

SEE WATER GRAB IN VARE'S BILL

Measure Would Give Eminent Domain Rights of Streams to Corporations

PINCHOT TO FIGHT IT

By a Staff Correspondent
Harrisburg, Feb. 2.—Interest in the bill to give eminent domain rights to corporations for the purpose of generating electricity for public utility purposes, which Senator Vare introduced in the late session year, has been revived in the late session year.

Vare's views of the bill are offered. One element of the conservative element appears inclined to regard the bill as "another" on the question of the right of eminent domain. The bill will open the way for an increased and "beneficial" use of waterpower.

Senator Vare's bill repeals the act of April 13, 1907, which provides that the right of eminent domain, as respects the appropriation of streams, rivers or waters, of the lands covered thereby, shall not be exercised by water companies.

Gifford Pinchot, state commissioner of forestry and one of the foremost exponents of conservation in the country, if not in the world, is not here. At his office he was stated that of course Mr. Pinchot will oppose the Vare bill.

The bill was referred to the judiciary committee of the Senate, of which Senator William C. McConnell, Harrisburg, is chairman. Senator McConnell offered a similar bill last session, which was buried. Such bills in other sessions also have been killed. "Conditions, however, accurate interest in the proposed plans to use the upper Delaware for waterpower purposes. This project is described as follows:

Plans to harness waters of the Delaware river, with a great central plant at Belvidere, N. J., and twelve supplementary powerhouses at such points as Bushkill and Dingman's Ferry, Pike county, Pa.; Narrowsburg, Barry county, Md.; and East Branch, N. Y., to supply the various public utilities of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania with hydro-electric power. The project has been developed to a point where only final action by the Federal Waterpower Commission is needed to have actual work started.

Paul T. Brady, one of the leading figures in the Westinghouse Co., is said to be the prime mover in the proposition. Further, it is said that almost \$1,000,000 has been spent so far in acquiring sites, making surveys, plans and drawing contracts. It is also asserted that approximately \$10,000,000 will be spent in the next ten years.

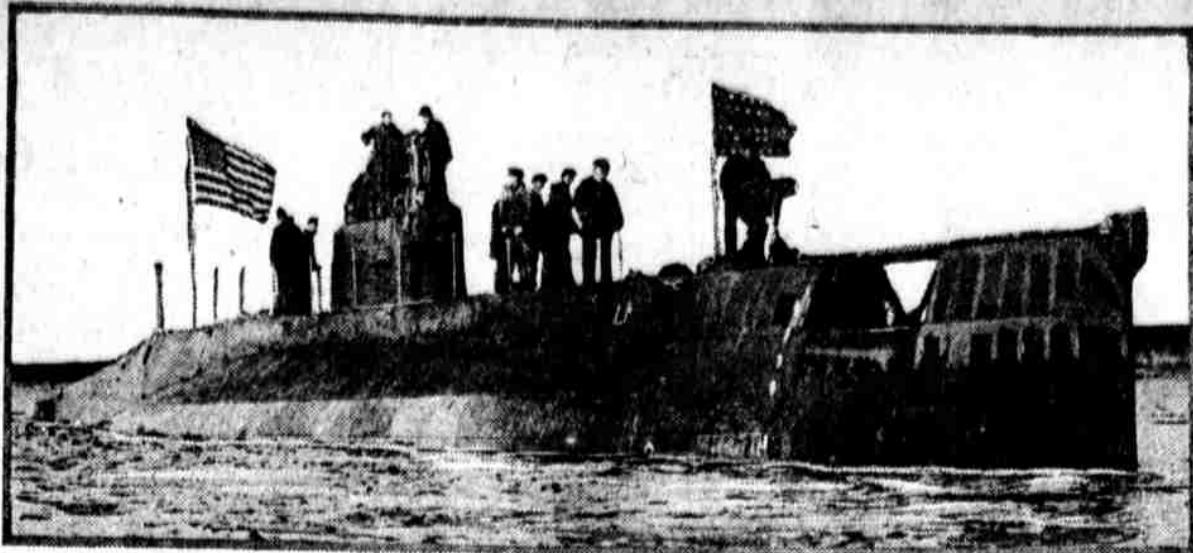
Continuing the development of the project, a review set forth the following: "The central plant will be designed to generate 200,000 horsepower, though at first only half of that power will be available. The Public Service Corporation of New Jersey has indicated its willingness to purchase from the Delaware river plant when it is in operation a great percentage of the power it needs."

Because of the big interests involved it is probable the bill will attract much attention throughout the state, for its repeal would affect other sources of waterpower from the Delaware river. The Vare bill repeals the act which was sponsored by the late Governor Pennypacker, who was a champion of natural resources. He insisted that the right of eminent domain should be jealously guarded and that power companies should be prevented from "appropriating" the natural resources.

Old legislators say that before the enactment of the Pennypacker act big interests enriched the treasuries of political organizations in exchange for the right of eminent domain, or, as some called it, seizure.

Those in favor of the bill say that

STRUCK BY PILOT BOAT PHILADELPHIA



The United States submarine L-1, which is based here, after being struck in the dark by the Delaware river pilot boat off the capes.

CUNNINGHAM AFTER JOBS FOR COMBINE

He is Seeking Greater Patronage in Legislature for Followers Here

HAS EYE ON BUREAU POST

By a Staff Correspondent
Harrisburg, Feb. 2.—Big "Tom" Cunningham's big secret is out. It was learned today that one of the reasons for his zealous attendance on the sessions of the state legislature is a desire to land more jobs for Philadelphians in the plan of the leaders to build up the job combine.

For one thing they are after the vacancy caused by the recent death of James Sweeney, chief of the bureau of standards in the office of the secretary of internal affairs. They are also hopeful that the Governor will approve of a contingent fund of about \$30,000 to be used for the employment of extra help in the two chambers.

The Philadelphians feel that they did not get a square deal when the committee assignments and legislative patronage were handed out. Hence Cunningham, Vare leaders and others in the new combine propose to stage a strong comeback. The office of the chief of bureau of standards and a comfortable slice of the contingent fund would alleviate the situation materially. There is a fear, however, that Governor Spruill's economy program will stand in the way of the usual contingent fund.

One of the reports is that Cunningham and the Vare leaders are working to

have Max Mayer, Vare leader of the Thirteenth ward, named as the successor to Sweeney. Mayer is now chief of the scales of weights and measures in the office of the county commissioner. Mayer has been active here lately. It is believed that an effort is being made to place either Mayer or one of his friends in the vacant post.

Cunningham, in chats with friends, showed a lively interest in the recent reports as to District Attorney Rotan. Cunningham does not believe that Rotan would consider being a candidate for Governor. It was explained that when the last mayoralty was under consideration by the Penrose leaders, it was proposed to the district attorney that he be the candidate for Mayor against Judge Patterson. Mr. Rotan refused, it was added. According to those who have talked with Cunningham, the latter believes that Mr. Rotan would rather be district attorney than anything else.

Leaders in the new combine do not think that Harry A. Mackey has a chance to be the harmony candidate for district attorney this year. Close friend of Senator Vare frankly said that if the "big fellow" were to be cut out, it would be cutting him out. By the big fellow, of course, is meant Senator Penrose, an intimate friend of Mr. Rotan.

GENERAL PERSHING WARNS AGAINST UNPREPAREDNESS

Would Continue Military Programs Until Disarmament Pact

Washington, Feb. 2.—(By A. P.)—A warning against pacifism and unpreparedness was given the House naval affairs committee today by General Pershing, who appeared to discuss world disarmament. While expressing approval of the proposal for a world disarmament conference, he said the United States should go ahead with its present navy and army programs until a definite agreement had been reached by at least the five great world powers.

"We should steer clear of drifting into a pacifist state of mind simply because we are discussing this subject," General Pershing asserted. "None of us wants war, but we do not want to be caught unprepared if war comes."

"Until some agreement is had, I would say that the safe policy for the United States to pursue would be to continue our army and navy programs and not allow ourselves to be caught unprepared, as we were at the beginning of the world war. It is unsafe and unwise for one nation to disarm"

such a time as this unless the others do likewise. I think I am in a position to know, better than any other man, what unpreparedness meant at the beginning of the war."

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Vare Bill Taking Domain of Streams From State

The Vare water rights bill reads as follows: Section 1—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly that the act approved the thirteenth day of April, 1907, entitled "An act providing that the right of eminent domain as respects the appropriation of streams, rivers or waters, or the lands covered thereby, shall not be exercised by water companies incorporated under the law," is hereby repealed.

The right of eminent domain merely gives the companies an opportunity to get what they could not otherwise obtain except at a prohibitive price, at a price more nearly "normal."

Ordinarily, when a bill is referred to the judiciary special committee, it is considered the measure has been "picked." In this case, as Senator McConnell, chairman of the committee, offered a like bill last session, it felt no special effort is being made to kill the bill.

Undoubtedly the proposal will be the subject of public hearings in which the whole project will be investigated from top to bottom. According to the legislative handbook, Senator McConnell is an officer in several water companies. The Senate, after its session last night, adjourned until Monday.

Submarine Sunk Off Capes by Ship

Continued from Page One
At Brigantine Island the lookout saw the flash and heard the deep rumble. Norris Smith, the guard, said today: "A few minutes before 2 o'clock the sky was suddenly lighted brightly, and I turned quickly and gazed seaward, but it was not repeated. Some seconds elapsed, and then came the rumble of the explosion, deep and long. From the time elapsed between the flash and the rumble, I judged the explosion had occurred some miles off the coast. I am inclined to connect it with the blowing up of a steamer or warship."

The guard at Station No. 120 at Little Beach, near Brigantine Island, also noted the flash and report.

Reports of the incident were made to Captain John M. Holdikom, commander of the Atlantic City station.

"We have seen no evidence of a wreck," he said. "The explosion, if it was one, could have occurred at sea or the light could have been reflected from the mainland. There was no storm at the time, and it is not likely it was a lightning flash and thunder."

The lookouts at all guard stations are keeping a sharp watch for bits of driftwood or other evidence of a catastrophe.

WOMAN'S BILL A LAW

Governor Edwards Signs Measure Sponsored by Mrs. Van Ness
Trenton, Feb. 2.—Mrs. Jennie C. Van Ness of the Essex delegation has the distinction of being sponsor for the first law of 1921. Governor Edwards approved her measure, House Bill No. 42, enabling women to be appointed overseers of the poor in all municipalities.

Among the bills presented to the governor is the measure sponsored by Mrs. Laird to repeal the Edwards 3.50 per cent beer bill of 1920. The governor has until next Monday to sign, veto or permit the repeal to become effective through inaction.

Bills sponsored by Majority Leader Rowland for women active in the work of the Republican party have also been forwarded to the executive department.

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BILLS BEFORE HOUSE AND IN COMMITTEE

Harrisburg, Feb. 2.—Bills were introduced in the House as follows: Dunn, Philadelphia—Providing eight-hour day for guards at jails and prisons. Philadelphia appropriation bills: Home for Veterans and Widows, \$23,000; West Philadelphia Homeopathic Hospital, \$60,000; Salvation Army Home, \$100,000; Good Samaritan Hospital, \$125,000; Home for Incurables, \$500,000. The Daix bill authorizing the city of Philadelphia to issue bonds for repaving was referred by Speaker Spangler to the municipal corporations committee as soon as it reached the House.

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