AUTOISTS PROTEST AGAINST HOLDUPS

WANT HYATTSVILLE CONSTABLES CHECKED BY GOVERNOR.

INJURE STATE'S GOOD NAME

Backed by Hundreds of Representative Men, Automobile Club Has Appealed to Mr. Goldsborough to Intervene on Behalf of Those Who Are Being Fined for Speeding When Their Cars Are Almost Creeping.

Maryland today finds itself in the same predicament as did New Jersey several years ago through the actions of constables who lined the roads leading to Atlantic City, arrested every automobile driver and demanded money on the pretext that he was exceeding the speed limit. "Legalized hold-ups" were the terms applied to these arrests and to save the good name of the state the government put a stop to the unwarranted practices.

The wholesale arrests on the part of constables at Hyattsville, Prince Georges county, of autoists are resulting in storms of protests which are giving Maryland an undesirable reputation, and to stem the tide of emphatic declarations against the officials of that town the Automobile Club of Maryland, backed by hundreds of men in every walk of life, who live in Baltimore and Washington, has asked Governor Goldsborough to intervene.

Osborne I. Yellot, counsel for the Automobile Club, has submitted to the Governor a stack of letters and affidavits from men who have been "held up" by "auto chasers" of Hyattsville.

Governor Assents.

These complain of treatment received from the officials, designate the actions of the constables as unwarranted and claim that in making arrests they discriminate in favor of their friends. Governor Goldsborough said yesterday that he was of the opinion the State's Attorney of Prince George's county was the proper person to make an investigation, but that as far as possible he would see whether any improper arrests or fines are being made or imposed at Hyattsville.

The time allowed for securing auto licenses will end tonight. Automobile Commissioner Roe stated yesterday afternoon that all who do not have 1913 licenses tomorrow and operate their automobiles will be liable to arrest.

Even though the protests against their actions will make the "auto spotters," who each Sunday stand with a little red flag and a stop watch in Hyattsville, more careful tomorrow, yet the fact that some persons might have been delayed in securing licenses and run their machines, will, it is believed, lead them to guard the highway leading through the village.

Accompanying complaints received from automobile owners by the Automobile Club were letters received by Mr. Randolph Barton, Jr., criticising the actions of the Hyattsville authorities. Mr. Barton received many communications and among them were several from people who live in Hyattsville and who condemn the antics of the Justice of the Peace and his alles; namely, the constables.

Reputable Men Victimized.

"Men most prominent in their communities have been held up by these constables at Hyattsville," said Mr. Barton, "and it is time something were done to stop the practice. Jacob Epstein, Frank A. Furst, J. Louis Gough, Douglas A. Gordon and other reputable men of Baltimore have been stopped without justification while coming through Hyattsville in their automobiles."

Just to show how "they do it" in Hyattsville, the following affidavit, duly sworn to, was presented to the Governor:

On Sunday, November 17, 1912, about 3 o'clock P. M. a machine occupied at the time by Mr. J. Louis Gough, Mr. P. Gough Edlen, Miss Jennie V. Hilton, Harvey Hilton and the chauffeur, Stephen Griffin, was coming from Washington to Baltimore through Hyattsville. While passing through the town the car was going very slowly, as we were looking for some place to get a bottle of water, and we were talking at the time of people having been fined for speeding at this point, so all of us were especially cautious. When we arrived at about the middle of the town someone, whom we found later was the town sergeant, ran out and stopped us with a red flag, and told Mr. Gough, who was in charge of the car and our host on this occasion, to go before the justice of the peace, L. O. Wisman, telling him he was arrested for speeding. We did not accompany Mr. Gough and do not know personally what occurred there, but we know as a matter of fact that the car was proceeding very slowly and had not been going over eight miles an hour since we entered the town. In spite of Mr. Gough's protests the sergeant insisted on his accompanying him before the justice of the peace.

O. B. Zandzinger, of Hyattsville, also wrote Mr. Barton complaining of the actions of the "auto-chasers," and said that the people of Hyattsville were not in sympathy with them. M. A. Jordon, of Washington, also complained.

Bitter Letter From Washington.

One of the letters received from a Washington lawyer and sent along with the rest to the Governor reads, in part:

Learning that you have interested yourself in abating the great wrong that is now being perpetrated upon the town of Hyattsville, the county of Prince Georges and the State of Maryland in the matter of the indiscriminate and wholesale arrests and conviction of automobilists passing through our state, I drop you this line more in the way of encouragement than to be able to offer any assistance unless my purse and professional work can aid you, in which event you can call upon me at any time.

My brother and I have, perhaps, been extremists in condemnation of what is known as speeding or reckless driving anywhere, particularly through a densely populated community. We have always done what lay in our power to assist the law officers of the county and the courts in seeing that the laws upon the statute books were observed, and if violated, the offenders apprehended and punished. We have been particularly active during the last few years in trying to break or ameliorate the horrible conditions existing immediately adjacent to the town of Hyattsville, in Prince Georges county, where the illegal sale of liquors on Sundays and to minors, together with the wide-open gambling joints, with all the incidental horrors attending the worst of these places have openly reveled not only in defiance and in contempt of our laws, but with the sanction and encouragement of the law officers.

The practice of these men, generally on Sundays, at the very time when these open barrooms and gambling halls are being run within a stone's throw of the Hyattsville court of justice, is to station themselves on the pike, one with a red flag and the other with a watch, and if an unsuspecting visitor from abroad who looks like he might have $15 or more approaches, the red flag is immediately flaunted in his face and he is told to hand out $15. A magistrate is at hand ready to proclaim judgment and his two satellites to execute it. It matters not whether the men are exceeding the speed limit—there is the stop watch in the hand of one, who, by the way, is very large physically and whose presence aids to awe the victim. Then there is the other with his red flag, and the victim, right or wrong, rather than be hauled off and locked in the town jail, complies with the holdup and passes on. The money is then divided, the trap is again set and the next victim caught, and so on till darkness shuts out the infamy of such a bunch.

Their Friends Unmolested.

Only a few Sundays ago my brother, in his machine, accompanied by myself and sisters, were coming down the pike when we noticed a gentleman with a lady approaching us traveling about the same rate that we were, just about ten miles an hour. We met where the court and its officers were then holding session, commonly known as the trap on the sidewalk. The red flag was produced, the man was held up and required to disgorge $15.

Now the point I make is this: That if these officers of the law wish to do something to aid the community, the taxpayers and morals and the general uplift of the town, county and state, they should—

First—Stop these gambling halls and the saloons above referred to.

Secondly—That if they are so solicitous about the observance of the automobile law, then let them enforce it strictly and not discriminate a dozen times a day in favor of their friends or acquaintances, and arrest everyone. Then it will become so obnoxious that the Mayor and Common Council may repeal it.

And, thirdly—That it is an outrage not only upon the individuals who are arrested, but particularly upon the taxpayers of Prince Georges county, who wish capital and new blood to come into the county and build homes, to improve our farms and wake up people from stagnation. If ten miles an hour is a reasonable regulation, then have two large signs conspicuously posted at either approach to the town, so that at least the unsuspecting visitor may know in advance, so that he can slow down, or let the ordinance be amended so that a man who is merely exceeding the ten-mile limit by a few seconds, or the first offense, shall be simply warned or something left in the discretion of the magistrate, but let us do something that will stop driving away capital and stop making our community a laughing stock and contempt of all fair-minded men.

MAYOR LAUGHS AT CRITICS

Promises to Keep On Improving at Cornell Club.

In a speech at the first annual banquet of the Cornell Club of Maryland, held at the Hotel Rennert last night, Mayor Preston took a number of humorous flings at some of his critics. His declarations were greeted with applause by the engineers present, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy his quips concerning several newspaper editors who attempt to hold him up to public scorn.

The affair was the first formal dinner given by the Cornell Club. Ezra B. Whitman, water engineer, was the toastmaster. F. T. Crane, acting president of Cornell University; Eugene Norton, Levin Houston and Dr. H. Sharpe were the other speakers.

In introducing the Mayor, Mr. Whitman said that the present administration was more progressive and business-like than the previous two administrations under which he had served. The department heads, instead of working in separate units, co-operated with each other. This was due, in a great measure, he believed, to the weekly conference of department heads.

"Formerly a department head would not spend 10 cents for a brother official," Mr. Whitman said. "No official now carries a chip on his shoulder. There are no more fights between municipal officials. The spirit of harmony is in the air and all this is due to the quick action, splendid energy and keen business insight of the Mayor."

The Mayor said, in part:

We are in need of engineers because of the great improvements now under way. Mr. Whitman is a splendid type of the progressive young engineer who has executive ability and the power to drive and thrust, and thereby produce results. He is energetic, sincere, conscientious and upright. We are in need of the men who can punch, who can close up contracts and complete them at the least cost in the quickest time.

I have been attacked by certain newspapers because of the actions of the Board of Estimates. There is only one right side to a question and the board has, fortunately, been on that side, while these newspaper editors have been on the wrong side.

The Mayor praised the Polytechnic Institute and the Johns Hopkins University and spoke of the proposed technological school.

He promised that while his critics spoke of new charters and discussed him he would continue piling up brick on brick, lay smooth pavements, build new highways, produce more water for the taxpayers and other improvements. He denied there were 80-odd places to be filled at the City Hall, as announced in certain newspapers. Twenty-four of this number were park laborers, a similar number Bayview nurses, and nearly the entire remainder small technical positions. This exaggeration, he said, was a typical instance of the distortion of the real facts practiced by his friends, the enemy.

Laughingly, the Mayor urged Dr. Crane to continue turning out capable engineers, so that Baltimore could employ them. "And don't forget, Doctor," cautioned the Mayor, "that in making them capable and experienced engineers, make them good Democrats, for, after knowledge and experience, comes political affiliation. I want you to know, however, that we have some splendid Republicans at the City Hall who are members of our official family."

WANTS TO ESCORT WILSON

Fifth Regiment Seeking This Honor. Mr. Linthicum at Work.

A dispatch to The American last night from its Washington Bureau stated:

"Col. Louis M. Rawlins, of the Fifth Regiment of the Maryland National Guard, has written to Representative Linthicum, stating that that organization is an aspirant for the honor of being the infantry escort of President-elect Wilson during his inauguration. The letter asked Mr. Linthicum to organize a concerted movement among the Maryland delegation to accomplish this end and expresses a desire that they take the matter up with Mr. Wilson. Colonel Rawlins is the chairman of a committee which includes Lieutenant Colonel John Hinckley and Capt. S. Johnson Poe, appointed to represent the Fifth Regiment in an effort to arrange for it to become the escort of President-elect Wilson. The matter was laid before Mr. Wilson's secretary a few days before his election and was several weeks ago the basis of a telegram sent by Colonel Rawlins and other members of the committee to Trenton, but so far no response has been made on behalf of Governor Wilson to their request that he designate the Fifth Regiment as his escort. Representative Linthicum will confer with other members of the Maryland delegation with a view to bring this to his attention.

For years the Fifth Regiment has been attending inaugurations and has always been granted the use of the corridors of the federal courthouse in Washington as its headquarters and for sleeping accommodations for the members of that regiment. At the request of Colonel Rawlins a resolution was introduced today by Mr. Linthicum to grant the use of the courthouse corridors to the Fifth Regiment from 6 o'clock of the evening of March 3 to 7 P. M. March 4.

Will Talk to Women.

Mrs. Benjamin Corkoran will address women of South Baltimore next Tuesday afternoon at Channing House, 527 South Charles street, for the purpose of interesting them in the work of the Women's Civic League, looking to the establishment of a community center of the League in the neighborhood. Miss Miriam Gover, head of Channing House, which is a social settlement, will preside, and will endeavor to secure the attendance of a large number of women residing in the immediate vicinity. A movement to secure the use of school houses for permanent meeting places for the community centers will soon be inaugurated by the league.

LOCAL MENTION.

Coal—E. Stabler, Jr., Coal Co.—Wood. Highest Grades Coal. Lowest Market Prices and Full Weight. Office, Cor. Eutaw and Madison Sts. Yard, Cor. Oliver St. and Maryland Ave.

"No more bald heads." The slogan of LORRIMER'S HAIR TONIC. Removes dandruff. Stops hair falling. Grows healthy hair. 25c., 50c., $1.00.

Coal—W. J. Chapman Coal Co.—Coke 25 Bushels Coke, $3.50. Sharp & Lombard—Oak and 20th Sts.

THE MAYOR'S NEW YEAR'S GIFT TO THE CITY

MAYOR PRESTON TODAY PRESENTS THE CITY OF BALTIMORE WITH A PORTRAIT OF FORMER MAYOR LATROBE.

DID NOT KNOW OF BROTHER'S SUICIDE

HARRY G. LARKINS INDIGNANT AT CORONER DAVIS.

THE GOVERNOR MAY ACT

Brother of Mr. Larkins Placed in Cell in St. Joseph's Hospital and Given Sleeping Potion—Found Dead Next Morning—Mr. Larkins Called Twice, but Told First Brother Was Then There—Too Ill to Be Seen.

Indignant because he was not informed that his brother had committed suicide in a cell in St. Joseph's Hospital, where he had been left alone for hours, Harry L. Larkins, 1505 North Dallas street, has sought legal advice and intends to lay the matter before the state authorities. Governor Goldsborough said yesterday that if a complaint were made to him he would take any action necessary.

Mr. Larkins feels that Coroner Robert G. Davis, of the Northeastern District, should have notified him. Inasmuch as the police were also kept in ignorance of the case, they feel the same way about it. While there is no law requiring a coroner to notify the police of a suicide, it has been a long-established custom. Marshal Farnan told Captain Zellers, of the Northeastern District, yesterday that Coroner Davis certainly should have notified the police. This sentiment was shared by other police officials. Coroner Davis contends that the matter was an oversight on his part.

Harry Larkins, eldest brother of the dead man, acting upon the advice of his attorney, will consult State's Attorney Broening. He may also see the Governor.

On the day after Christmas, Walter Larkins, who lived at 1220 East Chase street, was taken ill and sent to St. Joseph's Hospital. There he was placed in one of the public wards, but on Saturday night he was removed to a cell on the first floor, where a small bed was the only furniture. Medicine intended to produce sleep was administered and the man was left alone shortly before midnight. At 8 o'clock Sunday morning his dead body was found hanging from a heat pipe by a sheet.

Coroner Davis Notified.

According to Dr. Benjamin Swint, a resident physician, Coroner Davis was immediately notified. He viewed the body and left. No one else was officially notified.

At about 11 o'clock John Phillips, a cabman, who brought Larkins to the hospital, was told by a medical student that his friend was dead. Phillips knew that Larkins had a brother somewhere in the city and told Larkins' boarding mistress to notify him. This she did, but when the elder Larkins reached the hospital, about noon, he was told there was no patient in the hospital bearing the name of Larkins. He then went to his brother's home, where he met Phillips, who asked, "Have you seen your brother's body?"

"No," he replied, "he isn't dead, I am told."

"Why, I heard that he had committed suicide," exclaimed Phillips.

Back to the hospital went Mr. Larkins with another brother, William Larkins. This time, after a long delay, he was told that his brother was very ill. He could not be seen.

Larkins, still accompanied by his brother, went home again. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon a young physician called with the information that his brother had died. Larkins, at his home yesterday afternoon, said:

"I then asked what had been the cause of his death, but the doctor answered: 'I can't tell you; you had better see the coroner.' I then went to Dr. Davis' home, across the street from the hospital, and asked about my brother. 'Yes, he's dead,' said Coroner Davis. 'He died this morning.'

"'What caused his death?' I asked.

Dr. Davis Whispered.

"Then Dr. Davis whispered, if I would promise not to tell he would explain. Assuming that I had given my word, he told me that my brother had hanged himself. "'Keep cool,' he kept repeating at the same time slapping me affectionately on the back. 'We're not going to have this in the papers. No one knows it, and don't say anything yourself.' Walter was buried Tuesday, and as I had seen no death notice in the papers I put an advertisement in on Wednesday morning."

"I admit it was an oversight," said Dr. Davis yesterday, when asked for an explanation. "I thought the hospital people would notify the police. There is no law requiring me to report—only a time-honored custom, I did not mean to violate. They told me that they had given him medicine and they thought it would make him sleep."

Dr. Davis said that he had been prompted by sympathy for the dead man's family when he urged to keep it out of the papers.

The police believe that Dr. Davis was prompted by his kindly feeling toward St. Joseph's Hospital.

Consolation for Backslider.

'Tis better to have resolved and fallen off than never to have resolved at all.—Washington Post.

CAPITAL TO BE $1,000,000

Citizens' Fire Insurance Company to Expand.

A syndicate headed by the Fidelity Trust Company and composed of that institution, Messrs. Hambleton & Co., Baker, Watts & Co. and Middendorf, Williams & Co., has been formed to purchase the 13,000 additional shares of Citizens' Fire Insurance Company stock, or any part thereof, not taken by the stockholders.

Notices are being mailed to stockholders of the company, giving terms of subscription, which provide for 30 per cent. of the purchase price to be paid on or before January 30, 25 per cent. April 15, 25 per cent. July 15, and the remaining 20 per cent. on October 15.

Offering is being made to the public for participation upon the same terms as stockholders for any amount not taken by stockholders.

The present capital stock of the Citizens' Fire Insurance Company is $350,000. The present increase to $1,000,000 is the third time within five years it has been necessary to increase its capital, to take care of its rapidly expanding business. The increased capital to $1,000,000 gives the company total assets approximating $2,000,000, and, in the opinion of financial and insurance experts, places the company permanently in the front ranks of the foremost fire insurance companies of the United States.

It is said that the recent alliance with the Fidelity and Deposit Company, under which the Fidelity and Deposit acquired a large interest in the Citizens' Fire Insurance Company, has proven very advantageous to the Citizens' Fire. The company is now doing business in 16 states.

President Alexander, in the letter which is being sent out to stockholders, calls attention to the fact that the average net earnings of these companies for the year 1910 were 40½ per cent.

STATE FINANCES

Condition Shown in Statement Submitted to the Governor.

A statement showing the condition of the state's finances and sworn to by State Comptroller Harrington was made public yesterday by Governor Goldsborough. The report covers the financial condition until the close of the fiscal year, which was September 30, 1912. The Governor sometime ago submitted a list of questions to the Comptroller and these were fully answered in the document prepared by the latter.

The cash on hand October 1 was $1,887,197.78. The probable receipts for 1913 are given as $12,223,478.30. The state's obligations, expenses and appropriations (estimated) equal $12,184,802. The outstanding bond indebtedness of the state aggregates a total of $13,020,095.

The various state loans, their amounts and maturity, follow:

Consolidated Loan, 1899—Amount, $3,191,095.63; maturity, 1914; account exchange of state debt and new public buildings.

State Building and Improvement, 1900—Amount, $500,000; maturity, 1915; account public buildings.

State Loan, 1902—Amount, $600,000; maturity, 1917; account public buildings.

Public Building Loan, 1904—Amount, $1,618,000; maturity, 1919; account public buildings.

State Roads, 1908, Series A—Amount, $500,000; maturity, 1923; account state roads.

State Roads, 1908, Series B—Amount, $1,000,000; maturity, 1924; account state roads.

State Roads, 1908, Series C—Amount $1,000,000; maturity, 1925; account state roads.

State Roads, 1908, Series D—Amount, $1,000,000; maturity, 1926; account state roads.

State Roads, 1908, Series E—Amount, $990,000; maturity, 1927; account state roads.

Highway Loan, 1910, Series A—Amount, $250,000; maturity, 1926; account public highways.

Highway Loan, 1910, Series B—Amount, $250,000; maturity, 1927; account public highways.

Sanitarium Loan, 1910—Amount, $40,000; maturity, 1926; account tuberculosis sanitarium.

Technical Loan, 1912—Amount, $489,000; maturity, 1927; account technical school.

State Loan, 1912—Amount, $1,000,000 Maturity, 1927; account state roads.

The total amount of bonds authorized and not issued is $5,081,000. In answer to the question, "What securities are held by the state upon which no interest or dividends are paid?" the total is given as $1,272,026.99. In addition to the latter amount the state's interest in private corporations, through state holdings or otherwise, is given as $1,650,577.50.

In the sinking fund there is held against loans mentioned above: Consolidated, $3,111,112.15; state building and improvement, $488,724.50; state loan, 1902, $430,000; public building, $708,000; state roads, 1908, $700,000; state insane, $80,000; public highway, $35,000; sanitarium, $10,000.

Mortgage Ran for Forty-two Years.

The filing of a release of a mortgage at the Record Office Thursday brought to light the fact that the particular lien released had been carried uninterruptedly for a period of 42 years. This is said by the Record Office officials to be somewhat unusual, although occasionally mortgages have been known to be carried as long as 30 years, while one instance is recalled of a 40-year mortgage.

The mortgage which was released Friday was placed on June 19, 1871, by David R. Frazer et al, with William Wade Moss and Maud Moss Matthews for $1,000, and secured by a dwelling on Tyson street, near Madison street. It was assigned on June 20, 1877, to John B. Emery and subsequently assigned to Mr. Frazer, who filed the release yesterday.

Heads Subsidiary Line.

President J. M. Fitzgerald, of the Western Maryland Railway Company, at a meeting of directors held yesterday in New York, was elected chief executive of both the Georges Creek and Cumberland and the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railroads, both of which properties are part of the Western Maryland system.

FORGERY, SAYS MR. DEPONAI

Did Not Acknowledge Contribution to Cancer Hospital.

Mr. John M. Deponai last night tendered his resignation as president of the board of directors of the Skin and Cancer Hospital of Baltimore, on North Mount street. A special meeting of the directors will be held this afternoon to take action upon the resignation. It is understood that Mr. Harry H. Mahool, the well-known broker and brother of the former mayor, will be elected to the presidency. Pending the election Mr. John M. Wheeler is acting as the president of the hospital.

At a meeting of the board of directors, held at the hospital Thursday night, it was stated that several checks for various sums of money, donated to the hospital, had been lost and that an investigation was in progress.

Mrs. Greenleaf Johnson, who is a friend of the hospital, says she contributed a check for $250 on October 8, for which she received a letter of acknowledgment signed "John M. Deponai." When informed of this last night Mr. Deponai expressed surprise, and declared that if such a letter was received by Mrs. Johnson, it was a forgery, as he had sent her no such communication. Mr. Deponai said this opens up a new avenue of investigation.

Capt. George W. Ritter, treasurer of the hospital, when seen yesterday denied a report that sums of money which had been sent to the hospital were not turned over to him.

"About one month ago," he said, "we received a check for $100 from Mr. Lewis M. Keizer, of Ashland, Baltimore county, and in some unknown manner it became lost. We communicated with Mr. Keizer and he said that if the check did not come back to his bank he would duplicate it today and send it to us. There is absolutely no truth in the report that money donated to the hospital had not been turned over to us. One of our solicitors had not turned over to us a complete report of the money he had collected. He turned over the cash to us when he received it and this morning gave over to me a partial report of the names of the persons from whom he obtained the money. He will give me a full report tomorrow morning."

Mr. Keizer said that he gave the check for $100 to one of the lady solicitors of the hospital about one month ago.

"The next day I received a telephone message from a person who said that he was the secretary of the hospital, and he told me that the check had been lost as well as several others. He said that the other persons had duplicated their checks and asked me to do likewise. This I promised to do after I made an investigation to learn if my original check had been returned to the bank. Thursday last the lady called on me again and asked me to duplicate the check. It is most probable that I will do so Saturday."

For some months letters have been sent to persons of this city telling them of the work of the hospital and asking them to contribute toward its support, as it has no state appropriation. It was through responses to these letters that the checks became lost. It was stated yesterday that several solicitors had been employed and the money given to them had been turned over to the hospital fund.

DR. BOSLEY ILL

Health Commissioner Threatened With Pneumonia.

Surprise was manifested at the City Hall yesterday when it became known that Health Commissioner James Bosley was seriously ill at his home, 412 Cathedral street. Dr. Bosley contracted grip last Monday and according to his family, his condition has not improved. He had a bad day yesterday and it was stated that he may develop pneumonia. Dr. Chambers, the family physician of Dr. Bosley, is attending him, although several of the city's prominent medical men have called at his house to learn his condition.

The illness of Dr. Bosley caused general regret at the City Hall. His genial nature has won him many friends and many anxious inquiries were made of Harry Lalb, secretary of the Health Department, regarding his chief's illness. Mayor Preston was one of the city officials to inquire concerning Dr. Bosley's condition.

Falls Down Stairs.

While making his rounds yesterday morning Charles C. Hampton, 935 South Paca street, a watchman in the building at 32 South street, fell down a flight of stairs and received numerous bruises about the head and body. The watchman was descending from the second floor to the first on his last round for the day when he stumbled and fell. He landed in a heap at the bottom and the lantern which he carried was demolished. He was able to call for aid and was taken to the Mercy Hospital. Examination showed him to be suffering from bruises on the face, legs and arms. He was detained at the hospital for treatment.

He Wants to Subscribe.

A. S. Goldsborough, editor of the new municipal journal, received a letter yesterday from W. C. Miller, of Richmond, Va., asking the amount of the subscription price of the proposed periodical. This is the first request of its kind received at the City Hall since the Board of Estimates decided to publish a journal. Mr. Miller promised to forward his subscription on the receipt of answer to his letter. Mr. Goldsborough will write Mr. Miller today that 50 cents is the charge for a year's subscription. The first issue of the journal will make its appearance on January 17.

NEW THEORY IN MURDER MYSTERY

BELIEVE MAN WAS KILLED, THEN BOUND TO TRACKS.

PECULIAR WOUND ON HEAD

Which Leads Authorities to Believe That Stranger Who Was Found Tied to Rails Near Odenton Was First Knocked Out and Then Taken to the Tracks—Crew of Train on Which Two Men Were Seen to Be Examined.

The authorities of the Fourth district of Anne Arundel county, the section around Odenton and Patuxent, where the body of an unidentified white man was found early Thursday morning, bound to the rails on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, within 300 yards of the Patuxent station, are now working on a new theory. It is the belief now that the man was murdered before being placed on the railroad tracks in the path of one of the fastest express trains on the road.

What causes this new version of the mystery which has the authorities baffled entirely is a peculiar wound in the back of the man's head. When the head was found in a gully, nearly 25 feet deep and about 100 yards from where the body was bound to the rails, the face was perfect, there not being a scratch or a blemish of any kind. The wound in the back of the head was one that had evidently been made with some blunt instrument, presumably a club or a pair of brass knuckles. A blow with either or those weapons would have crushed the skull in a similar manner. Had the driving wheel of the locomotive struck the skull it would have crushed it entirely and the speed of the big engine would have hurled it a great distance along the earth. This would have practically made the features unrecognizable. As it was, however, there was not a scratch or a bruise on the face.

There is another version of the crime. The authorities also believe that after the man had been murdered some distance away from where the mangled body was found, he was carried or taken in a rig to the Little Patuxent River bridge and bound to the rails. They think that the man was beheaded before being brought to the railroad, and that the head was thrown into the gully in the hope that it would never be discovered.

Roads Are Dark.

That such a thing could have happened is borne out by the fact that in that section of the country, especially around Patuxent, houses are far away from each other and the roads are dark and lonesome. At the time in the night when the body was bound to the tracks persons are seldom out, and never around in that section.

On the night of the murder it was very dark. A wagon could have traveled from Patuxent, the scene of the crime, to Odenton without having to pass one farmhouse on the way. The new state road twists and turns through thick woods between those points, and the perpetrators of the crime could easily have bound the body of their victim to the rails and then have ample time to drive to the vicinity of Odenton, where, after leaving the team in the hands of a confederate, make their way to the railway station by cutting through a picnic grove and there board the 12:25 midnight train for Baltimore.

Because of this and the fact that two suspicious looking persons boarded that train at Odenton, Sheriff G. Thomas Beasley will today examine the crew of that train when it arrives in Baltimore at 9 o'clock this morning. Sheriff Beasley was in Baltimore yesterday and visited Union Station. There he held a lengthy conference with the station master, who promised to have the crew of that train at the station this morning. Paul Griffin, the trackwalker from Odenton to the Patuxent River bridge, yesterday told Sheriff Beasley that he had seen two suspicions looking persons board the 12:25 train bound for Baltimore. Sheriff Beasley thinks that perhaps the crew will be able to enlighten him and furnish a description of the men, who will be sought. It is believed that they are in this city.

A pair of brass knuckles and a razor, both smeared with blood, were found yesterday by William Williams, who lives at 133 North High street. Williams early yesterday morning went to the alley in the rear of his home, and there lying near his back gate were the bloodstained weapons. They were turned over to Patrolman William Kiggins, of the Central district, who in turn gave them to Captain Henry.

A Clue That Failed.

Working on the theory that the victim might be a Washingtonian, Major Sylvester, chief of police of the Capital, sent two of his men to Odenton and Patuxent yesterday morning. The Washington authorities for a time believed that the man might be John C. Berg, of 78 O street northeast, Washington, a baker, who has been missing for some time. Berg has the thumb of his left hand missing, it is said, and this led the Washington authorities to investigate when they learned that the victim had his left thumb off also. This, however, proved to be a false clue, and late yesterday afternoon the Washington men returned to their headquarters.

An official photographer of the Washington Bertillon Bureau went to Waterbury, Md., yesterday to photograph the face of the man at the undertaking establishment of Thomas Williams. This was done because the Washington authorities believe the man to be a resident of the Capital City, and are devoting their efforts to looking over the entire list of missing persons.

Today Sheriff Beasley will bring to Baltimore the watch found on the man in the hopes of being able to find some jeweler here who repaired it, and will be able to throw some light on the perplexing mystery. That is about the only thing by which the authorities hope to identify the man. However, the watch, jewelers say, has not been manufactured for more than 25 years. It is a Remontoir, and the jeweler of that name made watches in Switzerland up to about a quarter of a century ago.

G. A. R. CLUB ELECTION

Interesting Meeting Attended by Many Veterans.

Members of the Grand Army Club of Maryland last night elected officers for the ensuing year. Those elected were: David Moberly, president; George W. Mowen, vice president; W. O. Saville, second vice president; William H. Moffett, recording secretary; Samuel J. Schenkell, financial secretary, and Horace Penniman, treasurer. Those elected to the board of governors were James Campbell, Gustav Schmidt, George W. Parker, James Mitchell and George Seibold.

The two oldest and the two youngest members of the club were present, it being the first time in the club's history that the two youngest men have attended a meeting at which the two oldest men were present. The two oldest members are Capt. William H. Davis, who is in his 89th year, and Capt. George W. Hays, who is 85 years old. The two youngest members are William T. Keirle and James H. Mitchell. Both of the older men served in the army, while both of the younger men served in the navy. Captain Davis served in Company E, Fourth Maryland Regiment, of the Fifth Army Corps, and Captain Hays saw most of his active service while a sergeant in Company K, One Hundred and Fifteenth Volunteer Infantry, First Division, Fourth Army Corps. Keirle was a seaman in the South Atlantic Squadron under Admiral Porter, and Mitchell served in the Marine Corps under Farragut.

The report of the treasurer showed that the club was in splendid financial condition. A standing vote of thanks was given to the committee which arranged the entertainment on New Year's Day.

Veteran Post, G. A. R., also elected officers Thursday night. These were: William H. Ebaugh, post commander; George Godfrey, senior vice commander; John T. Hodges, junior vice commander; J. Woodfin Minifie, adjutant; Henry C. Taylor, quartermaster; William McElroy, surgeon; Rev. B. F. Clarkson, chaplain; George Wain, officer of the day; A. D. Smith, outside guard; A. K. Young, sergeant major, and B. F. Taylor, quartermaster sergeant. Delegates to department encampment: George Wain, Joseph Vandaneker, George Godfrey and W. H. Moffett; alternates, Albert H. Ritter, William McElroy, A. E. Richardson and John G. Wohlman; trustees, W. H. Moffett, John A. Jeffrey and E. F. K. Will.

MERGER ADVANCES STOCKS

Fidelity and Deposit Co. Advances 17½ Points.

Stocks of both the American Bonding Company and the Fidelity and Deposit Company responded yesterday to the announcement of the merger between the two companies. Stock of the former advanced two points, and the stock of the latter company jumped 17½ points. During the morning session American Bonding stock sold at 91, and Fidelity and Deposit stock changed hands at 175. The closing quotations were: American Bonding, 91, and Fidelity and Deposit, 172.

The disparity in the advance of the two stocks gave some support to a rumor that some of the stockholders of the bonding company were opposed to the deal. No substantial foundation for such a rumor could be discovered, however, and it was stated authoritatively that more than 50 per cent. of the stockholders of the bonding company had already given their assent to the merger. Another rumor current on the street was that Gen. Alexander Brown, who was active in the negotiations conducted about a year and a half ago by the Maryland Casualty Company for the purchase of the bonding company, was opposed to the present merger, and might head an opposition party to it. Although General Brown could not be seen yesterday, one who is closely associated with him said that he had heard of no such rumor, and doubted its authenticity. He stated that it was his opinion that the General had not as yet expressed his views on the matter, nor was he likely to do so.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Fidelity and Deposit Company has been called for January 16 to ratify the proposed increase in the company's capital stock, and to issue the additional $700,000 stock in exchange for the shares of the American Bonding Company on the basis of one for two. The syndicate which has been formed to take over the stock of all holders of the American Bonding Company who are disinclined to accept the Fidelity stock in lieu of their present holdings, is under the management of Van Lear Black, vice president of the Fidelity Trust Company, and George A. Webb, vice president of the American Bonding Company. For this service they will be given a commission of three per cent., or $40,000. Stockholders of both companies may participate in the syndicate, and the commission must be divided to the extent of two per cent. with the underwriters. Although many out-of-town agencies of the two companies will be combined, it is stated that none of those on the pay roll of the American Bonding Company in this city will lose their positions nor suffer salary reductions, although the titles of the positions which they hold will be changed in many cases.

IN FLOURISHING CONDITION

Financial Statement of Mercantile Trust and Deposit Co.

One of the most flourishing financial institutions in this city is the Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company, whose statement, announcing the condition at the end of business December 31, 1912, has been announced. In the column of resources are set forth the following: Baltimore city stocks, $2,554,847.47; other stocks and bonds, $3,453,771.33; loans on approved collateral-time, $1,714,567.43; call, $3,707,265.26; office and building and lot, $380,000; unsettled open-bond accounts, etc. (secured), $168,775.18; cash in hand and in banks, $1,836,645.01, or total resources of $13,815,871.68.

The capital stock of the company is $1,500,000; surplus fund, $2,700,000; undivided profits, $477,220.86; deposits, subject to check, $6,545,025.16; time, $2,340,836.80; in trust, $246,509.19, equalling deposits totaling $9,132,372.15. Interest, etc., accrued, $6,278.67. The officers of the company are: A. H. S. Post, president; Wilton Snowden, vice president; J. R. Walker, second vice president; John McHenry, treasurer; T. H. Fitchett, secretary and assistant treasurer; C. I. Reynolds, assistant secretary; Walter B. Brooks, chairman; Blanchard Randall, Aubrey Pearre, R. Brent Keyser and Charles A. Webb, executive committee.

Dr. and Mrs. Russell Receive.

Dr. Elijah J. Russell, coroner of the Eastern district, and his wife, tendered a reception to their friends and relatives at their home, 423 North Broadway, last night. The festivities began shortly after 8 o'clock and continued until a late hour. There were musical and vocal selections. Pink and white was the color scheme.

DR. MATTFELDT'S TESTIMONY ENDS

IN SEWERAGE PLANT PURCHASE CASE AT TOWSON.

CLEARS UP DOUBTFUL POINT

Asked to Explain Why, if Commissioners Did Not Finally Agree to Purchase Plant Before September 23, Suburban Plant Had Already Prepared Lithographed Notes for Deal—Majority Had Agreed, He Replies.

The examination of Dr. Charles L. Mattfeldt, president of the Board of Baltimore County Commissioners, was concluded yesterday in the Circuit Court at Towson in the suit filed by Major John I. Yellott and others to have the sale of the disposal plant of the Baltimore Suburban Sewerage Company at Mount Washington to the County Commissioners set aside.

Dr. Mattfeldt was closely examined by Col. D. G. McIntosh. He was asked to explain why, if the County Commissioners did not finally agree to purchase the plant before September 23, the Suburban Company had already prepared the lithographed notes which were given in payment for the plant. Judge Duncan also asked to be enlightened on this point. In reply Dr. Mattfeldt said:

I can only answer that question by saying that a majority of the commissioners had agreed between themselves that they would accept the company's offer if the report of W. W. Crosby, the consulting engineer, was favorable, and that a statement to this effect had been published in the public press.

Colonel McIntosh also inquired why it was that James J. Lindsay, one of the counsel to the county, was not consulted in regard to the purchase. Dr. Mattfeldt said that while the matter of arranging the details of the sale was left to former State Senator John S. Biddison, he did not know that Mr. Lindsay did not have knowledge of what was going on. The witness denied that Mr. Lindsay had ever been asked to retire from the room while the sewerage plant purchase was being considered.

Mr. Lindsay's ire was aroused and he said: "I want to tell the court and the counsel on the other side that I have never been asked to leave the board's room, and if I was I would resign my position at once. I am willing to go on the stand and to testify as to what I know of the matter."

Dr. Mattfeldt said in arriving at his decision to vote for the sewerage plant purchase he felt that the preservation of human life could not be computed in dollars and cents.

Dr. Mattfeldt acknowledged that the disposal plant could not be utilized by persons residing on the low land near it.

The next witness called was Frederick W. Caspari, assistant sanitary engineer of the State Board of Health. He identified a map of the sewerage system and proceeded to point out what he considered to be defects in its construction. He said that the manholes he inspected were too small for the purpose and he went into one of them and had to be pulled out.

At one of the manholes the witness said that he found such an odor of gas that he was afraid to inspect it. The sewer pipes, he said, could not be inspected by the use of lamps, as they could not be seen on account of the deflection in the grade of the mains.

The modern way of building sewer mains, Mr. Caspari stated, was to lay them in straight lines, so as to admit of thorough inspection.

The examination of the witness will be resumed this morning and Judge Duncan expressed the hope that the case would be concluded in a week