

## THE SCHOOLS MAY GET THEIR MONEY

### Montgomery County School Boards Go Into Court and Ask for

### A FULL SHARE OF APPROPRIATION.

#### Mandamus Proceedings to Determine Whether or Not the Governor Had a Right to Cut Off That Million Dollars—Supreme Court Will Again Tackle Stone.

Indiana county tax-payers will be pleased to learn that there is an effort being made to regain for the public schools the million of dollars which Gov. Stone sliced from the school appropriation. This cut, if valid, would cost Indiana county just \$3,688.32 a year for two years.

The relief, it is thought, will be obtained through the courts.

This week the Norristown school board through its attorney, C. Tyson Kratz, will institute mandamus proceedings against Superintendent of Public Instruction Nathan C. Schaeffer and State Treasurer James E. Barnett to compel the payment of the full amount due to certain school districts in Montgomery County, under the law appropriating \$11,000,000 to the public schools of Pennsylvania.

This action would have been instituted months ago had it not been that the late State Treasurer, James S. Beacom, acting under instructions from machine leaders in Harrisburg, blocked the steps looking to a legal test of the matter. As long ago as last December, Attorney Kratz, acting for several of the school districts of his county, proceeded to put the machinery in motion for a test of the Governor's constitutional right in the matter. He addressed a letter to Treasurer James S. Beacom, requesting him to agree to a stated case, so that the inquiry might proceed. It was to be assumed in this stated case that the reports from the school districts of the State had been handed in and the money to pay the warrants was in the Treasurer's hands. With this understanding the issue was to be presented to court and the question involved decided prior to the 1st of June.

#### The People Greatly Interested.

No question has excited more interest in Pennsylvania in recent years among the rank and file of the people than this one involving the right of the Governor arbitrarily to reduce the public school appropriation \$1,000,000. Every school director, every school teacher, practically every taxpayer, to say nothing of the Normal schools, is interested. But there is another interest that has been overlooked, the clerical force in the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. One of the duties of these officials is the laborious task of estimating the pro rata share of the appropriation due each one of the thousands of school districts in the State. In conformity with the Governor's action, they have estimated the share of each district on the basis of the reduced appropriation, and had it been possible to get action on the question early this year, a great deal of work might have been saved them, and by next week, when the period arrives for handing in school reports, the whole disputed matter might have been settled.

#### Beacom Caused the Delay.

The reason that action in court has not been taken before is owing to the fact that the reduced appropriation did not become available until June 1. The refusal of ex-Treasurer Beacom to agree to a stated case compelled the school directors of Montgomery county and their attorney to wait until after that date to institute proceedings. The reports of the school districts of the State for the past year, upon which the distribution of the State appropriation depends, are not made up before the first Monday in June. These reports give the number of pupils, male and female, the average attendance, number of months the school is in session, number of teachers, salaries and a variety of other information, which is filed away in the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at Harrisburg.

#### Under the Law Making the Appropriation.

As soon as the school reports are handed in, the Superintendent of Public Instruction proceeds to write warrants for the amount due each district. Before these are sent out, however, the State Treasurer must notify the Superintendent of Public Instruction in writing that there are funds in the treasury available for this purpose.

#### Will Test Stone's Authority.

If the courts decide, as a number of lawyers whose opinions have been asked express the unqualified belief that they will, that Governor Stone exceeded his prerogative in this instance, just as he did in the case of the constitutional amendment, the

ceive tardy justice, for whose delay Mr. Beacom alone is responsible.

In addition to this "The North American," of Philadelphia, has retained counsel and will test before the Supreme Court the constitutional right of Gov. Stone to veto part of the general appropriations bill without vetoing the whole of it.

#### NORMAL AND KISKI TIED.

An interesting game of nine innings results 2 to 2. Normal and Kiski met on the baseball field here on Monday afternoon and after a pretty game of nine innings called the game a draw, each side having scored two runs.

It was a pitchers' battle, Williams, of Normal, and Altman, the one famous Princeton twirler, being opposed to each other. Williams had a shade the better of the argument and would have won his game had there not been five errors back of him, three of which were most inexcusable.

However, it was a pretty game and the large crowd of spectators was well entertained. Kiski started to take her 10th bats, had two outs, two men on base, and MacColl at bat with two strikes, when "Andy" Wilson decided his team must stop the game in order to catch a train for home.

#### The Score:

Normal	R	B	P	A	E	Kiski	R	B	P	A	E
Owens	2	0	0	3	4	Wilson	0	0	0	1	0
Phyly's	1	0	0	0	1	Donahy	0	0	1	0	0
Long	1	0	0	0	0	Altman	0	0	1	0	0
Emm	1	0	0	0	1	Tump	0	0	0	3	0
St. Clair	0	1	0	0	0	MacColl	1	0	0	0	0
Light	1	0	0	0	1	Mead	0	0	1	0	0
Reed	1	0	0	0	1	Wh'ad	1	0	0	0	0
Williams	0	1	0	0	0	Springer	1	0	0	0	0

Totals 2 5 27 12 5 1

Normal 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Kiski 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

SUMMARY—Three-base hit, Whitehead; struck out by Altman 5, by Williams 5; base on balls, Donahy, Trump, Hood, Owens, Phycy-on; hit pitched ball, Long; umpire, Duncan, of Johnstown.

Normal plays a return game at Kiski on Saturday. On Monday they start on a trip to play two games with Westminster college, one at Grove City college and one at Slippery Rock Normal School.

An exciting game of baseball was played between the Eldersridge Academy and Pittsburg Academy teams, at Eldersridge on Tuesday of last week, which resulted in an easy victory for the Eldersridge boys by a score of 7 to 0. The Eldersridge team will play a return game with the Pittsburg boys, in Pittsburg, on Monday.

The Eldersridge Academy second team and the Kiski second team crossed bats on Saturday. Kiski won the game by a score of 17 to 15.

#### PERHAPS FATALLY INJURED.

#### Amos Motter Fell From a Porch Fracturing His Skull.

Amos Motter, of Heshbon aged about 70 years, fell from the roof of his porch, Tuesday, receiving injuries which will most likely result in his death.

He had been on the roof of his house, which was being repaired and at the call for dinner, started to descend. When reaching the porch roof he lost his balance and fell to the ground, striking his head on a stone wall, fracturing his skull.

He was unconscious when picked up, in which condition he has since remained. The attending physician, Dr. Miller, states that it will be impossible for him to recover. The doctor is also of the opinion that the old man might have sustained a stroke.

#### DR. HALL WOULD QUIT.

#### After a Service of 26 Years, He Asks to be Relieved of Pastorate.

At the recent meeting of Kittanning presbytery at Worthington, the Rev. Dr. D. Hall, pastor of the local Presbyterian church, asked that presbytery relieve him of his charge.

This matter was not generally known until Sunday morning when the doctor gave notice of a congregational meeting to consider the matter. It is needless to say the announcement caused a profound sensation. The meeting is called for Tuesday evening, June 12. Dr. Hall assumed the pastorate of the church in the spring of 1874 and has consequently served it for 26 years.

#### Racing at the Fair Grounds.

An interesting race, best two in three half mile heats, was run at the Fair Grounds on Monday afternoon. Three horses contested. James White's horse won the first heat in 1:23; Chas. Moore's horse the second heat in 1:20; and Hileman Long's horse the third and fourth heats in 1:23 and 1:21. The postponed meeting of the Indiana Driving Association, advertised for Decoration Day, will be held on Monday afternoon at 2.

#### Rain Storm at Chambersville.

Chambersville and vicinity experienced one of the heaviest rain storms in years last Wednesday. The storm covered only a narrow belt, but considerable damage was done to the fruit and crops. About \$50 worth of lumber was washed away from the mill at Hanging Rock.

#### Company F Inspected.

The inspection of Company F, postponed from Monday evening of last week until Friday evening, was largely attended. The boys acquitted themselves in a fine manner, and Major Penney expressed himself as being perfectly satisfied with the inspection.

#### Will Please Our Teachers.

The school teachers of Indiana County will be pleased to learn that Dr. M. C. Brumbaugh, who has been an institute instructor here at various times, has been appointed Commissioner of Education for this year.

## FISTICUFFS IN A CHURCH MEETING

### Pastor and Two of the Board Involved in a Serious Quarrel.

### BLOOD DRAWN FREELY IN MELEE.

#### Black Eyes and Scalp Wounds the Result—Charges and Counter Charges Made and the Matter Will be Aired Before the Court.

The Evangelical church, near Penn Run, was the scene of a lively encounter between the pastor and two of the officers of the church, Friday evening, which resulted in charges and counter charges of assault and battery being made before Squire James Crossman on Saturday.

It appears there has been bad feelings between two factions of the church for some time, which broke out in full force at the business meeting Friday night, which was attended by Rev. E. J. Strayer, H. C. Cameron, Frank Mentch and Frank Geesy.

A free-for-all fight resulted and Rev. Strayer and Mentch were badly used up in the encounter. Rev. Strayer lost considerable blood, and his face was badly bruised. Mentch was badly cut on the head, three stitches being necessary to close the wound.

Rev. Strayer and Cameron came to town on Saturday and both made information against Mentch before Squire Crossman. Rev. Strayer charged Mentch with aggravated assault and battery, and Cameron charged him with assault and battery and surety of the peace. Mentch appeared and gave bail in the sum of \$200 on each charge for his appearance at court. He in turn made information against Rev. Strayer and Cameron, charging each of them with aggravated assault and battery. They gave bail, \$200 each, for their appearance at court.

Rev. Strayer claims that during the progress of the meeting Cameron and Mentch got into a controversy and that Mentch attacked Cameron. He, Strayer, got between the men and in the tussle Mentch was thrown between two seats with Strayer on top. Rev. Strayer further claims that after holding Mentch down a short time he said "We can't have any fighting here," then let him up, whereupon Mentch grabbed him by the collar and struck him four times in the face. Cameron then struck Mentch over the head with a poker. Mentch then released his hold of the preacher and threw a poker at Cameron. Both Cameron and Strayer claim that Mentch then said, "Stay away or I will shoot you," and putting his hand on his hip pocket he said, "I've my gun and I will do you all up before I leave the church."

Geesy took no part in the fight. Mentch claims that while he and the preacher were tussling Cameron knocked him down with a poker, whereupon the preacher jumped on his head with his feet.

#### A RISING YOUNG ARTIST.

#### Former Indiana County Boy on the Philadelphia Times Staff.

The Philadelphia Times recently, especially the Sunday edition, contains some very clever pictures signed "Furman." They are drawn by Truman Furman, formerly a resident of Cookport, this county.

Mr. Furman is still quite youthful. He was born at Cookport, and had limited educational advantages, especially so far as art was concerned, but he developed great skill with the pencil. He got a position as an illustrator on the Pennsylvania Grit, and his work was of such a character as to attract general attention which resulted in a flattering offer from the Times.

#### Attacked by a Savage Bull.

Ex-Policeman John Malcolm, who now lives on his farm in White township, had an unpleasant encounter with a large bull on Sunday. He went into the animal's stall intending to lead it outside when the bull knocked him down with its head and severely trampled him. Luckily, the bull had no horns, else the valiant officer would have fared much worse. As it was he was rendered unfit for work for several days.

#### Half Fare For Veterans.

A movement is on foot among passenger agents of all the great railroads of the country to give to every veteran of the civil war, at all times, over every railroad, half fare rates. This would be a fitting and substantial recognition on the part of the railroads of the valiant services rendered by the boys who wore the blue.

#### Blacksmith Shop Damaged.

The blacksmith shop of John Anderson, in West Lebanon, was slightly damaged by fire Tuesday morning. The flames were discovered and extinguished before they had gained much headway.

#### House Struck By Lightning.

During the electric storm last Thursday the house of Marshall Barling, of Blacklick, was struck by lightning and was probably destroyed.

## THE DEMOCRATS IN CONVENTION

### Lively Interest in the Nominating of Candidates Yesterday.

### 6 BALLOTS FOR JURY COMMISSIONER

#### Jackson McMullen Wins After a Stubborn Contest—J. Wood Clark Made County Chairman and C. F. Murray Nominated for the Legislature—Still True to Bryan.

The Democratic party of Indiana county held its yearly convention in Library Hall yesterday afternoon. There were 86 delegates in attendance, every district excepting Buffington being represented.

Chairman John H. Hill called the convention to order and asked for nominations for chairman of the meeting. D. H. Tomb, of Indiana, and Hugh W. Smitten, of North Mahoning, were nominated, and the former was elected, the vote being 57 to 29.

In taking hold of the meeting Mr. Tomb made a few remarks, laudatory of the Democracy and indulged in a few pleasantries at the expense of the Republican party.

Stewart Martin, of Saltsburg, and Hugh W. Smitten, were appointed tellers. Harry W. Fee was secretary of the meeting.

Arthur W. Campbell, of Heshbon, made an attempt to have the convention take up a resolution which had been tabled three years before. This resolution had for its object the departing from the delegate system of making nominations, and adopting the Crawford county system (now in vogue in the Republican party in this county.) This departure was only to apply every third year, or in the years when a candidate for County Commissioner is to be named.

Squire Morrison, of East Mahoning, opposed taking up this business until after the regular slated business had been transacted. After a little wrangle the Squire won his point and the convention proceeded to elect a County Chairman, and nominate candidates.

Two candidates were nominated for County Chairman: J. Wood Clark and Franklin Sanson, both of Indiana. The vote stood, Clark 65; Sanson 19. C. F. Murray, of Blairsville, was nominated for the State Legislature by acclamation. M. E. Brown, of Blairsville, advised leaving the other nomination open to be filled at a later day by the county committee.

While Michael didn't say so, his remarks led to the belief that he had hopes for a fusion candidate for the other place. Dr. J. Albert Barker, of Saltsburg; John Patton, of White, and John H. Hill, of Indiana, were selected for Congressional conferees, and G. W. Roser, of Brushvalley; Franklin Sanson, of Indiana, and James J. Tinkoom, of Armagh, were named as Senatorial conferees.

The only contest of the day was that over the nomination for Jury Commissioner. There were five nominees, as follows: Jackson McMullen, of South Mahoning; F. E. Groft, of Rayne; J. H. Blose, of Montgomery; James H. Landfair, of Blacklick; and L. B. Kinsey, of East Wheatfield. Six ballots were necessary to make a choice, McMullen being the winner.

On motion of Stewart Martin the nomination was made unanimous. Before the last ballot it was manifest that there would be a renewal of the old contest of north against the south. Blairsville played foxy and kept her vote divided on every ballot. Kinsey's name was withdrawn after the third ballot, Groft's after the fourth and Blose's after the fifth. The ballots were as follows:

Candidates	1st Bal.	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
McMullen	18	20	31	24	34	46
Groft	14	12	12	13	drawn	
Blose	16	15	12	14	13	drawn
Landfair	23	25	26	31	36	39
Kinsey	12	12	11	drawn		

Mr. Campbell then tried to revive the tabled resolution and had a motion before the convention for its consideration. Again was Squire Morrison ready for him and demanded a reading of the resolution. It couldn't be found in the minute book, nor was it lying around loose anywhere. This was a poser for the convention.

The difficulty was bridged over to the satisfaction of all parties by a motion authorizing the chairman of the meeting to appoint a committee of three to draft a similar resolution to be presented for acceptance or rejection at next year's convention. The motion prevailed and Mr. Tomb appointed on this committee, A. W. Campbell, William Morrison and Secretary Fee.

Mr. A. O. Cravener was recognized and presented a series of resolutions the adoption of which he asked. The resolutions pledged the hearty support of the Democracy of Indiana county to the ticket and platform which shall be adopted by the Kansas City convention; reaffirms loyalty to William Jennings Bryan, and upholds the expressed party beliefs as to imperialism, and foreign possessions. The resolutions were adopted with a cheer, and the convention adjourned.

## EDNA BENN IN TROUBLE.

### Former Normal Student Figures in a New York Escapade.

About five years ago there was in attendance at the Normal School an attractive-looking and stylishly-dressed, though somewhat unpopular young woman named Edna Benn. Edna was a trifle stout and short, but she had bewitching black eyes, beautiful auburn hair and teeth like pearls. But somehow the girls didn't "cutton" to her very much and her friends in the school were few. She didn't remain long.

Edna seems to have led an eventful life since her brief sojourn in Indiana. Along with one Henry A. Brooks she had a hearing the other day in Jefferson Market police court, in New York, on a charge of assaulting Augustus C. Myers. They were each held for the grand jury in the sum of \$1,000 bail, which was furnished.

Myers, the man who claimed he had been assaulted, said that Edna Benn, whom he had met "on the street" came to his rooms, when he was out and waited for his return. When he came in, he said she threatened to shoot him with a pistol she had, and demanded money from him for alleged defamation of character. Myers told her that he had no money and then, he says, Brooks stepped forward and demanded a check for \$10,000. Upon his refusal, Edna Benn and Brooks both attacked him, so that he was badly used up. Edna Benn told a different story. She said that Myers had circulated some stories about her which were absolutely without foundation, and that she was bound heshould retract them. With this end in view she went to his apartments accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, and when Myers came in, she accused him of telling the stories, and demanded that he retract them. He struck at her with his cane, she said, and caught her hand in his mouth and bit it. Then Brooks interfered and stopped the trouble, after Myers had been forcibly subdued.

Edna Benn in her statement in the police court, denied that she had a pistol at all and said that there was no demand made for money. Myers was cut on the right arm in two or three places by broken glass, lost one front tooth and was otherwise injured. Edna Benn still carried her hand in a sling at the hearing, the place where she was bitten not having healed.

Mrs. Brooks, who was accused with her husband and Edna Benn, was discharged by the magistrate, but the other two must go before the grand jury. Edna Benn is a native of Allegheny. Her parents are dead and she and a brother were left a comfortable fortune. After attending school here, she studied medicine in New York.

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#### HAS OPENED A STONE QUARRY.

#### A. F. Moreau Will Use Local Material in Laying Walks.

A. F. Moreau, who has been laying cement walks in Indiana for the past four years, has opened a sandstone quarry on the Moorhead Coleman farm, west of town.

Mr. Moreau found it very inconvenient to import the material on account of the extra expense, and the frequent delays in shipments. He began looking around for a suitable quarry and after making several tests, decided that the stone on the Coleman hill is most suitable for his work.

The stone is very hard and is easily quarried. It lies on the surface and covers the whole side of a hill. It will be some time before any mining will have so done.

A large stone crusher and an engine have been placed at the quarry, and the stone is now being crushed. After the crushing process a residue of fine sand suitable for all kinds of mortar work remains. The stone can be crushed to any size, and is considered second to none, for the purpose of making walks. The crushed stone forms the foundation on which the smooth cement top is laid.

Mr. Moreau has found it necessary to engage two additional walk layers. They will be here the last of the week.

#### New Uniforms for the Band.

The members of the Indiana Cornet Band have bought new uniforms. They are of the military pattern with gold braid on the trousers. The blouses are fashioned after the officers' blouses. It is expected to have the uniforms completed by the 15th. A concert will be given on White's lawn on Friday evening.

#### Geological Surveyors Leave Town.

The geological surveying corps, which has been in town for the past two months, has accomplished all the work that can be done at the present time. On Friday Iddo Lewis and Frank Moorhead went to Charleroi and J. D. Foster to Latrobe. The balance of the corps will leave for Latrobe today or tomorrow.

#### started a Fire With Oil.

Mrs. Stella Stuffy, of Canoe township, had a narrow escape Friday morning from a serious injury. She was making a fire and to hurry it along used oil, which blazed up and burned her face slightly, besides singeing her hair.

#### Fell on Broken Glass.

Mary Stiffey, of Blacklick, fell on some broken glass one day last week, and severely cut her hand.

## THE GRIND OF THE COUNTY COURT

### The Constables Report but Little Disorder or Official Neglect.

### JUDGE REED IN JUDGE WHITE'S SEAT

#### William E. Wadding Guilty of Desertion—Jane McIlwain Gets a Divorce from Daniel—Grand Jury Hard at Work but the List of Causes is Small—Early Adjournment Looked for.

The regular June session of court opened Monday, June 4, Judge White on the bench. After the calling of court the returns of the Constables of the various wards and townships were taken up. In Buffington township the constable returned the roads in bad condition but that the supervisors were working to get them in shape. In Banks township the constable reported forest fires extending over about 1,000 acres. In Conemaugh township the constable returned that the County bridge over Blacklick creek needs repairs. Bastard children were returned in the Fourth ward, Indiana, one; Washington township, one; Cherryhill, one, and North Mahoning, two.

The constable of the Third ward of Blairsville borough has returned Kilgore and Wingenman for selling butterine. He states on his return that the parties have a license but that they admitted selling butterine. This return is also in the hands of the District Attorney. Just what will be done in the matter cannot be ascertained, but it may be that a prosecution may follow under the famous Oleomargarine Act that has been so notorious of late. This would be the first prosecution under this act in Indiana county.

In his closing remarks to the constables the Court called their attention to two rulings relating to Justices of the Peace. "When a party is arrested for a misdemeanor," said the Court, "we will accept a plea of guilty before the same comes before the Grand Jury. This will save the costs necessarily incurred in bringing witnesses before the Grand Jury. The Justices of the Peace, in informations made before them, not settled or not coming under the cases they can try, should make the return of their proceeding to Court within 10 days."

The Grand Jury was called and G. M. Weaver, of North Mahoning township, was sworn as foreman. It is thought their duties will not be long or arduous, as the criminal list promises to be short.

A number of motions were heard by Judge White. In the case of Jane McIlwain vs Daniel McIlwain, libel in divorce, after hearing the proofs, a divorce was granted on payment of costs.

On Tuesday morning Judge White left for Gettysburg to attend the Department Encampment of the G. A. R. and Judge Reed, of Brookville, presided specially. Nearly all the cases on the hearing list were disposed of or continued and it is probable that court will adjourn early in the week.

In the cases of the Commonwealth vs Samuel Risinger, Commonwealth vs Peter Senock, and Commonwealth vs Mary Senock, Surety of the Peace, all were held over until indictments pending before the grand jury are returned.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs William E. Wadding on the charge of desertion, after a hearing before Judge Reed the defendant was found guilty.

G. T. Hamilton vs James R. Bell, motion for a new trial, motion refused. Lizzie Bowers vs G. M. Smitten, rule to open judgment on grounds of forgery, judgment opened by consent.

The grand jury returned the following true bills: Commonwealth vs Lee Spencer, f. & b; Commonwealth vs Harry Reed, Walter Reed and Wood Palmer; Commonwealth vs Jacob Dick; assaulting an officer, a. & b; Commonwealth vs Samuel Risinger, a. & b. with intent to kill; and Commonwealth vs John Valentine, f. & b. The bills ignored were Commonwealth vs Tony Gatto, killing game out of season; Commonwealth vs John Marshall, f. & b; Commonwealth vs Peter Senock.

#### Monthly Council Meeting.

The regular meeting of the town council was held on Monday evening. The ordinance licensing drayman at \$8 per year was repealed. The grading of Water street between Seventh and Eighth streets was ordered.

#### AMONG THE CHURCHES.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Presbyterian church, will hold a dime social in the lecture room of the church next Monday night. A musical and literary program will be rendered. The public will be welcomed.

#### Rev. D. M. Kinter will preach Lord's Day morning on "Striving For Peace," and in the evening on "The True Faith."