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Holmesburg Scrapbook Collection

Collected by Katharine M. Petty

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*Project Funded by the Trustees of the Lower Dublin Academy –
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3. Holmesburg Library interior 1917
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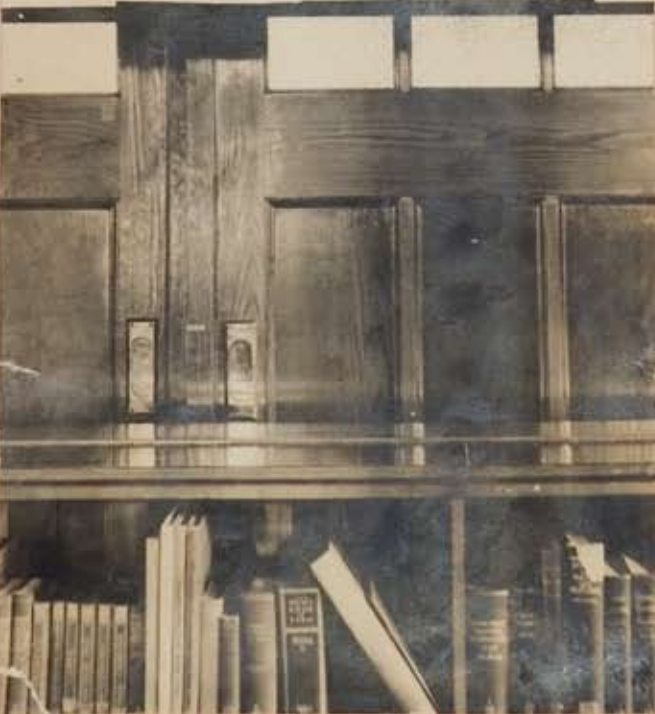
RED CROSS OF HOLMESBURG, PA. JULY 4th., 1917.

1917

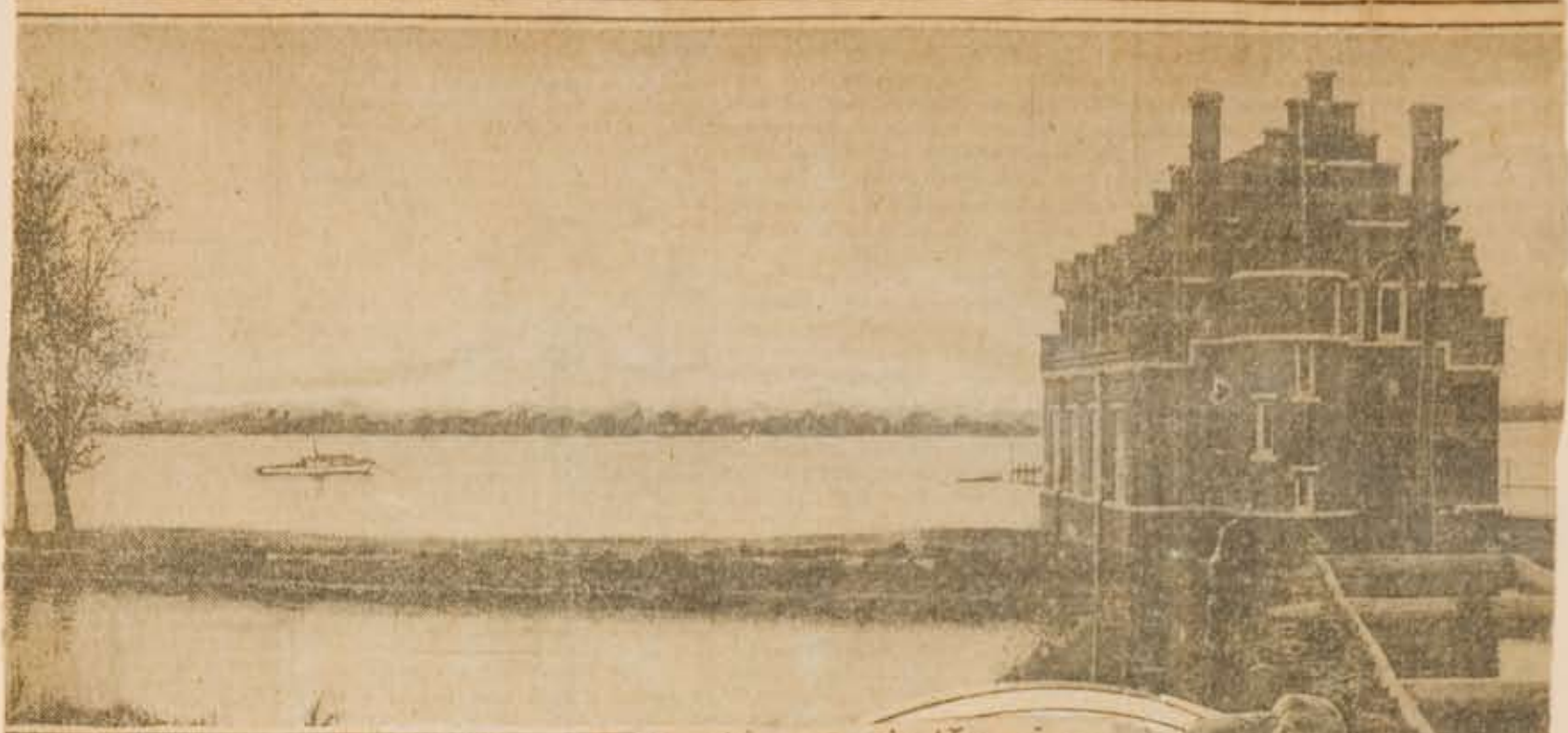




Waiting for the Story-Teller at the Holmeby



Maintains Big Hatchery Plant on Bank of the Delaware



Planting fry in the river



Supt. Jerry Berkhouz

In a separate panel, Asst. Supt. Superintendent Berkhouz is shown in a laboratory setting. He is surrounded by various pieces of equipment, including large glass jars and incubators. The text describes the work conducted at the hatchery, mentioning the use of brick, concrete, and terracotta for the building's construction. It also lists the types of fish fry being raised, such as shad, yellow perch, and Susquehanna salmon.

STATE FISH HATCHERY IS DOING GREAT WORK

Streams Would Soon Be Depopulated Were It Not for Plant at Torresdale.

RAISE MILLIONS OF FRY

New Building Is Already Crowded With Activities of Workers.

Up at Torresdale, just within the city limits, is located an industry that is one of the many interesting places that are conducted by the State of Pennsylvania. Here is where visitors from all over the country come for information regarding the fish industry and for points on the development of fish in all the stages of life. An average of 2000 visitors are shown around the place weekly and gather much valuable data from the attentive employees. Some of the people who have been there recently have come from Japan, Canada and the western part of the United States; while students of the colleges, universities and schools consider it a valuable adjunct to their education. So it should be, and if the plans of Commissioner of Fisheries N. R. Buller mature, many improvements will be made during the coming year that will make the place an educational centre.

The Fish Hatchery at Torresdale was started in 1904 in a small way and has developed in a truly wonderful manner. The new building was completed in November of last year and is equipped in a modern manner. It cost about \$10,000 and is constructed of brick, concrete and terracotta. On the first floor the incubators, glass jars with water constantly running through them, are located and the packing rooms for both eggs and fry. The eggs are shipped in cases and the fry in large cans similar to milk churns. These are accompanied by a messenger to the destination, both eggs and fry being transported free by the railroads.

Hatch Millions of Fish.

On the second floor are the large aquariums where the adult fish of each species are kept. The office of Superintendent Jerry Berkhouz is also on the second floor, while the third floor is used as a store house. The outside equipment includes two motor-boats, a cowboat, numerous nets and seines, while on the grounds are located 50 brood ponds fully stocked with adult

from seven to ten pounds is from seven to eight years old, and the life of a shad is said to be 15 years. Some have the idea that as soon as a shad spawns the female dies, but this is not so. Then, again, the shad is one of the most delicate of all fish; a bruise or a breaking of the scales will kill a shad, and often, as the rivers become more obstructed, hundreds of the fish can be found dead, having come in contact with some obstacle, against which it was hurt. Shad and herring are the only known fish that are not sold by the pound, the price of the shad ranging according to the size of the haul made by the fishermen.

The Susquehanna salmon is another of the best food fish in this part of the country, which when fully developed weighs from four to six pounds. Some of the experiments being made now will probably result in keeping this excellent fish alive in all waters. The eggs of the salmon are gathered from the inland lakes of New York, and after being incubated are planted in the streams of different parts of the country, but now it is principally in the rivers of the East.

Expect to Extend Work.

In the cat fish industry this State leads the whole country. It is a game fish and one sought after by the angler. Its spawn is in the form of a ball of gelatine, and is found in the mud holes along the banks of streams. If left to develop naturally the cat fish would soon be extinct, as the water snakes feed on the eggs of this fish and often fight with the men who try to secure them. Another game fish is the blue gill sun, as well as the rock and calico bass. These are developed as a first-class food fish, much

sought after by the wielder of the rod. Large numbers of gold fish are raised at the Torresdale plant, and are principally used to stock the aquariums of schools, colleges, city parks and public institutions. Frogs are raised in large numbers, of great size and are used as a food product of the fish industry.

In the late fall of each year the surplus eggs from the Lake Erie Hatchery are sent down to Torresdale and hatched. The fry is returned in the spring. The sturgeon hatching and development is still in its infancy, but it is expected that a great industry in this part of the country will be realized from the efforts put forth at the Torresdale plant, and that this fish will be acclimated to the waters of this part of the country.

Susquehanna salmon fry, 1,500,000; shad-eyed, or fertile eggs, 10,000; whitefish eggs, 3,960,000; lake herring, 32,017,000; minnows, 10,000; blue gill bass, 88,825; catfish, 65,500; rock bass, 21,300; goldfish, 2525; besides numbers of adult fish of the calico bass, rock bass, chubs, sunfish, carp, sturgeon, yellow perch, eels, roach fish, frogs and turtles.

Often the visitors wonder why the hatchery exists, and why so much care is used in collecting the eggs of the fish. It is explained in a very logical manner by Superintendent Berkhouz when he tells them that if it were not for the hatchery and its work there would be no fish in the country worth speaking of. This is true of the toothsome shad that many people are now enjoying at its best this time of year. It has been shown that nearly 95 per cent of the eggs of any food fish are saved that are carefully collected from the gill net and shore net fishermen by the hatchery employees, while if left to the natural course the most would be lost, owing to the pollution of the stream and the other fish that prey on the young fish of all kinds.

How Shad Are Raised.

In former years the spawning ground for the shad was in the upper Delaware and its tributaries from Easton, Pa., to Port Jervis, N. Y., but now the centre is from Bridesburg to Beverly, on both sides of the river. After these eggs are collected they are incubated and the fry developed and then shipped to points along the river and streams as far as the Delaware Water Gap. The spawning season for the shad starts May 1 and extends until June 10. When the spawn become fry, say, two inches long, they are planted, and as soon as cool weather comes the fry with the adult fish go south to deep sea waters and there remain in the channels of the Gulf Stream until the next spring, returning in time to reach fresh water for the next spawning season.

On their way many of the young shad, then from six to nine inches in length, are caught, sold and eaten for herring, so closely do they resemble the latter fish. In the second year they are from 12 to 14 inches in length, and the third year they mature and weigh from three to five pounds. A shad that weighs

SPEED FILTER BEDS BY 'CLEANING BASIN'

Process Allows Waters to Remain Still Until Mud Drops Away

TAKES TWELVE HOURS

Use Enables Torresdale Plant to Work at Capacity for First Time

The sedimentation basin at Torresdale, a half-million-dollar improvement which is of great importance to the city's water supply, is virtually completed and will be in full operation within a few weeks. Its operation will mean not only financial economy but a great improvement in the water supply.

The object of the sedimentation basin is to afford facilities for the settling of raw water from the Delaware River. The construction of the basin in all its details was a work which Mayor Smith and Director Datesman included in the program of important public improvements pushed to a hasty completion. Although the work was started shortly before the opening of the present administration, eighteen months ago, it was one of the first improvements taken up by Chief Davis, of the Water Bureau, with Mayor Smith and Director Datesman as being of urgent necessity.

The basin is situated along the Delaware River, a short distance from the Torresdale pumping station, and is 2000 feet long by 500 feet wide. It is fifteen feet deep and has a capacity of 100,000,000 gallons. The water in the basin changes every twelve hours. The approximate cost of the improvement is \$435,000.

The site of the basin was formerly a swamp. In filling it in 600,000 yards of material were removed from the bed of the Delaware River. The best of the excavated material was used to form a dyke separating the sedimentation basin from the river. The banks of the basin are seventy-five feet at the base and the top is fifteen feet wide. The banks at either end of the basin are supported by a concrete wall.

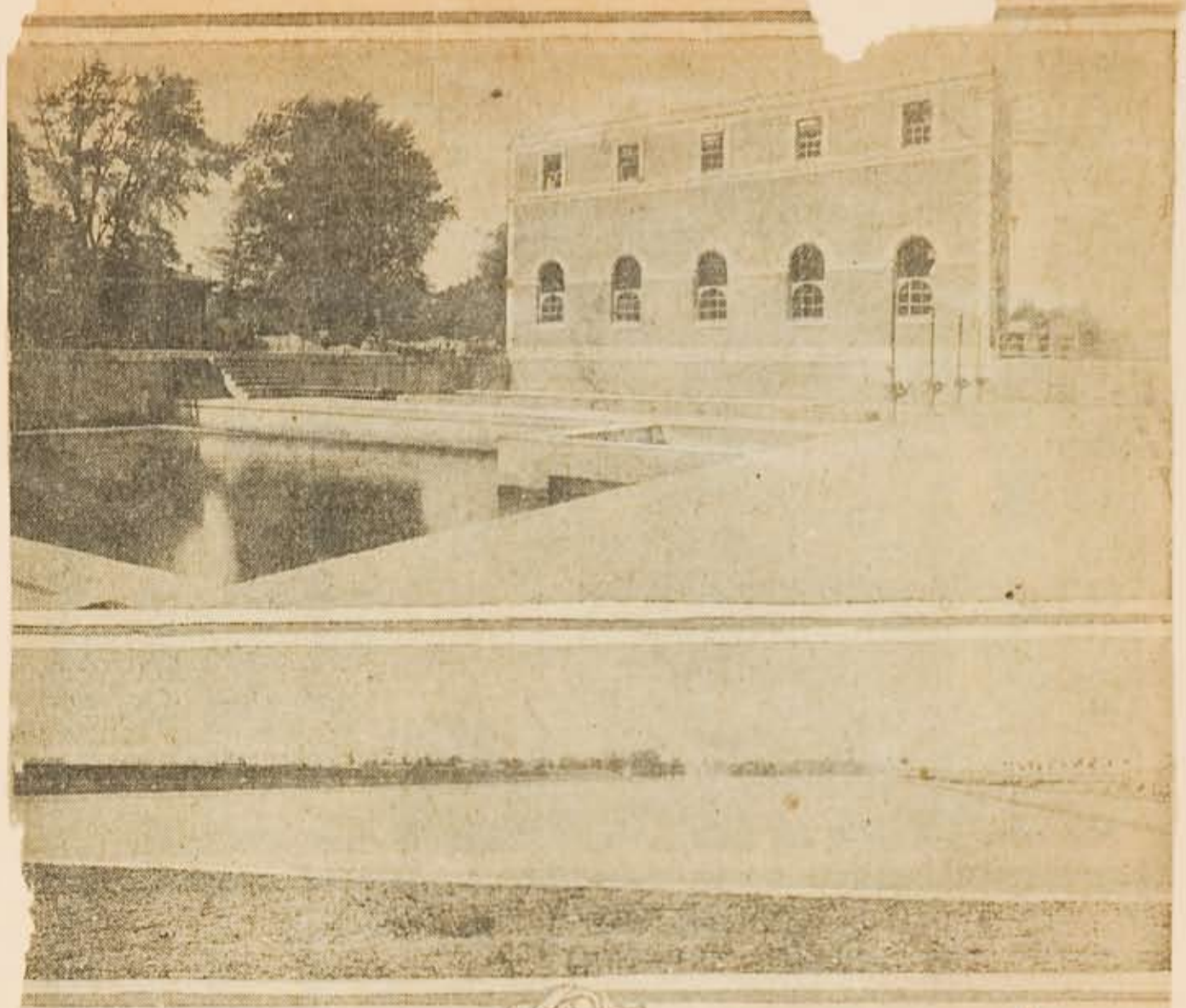
One of the greatest benefits to be derived through the construction of the basin lies in the fact that through the operation of it the full capacity of the Torresdale filters will be possible. In other words, the operation of the basin means that the capacity at these filters will be increased by 40 per cent. This will be so, because the basin will gather the mud which heretofore reached the filters and not only affected their operation at full capacity, but entailed heavy expense upon the city by necessitating more frequent cleansing of them. It is estimated by Chief Davis that the basin will gather in a year about 5000 tons.

While the operation of the basin chiefly affects the capacity of the filters, it also has a corresponding effect toward improving the quality of the water which is distributed. Heretofore the mud which reached the filters, most of which will now be retained in the basin, resulted not only in affecting the capacity, but also the delivery to the consumer of water, which was of a quality inferior to that which will be distributed with the operation of the sedimentation basin.

Another important feature—and this has more to do with the location of the basin—is that the site of it is a half mile further upstream from the former intake of the Torresdale pumping station, which is a short distance to the south of the basin. The effect of this is that the intake is to a very great extent removed beyond the influence of pollution from the Frankford Creek, where it empties into the Delaware River. The course of the water was originally from the intake to the pumping station, from the pumping station to the preliminary filters and from the preliminary filters to the main filters, from which point it was sent to Lardner's Point, where it was pumped to the consumer. The course is the same now, except that the intake is at the sedimentation basin, a half mile above the former intake.

THE RECENTLY COMPLETED TORRESDALE SEDIMENTATION BASIN

IN BASIN



Upper—Building at the northern end of sedimentation basin, showing where the intake of water is governed. This building has in it the bin for the mixing of a coagulant for use in the water. The "baffling walls" near the building are also shown. Lower—General view of the sedimentation basin looking north.

Will Stop Pollution of Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers and Tributary Streams

PHILADELPHIA is rapidly nearing a solution of the problem how best to dispose of the city's sewage in a sanitary manner, and thereby stop pollution of Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

The task imposed upon this city to devise an efficient sewage disposal system over an area of 129 square miles, to comply with the act of Assembly requiring every city, town, borough and county in the State to dispose of sewage and stop the pollution of streams was enormous. After several years of experiment, study or similar plants in Europe and elsewhere, the Bureau of Surveys has submitted to State Commissioner of Health Dixon final recommendations for the establishment of disposal plants in this city that shall be the care of the entire sewage within its boundaries. City and State authorities during recent years have been co-operating in every step taken by the municipality in the construction of intercepting sewers and conduits for conveying the sewage to selected sites where the disposal plants are to be built.

There will be two main disposal plants—one in the northeast, on the banks of the Delaware, south of Bridesburg, and another on the Cannon-ball farm property, on the west bank of the Schuylkill River, near its mouth, which site was purchased for the purpose under the Reyburn Administration. A third, but smaller plant, will be built at Greenwich Point to care for the southeastern end of the city. The total cost of the three plants is estimated by Chief Webster, of the Bureau of Surveys, at \$22,000,000.

As an engineering problem, the establishment of a disposal system for the entire city presented as great difficulties as the water filtration plants. The water filtration system cost about \$30,000,000.

To pave the way for the establishment of the sewage disposal plant near Bridesburg, contracts will be let next month for the construction of an intercepting sewer along Frankford Creek at a cost of probably \$500,000, for which the money is available out of a recent loan. The new sewer will be a continuation of the Wingohocking sewer, which now discharges the sewage from a wide district having a population of 100,000 into the creek. The Frank-

ford Creek intercepting sewer will convey all sewage along its route to the northeast disposal plant site and until such time as that plant is built and in operation will discharge directly into the Delaware.

Work on the Northeast disposal plant will be started as soon as Councils provide the funds, which are to come out next year.

means preventing pollution of both streams within the city limits. The sewers are being steadily extended southward to eventually reach the Cannon Ball Farm.

The three plants to be located at Bridesburg, at the mouth of the Schuylkill and Greenwich Point, are planned on a scale that it is believed will be ample to care for the city's sewage until 1930. The type of plant to be installed will vary very little from that which has been in operation for several years as an experimental station at Torresdale.

This comparatively small plant, of the settling tank and spray type of disposal, is one of the city's most interesting engineering works. It has attracted the attention of municipal authorities and sanitary engineers from all parts of the country. It disposed of the sewage from Holmesburg, with a population of 5000, and the drainage from the county prison, the House of Correction and the Home for the Indigent, and, after treatment, discharges into the Delaware River, a clear and innocuous effluent which is declared not to have the slightest odor.

Surrounded with trees and shrubbery the plant looks more like a small park than a disposal works. A drive, shaded by trees and flanked by well-kept lawns and beds of shrubbery, leads to the earth embankment surrounding the two tanks in which the sewage is first received from the pumping station. These are known as Emscher tanks, having been first used in the Emscher district in Germany. They are 30 feet deep and 20 feet in diameter. In the upper part the sewage is allowed to remain about two or three hours for the solids to settle to the bottom. A

funnel-like concrete structure turned upside down separates the upper and lower parts of the tank. The gas which bubbles up from the stem of the funnel is almost identical with that evolved in marshes from the slow decomposition of leaves, and has no odor.

The solids are discharged through a pipe upon sand beds, where it quickly dries to a material looking like garden soil, but even this process, Chief Webster says, is carried out without any offensive smells. The liquid from the tank is

sprayed through pipes set in beds of broken stone, and as the liquid trickles over the stones the slith, which is dissolved in it, is purified by countless millions of bacteria which live on the surface of the stones. These bacteria, Chief Webster says, perform the wonderful work of converting pollution into harmless matters. After disinfectants are added, the effluent is discharged in the river and is innocuous.

The Torresdale plant has been in operation since December, 1912, and has been daily converting foul sewage into a clear water containing virtually no disease germs, and so protecting the waters of the Delaware from which the Torresdale filtration plant draws its supply. disposal plant. Already the Survey Bureau has built intercepting sewers along the Wissahickon Creek and the Schuylkill River as far as Fairmount dam, by this

The plant was designed, built and is operated by the Bureau of Surveys, and is the beginning of the great disposal system recommended to Councils and now under consideration by the State health authorities, the adoption of which will, so far as Philadelphia can singly do the work, restore the sewage-polluted Delaware and Schuylkill, provide a sanitary harbor and further protect the public health by safeguarding the city's water supply.

Home For the Indigent

New Buildings to House the City Wards Are Commodious and Comfortable

REPRESENTING an investment of nearly seven hundred thousand dollars the five magnificent new municipal buildings lying immediately south of the House of Correction and intended the future Home for the Indigent were turned over to the city by the contractor about two weeks ago. But in their present condition they are useless by reason of the lack of lighting fixtures and an apparent error in their planning which has led to their completion without the erection of a power plant to operate the extensive machinery and numerous light, although this condition will be remedied if Councils pass the bill which is now before them to supply the deficiency.

Over two years ago at the time of the award of the contract the Department of Health and Charities announced that for purposes of economy a combined power plant should be erected capable of serving both the House of Correction and this new City Home. To-day probably the new structures could be furnished and put in working order in little more than a month, thereby relieving Blockley of all the male paupers now housed in the old and inflammable Export Exposition Building, were it not for the absolute need of a power plant. Meanwhile the handsome buildings stand tenantless, the watchmen in charge keep up fires in the small stoves scattered through the buildings to prevent dampness from ruining the evident good work-

men. "I will be proud of the provision Philadelphia has made for the care of such of its superannuated, decrepit and homeless males who ask alms. But few pay homes are equipped upon a structural standard equal to that set by the Holmesburg buildings, which in their apparent attention to sanitation, healthfulness, convenience, as well as in the safety and recreation facilities, denote careful planning in many minor details.

The chief feature of the intended home is the big dining hall located on the east side of the first floor of the middle building. In size the hall is comparable to the main waiting room of the Reading Terminal station. Its high ceiling is carried by an overhead framework of steel so there are no posts or obstructions of any kind upon the white marble-tiled floor. Abundance of light and air is obtained from the groups of great windows on all sides, and three score large radiators will supply ample heat. Immediately in back of the dining hall is the huge kitchen, capable of meeting the needs of a small army, and whose ranges and cauldrons, urns and kettles are equal to those of the best hotels. In the rear of the kitchen is the bakery, where with the minimum of contact with the hands of the baker thousands of loaves may be turned out daily under conditions superior to many of the private bakeries of the city, while above the bakery is the high store room for flour, which will be poured down in a seemingly endless stream into the dough-mixing machine. Nearby there is a complete refrigerating plant capable of manufacturing several tons of ice at one time, and also supplies the immense cold storage rooms in which may be stored many tons of fresh meats and other perishable products.

A chapel wing extends from the western corner of the southern building to which it is connected by an inclosed passageway. At each end of the chapel are raised platforms and its capacity is sufficient to accommodate all the inmates at one time. Separate entrances are provided at each end from the exterior and at one end even toilet facilities and retiring rooms are attached to the chapel. Flat bare and lacking even a chair, the entire group of buildings does not indicate the buzz of busy activities which will hover round it when its tenants enter. The great laundry with its giant mangles, its driers, washing machines, "whizzers" and chain driers, where the garments go in at one end wet and, passing through without stopping, come out at the other end dry, the rows of pressing blocks and small ironing machinery for the finer work, this portion of the institution even containing disinfecting and sterilizing machinery for cleaning contaminated clothing, promises to engage the services of many, while to meet all its needs and daily tasks hundreds of its inmates will find pleasurable occupations in which to while away many an hour of the long days. One can only inadequately conceive of the picture which will be presented then or the scene of the thousand inmates sitting at dinner in its great dining-hall. But meanwhile lest a goodly city work go to naught, it behooves quick action in the matter of supplying heat, light and power, as well as in the completion of the necessary outside drainage connection with the nearby sewage disposal plant.

Measure self-supporting. For arrangements will make possible the employment of many of the inmates to themselves in various occupations. Unfortunately, not all the ground which might be desirable has been secured, and while it is planned to keep a portion of the home's population busy in the truck gardens, the undertaking of farming operations on anything like an extended scale will not be possible.

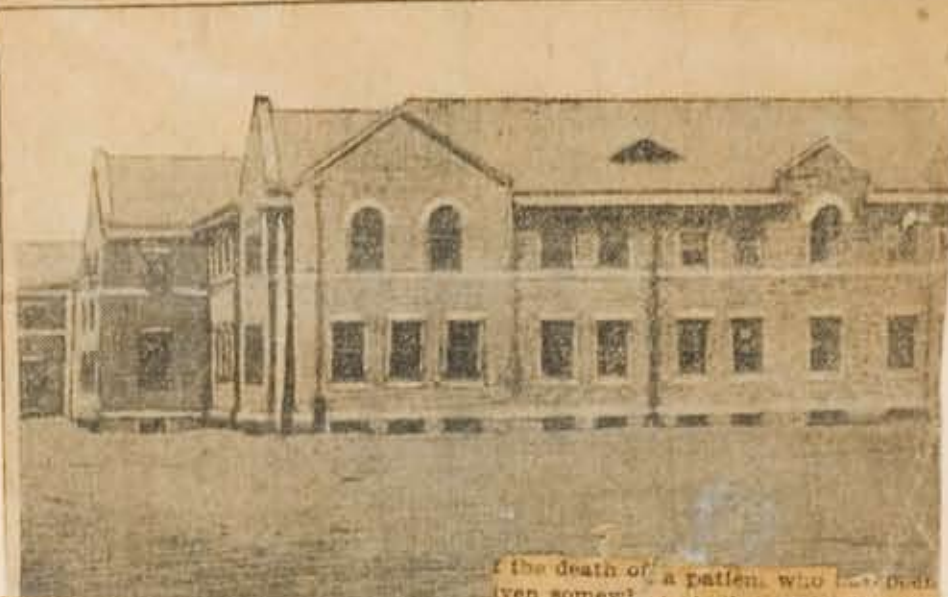
The exact disposition of the insane department now at Blockley is still a matter of some doubt, and there are no definite plans. There is an increasing sentiment among those who have studied the economics of charity and charitable institutions that the insane are properly the wards of the State and not the municipality, and it is believed that it will be possible to make some arrangement whereby the State of Pennsylvania will take this charge away from the city, leaving the Department of Health and Charities with a freer foot to develop other branches of its work.

New General Hospital

The new Philadelphia General Hospital, which will replace the present buildings at Blockley, will be entirely for the care of sick and injured, with in all likelihood, a large children's division.

BLOCKLEY ALM

Transfer of Poverty's Derelict Reconstruction of Institution



Institution at Holmesburg, is lacking. The quarters are restricted and the organization so handicapped that any great degree of development is not only difficult, but impossible.

For ten years or more the proposition of establishing new buildings for the indigent and insane in some suburban locality has been agitated. Many tentative plans have been prepared, found wanting and abandoned. Just prior to the beginning of the present city administration the plan got a good start, and after some changes from the original idea, it is now well under way.

Institution at Holmesburg

The new institution, situated in Holmesburg, between the House of Correction and State Road, is already capable of housing 1500 inmates, and as rapidly as its working organization can be got under way Director Harte intends to follow up the first transference of about 170 indigents from Blockley by sending out further quotas from the West Philadelphia institution.

Standing on a 45-acre tract on the west side of the Delaware, the new Holmesburg buildings, with their attention to detail, sanitation, healthfulness, convenience and recreative facilities, present the results of the most careful study and forethought. The chief feature will be the big dining hall, located on the east side of the first floor of the main building. A high ceiling is carried by an overhead framework of steel, so that there are no pillars to interfere with the illumination from large groups of windows on all sides.

Immediately back of the dining hall is a great kitchen, capable of supplying the needs of a small army. Still beyond is the bakery, where thousands of loaves may be turned out daily by the most modern machinery, requiring virtually no handling of the bread on the part of the workers. There are in addition a huge refrigerating plant and commodious storerooms. Better still, the living quarters of the inmates are commodious, cheerful and well ventilated.

Another feature is the chapel, which is connected with a wing of the southern building by a covered passageway. At each end are raised platforms, and the chapel is large enough to accommodate all of the inmates at one time. The infirmary is not yet completed, but its construction is well under way and proceeding very rapidly. When completed it will be a model of its kind the last word in medical and surgical convenience and sanitation.

Employment for Inmates

Employment for inmates will be in a

the death of a patient, who had been given somewhat similar treatment two or three decades ago. One of the best is that in a certain particular ward of the hospital incurable cases are gotten rid of by poisoning. Another tradition of Blockley is the smells. Locally they were as noted as the smells of Cologne, which were said to have been 72 in number. Modern methods of sanitation have eliminated the Blockley smells, though they still live in the memories of the older inmates.

Blockley is not without its martyrs, either, and on the roll of honor appear the names of Dr. Jason O'Brien Lawrence, one of the earliest graduates of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, who died of typhoid fever, contracted in 1823; Doctor Massenberg, Dr. Pendleton Tutt and Dr.

Edward Rhoads. All of these men met death in the performance of their duties at the hospital.

Most of the additions to Blockley have been made since 1854, new buildings for the extension of the quarters of the inmates, additions to the hospital proper, new kitchens, workshops, nurses' quarters, pavilions, laboratories and operating rooms, as occasion has required.

Outlived Its Usefulness

A large proportion of these were made under the administration of Dr. Joseph S. Neff; but while excellent as far as they go, the Department of Health and Charities has decided that the institution as it stands has outlived its usefulness. The construction of the buildings is such that any attempt to remodel them as they should be modeled would present too much of a handicap, and in the end would prove far more expensive and far less satisfactory than the erection of an entirely new group of buildings.

Other considerations, as well as the growth of the institution, demand a complete separation of the Hospital Department from that devoted to the care of the decrepit and the mentally deficient, if either is to be developed to its greatest efficiency. The present organization includes the hospital proper, known as the Philadelphia General Hospital; the men's and women's "out wards," the department for the insane and that for children. On February 23, 1913, the high-water mark was reached, with 6216 inmates.

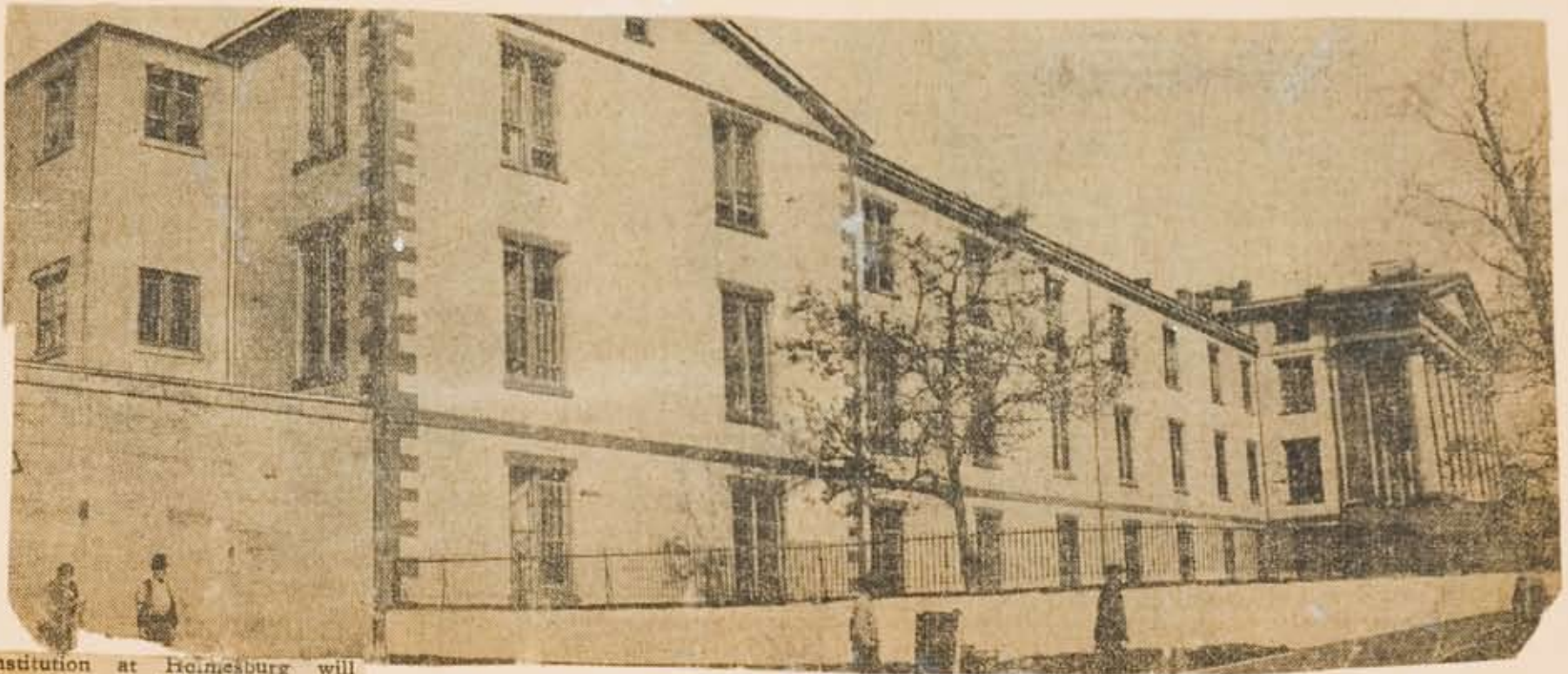
The quarters provided are as commodious and sanitary as is possible in present buildings, but they are being destroyed. An atmosphere which could be

TO GIVE WAY TO GREAT HOSPITAL

Home for Male Indigents at Holmesburg First Step in the of the Schuylkill and Relief of Long-borne Conditions



OLD BLOCKLEY ALMSHOUSE
Exterior of the Philadelphia General Hospital and the Administration Building.



Institution at Holmesburg will eventually house all of the poor now Blockley.

WRITTEN FOR PUBLIC LEDGER BY
P. J. NOWLAN

THE passing of Blockley Almshouse, foreshadowed in the recent transfer of nearly 170 inmates to the new Home for Male Indigents at Holmesburg, and the approval by Philadelphia voters of the new municipal plan of \$11,300,000 on election day—\$6,000,000 of which will be applied to the construction of the new Philadelphia General Hospital to be built on the Blockley site—will remove from Philadelphia one of its time-honored and historic institutions.

Blockley, like many of the battered wrecks of humanity it shelters, has outlived its usefulness. Not one stone will be left upon another; and in its place will rise a group of buildings constituting the splendid \$6,000,000 hospital, a model institution, called for in the plans of the Department of Health and Charities. The work of demolition, however, will be gradual. Several years will be required for the completion of the Department's program. When it has been completed the hospital will be devoted entirely to the care of the sick and injured. A

men were occupied to have. There is a record in the final removal from Betteberg House commenced on 7, 1894, though Dr. Roland G. Cur who has written a history of the institution, states that he was told by of the original inmates that she transferred to Blockley on August 833.

se four main buildings of the quadrangle are virtually the same today as the time of their erection. Others have been changed and improved. In the center is the administration building built of brick, rough-casted. Its distinguishing feature is the high porch, approached by steps from either side, and surmounted by a row of columns of the Tuscan order. On the right and left of this central building are the "out-wards" of the male and female paupers. The quarters originally provided were large rooms, surrounded by two tiers of cells or "cub-

cells." These cells, opening on galleries, were quite small and close. Air was stifling in them, and the only source of light was tallow candles. The hospital having grown into importance as a department separate from the almshouse, it was decided in 1855 to give it the name of the Philadelphia Hospital. At several periods in the history of the institution abuses developed which had to be put down with a stern hand. Even as recently as the early part of the 19th century, medicine was largely in the experimental stage, and the opportunity for experimenting with the fads and medical follies which occasionally rent the session was too great not to have been taken advantage of to some extent.

In 1837 a wave of faith in the

In 1729, however, the Overseers of the Poor petitioned the Commonwealth for the erection of another almshouse, the funds for which were raised by the City of Philadelphia. A square of ground bounded by 3d and 4th, Spruce and Pine, was purchased, and in 1732 Philadelphia's first almshouse, to which was attached an infirmary, was erected. In general style it conformed to the old Quaker Almshouse, the entrance being on 3d str



CHILDREN OF SUPERINTENDENT BOWEN

Blockley Township itself included nearly all of West Philadelphia. In the consolidation of 1854 all township lines were abolished.

Main Buildings the Same

The site purchased for the new hospital was on the west bank of the Schuylkill south of Pine street, and the buildings which were erected are known to this day by the name of "Blockley," though the title is an unofficial one. They were begun in 1855 and were not completed until 1855.

Scenes at Byberry Farms Where L

CHOSEN TO RUSH WORK AT BYBERRY

Health Director to Let Contract for Heating Buildings to Care for Insane.

Director Krusen, of the Department of Public Health and Charities, will be able to start the constructive work which he has planned for his department with the letting of a contract for the construction of a power plant for the buildings to house insane patients which the city has erected on the farms at Byberry. These buildings have been idle during most of the last administration because there was no provision for heating and the power plant contract was held up by bickerings over the architect. The construction of the power plant will be the first move towards removal of insane patients from the Philadelphia General Hospital—Blockley as it is better known—for it will make habitable the fine fine building at the Byberry farms. Bids were received several days ago but were very complex and now are being scheduled in Dr. Krusen's office in City Hall.

The money for this plant was available in 1914. The Blankenburg administration made no move toward using it. On June 30, 1915, an additional \$35,000 was appropriated bringing the total funds available for the work up to \$155,000. Again six months elapsed without action.

The importance this improvement has in the development not only of the Byberry institution for the insane, but the Philadelphia General Hospital, was observed immediately by Director Krusen when he took office and already bids have been advertised for. These will be opened on February 1.

Byberry's Present Condition.

The condition existing at present, in substance, is this:—

The new buildings at Byberry which were erected to house five hundred insane patients are empty. They will remain empty until heat is installed. When this is done the Department of Health and Charities will transfer that many persons from the Philadelphia General Hospital.

Will Relieve Blockley.

Not only will the transfer of these patients place them under better conditions at Byberry than they now are forced to endure at Blockley, but will relieve congested conditions at the institution.

One of the monuments this administration hopes to leave to its credit is a reconstructed Blockley. With conditions remaining as they are to-day, nothing can be done in the way of reconstruction. If the five hundred patients can be removed there will be room available for improvements.

The comprehensive plan for the betterment of Blockley was before the Blankenburg administration for consideration. Director Harte who was head of the Department of Health and Charities for the period following the resignation of Director Joseph S. Neff until the first of last year made extensive plans for this development at Blockley.

He found that nothing could be done there until Byberry was made habitable and the congestion at the West Philadelphia institution relieved. He worked toward this end. Plans were prepared by Philip H. Johnson, architect for the department. With the exception of Director Harte members of the Blankenburg administration assumed an attitude of "do nothing" rather than accept Mr. Johnson's plans.

Johnson Drew Plans.

Director Harte also worked in cooperation with Councils who appropriated \$20,000 for the heating plant and \$40,000 for the laying of steam and electric ducts in connection with the heating plant. The plans were drawn by Mr. Johnson and the department was ready to go ahead.

At this point a general disorganization of the department occurred. Director Harte requested the resignation of his assistant, Alexander M. Wilson. Following long conferences for two days in the office of Mayor Blankenburg, Mr. Wilson concluded not to resign.

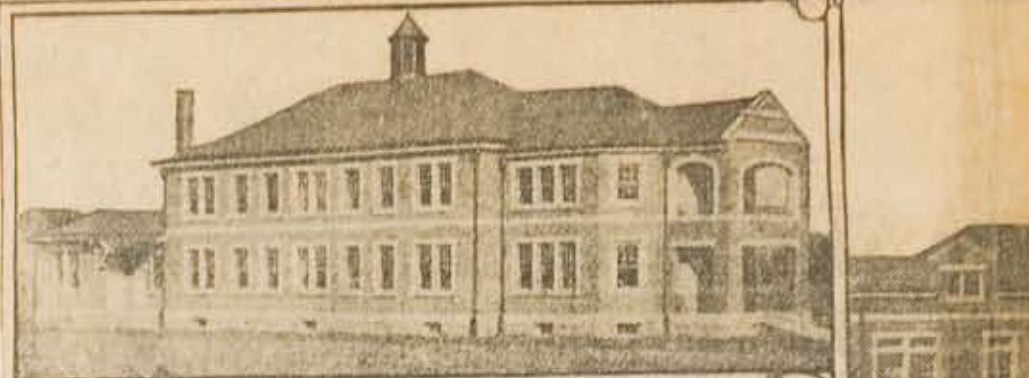
Soon afterward Director Harte resigned, his resignation virtually concluding the work of the Health Department under Mayor Blankenburg. His successor made no progress toward the erection of the much-sought power plant and the reconstruction of Blockley received little or no consideration.

Mayor Smith visited Blockley soon after taking office. Upon his return he said he was surprised at the prospects for the institution, and commented that someone had been negligent in not having the heating plant installed.

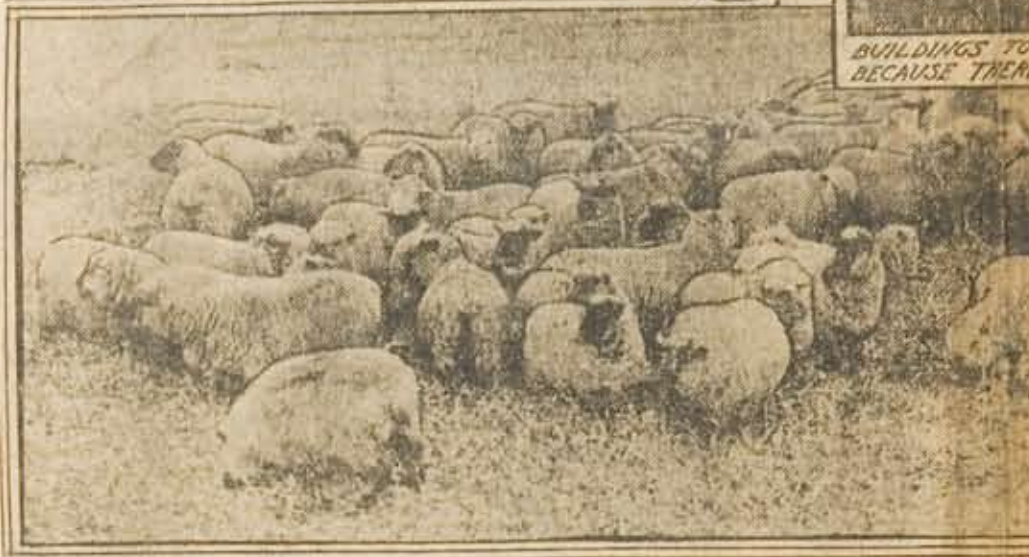
Byberry a Paying Investment.

The institution at Byberry is unique in that it is really a paying investment from a commercial as well as civic standpoint. Hundreds of men and women whose intellects are gone, but who are harmless and need only the proper care and quietude for a peaceful existence are kept there in buildings of more or less temporary construction and they labor about the great farm, which covers hundreds of acres, planting and tending the crops. From the farm the city gets an immense amount of produce, hay and grain of various kinds, which is used for consumption in city institutions and particularly in the hospitals.

Under the direction of Superintendent Powman thousands of chickens, ducks and geese are kept and their eggs furnish a supply for city institutions.



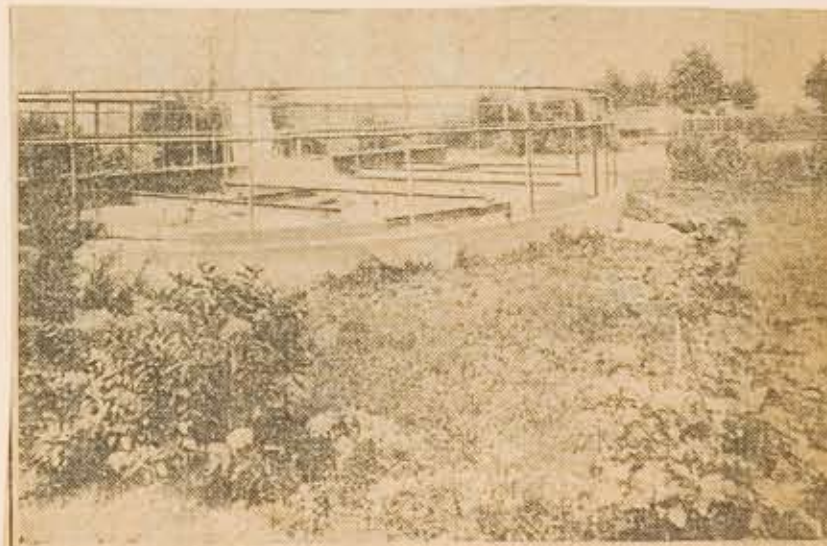
BUILDINGS TO BECAUSE THERE



HUNDREDS OF SHEEP ARE RAISED ON THE CITY'S FARM.

The top row of pictures shows the buildings to which many of the insane at Blockley can be transferred as soon as there is a heating plant erected for them. The erection of this plant was held up by the last administration for two years by bickering over the architect. The lower pictures show some of the splendid live stock produced at the City farm under the direction of Superintendent Bowman, who is a consistent ribbon winner for the city at the annual county fair at Byberry.

There are several magnificent herds of cattle, whose milk is pasteurized and supplied to the city institutions, and sheep and hogs that are prize winners every year at the county fair are among the other livestock on the big farm. Counted as a commercial investment, it has been estimated that \$100,000 would be a fair estimate of the profits on the products of the city farm if they were sold instead of being sent to the different city institutions.

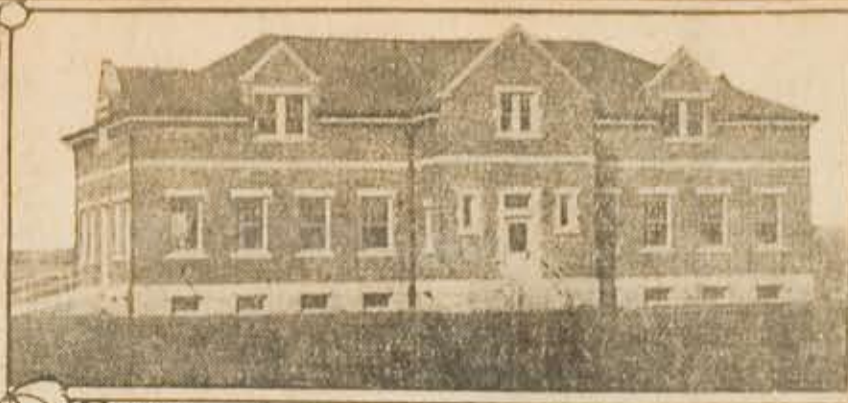


The upper cut shows a spray bed, an acre in extent, where millions of bacteria finally destroy the last vestige of filth in the effluent from the sewage disposal plant before the liquid, thereby made innocuous, is discharged into the Delaware River. The lower cut shows one of the Emsch tanks in which the solids are removed by settlement and afterwards dried on sand beds. The entire plant has more the appearance of a small park than a disposal works. The operation of the works is said to be carried on without the emission of any offensive odors.

Lack of Heat Prevents Use of Buildings for Insane



HOUSE INSANE PATIENTS, BUT WHICH ARE USELESS IS NO HEAT AND LIGHT PLANT.



BYBERRY HAS THOUSANDS OF CHICKENS LIKE THESE.

OF LEAGUE'S LIBRARY

Miss Florence Wilson Given Post in Recognition of Work With U. S. Peace Commission.

PHILA. GIRL IS MADE CHIEF LIBRARIAN BY LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Miss Florence Wilson to Pick Big Research Collection

DREXEL GRADUATE

A Philadelphia girl has won the distinction of being librarian-in-chief for the league of nations. She is Miss Florence Wilson, of 8069 Frankford avenue.

The Wilsons are well known in Holmesburg, the late Colonel William Bender Wilson, father of Miss Wilson, having lived there for more than half a century.

For several months Miss Wilson has done preliminary organization library work for the league in London, but with the assembly of the league at Geneva, Switzerland, for the first time yesterday she was placed in complete charge of gathering an immense library to embrace research in every nation in the world.



LIBRARIAN OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Miss Florence Wilson, a Philadelphia girl, has been made librarian-in-chief of the league of nations. She is a daughter of the late Colonel William Bender Wilson, and lives at 8069 Frankford avenue.

American girl for a... the league altho America is not a member, and it comes in recognition of American library methods. The American system of library cataloging and classifying will be used to a great extent by Miss Wilson, who will have under her charge girl librarians of many nations of Europe.

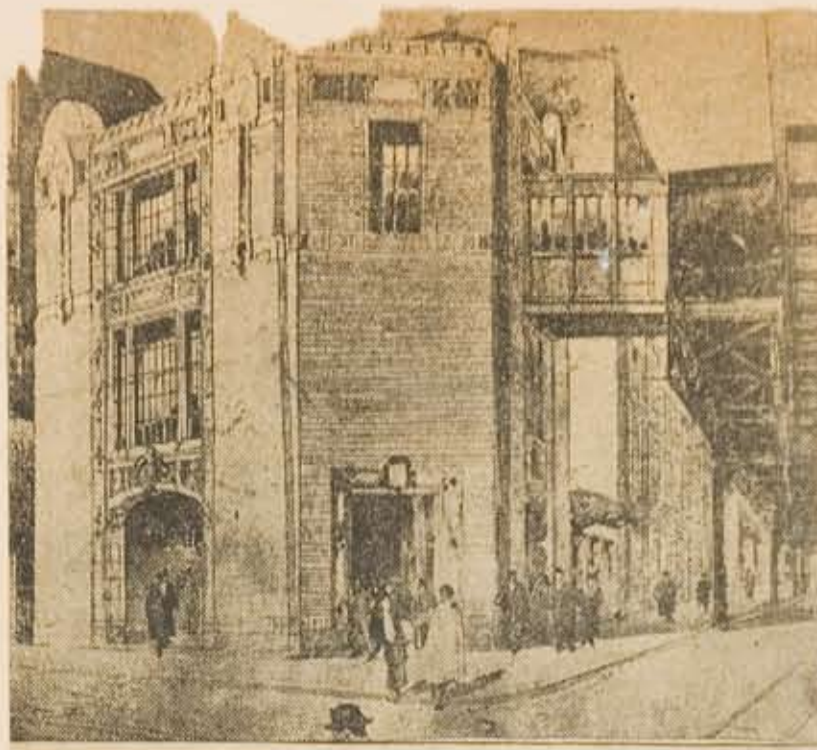
Miss Wilson graduated from the library course in Drexel Institute in 1906. She then became engaged in library work in Columbia University where she worked her way to a high position in nine years' service.

"We always knew that she would go high and reach a big position," was the comment of Miss Wilson's 66-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Urich, who together with Mrs. Florence U. Wilson, an aunt of the girl, lives with Mrs. E. C. Sowerby, at 8069 Frankford avenue. Miss Wilson, who is 33 years old, went to Paris early in 1915 as librarian with the American peace commission. It was just a year ago that she was able to obtain a short vacation and visit her aunt, grandmother and a sister, Mrs. Harrington Pease, who lives in Germantown.

When she returned to London to engage in library work for the secretary of the league, she sent for two of her former library associates in Columbia University, Miss H. R. Keller, who was her instructor at Drexel Institute, and who had originally taken Miss Wilson to New York, and Miss Alice Bartlett, of New York. Both women will be her assistants in the new work.

The old mansion near Holmesburg, known as Crystal Springs, has been demolished. The site is part of the tract granted to Thomas Holme by letter patent in September, 1682, before the arrival of Penn. The patent was confirmed by Penn in 1684, and in 1683 Holme obtained title from Chief Tammany and others, and later additional land from another Indian chief, Mettanicout. When Thomas Holme became proprietor of 1646 acres in that region he called it the Well Spring Plantation, and at his death, in 1695, he was buried in the acre called Crispin's Cemetery. The land about Crystal Springs remained in the possession of Thomas Holme's descendants until 1854, when it was sold by James Pierson, who built the house in 1855.

HUGHES.—In France, Oct. 26, 1915, Private JOSEPH A. HUGHES, Co. A, 315th Inf., son of Mary and late James Hughes, aged 28. Relatives and friends, also Charles P. McMenary Post, No. 178, A. L. Frankfort Post, No. 211, A. L., Corporal John H. Gaster, Jr., Post, No. 264, V. P. W.; members of Co. A, 315th Inf.; National War Mothers; St. Dominic's Holy Name Society, and all societies of which he was a member, are invited to attend funeral, Mon., 8.30 A. M., from his mother's residence, 1044 Granite St., Frankford. Solemn Requiem Mass, St. Dominic's Church, Holmesburg, 10 A. M., Sat. St. Dominic's Cem.



Sketch of one of the Frankford elevated stations, which shows that these new stations are located back of the building lines and connected to the elevated with a bridge. Both its architecture and its physical usefulness show that these buildings have been carefully designed and that they will be a credit to the city.

WORK WILL START SOON ON PARK IMPROVEMENTS

City Will Spend Thousands Fixing Up Dozens of Small Squares.

CONTRACTS ALREADY LET

Some Large Tracts to Be Transformed Into Great Recreation Centres.

Thousands of dollars will be spent by the city in the next few months in beautifying a score of parks and squares within the city limits. The money is now available for the work and the architects in the employ of the Bureau of City Property are busy preparing plans, which they confidently expect will transform the parks and squares into the most beautiful of their kind in the country. Lawns are to be improved, cinder walks renovated, trees planted and a dozen improvements made which promise to make the small square resorts more pleasing to the eye than they now are.

Washington Square is probably the most of the squares that will be improved. For some time complaints have been made of the condition of the walks in the old square, and both the walks and gravel walks are badly in need of repair. Bids have already been opened for the work, and it is expected the entire square will be thoroughly renovated before the advent of cold weather. Besides the improvements to the walks, copings and their foundations will be replaced, many flagstones relaid and a general overhauling of the inlets made. It is estimated the improvements will represent an expenditure of \$7000.

Improvements in Suburbs.

Another big improvement will be made to Vernon Park, Germantown and Chelton avenues. A convenience station and bandstand will soon be erected on the historic plot of ground in Germantown which will greatly add to the beauty of the park. Residents of Germantown have been bitter in their condemnation of the lack of proper facilities in the park, and it was recently decided to erect a large comfort station on the land. The bandstand will be modeled after the one on the north plaza of the City Hall and will be sufficiently large to accommodate the members of the Municipal and the Philadelphia Bands. The improvement will be welcomed by every resident of German-

work, and a week ago were awarded the contract. A permit was taken out by the contractors at the office of the Bureau of Building Inspection and the improvement immediately begun. It is expected the work will be completed within two months.

Cinder walks and handsome foot bridges will be part of the improvement to be made to Cornelius Park, Frankford avenue and Comly street. In size, this park is second only to League Island Park, Fifteenth street and Pattison avenue, and within a few years it is believed Cornelius Park will be one of the most popular in the city. It consists of a large plot of ground situated in the most beautiful section of the northeast. After the present work has been completed, it is the plan of the Bureau of City Property to erect a comfort station and a pavilion, to cost \$10,000, in the park.

The work contemplated covers the construction of cinder paths, including excavation; the construction of rustic bridges, and the laying of sod bordering the walks, including excavation and grading. Three bridges will be built in the park. They will be rustic in design and will be used as footpaths over creeks in the big park. This work will be completed, it is planned, before winter.

All Work Started Soon.

Walks to cost \$3000 will soon be constructed in Dixon Park, Keystone and Princeton streets. The walks will be cinder in character and will replace the natural paths that now wind through the park. A large comfort station will soon be constructed in Westmoreland Square, Fifth street and Allegheny avenue. Extensive planting will also be done in the square and the combined work will represent an expenditure by the city of \$5200.

More than \$10,000 will be spent in beautifying the walks in the Clarence H. Clark Park, Forty-third street and Woodland avenue. Virtually every walk and path in the park will be reconstructed. Improvements to cost \$400 will immediately be made to Pleasant Hill Park, Linden avenue and Delaware River. Plans for the work are now being prepared by the Bureau of City Property.

A lake improvement and new walks, to cost \$10,000, will be made to the Susan Gorges Park, Ridge avenue and Hermitage street. This also is one of the big parks within the city, and the improvement to the lake is expected to transform it into an attractive recreation centre. A new concrete wall and curb, to cost \$1500, are planned for the John B. Reyburn Park, Twelfth second street and Lehigh avenue. The same improvement, but to cost \$5000, will be made to Stenton Park, Eighteenth and Courtland streets. The unnamed square bounded by Elkhart, Mayfield and Ringgold streets will be improved to the extent of \$3000. Work on all the various improvements will be started this fall.

Opening of Rapid Work

"ONE of the most rapid bits of work which the city has known some time" is the way engineers Department of Public Works approach the construction of the Bensalem avenue bridge over the Pennypack Creek. Far up in the northeast corner of the city, beyond the present terminus of the Northeast Boulevard, the Department is now engaged in building this concrete bridge over a wide creek valley, a structure which, in size and strength, as well as architectural design, will compare favorably with the much admired Walnut Lane bridge over Wissahickon Creek. But, where more than two years were required for the building of the Walnut Lane span, the Bensalem bridge, which was started last winter, is expected to be completed before the end of this year.

Building a mile long railway to carry materials to the bridge was one of the means of facilitating the work adopted by the contractors, who found themselves confronted with the task of building a massive six hundred feet long bridge at a place where there were no main roads near at hand. To carry the workmen to and from their place of employment it was necessary to organize a motor truck transport; the city engineer who supervises the construction work starts out before 6 o'clock in the morning in order to be on the job on time.

This difficulty of access illustrates the great extent of the undeveloped area of the northeastern wards of the city. Yet the bridge, which is to cost about \$200,000 and promises to be an altogether creditable addition to the city's bridges, with its three great concrete arches and a central span of 100 feet rising sixty feet above the creek, is destined to be an important link in the new highway system the city is developing in that section. For Bensalem avenue, which is to be the westernmost fork of the Northeast Boulevard, will constitute one of the sections of the Lincoln Highway between New York and Philadelphia. Instead of the present long detour over the Bustleton pike, with its steep grades and narrow roadway, the new avenue, nearly as wide as Broad street, will be practically level. "A high-speed as well as picturesque route" is the term its builders accord it.

To the east of the Bensalem bridge the city is also building another interesting span at the Holme Avenue crossing. This structure, which is to link up the Boulevard with the Torresdale section, is now nearing completion. Contracts are to be awarded shortly for the final shaping up of the roadway, which is already graded to Welsh road, and before the end of the year it is anticipated that automobilists will be able to make practically the entire run from the City Hall to Torresdale, over a wide, level road, as was planned years ago when this Boulevard was first discussed.

TROUBLES APLA TY

Student, Who Went Abroad to Help Wounded, Needed All the Help Himself

William J. Knauer, of Holmesburg, a Wharton School student at the University of Pennsylvania, who went abroad early in the summer to help the American Red Cross in Germany and Austria, and found he needed all the help for himself after he was repeatedly arrested and threatened as a spy, is back at his books convinced that half has yet to be said or sung of the pleasures and delights of home.

Knauer was seized on the liner Rotterdam when the vessel made Falmouth on the trip across. A man with a German accent and a Swiss passport, with whom he had chummed on the trip over, was taken ashore by Scotland Yard men, locked in the Tower of London, and shot as a German spy after an automobile tire that he carried, presumably as a sample, was found stuffed with incriminating papers.

Knauer, after being third degraded, was permitted to resume his way to his next arrest, which was in Dusseldorf, where the Germans locked him up. He had neglected to follow out the instructions issued to visitors, who were warned to present themselves at the police stations as soon as they arrived and give reports themselves. Knauer had committed the mistake of having his hair cut in Dusseldorf, a process that, as might be expected, gave him an appearance quite different from that of the photograph on his passport.

The American consul got him out of that scrape, and he went on and on to his next difficulty. This was in Innsbruck, in the Austrian Tyrol. Here he innocently invaded a hotel that was used as a refuge for wounded, and was promptly jugged and threatened with death by the Austrian sentries. The landlord of the hotel was also threatened with instant death. A fortunate circumstance arose in the shape of a cool-headed officer who could read English, and who vised Knauer's passport and freed him with a volley of gruff warnings.

Nov 16

FRANKFORD DISPATCH

History Paper Rec Lower Dublin Township.

An audience that occupied every seat in the large auditorium of the Thomas Holme Branch Library assembled on Monday evening to hear Miss Mary Blakiston, of Philadelphia, read a paper on the history of old Lower Dublin Township. The assemblage was composed of the principal people of the village, and the address was listened to with marked and appreciative attention, and followed by hearty applause.

Miss Blakiston spoke in a low tone, but every word was distinctly heard in all parts of the room, showing the clearness of her enunciation and the fine acoustic properties of the building.

The lecture was delivered at the request of the Current Events Club of Holmesburg, and had been previously read before the City History Club of Philadelphia. Miss Katherine M. Petty, president of the local club, presided and introduced the speaker. Many fine illustrations of local buildings and scenes along the Pennypack were shown to great advantage. Miss Blakiston lived a number of years in Holmesburg, where her father, the late Presley Blakiston, Esq., the prominent Philadelphia publisher, was a large owner of real estate. He was a man who took an active part in all movements for advancing the public welfare and improvement. He was a vestryman of Emmanuel Church, a director of the Frankford and Holmesburg Railroad Company and president of the Holmesburg Library.

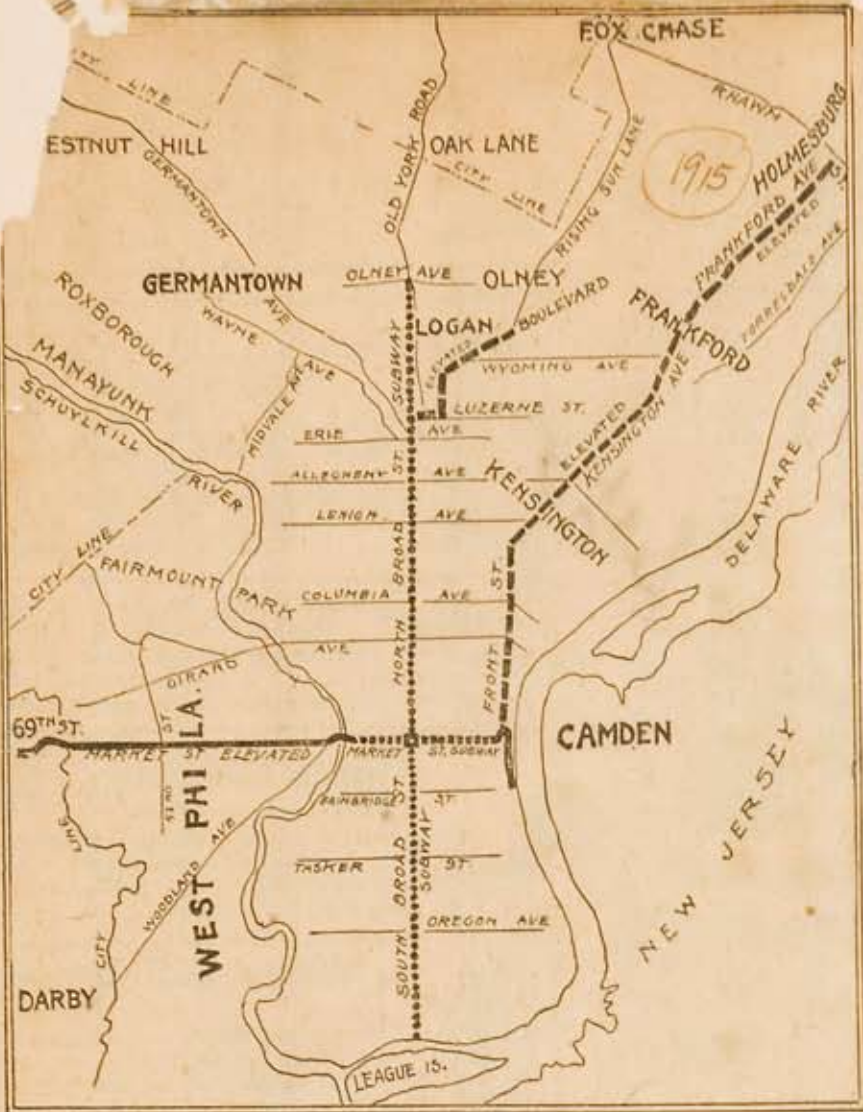
The information given in such a compact and pleasant form by Miss Blakiston's address quite impressed the audience, who although pretty well informed on the subject were evidently surprised that there was so much of interest to tell.

They will no doubt remember Miss Blakiston's final request to bear in mind the fact that no part of the city is more historically interesting than the territory known as Lower Dublin Township.

for this work to the Bureau of City Property

1915

OUTLINES OF NEW SUBWAY AND "L" LINES



GREAT RAPID TRANSIT PLAN NOW UNDER WAY

When the Broad st. subway and Frankford elevated line are completed Philadelphia will have a great cross system of high speed transit connecting the four limits of the city. The square dotted and heavy black line show respectively the Market st. subway and "L." The course of the Broad st. subway, now begun, is shown by the round dotted lines. The dash lines show the routes of the Frankford "L" and the Boulevard elevated spur to the subway.

Between these two bridges a third is yet to be begun at the Pottsguessing avenue crossing of Pennypack Park. But with the Bensalem and Holme avenues open to traffic, as is likely before another summer rolls around, this new pleasure ground of the city in the Northeast can be accessible at points where it forms one of the picturesque stream valleys of the city. Already the Northeast Boulevard has become a favorite avenue for automobilists, who find considerable pleasure in touring over its smooth and kept roadways.

the limited amount of travel that, by means of connecting roads near its present terminus, finds it a convenient avenue of approach to Bustleton, Holmesburg or Torresdale, it has lacked an objective point for the majority of Philadelphians. The new bridges, by bringing the nearly 1,200 acres of Pennypack Park into reach, as well as by opening direct routes to the villages, towns and settlements on the upper Delaware, will add materially to the use of the Boulevard. With the plans proceeding for the future development of roadways, walks and paths through Pennypack Park, the big road will be a more active

June 30 1916

A troop of Boy Scouts led the fare-well parade for the Tacony Ambulance and Hospital Corps last Saturday morning. Many of our people went down to bid the boys good-bye.

JULY 1916

Nearly all our boys of the N. G. P., now the Seventh Division of the United States Army, are doing duty along the Mexican border. Carl Knauer writes that he is not homesick, but expects to be home before Christmas. Most of them were among the first to leave Mt. Gretna. In every city along the route they were met by crowds of people and free cats were not exceptional. Such experiences as these shall never be forgotten, and we may all expect to hear great tales when the boys come home.

Aug 11 1916

Ben Clark and Moritz Bopp are leading men in a Honey Boy Minstrel show to be given at an El Paso theatre some evening next week.

Aug 11 1916

Perhaps friends would like to hear of another one of our brave boys who has gone with the Washington Artillery, of New Orleans, and encamped at Donna, Texas. Mr. Phillip E. Schweiger was a well-known resident of Holmesburg, having spent a greater part of his childhood days here. Previous to his enlistment he had been connected with one of the largest concerns in New Orleans for more than a year.

Sept. 5 1916

The Reception Committee for the boys at the border will hold a benefit in the Holme Theatre on Tuesday, September 26. Every one should join in the committee raise funds to give the boys a great reception when they come back to town. As some of the boys from other States have already started from the border, we all expect the Pennsylvania troops will be by the first of next month.

ROUTE OF PROPOSED ELEVATED IS CALLED DESERT OF STATE

Three Miles of Undeveloped Land Where Councils Would Squander People's Money Called Land of the Dead.

Undeveloped land, silent telegraph poles, two cemeteries, homeless dogs resting in tin-can littered fields, an occasional tramp walking across swamps, a few frame dwellings on farms and a passing suburban trolley car. This is the picture which greeted a reporter today who viewed the territory where Republican Organization leaders want to build an elevated railroad along the three miles of Frankford avenue, which lies between Bridge and Rhawn streets. Long-distance walkers call this section the "desert of Pennsylvania."

The ordinance calling for an elevated railway from Front and Arch streets to Frankford avenue and Rhawn street, introduced in Councils, has not created any particular excitement among the population in the three-mile territory. This ordinance is based on the Costello rapid transit plan. Seventeen passengers, including a representative of the Evening Ledger, boarded a trolley car of the Trenton, Bristol and Philadelphia line today at Frankford avenue and Bridge street. This car passes through the "desert of Pennsylvania."

THE "LAND OF ELDORADO." During the 14 minutes, according to the motorman's watch, which it takes for the car to go from Bridge street to Frankford avenue and Rhawn street, passengers have an opportunity to get a glimpse of the barren and isolated country.

Leaving Bridge street and Frankford avenue, the entrance to two cemeteries is visible. Passing the cemeteries a few barns and red-frame dwellings are seen. Both sides of Frankford avenue suddenly become barren as the car speeds along. An occasional barn and another frame dwelling appear. Some of the houses are not occupied. Further up the avenue the broken windows of an unoccupied house are visible. Outside of the house with the shattered windows sits a homeless dog sniffing at a dirty tin can. "Is this the place where the elevated railway will be built?" asks a farmer

From Bustleton, who is in the car. "This is the spot," answers the red-eyed motorman, with a loud laugh. About a mile away from Bridge street, the sides of Frankford avenue become dotted with tracts of land owned by prominent Philadelphians, and on which no attempt has been made within the past two years to build.

LAUGH AT LOCATION. "Some spot, eh, for an elevated?" laughingly asked the motorman of two salesmen, as he put on the brakes to save a stray cat, asleep on the trolley tracks, from being killed. "An elevated here?" asked one of the salesmen in astonishment, as the car passed a row of swamps. Exactly two persons were seen walking north and south as the car continued to travel. Life suddenly appears on Frankford avenue, when the car is about 200 yards from Rhawn street. This is the principal business thoroughfare of Holmesburg. A drugstore, a bank and hotel where farm boys from Bustleton and other farming areas usually stop, confront the passengers when they alight from the car at Rhawn street. The population of Holmesburg is estimated at 5000. Those who have occasion to travel to Philadelphia, usually ride on the Trenton, Bristol and Philadelphia line as far as Bridge street, where they board a Philadelphia Rapid Transit car, which brings them into the city.

Prepare for "L" to Holmesburg

Councils yesterday passed an ordinance of great importance in transit matters authorizing the revision of the lines for the regrading of Frankford avenue from Cottman to Rhawn streets. This is part of the thoroughfare over which the Frankford elevated extension will run, and the Transit Department has been unable to proceed with the work because the grading work and fixing of the street lines has not been done by the Department of Public Works. Also a similar ordinance which will provide for the revision of lines and fixing of the grades on Oxford avenue and Strahl street is necessary to the carrying out of the transit program and the speeding of the completion of the Frankford extension.

July 1917

Carl Knauer visited his brother Bill at Fort Niagara a few days last week. Bill is doing fine and is on his way to a commission in the Reserve Army.

Raymond Speechly is with the mines at a South Carolina camp and expects to be stationed at League Is within the next few weeks.

FRANKFORD DISPATCH,

DECEMBER 15, 1916

Carl Knauer has the honor of being the best rider in City Troop A. He is still at the border and captured first place in all the horse races. Just when he will come home is not known, but it will not be many weeks. William Rowland, of the Trust Company, is also expected home soon. Somebody should start something, and when Carl Knauer and Bill Rowland come home we should have a banquet to all the boys who went from the burg to the border. 1916 DEC 15

Sept 27, 1918

Miss Louise Hoffman, of Frankford avenue, has been appointed head dietician at the Good Samaritan Hospital of Lexington, Kentucky. She left the burg on Monday last. Her friends wish her all success possible in her new position. SEP 27 1918

MAY 11 1915

Oct 27 1916

Monday night was a big occasion in the Burg when the public reception to Ambulance and Hospital Corps No. 2 was held. The street parade was participated in by citizens generally, led by the Poquessing Band, with G. A. R. members in automobiles, and the Boy Scouts as escorts. Councilman Wm. Boal was marshal and Frank M. Kilcoyne, aide. The streets were illuminated with Chinese lanterns and red fire. The line proceeded to the banquet hall of the Home for the Indigent, which was gaily decorated. Every one present was given an American flag. After prayer by Rev. G. B. Burnwood, "America" was sung. Rev. Walter R. Murray was master of ceremonies. Selections were rendered by a quartette. The speakers included Congressman Costello, Assistant Director Harry W. Mace, also the officers of the corps. The chief address was by Chaplain Davis, of the Third Regiment, whose words appealed to the members of the corps, who joined with him in singing camp songs learned on the Texas border. All enjoyed the refreshments provided and a gala evening was closed by singing the national anthem, and benediction by Rev. Father Wall. Oct 27 1916

Oct 13 1916

The Holmesburg Troop of Boy Scouts have received the boat loaned them by the Government. It is 38 feet long, has a capacity of 22 men. Twelve are required to man the boat. The troop spent Labor Day on the river, and made a very good impression by their work at the oars. It is a heavy, seaworthy boat, and the parents of the boys have no fear of their sons taking it in it. It is one of the rules of the troop that the boat will not go out without the scoutmaster being on board, would be a fine exhibition of an achievement to the boys if some one would present them with an engine for it. Two of the most promising scouts of Holmesburg are Louis Hand and Horace Shuler, who have been promoted by Scoutmaster Hall to be assistant scoutmasters. Other Scouts who are making records for themselves by their good work are Harry DuBois, James Kinny, Fred McCrane, Roy Hutchinson, Paul Hrien, Eugene Fink, Leroy Diebler, George Beck, William Snyder and J. Duffy are two new applicants Troop No. 84.

A patriotic service in honor of the boys of Holmesburg who have returned from the Mexican border will be held this Sunday evening at the Holmesburg Presbyterian Church, Washington Camp, No. 819, P. O. S. of A., will escort the Holmesburg and Torresdale boys of Field Hospital Corps, No. 2. Dr. Clarence J. Lewis, first lieutenant, and Moritz Bopp, of this corps, will speak. Boys of Robert Gresham's Sunday School class will act as ushers. Reserved seats will be held for the families of the soldiers. The service will be at 7.45 P. M. and the public is invited.

Our boys arrived home last Monday morning ahead of schedule. Their train pulled into Tacony station about 7.30 o'clock. It was not long before they were greeted by parents and friends. A band was secured and led the parade through the streets of Tacony. After the parade they were dismissed and allowed to go to their homes. All the boys are in good health and brown and brawny from the trip. They reported 8 o'clock Tuesday morning and unloaded their train.

On Tuesday night they were banqueted at the Tacony Presbyterian church by the citizens of Tacony and vicinity. Washington Camp, P.O.S.A., will attend in a body.

Arrangements for the reception to our boys have not yet been completed. The committee meets next Monday night at the Men's Association Hall to make final plans. They need money to carry out a big home welcome, so donate what you can. Give your donation to any member of the committee.

The History of Torresdale Mill.

By J. A. BONNER.

(Read by Mr. Bonner on Outing May 21, 1915.)

Torresdale Mill was built on a bluff along the banks of the Poquessing Creek and State road, sometimes mentioned in old deeds as Bristol road, in Bensalem township, in the County of Bucks. The Poquessing Creek was named by the Indians Coaquensik and means an easy place to bring anything in. This stream furnished a means of bringing lumber into Torresdale mill and also furnished power to turn its machinery. The mill was built upon the site that William Penn ordered his commissioners to lay out his city on, at the junction of the Delaware River and Coaquensik Creek.

The earliest record we have of this old mill is in Martindale's History of Byberry and Moreland, which says, "Walter Forrest came over in the ship Welcome with William Penn in 1682. He took up a tract of land in Byberry on the Poquessing Creek. He settled here and built a mill on this tract, where the Thomas mill now stands. He died in 1694. He left a considerable estate. The mill was built of logs and the machinery was made of wood, largely imported from England. His widow afterward married John Kaign and we next find from records in the Court House at Doylestown the following abstract: "Whereas Walter Forrest, of Byberry, of the County of Philadelphia, by will dated March 18, 1691, bequeathed to his wife Ann, who afterwards became the wife of John Kaign, one-half of lands, mills, etc., at Byberry, whereas, John Kaign by indenture dated November 23, 1694, granted said lands and mills to William, Abraham and Rebecca Alberson, of Gloucester County, New Jersey." The deed of transfer from the Albersons to John Swift is not recorded.

Next mention we find of this mill is in the will of John Swift in 1733. He bequeathed the mill property to his grandson, Samuel Swift. In Deed Book B, of Bucks County, No. 26, page 333, in the year of 1768, we find the deed of George ridge and Jane, his wife, of Goshen township, Chester County, to their son, Daniel Ashbridge, dated January 16, 1768, conveying 146 acres 73 perches, in Bucks County, at the mouth of the Poquessing Creek, being part of a 300 acre tract conveyed to Ashbridge by Thomas Robinson. Deed for 300 acres not recorded.

Referring again to Martindale's History of Byberry and Moreland, it says: "Benjamin Gilbert erected a grist mill on the Byberry Creek, in the centre of Byberry, which proved a great convenience to the inhabitants." "The old grist mill spoken of in Walter Forrest's will, had long ceased to exist."

Samuel Willits, in his manuscripts, writes that the Eden Hall property got its name, "the Bake Oven farm," from the large ovens built and used here by the Continental soldiers during the Revolution when Washington crossed to Philadelphia in 1777 and again in 1781. The grain was ground at the mills across the Poquessing. These ovens were to be seen as late as 1840.

Daniel Ashbridge died intestate and the property then passed into the possession of his daughter, Jane Shoemaker, by whose will the executors were directed to sell it. It was conveyed to William Ball and Thomas H. Connell who, on April 12, 1834, conveyed it to William French.

In 1817 Jonathan and Samuel Thomas rented the mill. Samuel soon left and went to the Newportville Mill on the Neshaminy. He returned in 1830 and the two brothers carried on a grain business at the Torresdale Mill. During this time legal matters and change of ownership seriously handicapped business, as the record books of Bucks County show.

On April 1, 1835, William French conveyed the mill to Samuel French. In 1836 Samuel French transferred it to James Rough, a calico printer, who, with his wife, transferred it to William Almond, February 6, 1838. On February 15, 1844, Sheriff Thomas Purdy sold it to William Greiner, who in the same year sold it to Samuel Thomas.

Referring to Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss's Bristol Pike, I find: "In 1843 the owner, Ball & French, then leased it to Wendell & Perkins, who changed it to a print works. It was destroyed by fire in 1851. Wendell & Perkins then moved to the La Grange Mills at Bustleton."

Samuel Thomas then bought the property and erected a saw and grist mill on the property and took into his partnership his two sons, Jonathan and Edward, who jointly owned and operated the mill until March 3, 1883, when it was conveyed to Katherine E. Wollen, the wife of a Philadelphia stock broker, who conveyed it to Robert Foderer in 1890.

The mill has long since ceased to be used. The pine timber which clothed our hillsides and gave our glorious State its name had all fallen by the axe in the Delaware Valley and now lumber has to be brought from elsewhere. Farmers find it more profitable to feed their fishmen and eat imported prairie land flour.

The mill which had changed so much and that, on the evening of 1915, a tornado passed up the Delaware Valley with the tide and in a moment lifted the mill, twisted it around and lay it down to rest on Mother Earth.

All that remains for the future generation to show where the mill stood in old race course, grown up with weeds, and two stone posts which guard flood gates. As I stood on the bridge that arched the ever moving water, it seemed to say,

Forever, never,
Never forever.

I am very much in debt to the Curator and Librarian of the Bucks Historical Society, Mr. Warren Ely, who so kindly showed me the records in the Court House in Doylestown and made the brief of title.

Bulletin April 16

April 15, 1915

JANUARY 10, 1915

Arthur T. Atherholt, one of the most prominent men in the city and former president of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania, died yesterday in his home, 1007 Frankford ave., Holmesburg. He celebrated his forty-fifth birthday last Sunday, following day became ill of which caused his death. Mr. Atherholt was a pottery commission merchant with offices in the Bourse Building. He was married by his widow and two daughters. He was the only man in Pennsylvania to be awarded a pilot's license by the Aero Club of America and he took part in three of the international races for the Gordon Bennett trophy. He was one of the organizers of the Franklin Balloon Association and the Aero Club of Philadelphia which was merged into the Aero Club of Pennsylvania. He was the first president of the latter organization and served as its secretary. He participated in several international races from St. Louis, Kansas to Stuttgart, Germany. During these he made many ascensions in the House of Correction grounds, here.

April 15 1915

AVIATOR ATHERHOLT DIES

Noted Flyer Succumbs to Illness of Four Days.

In the death of Arthur T. Atherholt, yesterday, passes away one of the foremost aeronauts in the United States. He succumbed after a brief illness of four days' duration at his home, 1007 Frankford avenue, and the news of his death was received with a shock by his many friends.

April 15, 1915

Mr. Atherholt, who celebrated his 45th birthday anniversary on Sunday, was engaged in the pottery commission business, with offices in the Bourse Building. He was identified with the Ben Franklin Balloon Association and the Aero Club of Pennsylvania, serving for several terms as president of the latter association. His most sensational flight was in the international races in Germany in 1913, when, together with John Wills, Mr. Atherholt flew from Stuttgart on October 27 and was not seen until the following week. It was revealed that both men landed in the wilds of Russia. They were taken as German spies, and only after explanations were they allowed to return, having suffered extreme privation and exposure. Mr. Atherholt was the first man in Pennsylvania who had won the coveted pilot's license issued by the Aero Club of America. He learned the art of flying under the late Prof. Samuel King, and participated in three international races for the Gordon Bennett trophy.

Mr. Atherholt is survived by his widow and two children, Elizabeth, 13 years old, and Roselyne, 15 years old. The funeral services will be held at the Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, Holmesburg, Monday afternoon, at 2 o'clock. Interment will be private.

Death of Noted Aeronaut

Arthur T. Atherholt, formerly president of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia's most noted aeronaut, died shortly after noon yesterday, at his home in Holmesburg. Mr. Atherholt on Sunday celebrated his 45th birthday anniversary with his wife and two children, Elizabeth, 13 years old and Roselyne, 15 years old. He was then in the best of health. On Monday he was attacked with liver trouble that soon affected his heart.

Mr. Atherholt was a pottery commission merchant, with offices in the Bourse Building. He was the only man in Pennsylvania, who had won the coveted pilot's license issued by the Aero Club of America, and took part in three of the international races for the Gordon Bennett trophy. In many of the national races he piloted balloons to determine who should compete in the international event, and he was among the first to follow the sport of ballooning after Prof. Samuel A. King settled in this city. Mr. Atherholt married Miss Helen Middleton, daughter of the late Edward H. Middleton, of Frankford. He was a member of Olivet Lodge, 607, E. and A. M. The funeral services will take place on Monday afternoon at Emmanuel P. E. Church, Holmesburg.

April 15, 1915

1915

Miss Jennie Stevenson Pattison, a well-known resident of the burg, died on Tuesday last, aged 58 years, after several weeks' illness following a stroke of paralysis. Miss Pattison was a daughter of the late John Pattison, a son of Robert Pattison, founder of the old established Pattison store. Miss Pattison was well known as a public school teacher for a number of years. The funeral will take place from her late residence, 8112 Frankford avenue, this Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, with services at Emmanuel Church, at 2 o'clock, and interment private.

Mr. John Musgreave, of Holmesburg, has just learned the particulars of the death of his son, Eric A. Musgreave, in Phoenix, Arizona, several weeks ago. The young man, who was twenty-five years of age and was well known in musical circles in the Northeast, went to Arizona in October, accepting a position with a mining company. Several weeks ago he purchased a new horse, from which he was thrown, receiving injuries which later developed pneumonia, resulting in his death. He was a member of Jerusalem Lodge, F. and A. M., and Mystic Lodge, O. O. F.

Emma, daughter of the late P. Charles and Maria D. Kreis, died on Wednesday last. The funeral will take place on Saturday afternoon from 8238 Frankford avenue, Holmesburg.

Lillian A., daughter of George and Susanna Henkel, died on Monday in her 23d year. She was a teacher in the Lawton Public School. The funeral took place on Wednesday from the parents' residence, 7235 Frankford avenue.

James, husband of Martha A., died on Sunday in his 74th year. He is a veteran of the Civil War, member of the Survivors of Company, N. Y. Vol. 23d Regt. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Ashworth Place, interment in the cemetery, 2592 Ridge.

Robert Flemings, son of the late Joseph and Elizabeth Flemings, aged 60 years, a resident of Holmesburg all his life, died on Friday last at his late residence, 8236 Frankford avenue. Mr. Flemings has had a lingering illness since December 13 of last year. He was born in 1856. On November 30, 1881, he married Miss Annie Ward. Deceased is survived by a widow, a sister, Mrs. Joseph Herbert, of Frankford, and a brother, Mr. George Flemings, also of Frankford. He was a member of the Holmesburg Men's Association, Murray Bible Class, Fidelity Castle, Fraternal Patriotic Americans, Mystic Chain, Sons and Daughters of Liberty and Jerusalem Masonic Lodge.

Mr. William Johnson, an old resident of Holmesburg, died suddenly on Tuesday last at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Leonard Johnson, on Crispin street. Mr. Johnson was in his seventy-fourth year. He is survived by a widow and three daughters—Mrs. Leonard Johnson, Mrs. Robert States and Mrs. William Munster. The funeral will be held Saturday. He was a member of Fidelity Castle.

The venerable Mrs. Mary E. Crispin died on December 22, having nearly attained the great age of 93 years. She was born near Churchville, Bucks Co., Pa., January 10, 1824, the daughter of John and Maria Praul. She was married to William Crispin, of Holmesburg, in 1844, who died in 1869, and has lived in this village for 72 years. She was capable and active nearly to the last and devoted the greater part of her time to her family and to domestic life, although at all times interested in many other matters.

She was a faithful church woman, a member, pew holder and communicant of Emmanuel P. E. Church for seventy years, during which time she was regular in her attendance at the services. Mrs. Crispin had a large circle of friends, and was most highly respected and regarded in the community. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. William Clark, two grandchildren and three adult great grandchildren. The funeral took place from her late residence, 8034 Frankford avenue, on December 26. The services were held in Emmanuel Church and were conducted by the Rev. Sydney Goodman, rector, assisted by Mr. E. Glenn Haines, organist, and the vested choir. The interment was in the churchyard. Mrs. Crispin's eldest daughter, Mrs. James V. Sickel, died many years ago.

B. F. Clay, second deputy prothonotary of the Courts of Common Pleas, died on Sunday at the Hahnemann Hospital after an operation. He had been ill at his home, 8946 Walker street, Holmesburg, since late in November, and had entered the hospital several weeks ago. He was sixty-six years old. Mr. Clay had served in the Prothonotary's office for the last thirty-five years. He was a member of the Washington Grays, the Odd Fellows, the Royal Arcanum, the Masonic Order and a vestryman in Emmanuel Episcopal Church, of Holmesburg. He is survived by a widow, two sons, Arthur and Walter, and a daughter, Mrs. Austin G. Greer. The funeral took place on Wednesday from his late residence with services in the Emmanuel P. E. Church, conducted by the Rev. S. Goodman, rector. Interment was made in the adjoining cemetery.

Frank W. Allison, a singer and comedian who, for many years, was identified with light musical operas in this country, died on Friday at the Edwin Forrest Home, at Holmesburg. Allison who was 65 years old, was born in Baltimore. He is survived by one brother who lives in that city. For the past four months the actor had been confined to his room with a serious throat affection. He was widely known in this city and numbered among his most intimate friends Frank Dumont, the minstrel. One of Allison's successes was scored in "The Burgomaster," and his last engagement was with the comedy, "Excuse Me." Failing health made it necessary for Allison to retire from the stage. The funeral took place Monday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at the Edwin Forrest Home, where the services were conducted by the Rev. Sydney Goodman, rector of the Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, of Holmesburg.

Bulletin April 1917

DR. GEORGE M. BRADFIELD, formerly of this city, died recently at Los Angeles, Cal. He was graduated from the Central High School in 1870, and later from Jefferson Medical College. After entering the army he became resident physician at the Philadelphia General Hospital and on leaving military service he practiced medicine in Perry county, Pa.

Sarah H., daughter of Adelaide V. and the late Jacob C. Petty, died of influenza on Friday last. The funeral took place from her mother's residence, 8 Frankford avenue, Holmesburg.

Margaret E., daughter of Adam and the late William Kaufmann, died on Sunday, aged 26 years. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon from the residence of her mother, 2824 Rhawn street.

Jacob Carpenter Petty died on Sunday last. The funeral took place Thursday afternoon from 8226 Frankford avenue, Holmesburg.

Helen Middleton Atherholt, widow of the late Arthur T. Atherholt, died on Monday last at her residence, 890 Frankford avenue, after only a brief illness. Funeral services were held at Emmanuel Church on Thursday last with interment in the adjoining graveyard. She is survived by two daughters.

Henry Beck, 85 Rhawn street, a well-known man in the northeastern part of the city, died Sunday night after a short illness. He was born in Germany and came to this country when a small boy, to take up the butcher trade, in which he has been all his life. He was a member of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Charles Woehr, with whom he made his home, and from whose residence, 3037 Rhawn street, he was buried Wednesday afternoon.

William Kaufman, the well-known caterer, died on Wednesday last at his home, on Frankford avenue above 10th street. Services will be held Sunday afternoon at his late residence. He was a member of Supreme Council of Honor.

Holme Ave. Bridge Completed.

The work of constructing the Holme avenue bridge over the Pennypack Creek has been completed. The completion of the work is of importance to the war industries of the Government in the northeastern section of the city because of the connection of Holme avenue, a branch of the Northeast Boulevard, with Welsh road, a thoroughfare which connects with other roads leading to the industries.

In announcing last Saturday the completion of the bridge, Director Datesman, of the Department of Public Works, who has been pushing the work, explained that in addition to the improvement of Holme avenue for its full length and width from Pennypack Circle to Welsh road is virtually completed. All that is to be done in the improvement of the avenue covers a small distance between the bridge and Pennypack Circle, the point at which the avenue starts. This work consists simply of putting on the asphalt paving. All this work will be completed before expiration of the present week.

Holme avenue is one of the three branches of the Northeast Boulevard which extends from Pennypack Circle, the other two being Bensalem avenue and Poggiessing avenue. On account of the war effort has been made to improve Poggiessing avenue, but considerable work has been done in Bensalem avenue, a bridge which is to carry Bensalem avenue over the Pennypack creek is also virtually completed.

The Holme avenue bridge is a most attractive structure, representing in all detail the final word in bridge construction of the kind. It was constructed under the supervision of Chief Albright, of the Bureau of Surveys. It is an ornamental concrete arch bridge, composed of three arches, so constructed as to span the driveways of the park, which is to be along the lands of the creek. The centre span is 88 feet, and the two side spans are each 55 feet. The clearance over the water at the crown of centre arch is 24 feet. The length of the bridge is 350 feet, and it has a width of 80 feet. There is a driveway 5 feet wide and two sidewalks each 13 feet wide. The total cost of the bridge is \$71,007, all of which comes out of loan funds. Holme avenue is 150 feet in width and has two 26-foot driveways.

The work which is still to be done in Holme avenue is only on a portion of one of the driveways. With this work completed and bridge finished, both sides of Holme avenue will be open to traffic. The avenue extends to Welsh road, which connects with Grant avenue and also with the road to New York. Both these connections make Holme avenue and the completion of the bridge important to the Government, because the routes thus provided afford transportation facilities between New York and the industries or between the latter and the central part of the city via the Northeast Boulevard.

The Fourth celebration promises to be a success this year. Of course, it will not surpass that of previous years, but considering present conditions it will be well worth while. The committee needs about \$200 and already have about \$75. They will greatly appreciate donations of \$100 to help defray expenses. All the children will be given ice cream. Mrs. Potts is chairman of the Ladies' Committee, having charge of refreshments and candy. Fred Long, as chairman of the Athletic Committee, is arranging various sporting events.

The Holmesburg Citizens Committee held their regular meeting last Friday in Men's Association Hall. All the regular business was attended to and everything arranged until their next meeting, which is scheduled for September. Several of the men have worked hard since the organization of the committee for the welcome home to the boys. In all there has been collected nearly \$3000. Many thought the goal of \$5000 far fetched, but the Ways and Means Committee feel sure that they will far exceed this amount before the final count. A member of the committee will give

Complete Portion of Boulevard.

After many delays the section of the Northeast Boulevard from Rhawn street to Pennypack Circle, a distance of two blocks, has been completed for a width of 300 feet. It will be open for travel within a few weeks. From this circle the three branches are to radiate. The Holme avenue extension is partially completed to Welsh road and in use. The Bensalem avenue extension is held up by the failure to complete the concrete bridge over the Pennypack Creek. This contract for the bridge is pending annulment and adjustment before the committee consisting of Mayor, City Solicitor and Director of Public Works. The third branch not yet started, is on the line of Poggiessing avenue.

NOV 1919

Fine Bridge Completion.

With the completion of the beautiful bridge carrying the Bensalem avenue branch of the Northeast Boulevard over Pennypack Creek, the Department of Public Works is endeavoring to have the contractors finish the ornamentation and a few minor details which will end the construction work. It is hoped that the structure can be finished by the end of the present year, but bad weather may intervene and delay the opening of the bridge and its final decoration until spring.

The bridge is considered one of the most beautiful structures of its kind in the Eastern part of the United States, and its ornamentation after the Egyptian type makes it a notable architectural addition to the Pennypack Creek Park as well as a highly valuable structure, carrying one of the main roads leading out of Philadelphia to Trenton, northern Pennsylvania and New York.

The total cost of the bridge is about \$200,000. It is an ornamental concrete structure of Egyptian type. There are three arches, the centre being 100 feet in length and the other two, one at either end, being 60 feet in length. The total length of the bridge is 350 feet, with a width of 13 feet. The driveway is 5 feet wide and there are two sidewalks, each 12 feet wide. The ornamentation of the bridge is especially attractive.

It has been the custom for a number of years past, for the citizens of Holmesburg to celebrate the Fourth of July in Pennypack Park, where athletic sports have been engaged in, drills by the public school children, patriotic addresses by prominent men, and a distribution of ice cream to the children. Last year, owing to the absence of many of our young men, who were serving the nation in the "world war," no great effort was made to create an interest in the celebration; but the committee is making preparation this year to again provide the opportunity for you to enjoy a "safe and sane Fourth," and hope to revive the old-time interest of all members of this community. It would be hard to find a more beautiful and picturesque spot than Pennypack Park, with its winding creek, its lofty trees and clear, cool spring of water. It offers its hospitality to the men as a relaxation from business cares; to the busy house wife as a "haven of rest," to the children, a place of safety from the street traffic, and to the infant, a refuge from the heat.

A band of music will be on the grounds, and a stand in charge of the "ladies" will dispense sandwiches, ice cream, etc., at a nominal cost, to those who do not care to come provided. The proceeds from this stand will be donated to the "Ways and Means" Committee, to help swell the "Monument Fund." It has been the custom to solicit funds to meet the expense of the celebration; this the committee feels reluctant to do, owing to the numerous calls recently made on the public, and which heretofore has always met with a generous response; but are relying on the generosity of those who are really interested in the welfare of this community, to volunteer subscriptions to meet the expense.

Part of Pennypack Park may be laid out in a nine-hole public golf course, similar to the one established by the city in Cobb's Creek Park. Charles W. Leavitt, consulting engineer, has prepared a plan of the park for the Park Commissioners, and in his report makes the suggestion that part of the park's area might be used to advantage for such a course. Jesse T. Vodges, chief engineer of the Park Commission, has also pronounced the ground suitable. The report points out the area lying north of the tracks of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, in which a dam has been recommended to provide water for winter sports and summer recreation.

UNIQUE FISHING CLUB

The State of Schuylkill, at Torresdale, is a Philadelphia club dating back to 1732. Judge J. Willis Martin is its "governor," as its chief officer is termed. The Schuylkill Fishing Company was organized as the Colony in Schuylkill, and later, in 1872, the name was changed to State in Schuylkill. A writer in the Liverpool Post gives the following description of the club. It may be interesting to recall that the members of the Schuylkill Fishing Company—also in America—pay the rent of their "castle" in the form of three sun perch delivered on a pewter platter. This ancient organization, which is said to be the oldest of its kind in existence, has its home on the Delaware River. In old days the payment of the rent was a most picturesque ceremony. Wearing broad-brimmed hats, with white braids headed by the governor, the member marched to the landlord's mansion and there formally delivered the rent—three sun perch laid crosswise on a pewter platter. Not the least interesting feature of the rent paying was the fact that the men who carried the fish were exceptionally wealthy.—Evening Bulletin.

DENTIST WON WAR MEDAL

Dr. Webster Home With French War Cross

Dr. Douglas Webster, a dentist, has returned to his home in Tacony after nine months with the American Ambulance Corps in France, bringing with him a cross of war and a citation for bravery, both presented by the French Government. Dr. Webster was one of the party of surgeons taken over to the American Ambulance hospital by the late Dr. J. William White.

Dr. Webster won his "cross of war" when a German shell burst over a field shack in which he and twelve members of the reserve corps were dining, and all became unconscious from the force of the explosion. The first to revive was Dr. Webster, and as he crawled from the ruins another shell burst overhead. Then he crawled back into the ruins, dragged out a wounded man, and took him to a place of safety. Meanwhile a third shell obliterated all traces of the shack and the wounded men in it.

of Bonds Gives Cash for "L" Road.

The amount of seven bonds were sold at a premium Monday. The bonds sold were part of the \$6,000,000 transit loan of 30, 1915, which was created by the big \$67,100,000 transit and port was authorized in 1916. Of this at loan \$2,000,000 is sold. The remaining \$5,000,000 is part of the \$42,000,000 loan of June, 1916. The transcripts will provide liquid cash for completion of the Frankford elevated \$5,000,000 for such general purposes as the completion of port improvements, to complete hospital buildings and pay land taking judgments standing, to build sewers and main-highways.

Holmesburg

The village presented an animated appearance on Saturday afternoon, March 22, the buildings being gaily decorated with the national colors and many people assembled on the streets to witness the parade preliminary to the banner raising at Frankford avenue and Rhawn street. The Philadelphia Police Band was in the lead, presenting their usual soldierly appearance and giving plenty of excellent music. Then followed Comrade Michael G. Ayres, marshal, with Captain William C. Carroll, chief of staff, both mounted, and Assistant Marshals Fred Long, Frank Potts, Archie Carr and F. M. Kilcoyne; returned soldiers and sailors of the present war; fifteen Civil War veterans, commanded by Comrade Z. T. Kirk; twenty-seven Girl Scouts; the Boy Scouts; over fifty young ladies in conveyances, forming the chorus to sing at the meeting, led by Mrs. Charles Gros; citizens from various local societies.

The open-air meeting was called to order about 4 o'clock by Frank M. Kilcoyne, who presided. The invocation was by Rev. A. A. Thompson, pastor of the Holmesburg M. E. Church. Patriotic addresses were made by Rev. James E. Coakley, of St. Dominic's R. C. Church; Rev. C. A. Clayton, of the A. M. E. Church; Harry N. Solly, probation officer of the Philadelphia Municipal Court, and Frank M. Kilcoyne. Rev. Sydney Goodman, of Emmanuel P. E. Church, pronounced the benediction.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies a substantial banner, bearing the inscription, "Our Heroes Welcome Home," was raised, a great cheer being given by the large assemblage of people.

This affair was a preliminary of the great celebration to be held when all the soldiers and sailors are home from the front and a reminder to all who have not subscribed to the Citizens' Committee Fund to do so without delay. While the responses to the appeal have been numerous and liberal, there are many who have not yet responded, who, no doubt, intend to do so. A considerable sum is needed to carry out the plans of the committee to give the men returning from the front to this town a reception worthy of their services to their country.

MAY 21 1915

OCT 27 1914

Monday night was a big occasion in the Burg when the public reception to Ambulance and Hospital Corps No. 2 was held. The street parade was participated in by citizens generally, led by the Poquessing Band, with G. A. R. members in automobiles, and the Boy Scouts as escorts. Councilman Wm. Hoal was marshal and Frank M. Killcoyne, aide. The streets were illuminated with Chinese lanterns and red fire. The line proceeded to the banquet hall of the Home for the Indigent, which was gaily decorated. Every one present was given an American flag. After prayer by Rev. G. B. Burnwood, "America" was sung. Rev. Walter R. Murray was master of ceremonies. Selections were rendered by a quartette. The speakers included Congressman Costello, Assistant Director Harry W. Mace, also the officers of the corps. The chief address was by Chaplain Davis, of the Third Regiment, whose words appealed to the members of the corps, who joined with him in singing camp songs learned on the Texas border. All enjoyed the refreshments provided and a gala evening was closed by singing the national anthem, and benediction by Rev. Father Wall. OCT 27 1914

OCT 13 1916

The Holmesburg Troop of Boy Scouts have received the boat loaned them by the Government. It is 28 feet long, has a capacity of 22 men. Twelve are required to man the boat. The troop spent Labor Day on the river, and made a very good impression by their work at the oars. It is a heavy, seaworthy boat, and the parents of the boys have no fear of their sons taking it. It is one of the rules of the troop that the boat will not go out without the scoutmaster being on board. It would be a fine exhibition of arrangement to the boys if some one would present them with an engine for it. Two of the most promising scouts of Holmesburg are Louis Hand and Horace Shuler, who have been promoted by Scoutmaster Hall to be assistant scoutmasters. Other Scouts who are making records for themselves by their good work are Harry DuBois, James Kinny, Fred McCrane, Roy Hutchinson, Paul Berlin, Eugene Fink, Leroy Diebler, George Beck, William Snyder and J. Duffy are two new applicants. Troop No. 86.

A patriotic service in honor of the boys of Holmesburg who have returned from the Mexican border will be held this Sunday evening at the Holmesburg Presbyterian Church. Washington Camp, No. 819, P. O. S. of A., will escort the Holmesburg and Torresdale boys of Field Hospital Corps, No. 2. Dr. Clarence J. Lewis, first lieutenant, and Moritz Bopp, of this corps, will speak. Boys of Robert Gresham's Sunday School class will act as ushers. Reserved seats will be held for the families of the soldiers. The service will be at 7.45 P. M. and the public is invited.

Our boys arrived home last Monday morning ahead of schedule. Their train pulled into Tacony station about 7.30 o'clock. It was not long before they were greeted by parents and friends. A band was secured and led the parade through the streets of Tacony. After the parade they were dismissed and allowed to go to their homes. All the boys are in good health and brown and brawny from the trip. They reported 8 o'clock Tuesday morning and unloaded their train.

On Tuesday night they were banqueted at the Tacony Presbyterian church by the citizens of Tacony and vicinity. Washington Camp, P.O.S.A., will attend in a body.

Arrangements for the reception to our boys have not yet been completed. The committee meets next Monday night at the Men's Association Hall to make final plans. They need money to carry out a big home welcome, so donate what you can. Give your donation to any member of the committee.

The History of Torresdale Mill.

By J. A. BONNER.

(Read by Mr. Bonner on Outing May 21, 1915.)

Torresdale Mill was built on a bluff along the banks of the Poquessing Creek and State road, sometimes mentioned in old deeds as Bristol road, in Bensalem township, in the County of Bucks. The Poquessing Creek was named by the Indians Coaquensik and means an easy place to bring anything in. This stream furnished a means of bringing lumber into Torresdale mill and also furnished power to turn its machinery. The mill was built upon the site that William Penn ordered his commissioners to lay out his city on, at the junction of the Delaware River and Coaquensik Creek.

The earliest record we have of this old mill is in Martindale's History of Byberry and Moreland, which says, "Walter Forrest came over in the ship Welcome with William Penn in 1682. He took up a tract of land in Byberry on the Poquessing Creek. He settled here and built a mill on this tract, where the Thomas mill now stands. He died in 1694. He left a considerable estate. The mill was built of logs and the machinery was made of wood, largely imported from England. His widow afterward married John Kaigh and we next find from records in the Court House at Doylestown the following abstract: "Whereas Walter Forrest, of Byberry, of the County of Philadelphia, by will dated March 18, 1691, bequeathed to his wife Ann, who afterwards became the wife of John Kaigh, one-half of lands, mills, etc., at Byberry, whereas, John Kaigh by indenture dated November 23, 1694, granted said lands and mills to William, Abraham and Rebecca Alberson, of Gloucester County, New Jersey." The deed of transfer from the Albersons to John Swift is not recorded.

Next mention we find of this mill is in the will of John Swift in 1733. He bequeathed the mill property to his grandson, Samuel Swift. In Deed Book B, of Bucks County, No. 26, page 333, in the year of 1768, we find the deed of George Ashbridge and Jane, his wife, of Goshen township, Chester County, to their son, Daniel Ashbridge, dated January 16, 1768, conveying 146 acres 73 perches, in Bucks County, at the mouth of the Poquessing Creek, being part of a 300 acre tract conveyed to Ashbridge by Thomas Robinson. Deed for 300 acres not recorded.

Referring again to Martindale's History of Byberry and Moreland, it says: "Benjamin Gilbert erected a grist mill on the Byberry Creek, in the centre of Byberry, which proved a great convenience to the inhabitants." "The old grist mill spoken of in Walter Forrest's will, had long ceased to exist."

Samuel Willits, in his manuscripts, writes that the Eden Hall property got its name, "the Bake Oven farm," from the large ovens built and used here by the Continental soldiers during the Revolution when Washington crossed to Philadelphia in 1777 and again in 1781. The grain was ground at the mills across the Poquessing. These ovens were to be seen as late as 1840.

Daniel Ashbridge died intestate and the property then passed into the possession of his daughter, Jane Shoemaker, by whose will the executors were directed to sell it. It was conveyed to William Ball and Thomas H. Connell who, on April 12, 1834, conveyed it to William French.

In 1817 Jonathan and Samuel Thomas rented the mill. Samuel soon left and went to the Newportville Mill on the Neshaminy. He returned in 1830 and the two brothers carried on a grain business at the Torresdale Mill. During this time legal matters and change of ownership seriously handicapped business, as the record books of Bucks County show.

On April 1, 1835, William French conveyed the mill to Samuel French. In 1836 Samuel French transferred it to James Rough, a calico printer, who, with his wife, transferred it to William Almoud, February 6, 1838. On February 15, 1844, Sheriff Thomas Purdy sold it to William Greiner, who in the same year sold it to Samuel Thomas.

Referring to Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss's Bristol Pike, I find: "In 1843 the owner, Ball & French, then leased it to Wendell & Perkins, who changed it to a print works. It was destroyed by fire in 1851. Wendell & Perkins then moved to the La Grange Mills at Bustleton."

Samuel Thomas then bought the property and erected a saw and grist mill on the property and took into his partnership his two sons, Jonathan and Edward, who jointly owned and operated the mill until March 3, 1883, when it was conveyed to Katherine E. Wellen, the wife of a Philadelphia stock broker, who conveyed it to Robert Foderer in 1890.

The mill has long since ceased to be used. The pine timber which clothed our hillsides and gave our glorious State its name had all fallen by the axe in the Delaware Valley and now lumber has to be brought from elsewhere. Farmers find it more profitable to feed their fishermen and eat imported prairie land flour.

... of age, the old mill, ... down in 1915. The mill which had changed so much with time, on the evening of May 21, 1915, a tornado passed over the Delaware Valley with the tide and in a moment lifted the mill, twisted it around and lay it down to rest on Mother Earth. All that remains for the future generation to show where the mill stood in old race course, grown up with weeds, and two stone posts which guard flood gates. As I stood on the bridge that arched the ever moving stream, it seemed to say,

Forever, never,
Never forever.

I am very much in debt to the Curator and Librarian of the Bucks Historical Society, Mr. Warren Ely, who so kindly showed me the records in the Court House in Doylestown and made the brief of title.

25



HAPEL OF THE NEW HOME FOR INDIGENTS AT HOLMESBURG

Philadelphia General Hospital on the west bank of the Schuylkill.

Who the first visiting physicians were is not known, but in 1768 Dr. Cadwalader Evans and Dr. Thomas Bond were practicing there. For their services they received yearly the sum of 50 pounds, roughly \$250. Out of this they were required to furnish necessary medicines.

The Bettering House

In 1760 the number of inmates had so increased as to make necessary the securing of additional facilities for their care. This resulted in the building of the "Bettering House," as it was known, at 10th and Spruce streets. About 270 inmates of the original institution were transferred to the new building. The total number admitted at the opening in 1767 was 284. During the first year 368 more were added, a rather large number, in view of the city's population at that time.

In 1810 the question of moving the almshouse and hospital to a farm in the suburbs was first spoken of, as the institution had outgrown its quarters in the Bettering House, but it was not until 1828 that a commission was appointed to select a site, "not exceeding two miles distant from Broad and Market streets, for the erection of buildings suitable for a hospital, and house of employment, and children's asylum." A farm in Blockley Township was purchased from the Hamilton estate. The present Woodlands Cemetery was part of the estate of the Hamiltons, who owned a large part of West Philadelphia. In those days it was Hamilton Village, located between Market street and Darby road, now Woodland avenue. The streets, which are now continuations of Walnut and Chestnut streets, were named for different members of the Hamilton family, "Andrew" and "James." Fortieth street was "William" and other streets were known as "Mary," "Margaretta" and "Tim."

Blockley Almshouse was the outcome of an act of the Legislature passed in 1828 authorizing the commissioners for erecting buildings for the accommodation of the poor, with the approbation of the Guardians of the Poor, to purchase a suitable site not exceeding two miles from Market and Broad streets, for the erection of a hospital, almshouse, house of employment and children's asylum. Under this authority the commissioners purchased a tract of 187 acres on the west bank of the Schuylkill. Plans for the new buildings were prepared by William Strickland, and these being approved in January, 1830, the cornerstone of the main building was laid in April of the same year.

The building was not completed until four years and four months later, but during the summer of 1832, when cholera had made its appearance in the old almshouse and house of employment at 10th and Spruce streets, many of the healthy inmates were transferred for a few weeks to the unfinished structure on the Schuylkill. In July, 1834, all of the inmates were transferred to the new institution and arrangements were made for selling the old buildings, which, with their grounds, occupied the block bounded by 10th and 11th streets and Spruce and Pine streets.

The first institution for the poor supported by the public in Philadelphia was the old Friends' Almshouse. In the minutes of Common Council, dated of July 23, 712, there

appears an entry reading: "The poor of the city daily increasing, it is ye opinion of this Council that a workhouse be immediately hired to employ poor persons, sufficient persons be appointed to keep them at work, and the house and persons be appointed by the Overseers of the Poor, the rent of the house and salary of the housekeepers to be agreed for by the Mayor, Alderman Hill, Alderman Carter, Joshua Carpenter, William Hudson, Pentecost Teague, or some three of them report their doing therein at the next Council."

City's First Almshouse

The original inhabitants of Philadelphia were mostly of the thrifty Quaker stock and, moreover, fairly well equipped financially, so that until immigration of the laboring classes from England in the early part of the 18th century had somewhat changed the character of the population, there was little need for an institution of this kind.

The Farm
 WHEN Mrs. J. ... the old Brown Farm ... few years ago, it was then intended as a site for a ... for the ... and plans were prepared and a contract awarded for the construction of a group of cottages built up ... later was abrogated, and it ... until the farm was first used for the care of a few of the city's indigent inmates that its proper function was ... ed out.

For nearly two years the property had been unused, until last summer when the overcrowded condition of the wards at Blockley caused the transfer of three or four score of women to Spring Hill, as the Brown Farm is now known, after the old mansion and its attendant buildings had been painted, furnished and adapted to institutional needs and services. Even under present conditions the inmates at Spring Hill are the best housed of the city's indigent patients. A comparison between the dark, monotonous, crowded, poorly-ventilated wards at Blockley is made instantly as the visitor at the Hill observes the "openness" of its doorless rooms and the high ceilings of the immaculate interior, while the big casement windows on the lower floor and an abundance of windows on the two sleeping floors permit the clean country breezes to sweep through the building. Although a couple of the dormitories with fifteen beds in them ... be somewhat crowded, even these rooms enjoy more fresh air, are better lighted and more cheerful than the rooms at Blockley. But the charm of the place ... lies not in its old-fashioned rooms, which have been modernized with steam heat and electric light, nor in the quaint appearance of its music and reading room, where with sun streaming through the big east windows old magazines are read with fresh interest, or in the sewing room on the opposite side of the corridor where busy fingers pass many hours of the day, but in the beauty of the grounds and vistas.

The home at Spring Hill is a gray stone, three-story structure, with extended balcony wings to the north and south, while the west and east fronts of the main part of the building are lined with wide porches. To the south is a quaint laundry building where the washing of the old farm was carried on, a use to which it is put to-day, while to the north is the only modern structure on the grounds, a little circular brick boiler house, capable of containing a few tons of coal in addition to its upright cylinder. A hundred or more feet to the northwest is another building formerly used for the farm servants, but now utilized as the kitchen and store-house of the institution. It is well-equipped with a modern hot water while steam tables and large urns in the main structure permit the serving of the food properly warmed. The food is the same as at Blockley, fresh vegetables and milk being shipped from the municipal farms at Byberry and the routine is the same schedule as the central institution even to the extent of the inmates enjoying the benefit of three religious views on Sunday, a six o'clock Mass for the Catholics, a ten o'clock service for the Episcopal minister and a service at seven o'clock by a ... No farming is ...

Even operated as a ... of the place ... the stable ... covered Gothic ... house, the old ... conservatory, and ... a stone watch house ... door, retains much ... private estate. ... with its present facilities ... not accommodate many ... a short time since work was ... of fitting up the coach house ... accommodate fifty additional inmates ... are difficulties in its management ... as the lack of a resident physician, ... rendering it necessary to summon a distant doctor by telephone and if treatment is necessary to transfer the patient to Blockley by a long, tedious ambulance journey, which tends to limit the institution's usefulness. But the ... number do not occupy one-third of the area which is available there as a site for a modern "Home for the Indigent Females" that could rival any similar charity conducted by any city in the world.

1915 The Rural Northeast
 TO appreciate thoroughly the extensive area of the city one must journey to Bustleton, Byberry and Somerton. Not that the three sections named possess a superlative degree of interest if the visitor desires to witness the activities of thousands of people herding together or to view the serried rows of dwellings, for none such is offered. But the fact that a steam railway journey of an hour's duration at the customary speed of accommodation trains may be made from the Ninth ward to beyond the confines of the city, leads to a broader conception of the extent of our municipal area. Then, at the journey's end, when the town traveler passes from Bustleton's quaint terminal station—an old dwelling house of which the former parlor is used as the ticket office and waiting room—into the clean, quiet, well-kept roads of a country village, as peaceful and rural as can be found in Pennsylvania, the natural thought is that Philadelphia is many miles away.

But as the mounted patrolman canters by and the observer notes the presence of fire plugs, of electric arc lights, of well-maintained gasoline lights, of keyless fire alarm boxes and the modern fire house with its more modern apparatus, it is realized that here are some of Philadelphia's tax payers and all the surface indications of the official civilities of a great city. In fact were it not for the limited number of trains, serving the thousand or more inhabitants dependent, for the most part, upon the auto bus service, which ordinarily runs two hours apart, Bustleton would be unlike other semi-urban sections in its possession of municipal conveniences. ... the Bustleton-Somerton-Byberry ... remains from one to three hours ... from Market street, a condition ... about by the sparsely inhabited ... of a ward whose extent is ... the area of all of the city south ... avenue, plus all of the bulk ... of West Philadelphia ... street. But the residents ... of location to offset the ... their lack of ... at greater ...

SCHOOL AND HOME

Brown Playground Will Lose Trees

March of Improvements in Old Holmesburg Schoolyard Will Fill Up Picturesque Grassy Hollow and Pave With Concrete

Do improvements improve? This is the question that is dividing the citizens of Holmesburg whose children are attending the Joseph H. Brown School, where a concrete wall is rapidly nearing completion between the schoolyard and a neighboring bit of woodland.

Arguments of equal weight are advanced on both sides of the question. Some say such changes are not needed where the natural growth of grass and fine old trees have for many years made an ideal playground for the children.

Others aver that the grassy, sloping ground becomes a mud hollow after every rain; that the tree roots in the yard are snags that trip the unwary feet; that the trees themselves are hollow and unsound and liable to blow over at any time.

Tree Surgery

Possibly it was to avoid risk of the latter catastrophe that all the trees have recently lost their crowns, their proud heads having been neatly cut off at a uniform height, with the official sanction of the powers that be. Thus the leafy arches that used to keep the summer playground cool and shady have been wide open to the hot summer sunlight this past season, and the playground attendance was greatly diminished.

The upper, or level, part of the Brown schoolyard, lying close around the building, is already of concrete, and serves its purpose for much of the supervised play. It is the present plan to fill in the sloping, grassy portion under the trees in the background, to gravel and grade it, and then continue the concrete pavement of the front portion as far as the back street line. This will make an enlarged, clear surface for play, of level smoothness, available for track teams, ball players and other athletic activities.

The Dancing Class

The big kindergarten room on the first floor is readily transformed into an ample ballroom for Miss Helen Sharp and her pupils. No class is better attended than this, which is popular with all the young people in the neighborhood.

Already the training in deportment and etiquette given by the dancing teacher, in connection with the modern walks and glides, is manifest in the improved manners of the youthful portion of the community.

Two or three mothers come in every evening to enjoy the dancing and act as hostesses for the occasion. The pupils greet them on entering the room and bid them good night at the hour of dismissal.

Harry N. Solly, the faithful janitor of the Brown School, lends his helping hand when needed, and is as proud of the Holmesburg boys and girls in winter as he is in their summer activities.

At the meeting of the Holmesburg Home and School Association in the Crispin School next Monday evening Dr. John P. Garber, Superintendent of the Public Schools, will speak on "Civic Pride as a Factor in Good Citizenship."

Prof. Shroy, superintendent of this school district, will describe the "New Course in Civics," introduced in the public schools this fall.

This is an excellent opportunity for the parents of the school children to learn what is being taught in the schools about the care of property, the cleanliness of the streets, sanitary laws and everything pertaining to the improvement of the city. Miss Ophelia Enoch will sing, accompanied by her mother, and the school chorus will render selections from "Faust," "Tannhauser" and "Rigoletto." Mr. LeRoy Smith, the new principal of the Holmesburg School, will welcome all member members of the association or

by the following competent staff of teachers and helpers:

Teachers in Brown-Crispin School—H. Evans Rhell, eighth grade; Margaret G. Swift, seventh grade; Katherine E. Herer and Bertha R. Paxson, sixth; Laura C. Weed, fifth; Carrie L. Bowman and Emma K. Wood, fourth; Anralein E. Paxson, third; Blanche L. Colflesh, second; Meta F. Clift and Anna B. Turkington, first; Helen L. Farrell, orthogenic class; M. Crispin Smith, kindergarten.

Teachers in Holme Annex—S. Evelyn Knight, fifth to eighth grades; Dorothy C. Blaker, first to fourth grades.

Janitors—Annie Johnson, Holme School; Clarence E. Kirk, Crispin School, and Harry N. Solly, Brown School.

A Loyal Helper

More than a passing word must be given to Mr. Solly, for 14 years the faithful janitor of Brown School. His varied abilities as practical carpenter, engineer, organizer of games and ball teams, referee in checker tournaments and athletic contests, friendly advisor and caretaker of every child in the school during the recess periods and play hours, make him a reliable helper for the school authorities, the parents

and the children. The success of the Brown-Crispin School in all lines is dear to his heart, and he is as proud of a Brown victory, in the classroom or on the field, as are the boys and girls themselves.

The central space is screened off with wire for the ball cage. On either side a trapeze and swinging rings hang from the stout rafters. A weight machine and a rowing machine are also part of the attic equipment. Two big hanging lamps have been pressed into service until better lighting can be installed.

With the rain pattering on the roof, or with the snow dashing against the small windows this attic is an ideal place for the Holmesburg team on a winter night.

Of course, the old trees will have to come out, when the hollow is filled in. Those who have long regarded these sturdy denizens of the schoolyard as old friends, while regretting their loss, are hoping that the new plans for improvement will provide adequate spaces for the setting of new trees, of younger, stronger growth.

The little tree sprite in one of the pictures above is Elsie Rowland, a happy little lassie in the primary department.

The Principal

Harvey E. Freed, supervising principal of the Brown School, finds quite enough work to keep him busy in the chain of three schools under his supervision; for, in addition to the Brown, he has the Benjamin Crispin, at Rhawn and Dittman streets, and the Thomas Holme, at Colledgeville, Torresdale, under his daily direction. One of his problems this newly opened school season has been arrangement for serving five-cent lunches in each of the three schools. Benches and tables are supplied by the Board of Education, and other needed equipment; but the food supplies and marketing are in the jurisdiction of the principal and teachers.

The Home and School Association of the Brown-Crispin School is an ac-

tive body of fathers and mothers who are always wide awake to the needs of the school, and they are ready with a helping hand. The principal is the president, and the members co-operate with him in school betterment plans. They also take active interest in the evening school, open in the winter season, with its dancing classes, gymnasium practice and basketball in the big playroom up under the roof.

The Staff

Principal Freed is assisted in the management of the combined schools



The Tree Sprite





Grapes for two

1913



Principal Andrew M. Strang



Harry N. Solly, Janitor

At sunrise, 4:13 o'clock, Fourth of July morning, a unique celebration took place at the Brown School. Mr. Solly arranged for a flag-raising and forty-six people turned out. After the flag was raised and a few cannon crackers fired the early forty-six had breakfast at the school. Harry Solly and Wendell Forrest fried 46 eggs, which, together with bacon, bread and coffee, made a fine early morning meal.

Holmesburg Sociables

Happy Evenings for Young People at Brown Recreation Centre.

GYMNASTICS play an important part in the activities of the recreation centre at the Joseph Brown School, Holmesburg.

If you look into the pleasant, home-like building some Wednesday or Thursday evening you will find a class of girls on the second floor gracefully swinging Indian clubs. They make the most of their time, too, for a class of boys is prompt on the scene when it is their turn to drill with the dumb-bells.

Basket Ball

Both of these classes are under the efficient direction of Miss Beatrice Milnes, who believes that a healthy body must accompany a healthy mind, and that all-around exercise is the way to secure it and keep it.

Miss Milnes also accompanies the basketball team on its frequent trips to Marshall School, Frankford, where vigorous match games are played.

In the group picture today the basketball boys are lined up as follows:

Front row, left to right—Harry Keaton, Elias Costello, Raymond Kramer, Howell Barnes, captain, and Ellsworth Smith. Back row—William Mehr, Geo. Legrande, John Johnson, Arnold Batsel and Harry Pierce.

Up in the Attic

It was a happy thought of Principal Andrew M. Strang to fit up the big attic as a basketball practice field. Here the boys may raise the roof, if they choose, without doing any injury to anyone. They prefer to leave it as it is, however, with its sloping sides and a few caves.



Pas-timing Pleasantly



Swinging the Indian Club

JAN 12 1917

Death of Dr. N. T. Jermon
JAN 12 1917 Holmesburg Physician.

Noble Theodore Jermon, M.D., died on Monday, January 8, 1917, at his home, 2911 Decatur street, Holmesburg.

He was born in Smyrna, Del., November 1, 1850, a son of Noble T. and Eliza M. Jermon. He received his early education at the private schools there and subsequently studied at Andalusia College, Bucks county, Pa., where he graduated. He then took a preliminary course in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania and became a student in the office of the late Dr. Newton May, of Holmesburg. He entered the Hahnemann Medical College, from which he graduated March 10, 1873, and at once began the practice of medicine in Holmesburg as a partner of his preceptor, Dr. May.

Afterward he entered into practice for himself and was for forty years an eminently successful physician, having patients not only in Holmesburg, but in the country, and many of the towns and villages in that part of the city. The doctor was a hard student and kept fully informed in regard to all modern remedies and discoveries. He led the usual professional life of a country doctor, laborious and exacting in the extreme, and even his remarkable energy was taxed to the utmost, until late in life his health failed and he was obliged to seek rest and recuperation by a visit to the French Riviera, where he remained for a long time deriving considerable benefit from his visit. He and Mrs. Jermon had previously made a long journey in Europe and the Orient, during which they spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in Bethlehem, Palestine.

Howard, Jr., 5-year-old son of Howard Smith, of Erdrich street, died of pleural pneumonia on Wednesday, May 30. Interment was at Merion Cemetery on Saturday 1917

Mrs. Geo. B. Burnwood, wife of the pastor of the Methodist Church, died at the parsonage, 8024 Frankford avenue, last Friday morning, after an illness of over two months. Mrs. Burnwood was soloist in the Twenty-ninth Street Church prior to her marriage twenty-two years ago. Her maiden name was Kate Ida Stock. She was the possessor of a rare soprano voice and sang in the choir of the Methodist Church up until last September when she met with an accident. Beside her husband she is survived by a son, Brinon. Services were held in the Methodist Church on Wednesday with interment in the cemetery.

Mary Catherine, widow of George R. Hovey, died on Wednesday. The funeral will take place on Saturday, at 2 P. M., from her late residence, 7825 Craig street.

Dr. Jermon was married to Miss Anna T. Scott, of Philadelphia, on January 9, 1878. Mrs. Jermon survives him. He was a member of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 506, F. A. M., Frankford, and of Mystic Lodge, No. 270, I. O. O. F. He was a trustee of the Lower Dublin Academy, and president of the Holmesburg Horse Company. He was a member of the old Twenty-third Ward School Board. He was the founder and president of the Holmesburg Improvement Association and it was through his efforts that money was raised to establish a public fountain in the village.

He was elected to the vestry of Emmanuel Church in 1890, and served for a time as accounting church warden. He was regular in his attendance at the church services and vestry meetings and took an active part in the business of the corporation.

By the death of Dr. Jermon the community loses one of its most prominent and highly regarded citizens who was not only eminent and useful in his long professional career, but was always ready to take his part in all movements for the benefit and improvement of the neighborhood. His funeral took place on Friday, January 12 in Emmanuel Church, the Rev. Sydney Goodman, rector, officiating. The interment was in the churchyard. 1917 JAN 12

Tuberculosis contracted in the performance of his duty caused the death on Wednesday in Jefferson Hospital of Anthony P. Cuneo, lieutenant of the Byberry Fire Station, whose home was at 8050 Fairview avenue, Holmesburg. He was 38 years old, and had been in the hospital six weeks. Until recently Cuneo was lieutenant of Truck No. 4, at Third and Delancey streets, and was transferred to Byberry in the hope that his health would benefit. He is survived by his widow and six children. MAR 7 1917

Aug 6 1918

The people of this community will be greatly pleased to know that the Rev. Arnold Harris Hord, of Germantown, has been appointed secretary to Bishop Rhinelander, a most honorable, important and responsible position.

The present Bishop Suffragan, the Right Rev. Dr. Garland, held this office for several years previous to his elevation to the episcopate. Mr. Hord was the rector of Emmanuel Church here, about twenty years ago, and was most highly esteemed and regarded by all. He is at present registrar of the diocese.

Sept 20 1918

At the last meeting of the Holmesburg Men's Association it was voted to have the association a non-sectarian association. All male white persons over fifteen years of age are eligible for membership and are invited to join. Joining the association now will benefit you and also benefit the boys at the front, in whom the association is especially interested at this time.

* JAN 26 1917

JAN WILLIAM CLARK, 26 1917

William Clark, a veteran soldier of the Civil War, died at his home, 8034 Frankford avenue, on January 24. He was born in Tarrytown, N. Y., in 1839, the youngest son of George and Anne Clark, who moved to Holmesburg in 1840. Mr. George Clark having purchased the mansion and farm on the Welsh road, where he lived until his death in 1875. William Clark attended the old Columbia Grammar School and the Lower Dublin Academy. When the Southern States seceded from the union in 1861 and President Lincoln called for volunteers for the army William and his brothers, John and Robert, became members of Company E, Third Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve, and served for three years. Two other brothers were in the army, James, who was with the 198th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry, and George, who was killed in action in 1862 while serving with the 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry. After the war Mr. William Clark assisted his father in the management of the large farm, and became the owner of an adjoining farm, where he resided.

His father was one of the oldest railroad contractors in Pennsylvania, and was engaged in the construction of the Welland Canal in Canada, and of many public works in the United States, among them being the Pennsylvania Railroad, the North Pennsylvania Railroad, the Chestnut street bridge, Philadelphia, the Boston Water Works and the Croton Water Works, New York.

Mr. William Clark assisted his father in contracts taken during his later years, and was also connected with the late George T. Mills in his Virginia and Tennessee railroad work. He was a member of Post No. 334, G. A. R., Frankford, and of the Pennsylvania Reserve Association, Philadelphia. His character was exemplary and he was devoted to his family and friends. He took great pleasure in meeting with his old military comrades, when they assembled for any purpose, and was very popular with them, being of a kind and genial disposition. He, with his family, attended Emmanuel P. E. Church and his funeral will take place there on Saturday afternoon, January 27, at 2 o'clock. Mr. Clark is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Catharine M. Crispin, daughter of the late William and Mary Crispin, to whom he was married January 11, 1866, by two sons, John and Louis, and by three adult grandsons, sons of his eldest son, the late William C. Clark, of Frankford. By the death of Mr. Clark the community loses a worthy and estimable citizen and a brave and faithful soldier.

CLIFFORD WASHINGTON is one of the heroes who should be remembered in these days. He was on the firing line, but not in France. He was simply a stoker in the Torresdale filtration and pumping plant, and he was supposed to have four assistants in shoveling coal into the plant which supplies so large a portion of the city with its water. He arrived on time, but his associates were missing. For one hour and a half he did the work of five men before relief was secured. The local Casablanca deserves something more material than mere honorable mention as a reward. Any man with grit enough to stand on the burning deck of a boiler plant for an hour and a half in the torridity of Wednesday morning, doing the work of others who had fled, is of the stuff, moral and physical, of which supermen are made.

A special meeting of the Current Events Club, Holmesburg, was held at the home of Mrs. Helen Stokes, on the afternoon of July 11. The president Mrs. Edward H. Banister occupied the chair. The president announced the decease of Mrs. Helen Middleton Atherholt on July 2 and resolutions of respect to her memory were offered and unanimously agreed to. As a further mark of respect it was decided that the club shall, as a memorial to her, take care of a French soldier's orphan for one year.

Mrs. Atherholt had been an active member of the club for seventeen years. She was the wife of the late Arthur T. Atherholt, daughter of the late Edward H. Middleton, and granddaughter of the late Joseph Saul, of Holmesburg. She died at the old Saul homestead, Frankford avenue and Decatur street, where she was born. She is survived by two daughters, Elizabeth and Rose Lynd.

MAR 4 1917

Eldredge Pennock, who died at his home in Germantown last Sunday, was known to many people in Holmesburg, and had many friends here. He was a member of the Holmesburg Improvement Association. MAR 4 1917

PUBLIC LEDGER

Nov 17 1919

George R. Bower, president of the Henry Bower Chemical Manufacturing Company and a prominent business man in the city, died yesterday at his home, 1400 Grand avenue and Minor street, Philadelphia, after a long illness, aged 55 years. NOV 17 1919

DEC 1918

Eleanor Wilmer Peale, daughter of Rebecca Wilmer and the late Dr. James Burd Peale, died on Tuesday of influenza at Holmesburg. The interment took place on Thursday at the Episcopal Burying Grounds. DEC 1918

Cut Down the Water Waste
A STORY published on one of our hottest mornings gives one furiously to think. For an hour and a half 65 per cent of the city's supply of water, furnished by the Torresdale water plant, was dependent upon the sole efforts of a single negro fireman. Four others who formed the regular shift at that time were incapacitated by the abnormal heat and did not appear at the accustomed hour. But the lone volunteer undertook his task at the boilers manfully and fought off exhaustion for a long ninety minutes until substitute firemen could be found to help him. Such heroism is as equally deserving of notice as any sudden feat of inspired bravery on the battlefield. The comfort and safety of thousands of citizens depended upon his faithfulness.

Sereck Fox, 48 years old, widely-known sportsman and author of "Wild Animals of Pennsylvania," died on Wednesday at his home, Walker street, above Rhawn street, following an attack of stomach trouble. For years he held a responsible position with the Curtis Publishing Company. He had contributed to magazines on animal subjects.

The THOMAS HOLME BRANCH of the FREE LIBRARY of PHILADELPHIA, has received as a present from the author, MR. SERECK R. FOX, of Holmesburg, a most interesting and unique volume, entitled "POCONO HUNTING TRIPS" containing an account of Mr. Fox's experiences in the pursuit of game in that region, written in such a way as to confer several most enjoyable hours on all who read it.

Mr. Fox is a fine sportsman, a dead shot, and an entertaining writer. Some years ago he hunted the wilder beasts of the forest while in Colorado.

The book was not only written by him but was also printed by him, and is beautifully illustrated by photographs which he took personally, representing various scenes in the mountains and episodes of the hunt. The volume is handsomely bound and is most attractive in every way. We hope that all who use it will do so with care, as there are only two copies extant.

The Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia have officially sent Mr. Fox their thanks."

(Copied from The Frankford Dispatch)
January 29, 1914.

This book will be reserved
when requested.



Snow storm April 8th., 1916.

Scenes taken in Holmesburg.

THE SCHOOL AND HO



Mrs. TW Batten, Mrs. E. Habgood, Mrs. H. Snyder,
Mrs. E. Hellings, Mrs. E. Barnister



Principal Le Roy Smith

Mrs. Cheyney, special
visitor in Bustle
and Mrs. McKade
Chairman
Publicity
Committee



Holmesburg Basket Ball Team
Miss Milnes, Coach



ME

A Department for Teacher, Pupil and Parent
Conducted by Grace F. Pennypacker

Holmesburg Reception

New Principal Introduced to
Members of Home and
School Association.

HOLMESBURG gave Principal
Leroy Smith, recently appointed
to supervise the Brown-Crispin-
Crispin Schools, a rousing reception in
the Crispin School last Monday even-
ing. The pretty auditorium, formed by
sliding partitions of the

ground floor classroom, was brightly
lighted and decorated with flowers. A
refreshment table adorned with pretty
chips and carnations was an attractive
feature expressing hospitality and good
cheer. Music was generously con-
tributed by the Frankford High School
Orchestra, who are going to give a
public concert next week, assisted by
home talent.

Addresses were made by District Su-
perintendent John T. Shroy and by
George A. Stooz, principal of the
Frankford High School.

Mr. Morrison, presiding officer for the
Home and School Association, intro-
duced the new principal formerly a
member of the faculty of the Newton
School, making an informal
address to the parents, stating his desire
to fulfill all the promises Mr. Shroy
made in his address, and made for
himself his belief in boys



Mrs. E. B. Anderson and
Miss Bertie Paxson



Mr. Morrison Presided

Blanche H. Anderson, with a violin
obligato by Homer Anderson, and by
Miss Laura Weed, of the school faculty.
During the social hour refreshments
were served and a committee of the
Home and School Association present-
ed the members to Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

It was announced that the Holmes-
burg schools will be represented in the
Historical Review of the Home and
School League, and that they have
chosen their scene to be dramatized.
Holmesburg is rich in history. The
oldest school building in Philadelphia
in use today as a public school is the
Holme School, on Academy road near
Frankford avenue. It was built in
1790, in accordance with a provision
in the will of Penn's Sarsenye Gen-
eral, that a building be constructed
for use as an academy for the Holmes-
burg youth.

The Brown-Crispin Home and School
Association was among the pioneer
members of the Home and School
League, which it joined in 1907. Le-
Roy Smith, as principal of the school,
is president; Katherine M. Petty is
secretary; Mrs. H. G. Beck, treasurer;
Mrs. Anderson, chairman of the enter-
tainment committee; Mrs. McWade,
chairman of the publicity committee.



Blanche H. Anderson
and E. Homer Anderson

Nowhere Perhaps Is the Tercentenary of William Shakespeare Celebrated With Greater Enthusiasm or With a Keener Understanding of What the Poet Meant to the Human Race Than in the Edwin Forrest Home, Near Holmesburg, Where Eleven Aged Actors and Actresses Are Spending Their Declining Years. Their Names Have Been Written in the History of the Stage in Indelible Characters. On the Upper Left Is Mrs. John Jack, Taken During Her Stage Days, and Beside It a Photo of Her Taken Yesterday Next Is Mrs. Sydney Cowell as She Appeared on the Stage and Then as She Is Today. On the Extreme Right Is Mrs. Josephine Bishop. Below, Left to Right, Are Charles W. Allison, Miss Emilie Lewis, Miss Amy Lee and Percy Plunkett.

Aged Thespians, Recalling Success of Former Years



MASTER SHAKSPERE VISITETH FRIENDS

Sweet Will Makes Merry With His Dear Lovers in the Edwin Forrest Home.

TWAS A HAPPY REUNION

Master Will Shakspeare revisiteth earth, againe visiteth this City, and tells the readers of this newspaper of ye welcome he was given yestreday afternoon at ye Edwin Forrest Home for Actors and Actresses, at Holmesburg.

This is a fair city and one that minds me of London, where once I lived; what with its many inns, such as the Blue Anchor, that doth differ in no whit from the Mermaid Tavern, where Ben and Kit, and many another brave fellow that I loved, used to meet; what with its old Town Hall (where once gathered men more fit to be subjects of plays than to be subjects of any earthly king), standing in its green cloister like an hearty, redfaced lawyer that takes his ease in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, that I knew of yore; what with its broad river and the clustering masts of ships that adventure from these wharves to ports of Ind; and what with its stir and bustle and press of smiling or cloudy faces in the streets, and all its unending roar of business, like to that of my magick London of old; all these things I love to this city but most I love it for something that is not within it, but on the edge of it—as one might prize the jeweled hauberk at the throat of a rich folk, even more than the cloak itself.

day marks the passage of full th' centurion since I, lying on my bed Stratford, yielded up the last of the little breath which the great Playwright gave me for a space.—Yester noon, mark you, that hully boy and dear companion, Ned Stuart, erstwhile Governor, did conduct me forth from this city three dusty leagues to the north and bring me to a great house set in the midst of a grove. Nor would he tell me for what end he had brought me hither, though I pressed him, but only smiled and turned me off with a, 'Joy, nonny—'

now tell me, Will, hearest thou th' robin singing in the bare elm tree yonder?"

So we came through the spacious lawns, that were green with April, and pied with brave show of blue and white and purple hyacinths, that minded me of Surrey fields in March (for we have a hindler air than you have hearabouts), and past a great golden thicket of honeysuckle and so into that spacious house. And there I saw why Ned told me not sooner the riddle of our visit thither.

For no sooner had I set foot over the threshold than a great company of gentlemen, not less than eight score, I warrant, did flock forward and press about me with cries of greeting, "How now," methought, "am I dreaming?" For I thought that I was in a strange land, far from Avon water, and here be lady and lasses who cry, "Welcome, Will!" as they were boon companions of old times.

And I looked more closely into their faces as they thronged around, clapping me on the shoulder, with their merry hail, and I began to see who they were. A marvel, a very marvel! For a dozen of them I knew in a twinkling of an eye: actors all, members of that honorable guild that I love dearest of all! Methought it must have been the something nipping air outside that had made my eyes leak water, for I was fain to wipe away somewhat from my eyes, though I could but laugh at the same moment of time, so glad was I.

May I never drink sack again, if there did not stand Mistress Jack, whose husband played "Falstaff" to the life, and who herself hath acted many a part in my poor plays such as the girl "Juliet," putting a woman's quickness in my halting verse; and Mistress Charles, no less a happy figure of my fancies; and Mistress Sydney Cowell, who hath trod the stage with Dick Mansfield, whom I loved; and Mistress Josephine Bishop, who, with her husband, was a player with Ned Forrest, the great poys of red roses that she bore minding me of many a May-dance.

And there were Mistress Stone and Mistress Lewis, and Mistress Barnes; and Will Bartholomew, who hath been Banquo, 'Malcom,' 'Gratiano,' and what-not of my fancies; and gentle Percy Plunkett; and—a murrain take the cold that give him a stiff neck!—my swift-wit Allison, who had wrapped his neck with a bandage like an Egyptian mummy, but who smiled to see me in spite of his 'sin.

This I say, that I cannot speak the love that was and shall be in my heart for these my friends; for as they told me, they do keep holiday thus each April, on the anniversary of my birth. Who would not bear with me, that I stam-

ed in my speech? Since I hold that no poet (which I have humbly sought to be) could figure forth the warm humanity of these gentle players.

So they made much of me; and amid the merriment, a learned man from that old university of Princeton, jested of the judge who hath but lately said that Lord Verulam did write my plays, and not I; whereat there was a great laughter and the company cried out as with one voice: "Will did not write them? Why, here is he among us, as he hath been these three hundred years!"

Which pleased me mightily. Sorry was I when all the revels were ended; yet I was cheered, for though some few of us have faded into thin air, methought the stuff that dreams are made of shall abide. Look you, the flowers spring up around that house of players, every Spring!

The 352d anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare was observed in the Edwin Forrest Home, in Holmesburg, on Monday, with appropriate exercises. Although the bard's anniversary falls on the 23d of April, because of the coming of Easter on that date this year it was decided to postpone the celebration. The entire day was given over to festivities by the inmates and their friends. In the afternoon the Play and Players' Club presented the play, "Rosalind," by Barrie, and several of the visiting players in town made addresses.

With the 150 visitors who had been invited to the celebration came a breath of 1916 which the 11 guests of the home thoroughly enjoyed. Informally they welcomed those whom they had invited to join with them in honoring the memory of the bard, whom they regard almost in the light of a patron saint.

There was a formal program, but so exquisitely was it attuned to the occasion and the place that it never threatened to dissipate the impressions which were made on the consciousness of the visitors—the impressions of the dignity and grace and charming courtesy of a bygone day; of peace—the peace of the twilight that follows the day of work well done.

Dr. John Duncan Spaeth, of Princeton University, delivered an address on "The Influence of the Stage Upon Shakespeare's Philosophy of Life."

J. M. Barrie's delightful one-act comedy, "Rosalind," was the offering of the afternoon. As presented by members of the Plays and Players it is doubtful if this little play of the stage ever had a more appreciative audience or one for whom it more logically might be said it especially had been written. Mrs. Joseph Scholes, Jr., took the role of Mrs. Page, Miss Helena Balbirnie was the dame and Charles D. Mitchell was Charles. Henry B. Schaffer directed the presentation.

Conspicuous in the informal receiving line was W. H. Bartholomew, famous pantomimist of a day now gone.

After the lecture and performance the 11 guests were hosts at tea, served in the large room at the other side of the hall.

H. La Barre Jayne, Walter E. Hering, Robert R. Benedict, Samuel S. Sharp and Frank H. Warner, members of the Board of Managers, assisted the guests in entertaining the visitors.

Sing Praise of Shakespeare



"Under this system we train actors for the heavy work of tragedy, beneath the old stock company system. The stars then never thought to carry their companies with them. They found support wherever they went. We worked from September till July each season, and thought nothing of it. Those who survived the strain became actors. There are no more like the old days."

Mr. Allison's reminiscences were broken off short when Miss Amy Lee, who had been bustling in and out upon all manner of important errands, caught the final words.

"None of that!" exclaimed Miss Lee. "Nobody's old here. I won't stand for it. Little Charlie Allison, the Boy Wonder, will now entertain."

"I played with her father and mother in Baltimore," meekly resumed Mr. Allison, nodding his head toward the intrusion. "That's Amy Lee!"

To Miss Lee, as the "baby," the nurse and the messenger-in-ordinary, fell the recent task of bringing into the light for an hour each of these eleven lives, in itself an embodied history of the stage, and of the greatest master of the modern stage, for a generation at least. It was Miss Lee who was quoted and characterized, with Miss Emilie Lewis, as a three-sheet poster for Miss Sydney Cowell, the quaintest, the most natural, the most spirited lady of middle years (as in Pickwick's Bath, nobody is old at the Forrest Home), who could be encountered, perhaps, in the course of an ordinary life.

Miss Cowell, who is a finished pianist, was dragged away from the piano and Mendelssohn, seated in the largest chair at the home, and the family cat, which weighs thirteen pounds, was placed in her lap to keep her there. The little lady, whose brisk movements, wonderfully clear, crisp English and still sparkling eyes were those of a young girl to whom the notion of age was as remote as that of infinity, retold her own history in a word or two.

"I can look back," said Miss Cowell, "over a long and exceedingly varied stage career, in association with the most distinguished people of the stage. I began as a young girl in England, continuing many long years in my adopted country. It surprises me to find how many Shakespearean productions I have taken part in. But I suppose I may speak of one or two now, on this occasion, when everything connected with the 'Swan of Avon' becomes of paramount importance."

"I have very fond memories of my last engagement in England, at the Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, London, when I played Oberon in 'Midsummer Night's Dream.' It was the greatest production I ever took part in—such a cast! Samuel Phelps, Mercady's own successor, was the Bottom; John Ryder, the instructor of Adelaide Neilson and Mrs. Scott Siddons; George Rignold, Charles Dalton, Mrs. George Rignold, Marie Gordon, Tillie Wright, the elfin, almost electric, Puck, and Jane Rignold. All of the fairy scenes were played in bright moonlight, and only Mendelssohn's music given. I have loved it ever since. There were 150 children, from five to twelve years old, as fairies,

A Waiting List at Home

Three of the present guests at the Forrest Home are men, and the rest are women. The full complement of the house is twelve, and there is a long waiting-list.

Until last week the house was filled, when the death of Miss Florence Robinson, one of the best-beloved of all the "changing guests," left one more memory among those which cling like a palpable fragrance, around the old house, with its every inch of wall, almost, covered with some visible symbol or memorial.

The women include Mrs. Josephine Bishop, the oldest of their group; Mrs. Anna Firmin Jack, Mrs. Anna Ware Barnes, Miss Emilie Lewis, Miss Sydney Cowell, Miss Jennie Stone, Mrs. Samuel Charles and Miss Amy Lee, the "baby" of the house, forced to retire in middle life after an illness which left her incapable of stage work, but who brought into the gathering with her merry disposition, and her freshness from a newer order of things, almost precisely the one thing needed in the "family." The men include Messrs. W. H. Bartholomew, Percy Plunkett and Charles Allison.

No two of the guests sound the same individual note. Most of them frankly declare they have found their greatest pleasure in their work in "creating" some new character, in bringing something visible from the domain of invisibility. But almost every one has played in Shakespeare's parts.

Rich is Histrionic Relics

Mrs. Bishop played Shakespeare with Edwin Forrest, the founder of the home, whose name is never spoken save with reverence. His marble statue, in heroic mold, stands midway in the central hall of the house; his portraits, in half a dozen characters, are seen here and there upon the walls; the shelves are lined with his books, and his armor and swords, including Talma's famous Roman sword, are distributed in vitrines wherever there is room for them. His famous first folio Shakespeare, for which he paid \$18,000, is represented by a few charred leaves, all that remained after the fire which nearly destroyed his former home at Broad and Poplar streets, on the site of the present Metropolitan Opera House.

"I knew Mr. Forrest," said Mrs. Bishop, "the dear gentleman who stands above us. He stood by me once in a perilous place, when my livelihood and that of my father were threatened. He taught me my first French part. He talked to me and helped me as a child. Since then I have played every role in Shakespeare which could be assigned to a woman."

Mrs. Bishop recently, in her spotless, perfectly ordered little room, tucked away beneath the eaves of the old mansion, told something of her experiences. But the process was not easy, much having been buried in the past. Her husband, O. B. Bishop, was acknowledged one of the foremost Shakespeare scholars among the comedians; his Antolycus was regard-

RIDICULES IDEA THAT BACON WROTE THE PLAYS

The claim advanced that Bacon was in reality the author of Shakespeare's plays was ridiculed yesterday at the observance of the 300th anniversary of the birth of the Bard of Avon in the Edwin Forrest Home, an institution for aged actors and actresses, in Holmsburg, by Prof. Duncan Spaeth, of Princeton College.

Prof. Spaeth said it was impossible that any one save Shakespeare himself could have written his plays, because it required to write them a knowledge of stagecraft which no one of that day, and certainly not Bacon, possessed.

On the program of the celebration was the production of "Rosalind," a comedy by the Plays and Players' Club. It was presented on the stage of the home, and was highly appreciated by the eleven actors and actresses who are living there.

Press, April 25, 1916

ed as a particular triumph in its technical finish. A man of high culture, originally a doctor of medicine, practicing in Pacific States, he developed strong sympathies with the life of the stage and soon took to it. Not long after the death of his only son, he died upon the stage itself. A few pictures of him were shown by Mrs. Bishop, in an old album which contained few photographs beyond those of her late husband and his son, and of the two generations of the Shakespears. Not one of her own was to be seen.

Of Remarkable Presence

Mrs. Bishop, in her youth, it is said, was a woman of great beauty. The story is told of her, that her hair hung below the hem of her skirt. When part of it was burned away by accident when it took flame at the witches' cauldron in Macbeth, she declared she was glad to be rid of the burden. Today, among her memorials—a few pictures, a few press clippings, a great Bible and half a dozen other books, the stories of her were easy to believe. Her profile at 78 is almost of Dantean strength and beauty of reserve and resignation. But it is the feminized profile of the Dante in Rossetti's scene, where the poet is led by an angel to the couch of Beatrice.

Mrs. Bishop did not easily speak of herself.

"Shakespeare," said she, "was taught to me by my father, as the Bible might be taught, or the arithmetic. He had been a manager in different cities and he had a future planned for me. I learned to read and for a time I even taught women and girls what was then called 'elocution.' I went to school in Philadelphia, at Miss Doughty's school, on Broad street.

"I have played, as the phrase goes, many parts. I have played even men's parts.

"I first met Edwin Forrest in Baltimore. The leading lady there, who had to be carried off the stage, was too heavy, in physique, for even the powerful tragedian, and he singled me out to play the lead. 'I want a young, light heroine,' said he; 'not one that weighs a ton.' He taught me many things; how to speak, how to dress, how to emphasize vocal sound with appropriate gesture. 'At first I feared that would eat me up. But I learned, when needed, to study one part a night. I have been Olivia, Ophelia, Desdemona, many of the great heroines.

"I am quite an old lady. But in my time I have seen and supported the best. I am spending my last days here, but it seems to me at times that I am renewing my life again."

Days of Strenuous Training

Charles W. Allison has played with Wallack, Davenport, Booth, McCullough, Charlotte Cushman, Rignold, Chanfrau and many a lesser power.

"I have been Bardolph in Henry IV," said he, "and in the Merry Wives of Windsor; I have been a grave-digger in Hamlet, with Davenport and Booth. I remember vividly how, in one performance, we used the generally expurgated lines between Falstaff and Bardolph, when the fat knight likens the red nose of his follower to a 'soul burning in hell.' 'I wish my nose was in your belly!' rejoins Bardolph.



Not one of the number but has, not once, but many times, lost all consciousness of personal being, and, borne up by the applause of responsive and equally inspired thousands, been transmuted for a time into some immortal creature of the great tragic poet. Splendid youth, ideals as pure and high as are given to the human race, powerful and fiery intellect, physical beauty and magnetism, and above all, the imagination, that like genius itself is above all analysis or explanation—all these, at some time, have been fused together into the crucible and placed together, the mingling dross and the gold, upon the altar of art.

Spirit of Poet Present

Today the men and the women who have done these things and been, in their several hours, among the greatest of the world's great, who have reached, perhaps, the summit of the hill which all the ways of art must climb, turn downward into the twilight. The rays of the moon, already glimmering above them, have silvered the hair and blanched the faces of almost all of them. They have seen life, they have partaken of it; they have helped, in their several ways, to give it beauty and to ennoble it for those who pass away with them. And beside them all the spirit of Shakespeare walks invisible.

"It is wonderfully fine," said one aged woman yesterday, "to think of being remembered among men. It is the greatest gift of fate, to have possessed an intellect which has made generations bow and follow. But it is fine, too, to have taken part in this process of commemoration. The scholars have done much, but they have not done all. If the actors and the actresses who have been inspired by Shakespeare, and who have helped to keep his great name as a living fire in the world, were to take life again, resume their finery, and pass in procession among the multitudes of the living, the world would see, perhaps, the most wonderful pageant in all of its history.

"You must not quote me. I have played many parts in the tragedies of Shakespeare. I have felt them so poignantly, at times, that I have almost cried out for relief. I have gone, as all actors have gone, to the lesser stage to find it—to play for a while some creature who simply skims over the surface of life. You have heard the stories of the tragedians who have lost their own minds, overpowered by the sense of life which has sprung from too deep a study, and too close an identification with the hapless heroes of the long-dead poet. These stories are true. I shall not live long. I am sitting here, resignedly, to await the end. But I have known life, and I have known men and women. And I say these things are true."

Anna M. Charles died on Sunday at the Edwin Forrest Home. Requiem Mass was held at St. Dominic's Church on Wednesday, interment being made at the Forrest Home Cemetery, Chicago. Mrs. Charles had been on the stage for fifty-six years at the time of her retirement about twelve years ago. Her first part was that of Eva, in a production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," when she was five years old. Her last one was with "The Lion and the Mouse." She had played with Stuart Robson, Modjeska and Andrew Mack. Mrs. Charles was seventy-two years old.



These were all accomplished little girls. They were clad only in tights and little wreaths of leaves and daisies. That was the first Shakespearean experience of any importance that I can bring to mind. It ran for many months, and in the March following I came to the United States with Mr. (now Sir Charles) Wynham.

Tribute to Edwin Booth

"Well, my favorite character in Shakespeare was certainly 'The Fool,' in King Lear. I played it during Edwin Booth's engagement at Augustin Daly's old Fifth Avenue Theatre. It leaves me a beautiful memory, and I am glad and proud to think I was intrusted with that wonderful part—in which bright comedy is so deftly mingled with tender love and sorrow for the poor, distracted Lear. What a kind and gracious character was that of Edwin Booth! Next to that of our grand and noble Edwin Forrest, he holds first place in 'my memory locked.'

"It was in this theatre and during the same season that I played the delightful part of Maria in 'Twelfth Night,' supporting the beautiful and gifted Adelaide Neilson. Eben Plympton rehearsed us, playing Sebastian. In those days he was very youthful in appearance and was, as always in after years, a fine scholar and magnificent actor. Charles Fisher was an admirable Malvolio—pedantic, affected and yet dignified. Emily Rigl was charming as Olivia, dear 'Jimmie' Lewis imitatively funny as Sir Toby, but most unhappy beneath the load of a false but prodigious stomach. And then John Drew, our elegant, fascinating 'jeune premier,' in the withered, sallow make-up of Sir Andrew Aguecheek! He hated the part and was miserable, but the Drew comedy would not be suppressed, and his scenes, especially with Viola, met with screams.

"I owe an apology to the shade of the Bard of Avon. It was obliging of him to write 'As You Like It,' as it gave me two excellent parts—Audrey and Celia. I have appeared many and many a time as Neissa in 'The Merchant of Venice.'

"Reminiscences crowd upon me. I feel not only wonder, but even awe, when I realize the glorious legacy left us in his works by him who 'was not for an age, but for all time.'

"There is more—a feeling of personal gratitude, that in a small, subsidiary fashion, I have been privileged to render some of the lesser of his deathless brain children."

"Lesser is right," said Mr. Allison, looking down from his great height upon the fascinating "little lady." "Shakespeare liked tall women—he only made use of you little dumplings in Macbeth."

"I don't consider that remark worthy of an actor," came back Miss Cowell, with a mock thrust that would easily have devitalized Mr. Allison if there had been a sword behind it.

"La, La!" said Miss Lee. "Come along and meet Mr. Bartholomew."

Mr. Bartholomew, in a room just the counterpart of Mrs. Bishop's, rose in his chair with a beautiful old-school courtesy.

"I have been Gratiano, and I have been Malcolm and Banquo," said he.

He brought forth a scrapbook, neatly and regularly pasted with old playbills that a collector would have given a year of his life for. The fan windows of his room looked out over the tops of the hemlock trees, the blue spruces and the rhododendrons. The robins were singing among them. Far away, the Delaware was seen, a dull blue ribbon, with flickering lights of piercing gold where the morning sun struck it.

"I came here with Charles Burke," said he. "I knew Edwin Forrest—"

A spasm of pain crossed the fine old face. Miss Lee hurried in, solicitude in every line of her own.

"Sit down, dear!" said she. "He's very old, you know, and his heart is not strong."

"You must come again," said he.

Mrs. John Jack

On the way down stairs a tall, splendid-looking woman attired in rustling, deep black silk appeared in a cross hall. Her hair, the "half gray, half ruined gold," of the later poet, shone like fire in a cross-shaft of the sun. A whispered query brought the answer, "Mrs. John Jack," and after a word of introduction Mrs. Jack's quarters, another storehouse of rich old furniture and priceless pictures and memorials, were thrown open.

"I was Prince Hal," said Mrs. Jack. "My husband was the great Falstaff, you know. I am of mixed blood. Some of Charles Spurgeon's is in mine; Annie Spurgeon was my grandmother. The French Firmin—Firmin-Didot, you know—are cousins."

"I hated the stage itself—the glue-pots and the disorder, but give me a part, and let me go, and I was a living creature. I learned to love Shakespeare as a child. My grandfather, J. J. Edwards, was an advanced thinker, and I read a good deal."

"I was cast early for Prince Hal. I was tall and slender, and had golden hair. I learned to fence as a child—none of your loose-wristed French school, but the Italian, where the sword and the forearm are as one living member. Many a good fencer I disarmed at the first assault."

With a single superb, sweeping movement, Mrs. Jack placed herself en garde. One foot was lightly flicked into the air, as if to descend with one long, furious lunge. The balance and the style were perfect.

Sang Before Hawaiian King

"I started in my second year on the stage. I have seen and met every distinguished man and woman of my generation. Even in Hawaii I sang, in the native tongue, before King Kalakaua, with a chorus behind me that would have made any woman's blood course fast."

Mrs. Jack sang a part of the song in the exquisite flexible Hawaiian tongue. Dozens of her portraits hung around the room and lay scattered through half-a-

dozer all the way to Mary Goldback, a Queen Victoria. Another photograph showed her as a Brunnhilde, a creature in the full flush of life. A third wore the robe presented to her by the South Sea Island King. Others, again, represented the same face in different settings—another a leonine male face, resembling somewhat those of Audubon and Daniel Webster.

"My husband," said Mrs. Jack. "We were here together. He died here in my arms."

"When our boy died, we had none but ourselves. I had traveled the world with my husband . . . we were so happy, even when we came here to spend our last years together."

"One day he went to the greenhouse for some flowers. I had forgotten, but it was the day before my birthday. When he came back, I saw that he was ill. I looked after him during those last hours. His last words were, before he died, with his head upon my breast: 'You'll have your flowers, darling!'

"He never spoke afterwards. I am writing the memories of my lifetime, and if they ever reach print, it may become known to the world what a great soul was his."

Mrs. Charles Sends Greetings

Mrs. Samuel Charles was unable to leave her room; she sent her greetings, and a wish that she might be remembered. Long before she came to the Forrest estate, she celebrated her fiftieth anniversary upon the stage. Mr. Plunkett, grave and kindly—he even went to his room for a cutlass, that Mrs. Jack might demonstrate her fencing-guard—played with Barry Sullivan, in Richard III, in King Lear and Othello.

"My vividest experience, perhaps, was not a triumph," said Mr. Plunkett. "I was cast for Roderigo, and, lying slain, I saw that the curtain was about to cut me in half as it came down."

"Pull me up the stage!" I whispered to my slayer; then, faster, "Pull me up the stage! Pull me up the stage! Pull me up the stage! Finally, with a vigorous kick, I managed to escape bisection."

"You had better talk to the ladies; I have somehow grown out of the habit."

"Yes, talk to me," suggested Miss Lee. "But first let me show you my mother's picture. She died here."

In a darker corner of the upper hall of the house was the portrait of Rosina Howard Hawkins in the "Love Chase." The name was English, but the face could have passed for Spanish—either the Spanish of Castile or the purer-blooded types of the Alpujarras.

"She was a beautiful woman," agreed Miss Lee, for the first time serious. She left us in 1904 and I shall be here, I suppose, until I follow her.

From Desdemona to Topsy

"Myself? I have been everything, from Desdemona to Topsy. I have studied and recorded ten of thousands of lines, been everything for an hour from a tragic heroine to a coon shouter, but most of all, perhaps, a soubrette."

I was "dled with my mother and father until I was fourteen. At seven, I had a seven-change part, appearing as an old woman, a girl of the period, a fop, a Dutch girl and orchestral conductor, and a little soubrette in tights. I appeared on the stage even earlier—in arms, and I yelled lustily."

"I spoke my first lines as a fairy in 'Kate Carney.' My father then had the St. Charles Theatre at New Orleans, with our own company. There was a girl of eight playing the fairy, and I was jealous of her because she wore gold boots. When she became ill, my mother asked me to take her place. I demanded gold boots. I kept up the demand till I got them, then went through the part. Half way I thought I was losing my skirt, and walked behind a set rock to adjust myself. When I returned the stage was empty, but I went on liping my part. Mather came on the stage and bore me off, kicking vigorously."

"I once did the balcony scene in Romeo and Juliet in Staunton, Va. (I think), where the balcony was made of dry goods boxes, and, in dearth of upholstery, covered with an American flag."

"I have had my successes, both in the popular and in the higher and finer sense. I once, in the mad scene, as Ophelia, lost myself for a time, when I saw tears in Russ Whytal's eyes. That was a high tribute. I was with Creston Clarke, as all Philadelphians know, in his revivals here. I was with Edwin Booth at the great testimonial performance in the Metropolitan Opera House, in Hamlet, when Booth, Barrett, Modjeska, Jefferson, Crane, Frank Mayo, Herbert Keacey, Eben Plympton, Rose Coghlan, Rosina Vokes and others of equal power and equal fame took part. My last engagement was with Fanny Ward, two years ago. Two hospital operations and I came here incapacitated, far before what I considered my natural time to retire. Mr. Bartholomew has taught me pinochle and I am growing happy. As the baby I am fulfilling what may be my finest function—that of keeping my ciders and my betters forever young."

BURY MRS. SAMUEL CHARLES

Actress Who Spent Fifty-six Years on Stage Succumbed at Forrest Home

Funeral services for Mrs. Samuel Charles, known on the stage as Anna Maria Quinn, was held today at St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Holmsburg.

Mrs. Charles' death occurred Monday at the Edwin Forrest Home, Bristol Park. She had been a guest there for the last ten years. Mrs. Charles had been on the stage for fifty-six years at the time of her retirement about twelve years ago. Her first part was that of Eva in a production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," when she was five years old. Her last engagement was with "The Lion and the Mouse." She had played with Stuart Robson, Modjeska and Andrew Mack. Mrs. Charles was seventy-two years

Shakespeare's Birthday

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When the famous actor drew up his will arranging for a retreat for stage-folk who had served their day before the footlights he arranged also to house in the home his rare collection of portraits in oil, landscapes and sculpture. A truly wonderful collection is assembled, a collection that would add to the prestige of any of the world's art museums. Recently a few of the managers argued for the removal of these paintings in the interest of their conservation. The old manor house is more than 100 years old. It is far remote from city firehouses.

AGAINST REMOVAL

But a storm of opposition gathered. A plan was broached to transfer the art works to a private gallery, or add them to some reputable museum of art. Loudly protesting, the residents of the Forrest Home have pleaded with the individual members of the board of managers not to take away that which is sacred and dear to the home; that which adorns it as no other Thespians' home in all the world, an assembly of masterpieces, some of them representing the art of another generation, and all of them bespeaking the aestheticism of the great founder of the home.

There are only nine residents of the home now, but each one feels a personal ownership in the more than 100 paintings, hung in every room in the house; in the stone images of Forrest that stand in the hallway; in the rare collections of two libraries, and the many valued bric-a-brac, tapestries and old-fashioned ebony furniture. And while these nine, now in the autumn of life, know that they have limited years in which to revel in their artistic surroundings, they want them preserved for the million Thespians who shall come in the night of their lives to share the benefactions of their patron.

FAMOUS RESIDENTS

Forrest stipulated that there should never be more than 12 persons at one time in the home. There is now room for three or four more. Of the nine residents two are men—William Bartholomew and Signor Perugini, the latter a famous singer, who was long with Patti. Perugini has met with a great affliction, an affliction that has made itself felt among the other residents of the home. He has lost his hearing. No more is his rich voice lifted in song. But for an occasional outburst of melody in the seclusion of his apartments he will not trust himself to sing before the others.

Once famous actresses now sheltered in the home are Mrs. Anna Ware Barnes, Miss Emily Lewis, Mrs. Sydney Cowell, Mrs. Jennie Stone, Mrs. Annie Firman Jack, Mrs. Samuel Charles and Mrs. Joseph Bishop. The home has been improved this spring by the addition of two sun parlors overlooking the 187 acres of the beautiful estate. A rare discovery has been made, adding to the fame of the institution of the home. It is asserted that water taken from a well on the estate has curative powers. Not one of the nine residents has a touch of rheumatism. They contend that well waters are a boon to their health.

RAZE OLD MANSION AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS

Historic Home Makes Way for Extension of Pennypack Park, Holmesburg

LAND GRANT DATED 1682

Kept in Original Family Until 1864—Sold Ten Times Since

In the last week the fine old mansion at Holmesburg known as Crystal Springs has been demolished. The property is part of Pennypack Park and the place has an interesting history. It is part of the tract originally granted to Thomas Holme by letters patent in September, 1682, before the arrival of Penn. The patent was confirmed by Penn in 1684 and in 1683 Holme obtained the military title of these lands from the great chief Tammany and others and latter additional land from another Indian chief, Mattamicon.

When Thomas Holme became proprietor of 1646 acres in this section he called it the Well Spring Plantation and at his death in 1695 he was buried in the acre called Crispin's Cemetery. The land about Crystal Springs remained in the possession of Thomas Holme's descendant until 1841, when it was sold by James Pierson, who built the house in 1858. Pierson married a daughter of Paul Crispin, a descendant of Holme.

Since 1864 the place has changed owners about ten times; the last owner, James, he held it.

prior to its sale to the city as part of the new Pennypack Park.

Crystal Springs has always been more or less open to the public, even under private ownership, without restraint. The land extends to Pennypack Creek and is one of the most beautiful spots of the park. An article in the United States Gazette of July, 1813, shows that a safe and sane celebration of the Fourth of July was held that year with an oration by Martin Michelbacher, who then was Mayor of Philadelphia, at Crystal Springs, and that after the speaking "the company separated to partake of the good things which had been provided liberally with articles of various kinds: substantial rounds of beef, comfortable hams and cooling and grateful ice creams, which disappeared with amazing rapidity. Not an accident occurred to mar the festivities of the day." At that celebration a veteran of the Revolutionary War was given the place of honor on the stage platform.

Lubin Film Company

On Saturday afternoon last considerable excitement was caused when Lubin's Film Company came to the 'Burg with a moving-picture machine. They took pictures of the Boy Scouts at Crystal field in all their drills and contests, and caught Fire Company No. 36 coming out of their house, going to a fire, and also followed them up and took a picture of the fire. The "Tom Thumb Wedding" which caused so much interest at the Presbyterian Church last week, was also taken. This picture was shown in the 'Burg the forepart of the week, and all Holmesburg was out to see it.

A Historic Dagger for Mr. Skinner

AMY LEE did a very charming and graceful thing last week when she sent Otis Skinner a dagger used by the famous tragedian, Charles Kean. The gift arrived at the Garrick on the evening of November 29, the opening night of the engagement of "At the Villa Rose," and was placed in Mr. Skinner's hands just before his first entrance.

Edmund Kean, the father of Charles, made his American debut on the night of November 29, 1820, in "Hamlet," just 100 years ago to the very night that a dagger used by his son in certain of the plays of Shakespeare reached Mr. Skinner. Here was a delightful note from Miss Lee, written from the Edwin Forrest home, setting forth the fact that the gift in question had been given by Charles Kean to Miss Lee's aunt, Mrs. John Hoey, who before her second marriage was Mrs. Russell, a prominent member of Lester Wallack's stock company. After her marriage to Mr. Hoey, who was one of the founders of the Adams Express Co., Mrs. Hoey gave the dagger to Miss Lee's mother, Rose Watkins, who presented the relic to her daughter.

Playgoers of retentive memories will recall with pleasure Rose and Harry Watkins, the parents of Miss Lee, who toured the country in Irish plays, the best known of which was called "Trodden Down." Forty years ago Amy Lee was one of the most admired sopranos on the American stage and achieved a great success at Niblo's Garden in the Kiralfy Brothers' production "Enchantment."

The dagger is a remarkably fine specimen of the French armourer's craft. It is a foot long, the hilt is in the familiar shape of the cross and is beautifully gold-tooled, the delicate vine pattern showing no sign of age or hard usage. A templar's shield fits snugly over the sheath and carries out the scheme of ornamentation. The sheath is covered with velvet, once purple, but faded by age to a delicate old rose.

Fire of undetermined origin on Saturday destroyed the historic stone barn built in 1700 on the Parry estate, adjoining the property of General Edward de V. Morrell, at Torresdale. The barn was said to have been the birthplace of Dr. Benjamin Rush and was one of the historic sights of the city. Vagrants are supposed to have been responsible for the blaze.

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MR. AND MRS. EDWARD A. MERRICK

Conagswood, N. J., Feb. 21.—"Marriage is not a failure," said Edward A. Merrick here today on the eve of the sixty-third anniversary of his wedding. "Mrs. Merrick and myself have been married just 63 years and the romance is still true. It will never go out of our lives."

At the home of the Merricks, at No. 2 Merrick Villa, tomorrow the aged couple will celebrate their anniversary surrounded by their entire family, consisting of five children and all the grandchildren. "We are quiet folks and will have no big 'blow-out,'" said Mr. Merrick. Their children will spend the day there and in the evening there will be a family dinner.

Mr. Merrick is one of the best-known men in Collinswood and for half a century was one of the most active in Philadelphia. Born in old Southwark district, February 15, 1829, he attended the public schools, later graduating from the old Philadelphia night school that stood on the site of the Wanamaker store of today. After leaving school he held his first "position" as a commission house at the salary of \$50 a year. His wife he earned \$100. From that

he entered various other businesses, always advancing rapidly.

Early in the '60s Mr. Merrick became active in Philadelphia politics and was affiliated with the old Union Republican City Committee. In 1864, one month before the election of Lincoln, he was appointed Clerk of the Orphans' Court. This he held until the position was abolished under the new system. When he left the Court he became superintendent of the House of Correction, where he remained for a quarter of a century. He has been a director of the Southwark National Bank for nearly 50 years, a member of Solomon Lodge of Masons and also of Girard Mark Lodge since January 16, 1863.

Although 88 years old, Mr. Merrick is as active as a man 40 years his junior. His wife, who was Miss Susan Crowell, also of Southwark, also is active and healthy. They have been living here for many years. Howard L. Merrick, one son, also lives here. He has been a member of the Camden County Board of Freeholders and of the Collingswood Board of Education. There are two other sons, Edwin and Herbert, and two daughters, Miss Ida Merrick and the wife of Dr. John H. Dripps, of Philadelphia.

HOME OF INDIGENT TO BE BEAUTIFIED

Grounds to Be Improved and Covered Bridges Connect Dormitories and Dining Hall

Mayor Moore yesterday approved plans submitted to him by the Department of Public Welfare for improvements of the grounds adjoining the Home for the Indigent at Holmesburg and for covered bridges to connect the dormitories of the institution with its dining hall. The plan was prepared by John P. B. Sinkler, city architect.

The covered bridges, which will span a road running between the dormitories and the dining hall, will afford connections that do not at present exist and save the inmates of the Home for the Indigent from the hardships they now suffer in traversing the open space between the buildings in inclement weather.

The improvements to the ground proposed include the filling in of the low area between the group of dormitory buildings and the Delaware river, the development of walks and roads in the grounds, the planting of trees and shrubbery and the erection of water pavilions and a band stand. The tract between the buildings and river is to be transformed into a lush lawn with trees and shrubbery to afford shade and adornment. The present cinder roadways and paths are to be replaced with new ones of gravel and cement. The bank of the river is to be built up. A pavilion is to be placed in a location from which a view of the river may be had, and rest shelters are to be erected at intervals between the dormitories and the river.

that is transforming Cornellus Park into one of the crown jewels of the city's system.

Perhaps you never heard of Cornellus Park. It is near Cedar Hill Cemetery in Bridesburg, and is one of the newest developments. Twenty-five thousand dollars has been spent in laying out walks and pleasure grounds, and the improvements will probably continue at the rate of \$10,000 a year for ten years to come.

There are in the forty acres two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, a pond, a pavilion with shower baths.

Assistant City Forester Gehman tells me there are about 180 varieties of trees in the park. Many were brought across the Atlantic by the original owner of the tract, for whom it was named. Some were so large they extended nearly from end to end of the ship that carried them.

The ancient mansion of Cornellus was torn down only last year; but some of the playhouses he built for his children still remain.

PAINTING A PARK ON CITY HALL WALL

Carriage Painter Wields Brush to Show Public How Pennypack Property Can Be Developed

ONLOOKERS OFFER ADVICE

June 3, 1916

With a little brush he does it. With a brush so little that you laugh when you see it, and with a half dozen tubes of oil paint. There he stands, on his seven-foot high scaffolding, squeezes one of the tubes, takes a dab with the brush, and Pennypack Park emerges from the blank wall to blossom before your eyes.

A lot of Philadelphians never heard of Pennypack Park. That's why the Fairmount Park Commissioners are spreading the largest tentative map in the country along the western side of the southeast corridor in City Hall. It is tentative because it is exhibited temporarily for the criticism of the public.

Pennypack Park, you see, is a parcel of 1,700 acres round Bridesburg and Bustleton, which the city has bought, a lump at a time. In the near future the Fairmount Park Commission intends to make a thing of beauty and a joy forever out of this acquisition.

Some \$50,000 was included in the loan bill, and an appropriation toward turning the acres into park land, and more appropriations will be requested now and then. Charles W. Leavitt, a New York landscape engineer, in conjunction with the chief engineer of the commission, has planned the park as it ought to be. He has also drawn up a report on the park's requirements, which he is to present at the commissioners' meeting on Monday. The map of the park-as-it-ought-to-be is the picture now being spread on City Hall walls.

George Craft, of 421 Pennagrove st., West Philadelphia, does the spreading. Craft, an employe of the Park department, is a carriage painter. People whose

idea of painting is the sort of stuff that a man does to a barn with a brush the size of a mop, may not realize that to paint a carriage demands the little brushes and the delicacy of touch which painting a map also demands. So Craft stands on the big scaffolding with a little brush in his fingers—as if he flourished a magic wand—colors rivers and islands and trees with a wiggle of his fingers.

His canvas—which isn't canvas at all, but heavy drawing paper—covers a 60-foot wall and is 10 feet high. It will take him three weeks to turn it from a black and white, flat thing of no particular charm, to a really handsome landscape, which, while still a map, has brooks and trees that stand out on it in suitable colors. After the map has been colored and given a day in which to dry, the final bits of paint, the whole thing will be sprayed with varnish by a spraying machine.

"We want the public to send us any suggestions they think proper about Pennypack Park," said Major Thomas S. Martin, secretary of the Park Commission, today. "If they don't approve some of the features, we'd like to know their criticisms."

"Whether they approve or not, the public is certainly interested in the map. Round the foot of the scaffolding they crowd, plying Craft with queries, squinting at his work and offering all kinds of valuable advice. 'Put a little more green here,' they remark cordially, charging nothing for artistic hints. Or, 'Stick in half a dozen trees on that corner.'

Craft pays little attention. Swish! the brush makes a fine sweep, and there goes the blue bend of a brook, rippling its azure way across a dozen acres. Swish, again! "Picnic Island"—a delightful name!—bumps out in fresh greenery in the precise center of the rivulet, all ready but the lunch baskets. Swish! a third stroke. A grove shakes itself from the tip of the brush, and stretches a shady network of branches to invite the wayfarer. Nearby a duck pond bubbles into being. Not far away a smooth tennis court gleams a joyous invitation.

And half a dozen ward hustlers among the spectators calculate in sombre tones the fact that the potential voters in the potential wards eaten up by this potential park would, if placed end to end, reach from here to the next primaries, and, maybe, to Washington.

PICTURE BULLETINS

Two on Samoa and Hawaii at the Free Library.

While picture bulletins have been a feature of the children's department of the Free Library of Philadelphia for some time, it is safe to say that the two bulletins which were first displayed yesterday set a pace in this modern art of disguised learning. The newly appointed superintendent of children's work and picture bulletins was heartily congratulated. The value of these object lessons is understood, since the number of the little ones who visit this main library seldom or never go to museums and in most cases have slight acquaintance with the literature of Samoa or Hawaii.

The Samoan picture bulletin is built around Robert Louis Stevenson, and, besides photographs of himself, his family, his picturesque home, his grave and the mountain he chose for it, there is an interesting display of articles from the island home of this fascinating essayist. These articles are loaned by one of the young readers at the library, Master Bradfield, whose father is surgeon on a steamship running from San Francisco to islands in the Pacific. He personally collected them, as he did the Hawaiian ones.

Here is the portrait of the chief who succeeded to become Stevenson's cook, and one of Paio, the native boy who came to live with them. The formidable war club is made of iron wood is wood that sinks, and it is decorated with a little paint. There are two strips of tappa, a cloth used for mats, door hangings and clothing. One is a quaintly beautiful old design, and it is signed. The material is a paper made of mulberry, after it has been soaked in hot water and beaten with flat sticks and hammers. The other piece once belonged to a Queen of Talati. It is of a mahogany color and has been coated with a vegetable gum, and must have made a decidedly "mitty" rain coat, being about a yard wide and somewhat longer. Here is a little girl's dress. Strips of pink silk tie the kimono-like affair together. A fly brush, to keep insects from the food, is but a tuft of coconut fibre on the end of a stick.

A bird basket is perhaps the most interesting. It is deep, shaped like a cage, somewhat openwork, and serves to carry live birds to market. Other lovely baskets are of grass which grows in the salt marshes—plant juices furnish the dye for the colored strands in the weaves.

Here, too, we see perhaps the original of the forgerie chain. It is a lovely rope made of tiny creamy shells, really beautiful. Another larger one is a string of small shells; they are of a chocolate color. Let us not forget the costume of a Samoan dancer; it is a deep, fringe skirt made of strips of red and green palm fibre.

Captain Cook's portrait starts off the board devoted to Hawaii. One of a shrimp catcher also attracts. So does the one showing Queen Liliuokalani when she has thrown off the cares and clothes of state and, decked in blossoms, joins native women at eating poi, a delicacy of molasses-like stickiness which is eaten from a common vessel by dipping in and holding off the finger. It is made of pounded and fermented taro, a plant not unlike the calla lily. There's a photograph of a taro pond and a palm jungle in the royal grounds.

Four fans are of great interest, a certain woven one a bit of perfection. The boys are most interested in the war clubs and the little model of a canoe. This perfect little affair has outwitted at one side for the cargo. It is the same at both ends and will no doubt be copied by every boy who sees it.

By May 1 this valuable and instructive showing will be passed on to the branch

LOW PAY HANDICAPS BUREAU OF SURVEYS

Third District Chief Says City Is Suffering From Shortage of Men

URGES COUNCIL TO ACT

The Bureau of Surveys is five months behind in its work, according to W. C. Reeder, chief surveyor of the Third district, who says this is due to the shortage of men in that department.

"Men are plentiful, but refuse to work for the city because of the low salaries paid," Mr. Reeder said. "Our employes have been resigning daily, and at present we have many vacancies which cannot be filled."

"The only remedy I can see for this is the immediate action of city Council in appropriating an increase in salaries. This shortage of men has been costing the city a great deal more than it would cost if salaries large enough to attract capable men into the municipal service were paid."

A driver of a bread wagon receives a larger pay than any man except the executives in the Bureau of Surveys. The men realize this and therefore are daily seeking other work.

"I believe Council should declare a general increase in every department. Then the city could get better men, who would accomplish more at a smaller cost."

"Last year eight men holding responsible positions left the survey bureau. We were so short-handed that in my district I turned back a large amount of my appropriation. We must get better men to do our work, and this can only be accomplished by paying better wages."

In discussing results of prevailing conditions, Mr. Reeder said:

"We have had men come to us who wanted to purchase property. They needed a description of the property to turn over to a trust company or to a mortgagee. They had to wait five months for the needed document. In the meantime they were paying interest on the money they borrowed without having the use of the property. In a good many cases the deals have fallen through."

HOLMESBURG FARE ROW COMPROMISED

Company and Public Agree on
Modified Zones, Six-Cent Ride
and Improvements

GOES TO STATE BOARD

A compromise was reached today in the fight of patrons of the Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Company against zone fares.

Under the agreement, which will be recommended for approval to the Public Service Commission by Commissioner Clement, the zones as now existing will be modified, the six-cent fare for each zone will be continued through 1921, and the company agrees to rebuild its tracks in Holmesburg and to make other improvements.

Under the agreement, the first outgoing zone will be from Bridge st. to Linden av., instead of to Blakiston st., and the second zone will be to City Line. On the incoming trip the first zone will extend from City Line to Cottman st.

The agreement was reached at a hearing before Commissioner Clement in the City Hall today. George T. Sale, of the Holmesburg Improvement Association, said the road had not been properly managed. W. W. Montgomery, Jr., counsel for the road, told the Commissioner that Sale's remarks were without foundation.

A report of the engineers who made a valuation of the line shows a deficit of \$37,748, accumulating under the five-cent fare. It will be wiped out with the six-cent zone fare, without provision for depreciation.

Brighter Prospects for Completion of Elevated.

At a conference of city officials yesterday it was said that contractors for the Frankford line will be ordered to resume work at full force, as quickly as they can obtain necessary material. Mr. Twining, who was present said that if the remaining material can be obtained promptly, the Frankford L can be completed within fifteen months after the Public Service Commission approves a request, made by the Transit Department a long time ago, for a permit to construct a connecting link between the Callowhill street terminus and the Arch street loop of the Market street Subway. For completion of the line, including the connecting spur, will require \$2,000,000, which is to be obtained in the issue of city bonds to be sold next Monday.

Modifications of the restrictions upon non-war construction and manufacture were announced by the War Industries Board on Tuesday, and all restrictions were removed against the construction, maintenance, and improvement of public utilities, including power and street railways. Under this ruling the city authorities believe the negotiation of \$92,100,000 of city loans will be made possible.

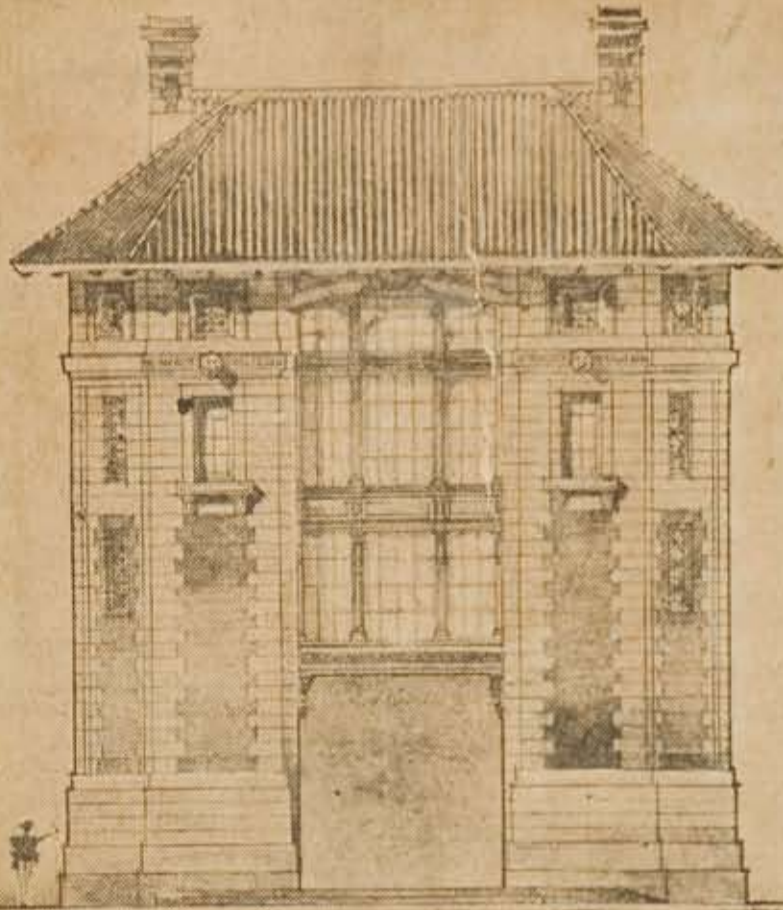
While the lifting of the ban by the War Industries Board and the Capital Issues Committee renders it possible to obtain materials and funds, there is still another obstacle in the way of the construction program. This is the difficulty of obtaining workmen even at the abnormally high wages now being paid.

It was this phase of the problem which caused William S. Twining, director of the Department of Transit, to declare on Tuesday that it would be many months before actual work could be resumed.

"Materials and labor are held at such high prices now," he said, "and are likely to continue at such levels for some time to come, that it will be almost out of the question to think of starting subway or elevated transit work before some time next year, perhaps not before early summer and possibly later."

"There is available now for transit construction \$2,000,000. If that were spent for extension at this time, with steel at ten cents a pound instead of three, it would take \$3,500,000 more to finish this rapid transit line as far as Holmesburg. We are now spending about \$75,000 a month on the Frankford L, and expect to be decked as far as it n... wint... in."

Artistic Stations for Frankford Elevated.



In the erection of the stations along the line of the Frankford elevated the Department of City Transit will maintain the high standard of excellence adopted in the design and construction of the railway, the structural work of

which now is in progress.

That the department has combined utility with beauty in the design of the stations was evidenced in the study of one of the buildings, which was made public

The "L" to Holmesburg.

Most citizens of Frankford and the Northeast were under the impression that the elevated railroad ordinances already passed had settled the question of the termination of the elevated structure at Rhawn street in Holmesburg, and that the only thing preventing the erection of the elevated structure between Bridge street and Rhawn street is the problem of finances. The surest method of meeting the growing transit needs of the extensive territory outlying Frankford is an elevated structure giving real rapid transit. Incidentally this should insure also much better competitive service by the surface lines already established. The abandonment of the elevated idea would be a most serious set-back to the full development of the Northeast section which should be realized soon after its operation begins. Already hundreds of people living in congested sections are looking towards these fine high lands of the undeveloped upper reaches of the city for future homes and every one should urge the early construction and operation of the elevated road upon the plans already decided upon.

As to the surface line, it would seem that there should be some way by which the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, holding practically a blanket franchise for the city's street railway facilities, could give Holmesburg and the Northeast the car service needed, through some arrangement with the present company. If the P. R. T. can serve Doylestown, Hatboro and other communities outside the county, they should be able to give complete service within the city limits.

Residents of Holmesburg, by an overwhelming vote taken at a mass meeting last Friday night demanded the extension of the Frankford elevated line from Bridge street to Rhawn street. William S. Twining, Director of City Transit, appeared at the meeting, which was held in the Holmesburg Men's Association Hall, and said that the proposed extension would require the raising of \$3,500,000 more to build the additional three miles of the line.

It has been proposed that the city either purchase or lease the line of the Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Railroad Company and run it as a continuation of the Frankford elevated. Those present at the meeting voted against such a plan, and agreed to fight for an extension of the elevated.

CORRECTION is asked of a statement that work on the St. Athyn Cathedral is progressing under the joint direction of Ralph Adair Cram, architect, and Mr. Raymond Pitecairn. It is said that the construction work at Bryn Athyn has been under the personal direction of Mr. Raymond Pitecairn from the beginning. The original drawings for the church were made in the Boston office of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson, under the direction of Mr. Cram. These drawings, however, were altered greatly in Bryn Athyn. The original designs of the church, approved by Mr. Cram, are strikingly different not only in detail, but in proportion, from the church as built. As a matter of fact, Mr. Pitecairn supervised the architectural work for a period preceding Mr. Cram's last visit, contact with the architect assumed.

The elevated railway station plans have received the approval of the Art Jury, Director of Transit William S. Twining intends to advertise for bids for ten of the buildings within a few days. They are to be located on opposite corners of Allegheny avenue, Tioga street, Torresdale avenue, Church-Ruan streets and Orthodox-Margaret streets. At the same time it is expected to ask for bids for the concrete floor of the elevated from Callowhill to Byre streets.

The station buildings for the Frankford elevated have been designed along attractive lines, and when completed are expected to enhance the general appearance of the localities where they penetrate of the localities where they will be erected.

Architects of the Department of City Transit, at the instance of Director Twining, made an exhaustive and comprehensive study of the station problem with a view of adopting for Philadelphia the best that could be obtained with the elimination of all objectionable features. That the artistic is not beyond reach in the construction of elevated roads is emphasized in the plans prepared for the station buildings.

The matter of deciding what was most suitable for Frankford avenue in the way of station accommodations proved no easy problem to solve. The sidewalks in many places along the Frankford line were so narrow that they could not be encumbered with entrance and exit stairways.

After much thought and study, a solution was found in condemning private property at corner sites with large frontage, where modern stations inside the building line could be erected, leaving the sidewalks unobstructed. This plan is a decided improvement over the stations existing on the Market Street Elevated.

Residents along the line of the Frankford Elevated are to be the chief beneficiaries as the result of the action of the Department of City Transit. In many cases where property was condemned for stations the buildings were not in the best of condition, and, in fact, were looked upon as unsightly. In their place will be constructed modern brick and terra cotta structures, pleasing in line and color, designed in a simple, logical style of architecture.

The varying heights of the platforms to the profile, size of lots, location and capacity made each one of the ten stations a problem in itself.

One of the buildings proposed for the northbound Tioga street station was so designed as to act as a gateway or entrance to Harrowgate Park. This design, which is the one illustrated above, was inspired by the old French chateau in the Valley of the Loire, with its overhanging tile roof and its enriched paneled soffit of the eaves, obtaining for the park a splendid embellishment.

The Frankford elevated has been designed so as to make operation as noiseless as is possible. The tracks will be heavily ballasted, and in its construction there will be embodied the very latest improvements in elevated construction.

A REASONABLE REQUEST

Holmesburg, one of the prettiest and pleasantest places in Philadelphia, as well as one of the oldest of the outlying settlements, is tired of being known as the place where the county sends its prisoners. It wants to recapture its water front, particularly the charming stretch along the Delaware now occupied by the House of Correction, and it hopes that Director GRAKELOW, in deciding the plans for the rebuilding of the institution, may be able to find another site for that jail.

Originally, of course, the selection of that site was made because of the convenient combination of rail and water facilities of transport. Now the motor car obviates that need.

No one wants a jail in their neighborhood and Holmesburg has...



PREPARING CITY'S BATHING BEACH FOR OPENING TOMORROW

The workmen shown are busy removing stones and smoothing out the city's new bathing beach on the Delaware at Pleasant Hill Park, one mile below Torresdale. The formal opening will be tomorrow.

TO SPLASH TO OPEN CITY BATHING BEACH

ACTS ABOUT CITY'S NEW BATHING BEACH

Where It Is.

Pleasant Hill, foot of Linden av., Torresdale, on Delaware River.

How to Get There.

TROLLEY: Take Frankford car on 3d, 7th or 13th st. to Frankford av. and Bridge st.; then transfer to suburban trolley (fare 10 cents), running north on Torresdale av., and get off at Linden v. Turn to right and walk to beach, a walk of fifteen minutes, says most trollers.

AUTOMOBILE: North on Broad to Roosevelt Boulevard, turn the right at Cottman st., left on Torresdale av., right on Linden v., then follow directions traffic policemen.

As the result, six roomy hospital tents were lent the city. These have been pitched on the shore, and will provide temporary quarters for the bathers.

Motorists, who have been attracted to Pleasant Hill by the score during the summer, may utilize their cars as makeshift bathhouses. But no squatting on the floors of the motors to duff clothes and pull on bathing togs will get by the nosy policemen.

Mercy no, commands Mayor Moore. Each car will have to be enclosed with curtains, or canvas sides, as a screen. And he has had policemen assigned to the beach to enforce his orders.

A bungalow colony is springing up near the beach, and within ten days it is expected private bathhouses will be ready. At present there are no accommodations for bathers to hire suits, and

The city's first bathing beach, at Pleasant Hill, foot of Linden av., Torresdale, will be opened at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

If the Weather Man flags the cold spell, Mayor Moore's speech of acceptance doubtless will be followed by scores of mermaids and youths frolicking in the Delaware river.

Exercises marking the opening of the beach are planned by business men of the northeast. The Mayor, accompanied by the Municipal Band, will be the principal in the ceremony.

Councilman William B. Horn, of the 5th District, who was instrumental in having the city choose the Delaware river site, will head the business men, who will include T. Kilby Smith, president of the Torresdale Improvement Association; N. Edwin Lindell, president of the Wissinoming Improvement Association; William Beal, of the Holmesburg Business Men's Association, and James F. Gossner, president of the Pleasant Hill Improvement Association.

Chief Baxter, of the Bureau of City Property, in an address, will turn over the beach to Director Caven. The Public Works Department executive then will transfer it to Mayor Moore, who will speak. The band will give a concert from 1 to 2.

And bathers, who this summer have been splashing in the river at that point, used the natural scenery of bushes and trees to make the change. This would not do at all, said the Mayor.

The Mayor already has swung the "big stick" in a warning to bathers that unnecessary display of dimpl'd knees will meet the censorious eye of policemen.

Pleasant Hill, he insists, is to be a model beach for "ladies and gentlemen." Archie Boyd, 1905 Federal st., whose 225 pounds is distributed over 6 feet, 1 inch of height, has been appointed beach censor and life guard. Archie resigned as traffic policeman at 15th st. and the Parkway to take this position.

"I am not going to be narrow about this job," smiles Archie, who used to play a saxophone in the Police Band. "But I am not going to stand for any undressed ladies sitting around the beach. Let them get that straight."

"I know how stockings and skirts impede girl swimmers," reflected the erstwhile cop and saxophone player. "They can wear their stockings to the water's edge and then wade in. Then they can drop their skirts. But they'll have to decorate themselves with clothes when they come out of the water."

Even elaborate precautions have been taken to prevent prying eyes from gazing around the scenery too liberally when persons change from street clothes into bathing suits. The shore at Pleasant Hill was transformed into a bathing beach so speedily there was no time for the city to erect bath houses.

It is Chief Baxter's advice for those who want to go in swimming to bring their bathing suits.

George Klatter, swimming instructor at the University of Pennsylvania, will teach all corners the art. He will have five assistants, scattered along the 1,000 foot beach.

A raft, twenty-eight feet long and ten wide, was launched yesterday, and will be a floating diving board.

In conjunction with the Department of Welfare, Holmesburg held a Safe and Sane Fourth of July celebration on Monday, July 5.

The events of the day began when Comrade M. G. Ayres, of the G. A. R. and the president of the Improvement Association raised the flag at the Brown School at 4:30 A. M. to the stirring tunes of a bugle, blown by a G. A. R. bugler. A parade of school children, veterans and fraternal societies was held next, leaving the Library at 2:30 P. M., and wended its way to Pennypack Park along Frankford avenue. A detail of mounted police led the procession, which was in charge of M. G. Ayres as marshal and Mr. Frank Kilcoyne and Mr. Harry Solly as aides. The marshal was superbly mounted on a dromedary mare.

The blue uniforms, which connect between the stirring days of '61 and the present day.

Stepping briskly to the music of a 21-piece band and led by their commander, W. F. Knauer, the Charles P. McMenamy Post, No. 178, of the American Legion, came next; the entire member with few exceptions was present, 100 men in khaki, marching in columns of squads, heads erect and eyes to the front, they followed the colors once more, bringing back to all present the vivid scenes of 1917-18, when these same men marched to camp and battlefield. The colors were in charge of a color guard, one sailor, one soldier and a marine, the fighting trio of the American Army. J. B. Gilbert led the navy men in their picturesque blue uniforms. Mr. Gilbert is Post finance officer of the Legion and it was entirely fitting and proper in view of his long service in the navy that he led the sailors.

The most picturesque and inspiring part of the parade came next, when over 120 boys and girls, dressed in magnificent costumes, depicting important characters in American history, marched by. The credit for this wonderful turnout goes to Mr. Harry Solly and his assistants, who arranged the entire affair, procured the costumes and dressed the different characters.

The Colored Girl Scouts, under Miss Lassiter, were next in line and they made a fine showing. Upon the arrival at the park the paraders were dismissed and the members of the American Legion were drawn up in a semi-circle around the grandstand and Mr. George Morrison, in behalf of the citizens of Holmesburg, presented to the Post a check for \$2000 as a token of their appreciation, and to be used as the nucleus of a building fund for a permanent home. The check was received for the Post by the Post Commander, W. F. Knauer, who, in a few well-chosen remarks, expressed the hope that Post No. 178 would always remain worthy of the confidence and respect of the citizens of Holmesburg.

Mr. Frank Kilcoyne, the hard-working and efficient chairman of the Fourth of July Committee, presented, in behalf of the citizens of Holmesburg, to every ex-service man a beautiful bronze medal commemorative of their service in the late war. Mr. Kilcoyne's remarks were well received and were worthy of note.

At 7 o'clock the historical pageant was held between the scenes; folk dancing was done by children of Holmesburg.

During the day a canteen was run by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the McMenamy Post, for the benefit of the Post. This was very successful and the ladies in charge should be complimented. The festivities of the day ended with a band concert at 9 P. M.

This celebration was for by a representative citizens, headed by Mr. M. G. Ayres and Mr. Frank M. Kilcoyne; Miss Katherine Petty, as vice chairman; Fred Long, financial committee; Geo. Lawler, refreshment committee; Harry Solly, school committee; George Morrison, speakers' committee, and William B. Clare, publicity committee.

All citizens of Holmesburg are asked to decorate their homes on July 5, especially along the route of the parade. The committee desires each house decorated, if possible.

The Old Pennypack Church.

Following a practice instituted a few years ago, the members of the Pennypack Baptist Church, at Bustleton, last week, observed what has come to be known in that region as "Pennypack Day." For the new Pennypack Church is the successor of a much older edifice bearing a similar title, and which still stands as a memorial of the beginnings of the Baptists in this vicinity.

Near the old church, which stands on the bank of the Pennypack Creek, at Krews road crossing, is one of the oldest burial grounds in Pennsylvania, a churchyard cemetery of well-worn monuments and aged memorials which attest that in that ground are buried persons born more than three hundred years ago. For the church is the oldest Baptist church in the State, the "mother church" of all the subsequent Baptist congregations of Philadelphia and vicinity, and was founded as early as 1688. Less than three years after Penn had arrived on the "Welcome," a small band of Welsh Baptists had pushed their way into the primitive woods along the Pennypack and founded the colony which supported the church.

Elias Keach, the first pastor at Pennypack, was a son of Benjamin Keach, the author, of Southwark, London, and came to the colonies as a roystering youth. Amused at the religious feeling of the times, he thought it would be good sport to attire himself in the garb of a minister and deliver a mock sermon to one of the serious congregations of settlers. The Pennypack congregation appealed to him, so he gained admission to its pulpit and let loose his oratorical sophistries. But as he proceeded, and realized the devoutness and intention of his hearers, his conscience overcame him and, breaking down in the midst of his "sermon," he admitted his deception, begged forgiveness, announced his conversion, was accepted and installed as a real minister of the faith.

For a while the Pennypack Church covered an extensive territory, although the number of Baptists naturally was small. Keach was preaching at the Falls of the Delaware, Cold Spring, Cohansoy, Salom, New Jersey, Penn's Neck, Burlington and Philadelphia, while his followers came from as far south as Chester to attend the services in the little twenty-five by twenty-five foot church on the Pennypack. The Philadelphia church, started through the joint use of a storeroom at the northwest corner of Second and Chestnut streets by the Baptists and Presbyterians, was a branch of the Pennypack Church.

Although the present building on Pennypack Creek bears the signs of long use, it does not date back further than the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The first church was removed after a few years' use, replaced by another structure in 1770 and the present building erected in 1805, although it has not been in active use for the past quarter of a century. But its gabled roof, quaint, old-fashioned windows and doorways, rubbed walls and small size still attract attention while the interior, with its high, straight-backed pews, Colonial galleries and pillars and antique furniture, carries the mind back farther than the beginning of the present building and to the time when the small band of Baptists, two hundred and thirty years ago, used to lead the converts down the steep and stony pathway for immersion in the crystal waters of the Pennypack.—Evening Bulletin.

Captain William M. Rowland is the owner of a copy of "Poulson's American Daily Advertiser," Philadelphia, Friday morning, December 28, 1821, containing many quaint and interesting advertisements of the olden time, among them one from this neighborhood as follows:

HOLMESBURG JOSEPH THOMAS

Respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has rented the commodious and pleasantly situated tavern in Holmesburg known by the name of the Pennsylvania Arms and Middle Tavern. The proprietor has been particular in the choice of his liquors, which he can, with confidence, recommend as being of the best quality—in short, as he has furnished his house with everything necessary for the convenience and comfort of those who may favor him with their company, and as he is determined to use the utmost exertion to give satisfaction he flatters himself that he will meet with encouragement from his fellow-citizens.

"Good stables and warm sheds, etc., on the north side of the road. Proprietors of stages and others would do well to make it their stopping place, as good fires and well attended make it a pleasant place to stop at in cold weather."

This tavern is not remembered here. The Washington House was in existence in 1890. It is possible that the name was temporarily changed in 1821. It is in the middle of the town.

More than 100 passengers in car No. 115 had a very narrow escape last Sunday afternoon. The car was going north in front of the Washington House when the front trucks left the tracks, the car turning at right angles to the tracks, the front end extending over to the pavement on the west side of Frankford avenue. It missed colliding with an auto by a few feet. The wreck crew were called out, and after two hours' work succeeded in placing the car on the tracks. The heavy traffic was handled by having the passengers transferred to other cars at this point. Fortunately no one was injured.

Every detail is being measured up to in the elaborate arrangements for the Fourth of July demonstration. The children will put on a demonstration that will surpass any program they have ever presented. Several important experiences and events in our national life will be very beautifully depicted in full costume. The program will include: President Washington and his first inauguration; the first Continental Congress in full Colonial dress; Patrick Henry and his wonderful address that stirred the whole country in his time and day; Betsy Ross as she made the first American flag; Liberty and the thirteen original States; President Lincoln with the army and navy at Gettysburg. The present age will be presented by Uncle Sam and the allied nations in full royal dress. Sergeants-at-arms, attendants, pages, heralds and dancing girls in full costume will appear throughout the program. Fully one hundred of our boys and girls will appear in this very beautiful historical pageant. The children's program is in charge of Mr. Harry N. Sell.

You will not find a better place to spend the Fourth of July than at Pennypack Park, where you can take your family. Every minute of the day and early evening something for you and the children.

The General Committee is headed by Mr. Frank Kilcoyne and Mr. M. G. Ayres; Miss Katherine Petty as vice chairman; Mr. Fred Long as treasurer and chairman of the Financial Committee; W. F. Knauer as secretary; George Lawler in charge of refreshments, and the publicity is being taken care of by a committee.

Checks and cash contributions should be sent to Mr. Fred Long. Letters have been sent to every one asking for support, and a generous response is anticipated.



Holmesburg's Celebration.

Holmesburg will co-operate with the City Welfare Bureau on July 5 by holding a safe and sane Fourth of July celebration. The program will begin with a street parade at 2 P. M. and end with a historical pageant at 7 P. M.

The parade will start from the Thomas Holme Library, Frankford avenue and Hartel street; go north on Frankford avenue to the entrance of Pennypack Park then through the park to the reviewing stand. The parade will be led by a detail of mounted police and a thirty six-piece band. Mr. M. G. Ayres, president of the Improvement Association and a prominent G. A. R. man, will be chief marshal. The Charles P. McMenamy Post, No. 178, American Legion, will be in the right of the reviewing stand, fully uniformed, led by the Post commander, W. F. Knauer, and the officer of the Post, J. B. Gilbert will be naval service men. A detail of 25 men from the Frankford Arsenal will act as a guard of honor to the G. A. R. men, who will be in automobiles.

School children, in charge of Mr. Harry N. Sell, will be next in line. A major feature of this section will be children in costumes, representing phases of American history, from 1776 to 1920. The balance of the parade will be made up of fraternal, patriotic and civic societies of Holmes-

Pennypack Park a review will be held and at the conclusion of the review Mr. George A. Morrison will present to the Charles P. McMenamy Post, No. 178, the sum of two thousand dollars as a gift from the people of Holmesburg toward the building fund of the Post. Each service man from Holmesburg and vicinity will be presented with a bronze medal commemorating his service in the World War. Mr. Frank M. Kilcoyne will present these medals in behalf of the Citizens' Committee. There will be an exhibition of folk and classical dancing immediately afterward, and at the conclusion of this dancing the formal part of the program will be over. Ice cream will be distributed free to the children; game and athletic competition will be held for which prizes have been provided by the committee.

In the evening, 110 beautifully costumed girls and boys will present a pageant of tableaux, commemorating the events of American history. Mr. Harry N. Sell is in charge of this part of the program and the most interesting scenes of American history will be presented. Between each scene there will be singing and dancing by the talented children from the schools of Holmesburg.

More than two thousand of our townspeople enjoyed the Fourth of July outing at Pennypack Park as arranged by our Citizens' Committee. More than nine hundred children enjoyed the ice cream distributed by the committee. Many contributions have been received, but not a sufficient amount to meet all the obligations incurred to successfully carry out the program as arranged. The committee is very anxious that no deficit shall be carried over and calls on the good citizens who have had no part in the good work to make a contribution to the committee at an early date, that all bills may be immediately paid.

Oct 26 1917

DEATH OF MAJOR ROBERT PATTISON

The demise of Major Robert Pattison, which occurred on October 29, was announced in the Presbyterian Church by the pastor, the Rev. Walter R. Murray, at the Sunday morning service.

Major Pattison was born in Holmesburg December 9, 1834, and educated in the local grammar school. In early life, 1859, he went to live in Dallas City, Illinois, and was residing there in 1861, when the Civil War began. He at once joined the Sixteenth Illinois Infantry regiment, and was commissioned a first lieutenant and subsequently promoted to captain and major. He served with the western armies under Generals Grant and Sherman, taking part in the celebrated march through Georgia. He was a brave, faithful and efficient officer. In 1865 he returned to Holmesburg, Pa., July 25, of that year, he was married to Miss Elizabeth F. Craig, who died a few years ago. He was employed in the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Soon after the war he built the house 3200 Decatur street, where he has lived ever since, and where he died. He was an ardent Presbyterian, and a regular attendant at the services of that church. At one meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, held in Buffalo, N. Y., Major Pattison was one of the delegates representing the Presbytery of Philadelphia North.

Notwithstanding his advanced age of near 83 years, he was quite active up to within a year of his death. He was the last surviving resident male member of a family which has been prominent in Holmesburg for a century. His father, Robert Pattison, came here in 1817 from Paisley, Scotland, and was married to Miss Margaret Finlayson in 1818. Miss Sarah Wise Pattison, daughter of the late John F. Pattison, is the only one of the family bearing the name who now lives here.

Major Pattison had a large circle of friends, and was very highly regarded and respected by the people of this community.

The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon from his home. The Rev. Dr. Laird, of Frankford, officiated, as the departure of Rev. Mr. Murray leaves the Holmesburg pastorate vacant.

Mrs. Nellie Helveston, Major Pattison's widowed daughter, lived with him and survives him.

Holmesburg Aroused by Poor Street Car Service.

The Holmesburg Improvement Association has taken up the public danger due to defective cars on the Holmesburg, Tacony and Frankford car line and have adopted the following set of resolutions as the first step of a movement for the elimination of the dangerous condition of the tracks and rolling stock.

The many demands in the past have gone unheeded and the citizens have now taken the matter in their own hands to compel some action to be taken to protect life and property in this section. Investigation will be made by the city officials and the Public Service Commission.

During three days recently eight cars have run completely off the track endangering passengers and neighboring property.

The resolutions follow:

WHEREAS, Complaints have repeatedly been made to the officials of the Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Company that the condition of their tracks on Frankford avenue to Bridge street to Red Lion road and on Rhawn street from Frankford avenue to State road, makes it unsafe for travel on their cars; and

WHEREAS, These same cars are in such a dilapidated condition, unsanitary and dangerous, even to the point where the air brakes on them cannot be operated in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, This same car line, during the summer months especially, is the only line of travel to Holmesburg, Torresdale, and from there to Bristol and Trenton, carrying in excess of their capacity large numbers of people, especially women and children, to such points as Pennypack Park and Pleasant Hill Park; and

WHEREUPON, Noting the spreading of the rails and realizing the danger to life and property, the president of this Improvement Association, on Friday evening, July 23, called the officials of the aforesaid Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Company on the telephone in reference to the condition of the tracks in front of his office on Frankford avenue, and instead of receiving the courtesy and respect due him as a citizen and taxpayer of the city of Philadelphia and as president of this Association, he was openly insulted by those in charge at this time and no attention whatever paid to his complaint; and

WHEREAS, On Saturday afternoon, July 24, at 4:30 P. M., a street car of this same line, running south on Frankford avenue, left the rails in front of the American Stores Company, and despite the efforts of the motor-man to apply the air brakes, which refused to operate, the car crashed into the store conducted by Dunker and Cannon, 8028 Frankford, Holmesburg; and

WHEREAS, Had this car been running north, carrying the capacity crowds that are usual on Saturday afternoons and Sundays, the result would have been a great loss of life or injury to the men, women and children who were riding on the car; and

Mayor Smith has the ordinance which declares the intention of the city to purchase or lease property and franchises of the Holmesburg, Disston and Philadelphia & Bristol Water Companies; authorizing the appointment of three arbitrators to determine the price to be paid by the city for such purchase or lease, and to make report thereof to Councils for their approval or disapproval. The ordinance appoints Charles E. Mabius as arbitrator on the part of the city.

Feb 1 1919

Urge Northeast Trolley Line.

Business men from the Thirty-fifth Ward in the northeast section of the city, called on Mayor Smith yesterday to urge the early start of construction on the high speed surface line to connect Frankford with Byberry and Bustleton.

Expenditures for building the line were authorized in an item of \$1,200,000 included in the \$57,100,000 transit authorized in 1916. To complete project an additional appropriate \$250,000 will be required to construct bridge over Pennypack Creek.

The delegation included Select Councilman George Mitchell and Common Councilman Lewis F. Brandenstein. Mayor Smith promised to give the matter early attention.

The high speed surface line is expected to be completed by the city.

WHEREAS, This same car, No. 115, is in such bad condition that it is never run except when the line is taxed beyond its capacity, and this accident on Saturday, July 24, is only one of a long list of similar occurrences on Frankford avenue and Rhawn street, when life and property were menaced; and

WHEREAS, The Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania has, upon several occasions, warned the aforesaid Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Company about the crowded and unsafe condition of their cars; and

WHEREAS, Frankford avenue, being a business thoroughfare, and usually crowded with pedestrians on the sidewalks and vehicles on the street, an accident of the character of the one on Saturday, July 24, can do a great deal of harm to those using the sidewalks and damage to property along the line of travel; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That as taxpayers, property owners and citizens of Philadelphia we most strenuously protest against the existing state of affairs—a condition that constitutes an hourly and daily menace to life and property; a condition that should have the immediate attention of the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, the Mayor of Philadelphia, the City Councils, the Department of City Transit and the Department of City Welfare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this body place itself on record as demanding an investigation as to why as citizens of Philadelphia we are compelled to put up with this inconvenience and danger and as to why steps have not been taken to compel this aforesaid Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Company to obey the laws of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania and to live up to the terms of their franchise and keep their trackage up to the standard where they do not constitute a menace to life and property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, the Mayor of Philadelphia, the President of City Councils, the Councilman from this district, the Director of Transit, the Director of Welfare, and to each and every morning and evening paper in Philadelphia for publication; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That his body, through their Transit Committee, demand an immediate investigation by the Mayor of Philadelphia and the City Councils.

Holmesburg's Water Works.

The Holmesburg, Disston and Philadelphia and Bristol Water Companies, the purchase of whose property rights in the Northeastern section of the city is contemplated in a bill now before Councils, are among the few independent water works operating in the city. The joint name, for they are all united in practically one company, indicates their origin, the Holmesburg company originating in the desire of some of the residents of that section to dispense with the cisterns and town-pump which had lasted until 1887, the Disston company being the plant which that manufacturing concern had installed originally for its own use, and the title of the Philadelphia and Bristol Water Company representing a new combination of the two formed about a decade ago.

About thirty-three hundred consumers are supplied in the narrow strip of populated area along the Frankford and Bristol turnpike and the cross-roads adjacent to the river front between Torresdale and Tacony. In this district about forty-five miles of pipe have been laid and connected with the company's pumping station at the junction of Sandy Run and Pennypack Creek, where its reservoirs and filter beds are located. The Pennypack derives its water from the Huntingdon Valley, and is said to compare favorably in potability with the Delaware Valley water. About three million gallons are pumped daily, that quantity being less than the minimum, and considerably below the maximum, flow of the stream. The price to the consumer for this water is about ten per cent. higher than that charged by the city for similar service, but, as all the pipes of the water companies were laid at its expense, the property owners have been free from the frontage charges imposed when the city lays its mains.

A delegation of Holmesburg citizens and members of the Improvement Association visited Mayor Moore by appointment last Friday morning and discussed the need of better trolley service to and from Holmesburg.

The delegation asked the Mayor to request Council to provide sufficient money to extend the Frankford elevated railroad from Bridge to Rhawn street. It requested also that the Mayor authorize an immediate investigation of the condition of the equipment and roadbeds of the Frankford, Tacony and Holmesburg Street Railway Co. and undertake to compel the company to furnish better service than at present.

Mayor Moore said he would consult with Director Twining, of city transit, to ascertain whether any remedy for the conditions in connection with the street railway complained of could be taken by the city. He expressed doubt, however, whether the city had authority over the company. William Boal was chairman of the delegation, James H. Perry suggested that as a last resort the city could revoke the franchise of the company. He intimated that the residents of Holmesburg preferred to have the roads upon which the railway was built free of tracks to a continuance of the present service of the company.

The Mayor informed the delegation that the Frankford elevated railroad would not be extended to Rhawn street until after the section of the road completed to Bridge street had been put into operation. The difficulty that was interfering with transit improvements in the Northeastern part of the city, the Mayor explained, was the lack of funds.

The Mayor told the delegation that there seemed to be small possibility that the P. R. T. would construct the proposed Roosevelt Boulevard trolley extension for which it had been granted a franchise. The company had ninety days' option from the time the bill was signed in which to accept the franchise. Less than a month remains of this option.

Members of the committee included Councilman Horn, William F. Kaauer, secretary of the Holmesburg Improvement Association; James H. Perry, Harry N. Solly, William Clare, L. N. Castor, Frank M. Killeoyne and Mr. Beal.

Director Twining has investigated the facts presented by the committee and has referred the matter to the Public Service Commission for immediate action.

In his report Director Twining said that the company declares that it will be necessary to raise the rates if improvements are adopted.

1919

Another brief airing was given last Friday to the shortcomings of the Tacony, Holmesburg & Frankford Street Railway Company, before Public Service Commissioner Clement. Two weeks ago the company was directed to make arrangements with the Philadelphia Electric Company for more power. The attorney for the company said that no progress had been made in this respect. Commissioner Clement said that the company should make a new effort and notify the Philadelphia Electric Company that it is the wish of the Public Service Commission that assistance be given the struggling company by an arrangement to sell it power.

Since the last review of the fallings of the company there has been some improvement, but the lack of power to properly speed up the cars is a fault which the complainants declared must be remedied before they will desist in pressing the commission for action. Incidentally Commissioner Clement suggested that counsel for the company inquire as to the disposition to be made of the city's claim for \$63,000 for rebuilding and repairing a portion of Frankford avenue, which was a franchise agreement entered into with the city to keep in repair the streets occupied by the company's trolleys.

Oct 26, 1917

Michael G. Ayres was elected president of the Holmesburg Improvement Association, in succession to the late D. N. T. Jerman, at a meeting held on January 12. G. S. Clark and J. W. Ringrose were elected vice president, William Boal treasurer and Henry Weed secretary. Appropriate action was taken in reference to Dr. Jerman's death. The annual report was submitted and approved. The organization was founded in 1892 (when cholera threatened us) by Dr. Jerman, as Sanitary Committee. In 1893 it became a Village Improvement Association and was subsequently incorporated. Its aim has been to assist in securing improvements of various kinds for the neighborhood. Among them was the erection by public subscription of the handsome drinking fountain in front of the old Athenaeum. Jan 19

JULY 1919

The plans outlined by Director Datesman and Chief Davis for the city to acquire the water service facilities of private companies in outlying sections, is important at present in its relation to the Holmesburg Water Company, because that company is preparing to lay new mains, for benefit of the building development in the Thirty-fifth and Forty-first wards.

Location of the pipes would not accord with the Water Bureau's plan of extensions, because the Holmesburg company draw its water from Pennypack Creek, whereas the city would pump it from the Torresdale filtration plant, on the Delaware River.

As the city is not in position financially to purchase the property outright, it is proposed to take it on a long term lease or mortgage proposition, so the payments would spread over a period of years.

The price would have to be fixed upon a valuation determined by a commission representing the city and company, and the proposition would have to be submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval.

The acquisition would benefit present patrons of the Holmesburg company, as the latter's charges for water are about ten per cent. higher than those of the city. A saving also would result for the municipality, as it pays the company \$20,500 annually for water furnished to the House of Correction, county prison and Home for the Indigent, at Holmesburg.

The territory covered by the company, however, is barely one-fourth of the area over which it possesses franchise rights, which amount to a virtual territorial monopoly. Although the major part of the city's water works is located in this section, the Torresdale intake at the northern end, the filter beds along the river-front and the Lardner's Point Pumping Station at the lower end, the city does not even supply its own institutions, such as the House of Correction, the County Prison and the Home for the Indigent, which obtain their water supply from the company at a cost of about eighteen thousand dollars a year. In this way the city is one of the largest, if not the largest, customer of the company, although the latter supplies free water for fire protection and street flushing. If the company were to fully exercise its franchise, in the event of the Thirty-fifth and Forty-first wards

TOB R 7, 1919

OBITUARY



MISS KATHERINE C. BIDDLE Who died Saturday at her home in Torresdale and who was buried today. Miss Biddle was actively interested in many organizations for the welfare of animals.

FUNERAL OF MISS BIDDLE

Hold Services for Member of Prominent Philadelphia Family

The funeral of Miss Katherine Craig Biddle, who died Saturday at her home, State rd., Torresdale, was held today from All Saints Protestant Episcopal Church, Frankford av., near Stevenson's Lane, Torresdale.

The services were conducted by the Rev. J. P. Brown.

Members of the Animal Rescue League of Philadelphia, of which Miss Biddle was the president; members of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, of which for a time she was corresponding secretary and members of the Humane Society of Pennsylvania, of which Miss Biddle was a board member, met yesterday in joint conference in the Fuller Building and formed resolutions of regret over the loss of Miss Biddle. All board members attended the funeral.

Aug 1919

Philip Chadwick, who has been acting superintendent of the Holmesburg post office, having been proficient in his duties, has been appointed to the position permanently.

Monument to Colonel Morr

Members of the summer colony and townspeople of Bar Harbor, Maine, tied in an impressive tribute to the General Edward Morrell, Friday, evening, when a monument erected in honor was unveiled in Morrell's honor. Many notables were present at the ceremonies, which took place in the presence of Mrs. Morrell, in the town memorial to her husband, and which is ideally situated near the natural amphitheatre formed by several mountains. The monument consists of a huge granite boulder, which was deposited in Bar Harbor during the glacial period. A tablet bearing a bas-relief bust of General Morrell, executed by Allen G. Newcomb, occupies a prominent position on the top of the stone. Supreme Court Justice B. Deasy presided and was the spokesman. Rev. Louis S. Walsh, Catholic Bishop of Portland, made the address of presentation and the acceptance by Thomas Dewitt Cuyler, of Philadelphia. Mr. Cuyler declared that General Morrell, who had served several terms in Congress, and declined the Ambassadorship to Russia, renounced his political career to join with his wife, Louise, in the advancement of many philanthropic enterprises in which they were interested. W. Burke Crary of New York, paid a most eloquent acknowledgement to General Morrell's Christian character and noble characteristics.

July 1920

The Holmesburg Improvement Association at its regular meeting on Monday night, at the Holme Library, passed resolutions highly commending the appointment of Lieutenant Andrew F. Jolly, for several years in command of the 27th Police District, with headquarters at Tacoma, to be a captain in the Police Department, and congratulating him upon his promotion. Captain Jolly's high character and courteous manners, and the ability and efficiency with which he discharged the duties of his office gained for him the good will and respect of the citizens generally. They are glad to see such a deserving officer promoted.

May 1920

The Girls' League League had their final meeting in the form of an entertainment last Wednesday evening in the library building. A sketch, entitled "The Cure-All," was very well executed, those in the cast: Verna Flemings, Mary Raven, Ethel Hoff, Helen Johnson, Marian Nichols, Alberta Schuchter, Edith Geuther, Natalie Harper, Etta Doran and Esther Weber. Others rendering selections and dances were: Mildred Geuther, D. Noble, M. Hellings, C. Henkle, D. Morrison and Emma MacIntyre. The Ashburnerites' Orchestra gave two selections and were well applauded. Miss Nichols was presented with a large bouquet by the girls of the League, and also another by the Girl Scouts. Miss Nichols has been their leader. Miss Marian Nichols was president; Mary Raven, secretary, and Verna Fleming, editor. The league met every Wednesday and studied American poets.

April 1920

The American Legion, McMonamy Post, show held last Thursday and Friday in St. Dominic's Hall was a great success. The exact proceeds are not known at this time. About eleven hundred people made up the audience. Much of the success was due to Mr. Ralph Williams, who, in addition to writing the play, coached and saw that all parts were properly carried out. The committee consisted of McKearney, Campbell, Lyman, Kramer, Doble, Lefkerts, Castor and Ben Clark, chairman. Those on the program were: John Roth, Henry Hoover, James McCartney, Hall Fox, James Robinson, R. M. Williams, Benjamin Clark, Mrs. Charles Gros, John Craig, Dr. Charles Blaker, Florence Waring, Ethel Stout, Helen Kramer, Florence Etter, Mollie Lumley, Anna Stevenson, Rosalie Lee, John Watson, John Wehr, Edward Curtis, William B. Clark, Roy C. Williams, Wilbur Thomas, Walter Shuster, James L. Mellon, Albert Green, Harvey Hames. All these deserve the greatest credit. It was hard work rehearsing and doing all the preliminaries, but its success was a reparation. The Legion thanks one and all.

July 1920

Samuel Craig, a retired carriage manufacturer, died Sunday at his home, 2043 Moro street, Holmesburg, after a brief illness. He was 83 years old and, until his last illness, enjoyed remarkable health. He was born in Millville, N. J., in 1837, and came to this city as a boy, his parents settling in Holmesburg, where he lived for 76 years. As a young man he engaged in the grocery business, but later became a commission merchant at Delaware avenue and Arch street. Some years ago he became a carriage manufacturer, engaging in that business until his retirement in 1904. He is survived by a widow, one daughter and two sons. Funeral services were held on Wednesday at 2 P. M. Deceased was a member of Holmesburg Lodge, No. 144, K. of P.; Fidelity Castle, No. 165, A. O. K. of M. C., and Poquessing Tribe, No. 371, I. O. R. M.

AUGUST 6, 1920.

George W. Naylor and Elizabeth Thompson, students of Frankford High School, were awarded scholarships in the University of Pennsylvania, at the meeting of the Board of Education on Thursday last.

July 1919

Elizabeth F., daughter of the late William and Martha Fox McMullen, died on Monday. The funeral took place yesterday from 2817 Decatur street, Holmesburg, with services in Emmanuel P. E. Church.

July 9 1920

William E. Knauer has been admitted to practice law in the Courts of the State of Pennsylvania.

16 July 1920

William Knauer has been spending several days visiting towns in the central part of the State presenting at the various Chautauqua talks the outline proposed in revising the State Constitution.

July 30 1920

One of the Holmesburg cars jumped the track last Saturday afternoon on the avenue and ran across the sidewalk. When it came to a halt the front of the runaway car was directly between the two bulk windows of Dunker & Cannon's store. Fortunately there were only two passengers in the car, and no one on the sidewalk at the time and nobody was injured.

1919

Elevated Contracts.

ds for finishing and placing the framework and concrete floors four stations on the Frankford elevated, at Orthodox and Margaret sts. and at Ruan and Church sts. were opened on Monday by Director William S. Twining, of the Department of City Transit.

work embodied in the specifications is the most important that has been advertised since the contracts were awarded last summer. They now three-quarters finished. Contracts for the buildings at the four stations embraced in the new bids have already been awarded. The proposals submitted Monday provide the connections between the buildings, the station platforms and the railings.

In view of the announcement that it will go back to a competitive basis on January 1, Director Twining expects to award further contracts for station buildings as early in 1919 as it is possible to prepare the specifications. The new station structures will be at the following streets and avenues: Torresdale, Tioga, Somerset, Mt. Pleasant, York, Dauphin, Berks, Fairmount and Green. The stations at York and Dauphin and Fairmount and Green are in pairs, the ward depot being beyond the interval. If the steel and labor markets permit it, these stations will be carried to completion as soon as possible, should the markets be unfavorable, work will not be taken up on a large scale.

The initial operating section will be from Callowhill to Bridge street. More than three months ago an application was filed by the Department of City Transit with the Public Service Commission for construction of a link between Callowhill and Arch streets, including the connection with the Market street elevated structure at Front and Arch streets. No certificate of approval has as yet been received. The link and connection would make about ten per cent. of the line to Bridge street.

The original authorization by Council was \$7,400,000 to build the Frankford elevated from Front and Arch streets to Rhawn street. The last is only close to four miles about Bridge street. More than \$4,000,000 have been spent to date, and the balance of \$3,000,000 will be required to complete the line as far as Bridge street.

The failure of the Public Service Commission to issue a certificate of approval for the Callowhill to Front and Arch streets section and the connection with the Market street elevated and to reach a decision on the transit lease is a serious handicap to the completion of the line to Bridge street, according to Director Twining.

Close to 6000 tons of rail will be required for the Frankford L. to Bridge street. In 1915-16, when the Department's estimates were prepared, they were based on the price of rail at \$28 a ton. Today the rate is \$55 a ton. It will take 13,000 tons of structural steel to put the line in operation from Front and Arch streets to Bridge street.

Rapid construction of the remainder of the Frankford elevated now depends entirely upon the Public Service Commission. William S. Twining, Director of City Transit, said on Tuesday that the bids received Monday for the construction of four stations upon the Frankford line indicate that contractors now see their way clear to go ahead with work at prices within the estimates of the department engineers. The transit department has pending before the Public Service Commission requests for permission to extend the Frankford line south from Callowhill street to Front and Arch streets. No action upon this request has been taken during the last year and it is regarded as probable that the Commission may be waiting to take final action upon the transit lease which would permit physical connection of the Frankford line with the Market street line.

The low bid Monday for the four stations was that of William Steele & Son Company for \$98,950. The low bid received in October, 1917, and refused for the same four stations was \$181,000.

becoming more thickly populated—is anticipated upon the completion of the Frankford elevated and the opening of the new Frankford and Bustleton trolley road—its plant would have to be enlarged considerably, for nearly one-third of the area of Philadelphia county is embraced in these two wards.

The prospect of being required to make extensive additions to its plant to meet the growing needs of this territory is mentioned as one of the reasons why the company is ready to retire. Under the terms of its franchise it could, if it so desired, pump water directly from the Delaware. If the city buys, it is said the pipes of the company will be connected with the city mains and the Pennypack Creek pumping station be dismantled. At the beginning of the negotiations, it is also said, the city's arbitrator was willing to award the company six hundred thousand dollars, while the sellers claimed close to a million and a quarter. The record valuation to buy for eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars has been made after inquiries covering the entire summer, although that figure has been questioned by engineers familiar with water works construction costs.

1864 PIC. 1919 *

The Thomas Holme Branch Library there is now on exhibition a picture of peculiar interest at the present time of homecoming from the great war. It was taken in 1864, and represents Company E, Third Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve, standing in a triumphal arch erected in their honor by the citizens of Holmesburg. They are accompanied by the Holmesburg Brass Band, Captain Robert Johnson, commanding, in front, with First Lieutenant Thomas H. Bamford on his right and Second Lieutenant (afterwards Colonel) Edwin A. Glenn on his left. Colonel (afterwards General) Horatio G.inkel may be seen mounted in the rear, accompanied by Mr. George Clark, William Bunker and Mr. George Hoff. Several ladies appear also in the arch was placed across the street, directly in front of what is now Dr. Baker's large gate, to the residence of late Joseph H. Brown, on the site which, at that time, stood the American Star Hotel. After the picture was taken the command marched to the home of the late George Clark, now Senator David Martin's place, and were entertained luncheon on the lawn, by Mr. Clark and family. Company E, out of its roster of 100 men, left ten killed in action on the battlefields of Virginia and Maryland. Several also were wounded and taken prisoners of war. Only four survivors now live here, viz.: Cecile Henry B. Weed, John Wagner, Henry K. Hoff and Robert Wilson. The company was originally commanded by Captain (afterward Lieutenant Colonel) John Clark.

36 YEARS A PRISON GUARD

Frank Williams Also Celebrating 73d Birthday Anniversary

Frank Williams, a veteran keeper in the county prison at Holmesburg, is today celebrating two anniversaries—the seventy-third of his birth and the thirty-sixth of his appointment as a jailer. In point of service he is the oldest guard connected with the prison. Mr. Williams was appointed March 15, 1884. He first served at Moyamensing Prison, being transferred to the Holmesburg jail at its completion. He has come in contact with all classes of criminals and has witnessed many executions. One of them was that of Mrs. Sarah J. Whiteling, who killed her children by poison and who was the last woman hanged in Pennsylvania. He was one of the keepers who guarded H. H. Holmes, the arch murderer, in Moyamensing, the night that he was executed. Mr. Williams is a veteran of the Civil War, and for many years lived in the Twenty-sixth Ward, but at present resides in Holmesburg.

Thomas O. Enoch, Holmesburg

Thomas O. Enoch, who died on September 11, as the result of a fall from the roof of the veranda of his home, while making repairs thereto, was a highly respected citizen, a gallant veteran of the Civil War, and a senior Odd Fellow. He was born in Holmesburg, August 25, 1849, the son of Alfred and Sarah Enoch, and a grandson of Captain Jonathan Enoch, and educated at the Lower Dublin Academy. He learned the trade of carpenter and followed that vocation during life, being active and vigorous, notwithstanding his advanced age, and a hard and efficient worker to the last. He joined Company I, 56th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry at the beginning of the Civil War, participating in all the battles in which that command took part, and serving in the army four years altogether. He was in the battle of Gettysburg, and afterward assisted to carry the wounded soldiers from that bloody field. While thus engaged he met Miss Amanda Warren, of Gettysburg, who, with other humane and patriotic ladies of the neighborhood, was ministering to the wounded men. On July 19, 1865, Mr. Enoch and Miss Warren were married. Since then they have lived in Holmesburg, except for a few years spent in West Baltimore, Ohio.

Mr. Enoch was, for more than half a century, a worthy and faithful member of Mystic Lodge, No. 270, I. O. O. F., Holmesburg, having been initiated February 23, 1867. To the last he regularly attended the meetings of the lodge. He passed through the chair 1869-1870.

Mayor Inspects Bathing Beachs.

Mayor Moore, accompanied by several of his directors made a trip on the upper Delaware river on Wednesday, on the policeboat Quay, inspecting possible sites for bathing beaches. They inspected the wharf properties at Alleghany avenue, the Walton beach at Orthodox street, river end of Comly street, a stretch of beach above Lardner's Point and the Pleasant Hill river front below Torresdale. Of all these locations the latter, in the opinion of the Mayor was the most promising.

Numerous bathers, including a large percentage of women and girls, were in the water at Pleasant Hill when the Quay reached there. Most of the female bathers wore one-piece suits. Laughingly the Mayor remarked that when the city sets the beaches it will be necessary to provide bathing enclosures.

*

He is survived by Mrs.

Enoch and three sons, Warren H., Howard and Frank, all residents of Holmesburg. The family are connected with the Holmesburg Baptist Church.

Mr. Enoch was a member of Post 77, G. A. R., and served as Post commander in 1918. His funeral took place from his late home, 4094 Fairview avenue, and was largely attended. Delegations were present from his Grand Army Post and from Mystic Lodge. Six members of the lodge officiated as pall-bearers, viz.: James G. Meehan, William M. Rowland, John Funk, Frank N. Castor, J. Spencer Morrison and Edward Catenach. The interment was in Magnolia Cemetery, Tacony. Religious services were conducted by the Rev. I. Z. Myers, pastor of the Baptist Church. Fifteen members of Mystic Lodge were present at the house on the previous evening, when the services of the Odd Fellows were held. P. G. Henry B. Weed and P. G. E. Glenn Haines, officiating.

1919

"HICKORY-LIMB PROPRIETY" AT BATHING BEACH TABO

Authorities Hustled to Get Tents When They Learned That Natural Scenery of Pleasant Hill Afforded Scant Facilities as Dressing Rooms

Canvas and not the bushes on the river bank will furnish concealment for dressing at the new bathing beach at Pleasant Hill, below Torresdale, to be formally opened next Saturday. Publication of "kicking-limb proprieties" in connection with the bathing beach sent City Hall officials scurrying around for a remedy.

First the abandonment of the protection to be afforded by nature for the preparations of bathers to enter the water was officially announced by Mayor Moore.

"The city authorities were in consultation this morning with the navy," the Mayor said, "with a view of securing some tents for temporary dressing purposes, since the city has not yet any funds to build necessary bathing houses. As a large crowd is expected on Saturday, Chief Baxter, of the Bureau of City Property, stated that it would be well for all those coming to bring their own bathing suits and to provide for changing as far as possible in their own automobiles or tents. It is expected, however, that there will be accommodations for men and women in large tents."

Coincident with the announcement of the Mayor, Dr. Blair Spencer, physician in chief of the Department of Public Welfare, announced that about

600 hospital tents had been obtained for the bathing beach from the local quartermaster's depot of the United States Marine Corps through the courtesy of Brigadier General Cyrus A. Rice in command of the depot. Dr. Spencer said he had communicated with General Radford upon learning that the natural scenery at Pleasant Hill was to be extensively utilized in connection with the new bathing beach.

A delegation from Holmesburg, including Torresdale, accompanied by Chief Baxter, chief of the Bureau of City Property, conferred with Mayor Moore relative to arrangements for the bathing beach. The delegation included William R. Horn, Councilman from the Eighth Ward, Kilby Smith, president of the Ward Improvement Association, John Lindell, of the Ward Improvement Association, J. J. Spencer, of the Pleasant Hill Association, and William Holmesburg Improvement Association.

It was arranged that the bathing should be held at 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon, with music furnished by the Municipal Band. Chief Baxter turned the beach over to Dr. Blair Spencer, who will be in charge of the bathing. Dr. Spencer, who is principal address, will be made by Mr. Horn and

OLD PLAYERS SEE SHOW

Taken from Forrest Home to Chestnut Street Opera House

Actors and actresses of days gone by who are guests of the Edwin Forrest Home at Holmesburg were entertained at the Chestnut Street Opera House at a performance of the "Passing Show of 1918" last night. They were the special guests of Lee and J. J. Shubert, and the famous players of a generation and more ago staged in wonderment at the modern development of the French Revue, combined with musical comedy unknown in the heyday of their popularity on the stage.

The names of last night's guests from the Forrest Home will bring back memories of days gone by to many old-time theatergoers. They included Mrs. John Jack, wife of the famous actor; Mrs. Emily Lewis, Mrs. Anna Ware, Mrs. Mrs. Samuel Charles, Miss Cowell, Miss Carrie Lee Stoyler, Miss Gilman, Percy Shelly, Miss Sam Branch and Charles

*

SCHOOL INS TO 47 PUPILS

stitution at Holmesburg First
to Begin the Autumn
Session

OTHERS WILL OPEN SOON

Hours Arranged So There Is No
Conflict With the Public
Schools

The Community Week-day Religious School at Holmesburg, the first of the religious week-day schools to open for the autumn and winter season, began its sessions yesterday with an enrollment of forty-seven children. Miss Emma G. Shingle, the principal, believes that this enrollment will increase largely within the next few weeks.

The school began its session at 3:15 o'clock, fifteen minutes after the Holmesburg public school dismissed its pupils. In that connection Samuel B. Pares, executive secretary of the Philadelphia Sunday School Association, which is promoting the religious week-day schools, announced that all religious schools would begin their sessions after the public school session had ended.

Considerable criticism arose in Wissahickon last spring over a proposal to have public school children dismissed an hour earlier one or two afternoons each week, so that they might attend the religious school. Objections were raised that that would interfere with the children's education by shortening their hours in the schoolroom, and that it also would conflict with the American principle of separating Church and State.

Agree As to Hours

In children at Wissahickon were dismissed from the public school only at the request of their parents, but the objections raised convinced the promoters of the week-day religious schools that it would be the part of wisdom to conduct the religious schools after public school hours.

The Wissahickon religious school will begin its term October 4, and in all probability there will be six religious week-day schools operating within the next two months.

The Holmesburg Community Week-School is under the jurisdiction of a Council of Religious Education, which the Protestant Episcopal and Methodist Epis-

Protestant Episcopal Church, which consists of the pastor, Sunday school superintendent and one other official from each church.

Yesterday's session began at 3:15 o'clock and continued until 4:30. Miss Shingle announced that there will be two sessions on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Four Grades in the School

The Holmesburg school has four grades. In the primary thirteen children from the first and second grades of the public schools were registered. Miss Louise Hafer is the teacher. The junior grade, which enrolled seventeen children from the third, fourth and fifth grades, is in charge of Mrs. David A. Little. The intermediate, enrolling sixth, seventh and eighth grade children, is taught by Miss Shingle. It enrolled thirteen children.

In addition there is a class for high school students, consisting of young men and women from the Frankford High School and the Girls' Normal School. Four high school students registered at the opening session.

The curriculum for the religious week-day schools has been prepared by a committee of the Philadelphia Sunday School Association, of which Prof. A. Duncan Yocum, of the University of Pennsylvania, is chairman.



FORTY YEARS A FIRE FIGHTER. Battalion Chief Hugh Colgan, of Frankford, will take a "day off" tomorrow. He will celebrate at his home, 6212 Torresdale avenue. Ledger Photo Service



SUNDAY BEACHERS THROG CITY BEACH AT TORRESDALE. An increase from six to ten in the trolley fare from Frankford to the point nearest the beach yesterday at Philadelphia's only municipal bathing beach. Yesterday, as shown by the crowd.



"BEAUTIFUL KATE." The little waif found seven months ago on the steps of the Fourth street and Snyder avenue Police Station and now at Browns Farm. Holding her is Miss Florence O'Donnell, the senior nurse in charge. Ledger Photo Service.

BENSALEM BRIDGE TO OPEN

New Structure Will Furnish Direct Motor Route to New York

The Bensalem bridge over Pennypack creek, which has been in process of construction since before the war, will be opened for traffic next week. The opening of the bridge will provide a new route from Philadelphia to New York, which will be more direct than that followed at present. Motor vehicles traveling from here to New York now proceed up the Roosevelt boulevard and turn off that highway at Castor road or the Bustleton pike. After the opening of the new bridge, vehicles can leave the boulevard at Welsh road, which they can follow to the Bensalem pike, leading over the bridge.

The approaches to the bridge have been laid with penetration macadam, which will remain until the approaches have settled to a natural level. The approaches will then be permanently paved.



CHARLES MCGUCKIN IS THE HERO OF HOLMESBURG FOOT BALL FANS SINCE HE HELPED TO HANG THAT 6-0 DEFEAT ON CONSHOHOCKEN ON SATURDAY.

Holmesburg Church Observes Seventy-fifth Anniversary.

On Monday evening, October 27, a reception was given in the parish house of Emmanuel P. E. Church, in honor of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the church corporation. The building was crowded to its capacity. Many invited guests were present from the various churches of the neighborhood. It was a most successful celebration, characterized by delightful cordiality and hospitality. The Rev. Sydney Goodman, rector of the parish, presided and gave a hearty welcome to all present. He read letters from the Rev. Arnold Harris Hord, secretary to the bishop of the diocese, and from the Rev. Robert Alexander Tuft, rector of the Church of Our Saviour, Brookland, Washington, D. C., only surviving former rectors of Emmanuel Church, expressing their regret at their inability to be present and their congratulations and best wishes.

The rector requested Axel Teisen, Esq., to act as chairman during a part of the evening to enable Mr. Goodman to personally greet the guests.

Interesting and kindly addresses were delivered by the Rev. Robert A. Edwards, D.D., rector of Holy Innocents' P. E. Church, Tacony; the Rev. Walter F. Carson, pastor of the Holmesburg Presbytery; the Rev. William McClellan, rector of St. Luke's P. E. Church, Hustleton, Phila.; the Rev. A. Z. Bapson, pastor of the Holmesburg Episcopal Church; the Rev. A. A. Thompson, rector of the Holmesburg Methodist Church, and the Rev. Stroup, curate of All Saints' Church, Torresdale, in charge of the excellent music was given between the speeches, in charge of Ann Haines, choirmaster; Mr. Annisson and Dr. Charles S. Solos given by Mrs. William and Mrs. Ben. C. Clark were appreciated and admired. At the conclusion of the ceremonies refreshments were served.

The committee of the Ladies' Aid, in charge of the affair consisted of Mrs. M. Frost, Mrs. Louisa K. Mrs. Edward H. Banister, Mrs. B. Cartledge, Mrs. William Mrs. Helen Smythe.

The committee were much indebted to the ladies of Emmanuel Girls' school and the present church building erected, was the gift of Mrs. Lardner in 1831. The church was greatly enlarged subsequently by Catherine M. Moore subscription of the \$2536.50 required for the present edifice.

... by Alfred Enoch and George G. Wagner and cost \$10,377.52. It was opened for service July 4, 1853, the Rev. John P. Lundy, D.D., preaching a patriotic sermon.

The original building was erected in 1831 through the instrumentality of the Rev. George Sheets, rector of Trinity Church, Oxford, and All Saints' Church, Torresdale. It was consecrated by Bishop Anderson, January 30, 1832, and was known as Emmanuel Chapel of Ease. This is an English term, meaning a building erected for those living at an inconvenient distance from the parish church. On April 9, 1844, the church was made an independent corporation by act of the Legislature, under the title of "The Rector, Church-Wardens and Vestrymen of Emmanuel Church, Holmesburg, in the County of Philadelphia." The late Col. William Bender Wilson wrote and published a history of the church in 1895.

Next week the seventy-fifth anniversary of the incorporation of Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, Holmesburg, as a separate parish, will be celebrated by the following events: On Sunday, October 26, at 10.30 A. M., there will be a special anniversary service in the church, the preacher to be the Rev. Waldemar Jansen, rector of Trinity Church, Oxford, Philadelphia.

At the conclusion of the morning service, the congregation will proceed to the parish house, where a tablet will be unveiled in memory of Miss Eliza J. Brown, who presented that building to the church. The tablet is the gift of the Parish School Guild, of which Miss Brown was, to the time of her death, a member and an officer.

In the evening at 8 o'clock there will be a special service to which all of the local patriotic and fraternal societies have been invited.

On Monday evening, October 27, at 8 o'clock, the congregation will give a reception to the pastors and congregations of the various churches of the village in the parish house.

On Tuesday evening, October 28, at 8 o'clock, a reception will be given to the choir of the church by the congregation, in the parish house. On Wednesday evening, October 27, at 8 o'clock, a Hallowe'en party will be given by the Sunday School in the parish house. On Thursday evening, October 30, at 8 o'clock, a reception will be given to the young people by Emmanuel Girls' League, in the parish house. On Friday evening, October 31, at 8 o'clock, the bishop suffragan of the diocese, the Right Reverend Thomas J. Garland, D.D. D. C. L., will administer the rite of confirmation in the church.

On Sunday morning, November 2, at 10.30 o'clock, there will be a harvest festival service at which the rector will preach. On Sunday evening, at 8

... members of the Brotherhood of the Holy Trinity Fraternity have been invited to give a special service in the church. The sermon to be given by Brother the Rev. Frederick W. Goodman, rector of St. Mary's Church, New York City, and a brother of the rector of Emmanuel Church, Holmesburg.

LILAC CRACKED TO HER LAIR

Victoria Regia Came Here Straight From Kew, but Was It Lilac Time?

To the Editor of Public Ledger:

Sir—The statement made in the Popular Science department of your Sunday issue that the first of the flowers of the Victoria Regia seen in this country bloomed in the White House greenhouse at Washington does injustice to Philadelphia's right to recognition as the pioneer city of the New World in the encouragement of horticulture from the days of Bartram. I have in my possession the first gold medal awarded by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, which was given to Caleb Cope for introducing the Victoria Regia into this country. This was done by him about forty years before this most famous and most beautiful of plants flowered in the open air in the botanical garden at Washington, as described in Meehan's Monthly for January, 1832. The Egyptian Lotus also was introduced by Caleb Cope, as well as many other representatives of the aristocracy of flowers. For about seven years, during the middle of the last century, the Great American Water Lily, as the Victoria Regia was popularly called, was a familiar sight at parties in Philadelphia. I have letters mentioning it, one of which is the following: "Mrs. James Rush presents her compliments to Mr. Cope, with the expression of her sincere and grateful thanks, for the beautiful flower of the 'Victoria Regia' that he had the kindness to send to her last evening, and for the polite expressions in regard to Doctor Rush and herself in his note." I also have the letters written to Caleb Cope by Sir William J. Hooker, director of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, who furnished the seeds that brought the queen of flowers to Philadelphia.

The Victoria Regia bloomed for the first time in North America at Caleb Cope's country seat, Springbrook, now the Forrest Home, on August 21, 1851, and subsequently attracted visitors from many countries. There were as many as 5000 visitors in one day, so great was the interest then manifested in this unsurpassable plant.

PORTER F. COPE.
Philadelphia, March 19, 1918.



Mr. Charles Walton, Andalusia, Bucks Co., Pa.

Taken July 5, 1920, at the side of the Thomas Holme Library, at Holmesburg.

Mr. Walton was 87 years of age last June and is well and strong.

Last year he walked 30 miles in one day without inconvenience. He has been for many years in the daily habit of taking long walks.

He is a carpenter and builder, and in his younger days built many houses, some in Holmesburg, among them that of Mr. Charles Ball, Rhawn street and Mr. George W. Fox, Fkd. Ave.

Men and Things

Philadelphia Free Library Soon to Realize Its Dream of Many Years.

MAGNIFICENT proportions of the new Free Library on the Parkway will be accompanied by increase of service. Already the building, so far as the main part of the outer walls and inner floors are concerned, is complete. Last week bids were opened for its finish and interior ornamentation. Library equipment and furnishings and fixtures have yet to be provided, but will soon follow. Some time during the coming year, twenty-eight years after the dream of a great free library for the city was first entertained, the structure will be ready for occupancy.

It has been a little over thirty years since the institution was started, in a very small and modest way, in a few rooms on the west corridor of the first floor of the City Hall. For nearly half that time it has been housed in the old home of the College of Physicians, at Thirteenth and Locust streets. There, as its usefulness has grown and its patronage increased, it has found itself seriously cramped for space, putting up with all sorts of makeshifts and inconveniences in the hope of the better day that was to come when the vision of a big building, especially designed for its use, was to be realized. Now, eight years after ground was broken for that structure, it finds the present magnificent building on the Parkway nearly ready for use and for the expansion of service that its occupancy will bring.

Even in its present incomplete state one can not enter the new structure without feeling a sense of satisfaction over its spaciousness. With its interior incomplete and the great central stairway greeting the eye as its most conspicuous feature, it seems more like a large railroad station than a library. Climbing one hundred and forty-odd steps to the roof and stepping out on the big open air reading pavilion which overlooks the Parkway, one realizes that it is as high as a seven or eight-story building. On every one of the three main floors there is ample space for the various services designed when the main and mezzanine floors are divided and sub-divided into the fifty or more rooms that the library will contain. The planning of the building has had distinctly in mind the thought that Philadelphia, as yet, has not had a Free Library sufficiently well housed and equipped to give the maximum amount of service which such an institution can grant. So in the design of the interior of the new structure there is provision for many types of rooms and services heretofore wanting.

For instance, in one corner of the ground floor there is to be a newspaper room where files of the leading journals of this and other cities can be kept for reference and consultation. Some of the other libraries, like the Mercantile, the Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, have newspaper files for those who want to study the contemporaneous accounts of history in the making, past and present. But none has a room such as the one planned for this building, which will be almost as large, if not larger, than the main book room of the present library at Thirteenth and Locust streets.

Then there is to be a periodical and reference room, of even larger size than the newspaper room, with special stack rooms in the rear of each, so that the Library will not be handicapped, as it is now, by being unable to put within ready reach of the reader hundreds of periodicals and reference books which are on hidden shelves or in cellar store rooms to be brought out only on request. On the same floor with these will also be the special reference and filing room for the four hundred and fifty thousand public documents it possesses, the value of which, for lawyers and business men and students of government, has not been altogether realized in their present filing place in the branch at Seventeenth and Spring Garden streets. These reports and special studies, by officials and expert investigators of all problems of public concern, to City, State and Nation, constitute a mine of information whose richness of content is concealed by its present inadequate accommodation.

Map rooms and print rooms, photo and manuscript rooms, rare book rooms, lecture rooms and children's class rooms and rooms for the blind, are all part of the extended service which the new structure will afford, while in the Pepper Hall and in some of the other large sub-divisions of the interior of the building there will be space for special exhibitions of all sorts of material of interest to the book-lover and the student of the art of printing in all its forms.

When the new building is opened the library will be enriched by two special collections that are to be placed on exhibition in rooms specifically designed for that purpose. One is the Hampton L. Carson Collection of books, prints and manuscripts dealing with the history of American and English law, and rich in its extent, which Mr. Carson has presented to the library. The other is the very valuable and interesting collection of medieval manuscripts, plain and illuminated, incunabula and early printed books, which Mr. John F. Lewis has offered to loan to the library.

In connection with the music department, whose collection of piano and vocal scores now shares a poverty of accommodation in the Locust street library, there will be piano rooms where the music lover may run through a score without taking the work out of the library.

One of the special features for which provision is also being made is the exhibit of the complete card catalogue of the Congressional Library, so that readers may acquaint themselves with the works which that vast governmental store house of books contains and which they can borrow by special arrangement between the city and the Federal Library.

There are other rooms, whose uses have yet to be determined, and there is, of course, an immense amount of stackroom for housing the main collection of circulating books, while a real novelty in the Philadelphia Free Library will be the furnishing of a number of study rooms for students and the provision of a public stenographer to assist writers in the taking of notes and the preparation of special papers.

Into this storehouse of information, twelve times as large as the present main building, will be gathered not only all the works now housed in the main building on Locust street and in some of the branches nearby and in North Philadelphia, but much material that will be altogether new. Quietly, in anticipation of what was to come, the Librarian, John Ashhurst, has been collecting some of the books and papers and documents that are to go into the building, a great deal of which has not been placed on public view, or within reach of ready reference, because of the present inadequacy of space.

Yet if Philadelphia is to stock the library as it should, with all the varied and miscellaneous form of printed matter needed to carry out the purposes of its planners and projectors, a great deal

more has to be done in the way of buying books and material. The building on the Parkway will have sufficient shelf room to house all of the 650,000 books now in the main and branch libraries and as many more. So that if the city is to stock it sufficiently there is need of a considerable and continuing increase of appropriation for the purchase of new books and the replacement of old ones.

Growth of the main library has been slow and not commensurate with its increased use. One of the reasons for this has been the development of the branch library system, fostered by the Carnegie bequests and other gifts of sites and buildings for that purpose, so that the service of the Philadelphia Free Library has been more diffused, in the extent of its sectional provision, than is the case where a large central library serves an entire community. With its main library and twenty-eight branches and a force of three hundred and seventy-six employees, it now furnishes nearly four and one-quarter million books a year for home use and is visited annually by nearly two and a half million persons. In its periodical department it now carries more than twenty-one hundred magazines and there are now on its shelves books printed in sixty-four different languages. Under the limitations with which it has to contend, the expansion of its service has been an unusual example of what can be done in making a little money go a long way. Last December, in view of some of the prospective needs of the new main building, the Council increased the amount of the annual appropriation and next December, when the full request for the management and operation of the new structure is presented, it is expected there will be another considerable increase. A splendid building has been furnished and it must now be adequately provided for in all the details of its management if its service is not to be handicapped.

FEB. 25, 1917.

PUBLIC LEDGER PICTORIAL SECTION



"SILVER MOON," LIGHT SILVER. OWNED BY MRS. E. J. HARGOOD



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VIEWS AT TACONY, (PHILADELPHIA)



1907 THE DAY OF BIG WINGS