the year and see if you can't find the cause.

Did I come up to the end of 1923 with a load of debt so that Christmas was a burden to me? If so, find out the cause.

And after taking stock of ourselves we discover the cause of our troubles. Let us, like men, determine that if we are not happy, healthy and prosperous during 1924, it will not be because we have not tried to profit by our mistakes of past years, but for reasons beyond us.

The Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation, received contracts to build six non-propelled steel bulk oil-carrying river barges for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and one dredge hull and boiler for the Elliott Machine Corporation.

The barges will be of the single-draft, all-steel hull speed type, and each will have the following dimensions: Length, 135 feet; beam, 24 feet, and depth, 7.6 feet.

Each will have an oil-pumping system consisting of two Northern Fire pumps.

William G. ...

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GOVERNOR TO EXPLAIN BUDGET REDUCTIONS—BEGINS WORK ON MESSAGE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Cuts in Department Estimates Expected To Bring Levy To 28 Cents—Will Also Explain To Legislators Principles of Economy By Which He was Actuated in Dealing.

(Special to The Jeffersonian.) Governor Ritchie this week began drafting the message which he will deliver to the General Assembly when that body convenes next month. He plans to discuss the budget and the tax rate. He will also explain to the legislators the principles of economy by which he was actuated in dealing with the budget estimates presented by the various State departments and institutions.

These estimates were on a scale of unparalleled size. The Governor has been compelled to do some drastic cutting.

In other matters the Governor has been struggling with the problem of cutting estimates so as not to starve the State's activities and yet, on the other hand, not to feast them at the taxpayers' expense. While the budget now is practically completed, it will not go to the printer for several days. It will take three weeks to print, it was said.

The budget which Governor Ritchie will present to the coming Legislature, it is anticipated, will permit a further reduction in the State tax rate. The amount of the reduction has been approximated at 2 cents. The State tax rate for 1924 is 30 2-13 cents, so that a new rate in the vicinity of 28 cents is expected.

The budget to be presented by the Governor will provide for sinking fund and interest charges on such proposed bond issues as the Legislature may deem it wise to create.

FATHER STANDS BY DAUGHTER—JUSTIFIES WOMAN IN LEAVING HUSBAND HERE.

Bowed With Grief, James Carver, Of Parkville, Is Anxious To Help Accused Held In Detroit In Connection With Murder.

Surrounded by his six small children and his invalid wife, James Carver, of Parkville, sat in his little home and repeated hopelessly his vow to stand by his wayward daughter, Nannie Hammond, who is being held in Detroit in connection with the murder of Thomas J. Brennan.

Mrs. Hammond eloped with Brennan, who was a boarder in her home, deserting Charles F. Hammond, her husband, three years ago, according to Hammond. This her father admitted. Bowed with grief, he said: "I don't care what Nettie (his pet name for her) may have done, I am going to stick by her. I do not blame her for leaving Hammond for he was cruel to her. With my wife and six little children to support, I don't see just how I can be of any assistance, but I am here and willing to help if she wants me."

"She sent me a birthday card less than two months ago."

Mrs. Hammond was married to Charles F. Hammond, 2225 Orem avenue, when little more than a girl. She is 24 now. After four years of married life with Hammond, she left him in 1920, eloping with Brennan, of Boston, Canadian World War Veteran. They lived together in Detroit, it is said.

Last Monday Brennan's body was found on a lonely island in Detroit with the head crushed by a hammer. The bloody hammer and a stained automobile crank were discovered in Brennan's machine, stalled some distance from the scene of the crime.

Detroit police are holding Mrs. Hammond, Mrs. Ella Connors, a former landlady of Brennan, and a neighbor with whom he is said to have quarreled. A torn overcoat belonging to him was found in the stranded automobile.

Man Says P. S. C. Act Improper—ERISHED HIM.

Crowds of pedestrians were drawn to Baltimore street, between Calvert street and Guilford avenue, Baltimore City, one night recently, when a police sergeant removed a placard from the side of the automobile of Mark J. Zeller, of Stemmers Run.

The placard attacked the Public Service Commission and the McMahon Transportation Company, which operates a motor bus line on Bel Air road. Signed by Zeller, it set forth that the two organizations "reduced me and my large family from prosperity to misery."

Zeller explained he was impoverished when the Commission and the McMahon company obtained an injunctive order against operation of a co-operative bus line formed and used by residents between Overlea and Putty Hill from 1920 to 1922. He flayed alleged improper use of secret agents by the Commission to obtain evidence the new bus line carried general passengers, and hence was a public utility in competition with the monopoly given the McMahon company by the Commission.

Zeller said he invested \$500 of borrowed money in the co-operative line. As a result of the injunction he is forced to work 18 to 20 hours a day at two jobs, but is fighting a losing battle to support five small children. He is a rural mail carrier in the morning and a telegraph messenger at night.

Police Boat Drags Bear—CREEK IN HOPE OF RECOVERING SAFE.

Acting on information received police officials dispatched the police boat Robert D. Carter to drag the bottom of Bear Creek in an effort to recover the safe that was taken from the offices of the Consolidated Gas and Electric Company, 3706 Eastern Avenue, December 21.

The safe contained \$200 in cash, several bank books and other valuable papers, according to information given the police.

Thomas Sanders, 22 years old, who gave his address as 404 South Robinson street, and Fred Gross, 23 years old, who gave an address in the 3800 block Eastern avenue, are being held in connection with the robbery. Police believe the safe was thrown into Bear Creek without being opened.

Bethlehem Co. Gets Orders For 6 Barges—1 Dredge Hull and Boiler Also Contracted For.

The Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation, received contracts to build six non-propelled steel bulk oil-carrying river barges for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and one dredge hull and boiler for the Elliott Machine Corporation.

The barges will be of the single-draft, all-steel hull speed type, and each will have the following dimensions: Length, 135 feet; beam, 24 feet, and depth, 7.6 feet.

Each will have an oil-pumping system consisting of two Northern Fire pumps.

William G. ...

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STORK VISITS SUNNYBROOK COUPLE.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beyer, near Sunnybrook, recently, and left a bouncing baby boy.

NAVAL OFFICER GUEST OF MOTHER AT COCKEYSVILLE.

Mrs. William H. Buck, of Cockeysville, has had as her holiday guest, her son, Lieutenant Buck, of the U. S. Navy.

CORBETT FOLKS ENTERTAIN AID SOCIETY.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Keys, of Corbett, entertained members of the Community Aid and Social of Monkton M. E. Church last night (Friday).

TENNESSEE FOLKS GUESTS OF RELATIVES AT TOWSON.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Bruff, of Chattanooga, Tenn., spent Christmas with Mr. Bruff's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Bruff, of Towson.

BUTLER IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION ELECTS OFFICERS.

At a recent meeting of the Butler Improvement Association, Thomas Gray was re-elected president, John A. Scott, vice president, and J. Walter Turnbaugh, secretary.

STATE FARM BUREAU TO HOLD SESSION JANUARY 9 TO 11.

Arrangements have been completed to care for between 500 and 600 delegates from all parts of Maryland who will go to Baltimore City for the annual meeting of the Maryland Farm Bureau Federation and affiliated associations, to be held at the Southern Hotel Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 9, 10 and 11, 1924.

President E. P. Cahill of the federation will preside. Governor Ritchie of Maryland, Governor Pinchot, of Pennsylvania, O. E. Bradford, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Mayor Howard W. Jackson, of Baltimore City, and other speakers of national prominence are on the program for addresses.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO OPEN WEDNESDAY.

The public school of the County will re-open after the Christmas holidays on next Wednesday.

ARTHUR B. GRAHAM, REPUBLICAN POLITICIAN, DEAD.

Arthur B. Graham, a Republican politician of the First District, died at his home at Grays, after a long illness.

He was fifty-nine years old and is survived by a widow, Mrs. Nellie Graham.

CONFEDERATE "VETS" TREATED

The churches of Pikesville remembered the Confederate veterans of the Confederate Soldiers' Home, giving them a Christmas party.

More than 200 persons met at the schoolhouse and marched to the home, singing Christmas carols. After an entertainment the 18 veterans were presented baskets containing fruit, nuts, cakes and tobacco.

MATTRESSES HOLD FILTH AND DISEASE—STUFFING OF OLD ONES USED IN NEW.

(Continued from Page 1) In this manner, material possibly carrying the germs of tuberculosis, syphilis, leprosy or other diseases, contaminated with lockjaw and alive with vermin which may spread typhus fever or bubonic plague, is scattered broadcast. Employees of junk-dealers and reprocessing factories themselves frequently acquire infection and thereby further contaminate the filthy material which they handle.

Samples of second-hand mattress material were examined by the laboratories of the various Health Departments and found to contain disease-producing germs. As a result of this exposure, the Health Department intends to prosecute vigorously the offenders against whom there is ample evidence of law infraction.

In high-grade factories making clean, sanitary mattresses, new cotton stock, curled hair, or kapok are the principal materials used; cotton stock being frequently used as a filler. Excelsior and wool-wool are used to a small extent in the cheap grades of mattresses. The material is clean and sanitary, but it is obvious that it makes poor mattresses from the standpoint of durability.

Sanitary inspectors recently visited 20 junk-shops distributed through the City, and in each one of them old mattresses were found to be either in storage or for sale, and ready to be removed to the mattress factories. In some of the junk-shops the ticking was removed from the old, filthy mattresses and baled ready for shipment, no other precautions being taken as to the sanitary condition. Some inspectors found loaded wagons from the junk-dealers lined up in front of the junk-shops.

Scattered about the community are what is known as 'shoddy' mills. To these the junk-dealer brings his nauseous load, where it is run through a machine with thousands of steel teeth, which tear and rip it into bits and shreds until it becomes soft and fluffy.

Extensive investigations carried on during the past few months have revealed the most shocking conditions. Laboratory tests have demonstrated the presence of pus organisms and other filth germs in the material used for mattress stuffing. Usually no attempt is made to cleanse it, no sterilizing machines being provided on account of the expense. So, while it comes out of these mills changed in form, it is just as filthy and alive with germs of contagion as before.

The practice of manufacturing mattresses from unsterilized filling from filthy, contaminated, and festering material is con-

demned by the Chicago health officials primarily because of the nature of abhorrence which one has to intimate contact with blood, sperm, excreta, and vermin, which are commonly found upon it.

It is well known that vermin, such as bedbugs and fleas, act as 'intermediate hosts' or carriers of many of the diseases of man. Typhus fever, which is different from typhoid fever, is a septicemia or blood disease which has been common in this country for a number of years. The disease is now being reintroduced into the United States with the tide of immigration from the epidemic centers of the old world. The mortality from typhus in Europe, where it is very prevalent in certain areas, is usually high. It is transmitted through the agency of the body-lice—the being taken from unhygienic homes are, therefore, possible sources of typhus fever. The control of this disease is a new and difficult problem confronting the health officer, for many cases of it are believed to be undiagnosed by the average practitioner of medicine.

The United States Public Health Service has prevented the spread of bubonic plague in this country up to the present time by conducting a destructive campaign among rats in various seaports. The flea of the plague-diseased rat is the transmitter of the disease to man. The potential danger of bubonic plague always exists under conditions that permit rats to have access to such household furnishings as mattresses and similar material.

"FIREWATER" THIEVES AGAIN ACTIVE IN THE COUNTY.

(Continued from Page 1) in less than 2 years; and the second being in April, 1922, and the first being on November 13 last, when 25 masked men overpowered the guards and made off with 3 truck loads, only to be confiscated by Marshal of Police Stansbury, about a mile from Towson.

Four men are being held for investigation by the police, following the robbery. Those arrested gave their names as Phillip Felsher, Moe Margolese, Murphy and Brennan. Felsher carried a membership card in the Young Men's Democratic Club of Baltimore. The card gave his address in the 900 block East Fayette street.

Margolese had an automobile operator's license made out in that name. His address was given as North Frederick street. Murphy and Brennan also said they lived in Baltimore.

One of the guards said he recognized five of the raiders as men who had taken part in the robbery November 13.

The two men arrested near the larger trucks said they had no connection with the trucks. The men in the smaller truck said they were on their way to Philadelphia.

All the trucks carried Pennsylvania State commercial vehicle licenses and bore the name of the Manhattan Transfer Company, of Philadelphia.

The smaller truck carried a Maryland State license.

According to the story of Herman Hoffman, one of the distillery guards, he was coming on duty at 4 P. M. As he approached the distillery he was seized by eight men, handcuffed and thrown into the woods near by. Two of his assailants remained to guard him.

While lying in the woods, he said, he could hear the men loading the trucks. He was threatened with death, he declared, if he made a sound.

About 7.30, according to Hoffman, he was taken into the front office of the distillery, where the two other guards were bound. At 9 P. M. he declared the telephone rang, and one of the guards was forced to answer in the transmitter at the point of a pistol while one of the raiders listened at the receiver.

The call was from a man named Cockey, Hoffman declared. Cockey said he had seen a number of trucks moving about on the road in a manner that aroused his suspicion and he wished to warn the distillery guards.

Under instruction from the bandit, who held the receiver, Hoffman answered that the guards would be on the lookout.

The bandits, warned by Cockey's call, then fled.

As two patrolmen approached the distillery they saw eight men run down the road and into a cemetery nearby, they said.

State, County and City police continued to scour all roads near the distillery. They were aided by three details of police from Central Police Station, sent to the scene by Captain John Carey, night commander of police.

Companies A and E, of the One Hundred and Tenth Field Artillery, which has its armory in Pikesville, also took part in the search after a call for help had been made by William F. Coghlan, Baltimore County Commissioner.

The other guards, Charles F. Powell, colored, and C. R. Royston, were attracted to the rear of the distillery when one of the raiding party kicked in windows. The bandits then entered at the front and overpowered them.

A farmer named Fritz, passing by, was seized by the bandits and taken inside the distillery, where the four men were handcuffed together, one man being handcuffed to a radiator.

When the bandits had fled the guard handcuffed to the radiator pried himself loose with a poker, a method used by guards in a previous robbery. They then walked to the home of George H. Davis, about a mile distant, where Davis cut their handcuffs with the same cable cutters he had used for that purpose on a previous occasion.

CHRISTMAS EVE 1923 PROVES TO BE BIGGEST COUNTY-SEAT HAS EVER SEEN.

(Continued from Page 1) "Jeff's" Community Christmas Tree and Realistic Garden to repeat their songs.

From six to ten, by special arrangement with Old Santa Claus, who was on the job at the Community Tree, the Towson National Bank gave a box of Christmas candy to the youngsters, and long before six there were hundreds of children surging about the rail, eager for the genial old Saint to pass them one of the Bank's Yuletide tokens, and by 8 o'clock the crowd was so great that Marshal of Police Stansbury was compelled to station Officer Kelley on the scene. In their jovial and frantic efforts to meet Santa, the kiddies broke down the rail around the display.

The fame of The "Jeff's" Community Christmas Tree and Realistic Garden had spread so far, that strangers from here, there and everywhere, mingled along the great crowd that stood in the brilliant moonlight to get a peep at the setting, and it is estimated at least 3,000 passed before the entry between 6 and 10 o'clock.

Those who have not as yet seen this brilliantly illuminated affair here but two days left, for on the morning of January 3rd, it will be dismantled.

BALTIMORE COUNTY LEADS.

(Continued from Page 1) subject to the full State tax follow:

Table with 3 columns: County, Total Subject to County Tax, Full Tax. Rows include Baltimore, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Montgomery, Carroll, Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, Harford, Cecil, Wicomico, Somerset, Howard, York, Talbot, Garrett, Worcester, Queen Anne's, Kent, Caroline, Somerset, Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert.

Totals... \$733,145,921 \$651,384,873

With the exception of \$5,570,097 in savings deposits (3,968,165 in Frederick County and \$1,601,932 in Montgomery County), the \$31,761,048 comprising the difference between the total County taxable basis (for State purposes) and the \$651,384,873, subject to the full State rate, is comprised of securities subject to the 15-cent rate.

The classifications of property in Baltimore County, as given by the State Tax Committee, are:

Table with 2 columns: Classification, Amount. Rows include Real, Personal, Business corporations, Domestic corporate shares, Distilled spirits, Bank and Trust Company shares, Non-stock corporation (personal property).

Subject to full State rate... \$104,047,301

Securities (15-cent rate)... 33,910,467

Total taxable basis... \$137,957,758

Of the \$651,000,000 (in round numbers) of the County taxable basis subject to the full State rate the largest items are: Real property, \$128,357,378; personal property, \$72,605,739; and bank and trust company shares, \$28,322,896.

Classifications under the heads of business corporations, domestic corporate shares, distilled spirits and non-stock corporations (personal property) account for the remainder.

TWO PERSONS KILLED.

(Continued from Page 1) utes after the time that Mrs. Elphinstone was to have met her husband. Witnesses said the automobile was demolished and its wreckage dragged for some distance before the train was stopped. Members of the crew picked up the bodies, placed them in a coach and the train was rushed to Union Station, from which place the injured were removed to a hospital, and upon arrival were pronounced dead by physicians.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

"PASSED AWAY."

From the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Keagy, 601 E. Bayley Avenue, her home for the past nine years, MRS. LOUISA L. HOPKINS, widow of the late William Pratt Hopkins.

NOTICE.

The annual stockholders meeting of the Glyndon Bank will be held Saturday afternoon, January 12, 1924 at 3:30 P. M. Sharp.

for the purpose of electing officers and directors of the bank for the ensuing year. All other business will be taken up at this meeting following the election of the directors.

(Signed) J. EDWARD HEWES, Cashier.

Dec. 29-Jan. 5-12

MORE PROFIT.

Increase your poultry profits this season by raising more chicks with less trouble and expense. Brooding satisfaction assured with a "National" Made for Real Oil. Sold by CHAS. W. K. ARNOLD, P. O. Box 1, Glyndon, Md. Reisterstown 45-J.

FARM FOR RENT.

Meadow Dale Farm for rent on shares. Contains 200 acres of tillable land. Thirty years a dairy farm. Three miles from State road, four from Sparks Station. School and churches convenient. References required.

M. BACON, Sp. York, Baltimore County, Md. Phone Cockeysville 72-F-21. Dec. 15-22-29

BERKSHIRE HOGS WANTED FOR SAUSAGE.

I will pay 12 cents pound dressed weight for hogs delivered to my place alive, at Sparks, Md. Phone Cockeysville 12-F-21. Dec. 15-22-29

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Baltimore County Bank will be held at its banking house, at Towson, Tuesday, January 8, 1924. Between the hours of 1 and 3 O'clock P. M.

for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

(Signed) WILLIAM C. KENNEY, Cashier.

Dec. 22-29-Jan. 5