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W. H. GIBSON

CENTREVILLE

MARYLAND

LEAT BLAND IS NOT TO BE TAKEN-

the counsel for Bartlett-Hayward, to the Secretary of War the correspond. testing of ordnance material. get options. At first Mr. Price had ob- ence between himself and the chief of 3,560 acres. Mr. Bruce stated that private ordnance ground that was al- he had received the proxies of three tor Smith's activity that the whole of if the emergency that sought to cover Washington Senators Hitchcock, of Kent Island was to be taken over by the high-handed attempt to take over Nebraska; Frelinghuysen, of New sweeping revulsion of sentiment and options.

the men who had given him options without stint or question. Army off. Meantime Senator Smith was anshad rescinded them. To this Senator Smith replied that of the 3,500 acres optioned, at least 2,500 had been recalled and he offered to call from the sudience the men who had regretted they were all to be driven from Kent Island. Mr. Price, who had obtained the options, also made a statement, islanders learned that they would be compelled to leave, he found it im possible to get further options.

Used Threat, Says Smith. would pay a generous price, but if outrage. As Senator Martin progressthey were refused the government ed his indignation seemed to increase around Senator Smith and thankel would take the property over by con- until facing Secretary Baker squarely, him. Dr. Benton tried to talk, then demnation and be pointed out that he denounced the indifference of the dropped into a chair and, leaning his each option contained a provision for army officers who had failed to show head on the table, cried like a little a five per cent commission. Mr Bruce sufficient intelligence or professional child explained that he had assured Secre skill to find some other site, and then The other Kent Islanders also tary Baker that this commission he finally thundered at Mr. Baker: thanked Senator Smith and then sent would be returned to the government He admitted that he had told Senator blood into your department and find innce telephone. Presently Senator Smith be would expend \$10,000 some men who can and will find a Reed, of Missouri, a member of the of his own money to get Kent Island, place in this vast country where you committee, came in to termally not but he explained that he believed can put a proving ground without ity Senator Smith, as the represent-Kent leland to be the best proving driving these plain people of Kent ative of the Military Affaire Commit-

room their sons were drafted and called on by the government to coif it were necessary that they give up | food-producing their homes, as they have already state.

the government adrift in a new world. call of the country. Kent Island would At the conclusion the Chairman stat. had no such intention. yield, though its beart were breaking, ed that a decision would probably be But every man on Kent Island and reached Monday. every man on this committee knows that from the testimony of the army se to other sites."

cent. of the people of the taland were bill had given options on their lands had under duress. He warned the commit- tag the appropriation from the bill menths ago, when the people of Kent ter that it would be unwise to make upon a point of order. "I am very cor- leland first learned of their danger. this war unpopular. It would be best ity this was done," he told the sense Mince that time Senster Smith has to create as little misery and as lit. tors, "and I will see to it that the ap- been constantly at work, first pleadtie unhappiness at home as possible, proprietion is restored when the ap- ing with the War Department to find and that to drive these people from proprietion bill reaches the Senate some other site, and then when he their homes would arouse not only I am perfectly willing the Army found the Army officers determined cruel suffering on Kent Island, but should have a proving ground, or two to take Kent Island, tireless in his indignation all over the state. He de proving grounds, if they want them, misleonary work among the members nounced the proposition to take over and as much money as they need. I of the Senate. the island as inhuman because it was was only opposed to their taking There is probably not a senator, so unnecessary and uncalled for.

France Jelle Baker. He declared there were three other from their homes."

Maryland to offer.

eloquent appeal to the committee to Chamberlain announced that in ad consider the contiment of the people dition to the affirmative votes of the of Kent Island, boldly stated that the members present, who comprised a Bethiebem Steel Corporation had a two-thirds majority of the committee. when it became known through Sens- most as large as Kent Island, and that members unavoidably absent from Kent Island was so great this govern Jersey, and Wadsworth, of New York ment could easily compet the Beth- authorizing him to cast their votes lehem Company to permit the ord- for any resolution which would make it became impossible to obtain further nance bureau to use the Bethlehem it impossible for the government to ground. Because Congress had been acquire Kent Island. The entire progiving the War Department money ceedings occupied about 10 minutes. cers were becoming fastidious, he jously awaiting the verdict from the declared, and only the best in the committee room. Although the Sencountry would suit them for their ord- stors dropped in occasionally to assure nance ground, so that one of the rich be and Senator Martin, who was in est communities in the heart of the the room with him, that if the Milistate should be taken over to please tary Affairs Committee decided against their tastes, and they had become es | Kent Island they would assist him | travagant, so that price was no object in his fight on the floor of the Sen-But he warned the officials that in a ste Senator Kirwan. Dr. Benton and few years from now this country would one or two other Kent Islanders were be contropted with conditions when in the room anxiously awaiting the millions would not be so pientiful and news from the committee room. About when the people would hold to a 15 minutes after 3 o'clock Col. Tom. strict accountability the men who Keller, the reteran sergeant-at-arms of

Outrogo, Says Martin.

Senator Martin, of Virginia, ad nany options had been obtained by dressed himself almost wholly to Secthat if the options retary of War Baker. To take over were given willingly the government Kent Island, he said, was an infamous

"For God's sake get some new the good news home on the long-dis-

mailtee himself very loyalty of the Kent Island people, again, the people of Kent Island are as briefly. "I believe that I can say safe- and then spoke of the absurdity of the loyal as any people in this country. ly that I am second to no man in this claim that no other place could be The gave up 69 of their sons for the country in my loyalty to my native found. He reminded the committee National Army and six more volunland or in my eagerness to do all that at the request of the administrathat is in my power to push this war | tion he had addressed his people from to a successful conclusion," said be, one end of the state to the other urgand I know I can say the same for ing them to conserve their food prothe loyalty and the readiness of sacri- ducts and to increase the production fice of these people of Kent Island who of all foodstuffs. It seemed a cruel are before you today appealing to frony, he said, that at the very time you to save their homes in this very when every man in Maryland was their sons have responded willingly serve food and to produce more food to the call of their country, for not one stuffs, the government itself should of them has claimed exemption And, undertake to destroy the greatest

The Result.

officers themselves who have appear. Henster Martin were before the Comed here today that Kent Island to not mittee bright and early, and pled the the only place, and that the army off- cause of the Kent Islanders. Later, tr core have not made a careful inquiry the House, Congress caused the three million dollar appropriation clause to

Smith's Attitude.

sessions in addition to their land, but the committee brushed the surgestion

itary Affairs of the Senate, that it is i evidently the sense of this Committee that Kent error. In reply Senator France handed ernment as a proving ground for the

mment. Senator France, after an out a dissenting vote. Then Senator were squandering their money today the Senate, came into the room. I looked at Senator Smith with emile and said "Unanimous." Senators Martin and Smith shook

bands in mutual congratulation.

Dr. Benton Weeps.

Health "As I have said again and teered for the regular Army, so that they showed their love of their country They would have sacrifieed their homes, just as they gave up their sons. had it been necessary My sole point in all my efforts to save Kent Island has been my conviction that it was unnecessary to destroy Kent Island for a proving ground, because there are so many other other places that

the government can use Regrets House Action.

"Nothing is farther from my mind than to deprive the government of For the Kent Islanders, Dr. Benton proving ground, and, therefore, I very from their homes and to turn them these suggestions were first made to us by the parlimentarians of the tell us that the government will pay | Though the majority of the mem. House, who knew that the appropriathese people for their land. But what bers of the Kent Island delegation ex- tion was subject to a point of order. to money to the man who is driven pected to return home Saturday after. I urged Mr. Price not to make the from the home of his fathers and who noon, as the hours fied by they deter point of order, because that would de must abandon even the very graves of mined to stay until the entire bearing prive the government of money for his ancestors? If it were the supreme was over and return Sunday morning, an ordnance ground, and I certainly

> "Indeed, I am convinced that if Mr. Price could have had the appropriation restored in any way he would bave done so. As it is, Senator Martin and I have already agreed that when

Senator Smith frankly admitted that be felt greater cattefaction in saving

Kent Island because there are so many Democrat or Republican, who has not other places that would serve the beard from Senator Smith the story of Benator Prance indorsed uncondi- purpose just as well without inflicting | Kent Island, and it is certain that even tionally all that Benator Smith said, the hardship of driving people away if the Military Affaire Committee had





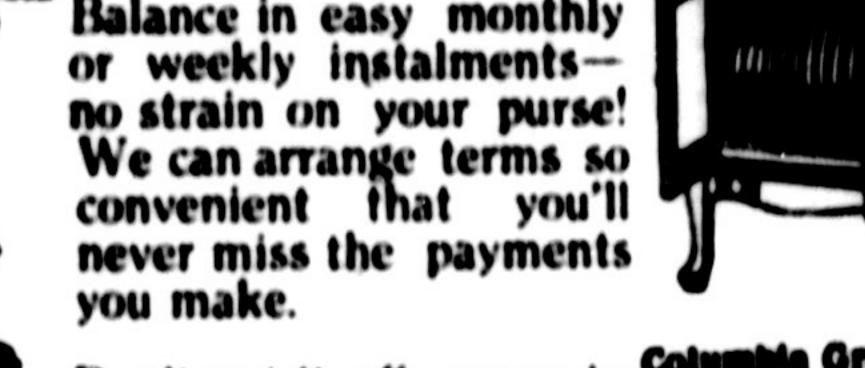


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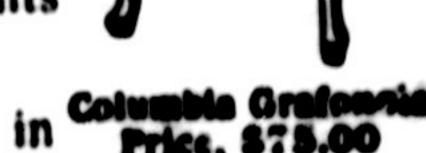
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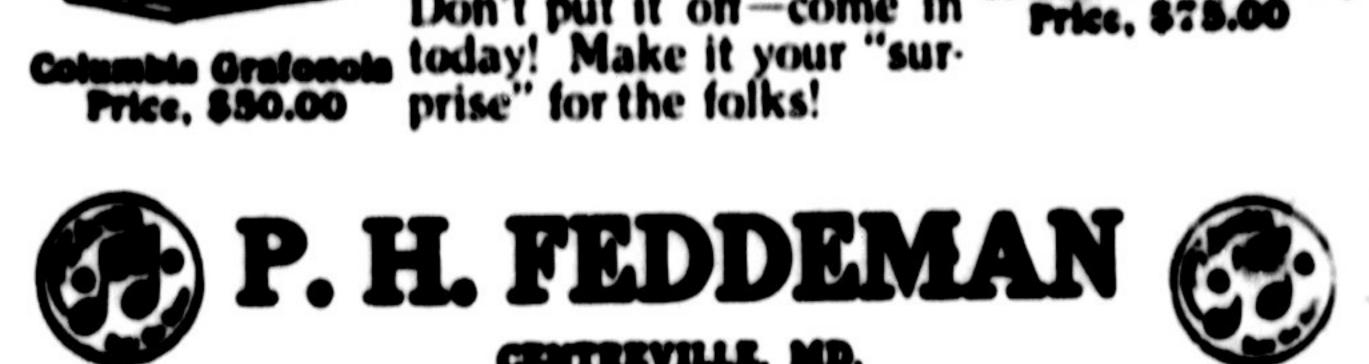
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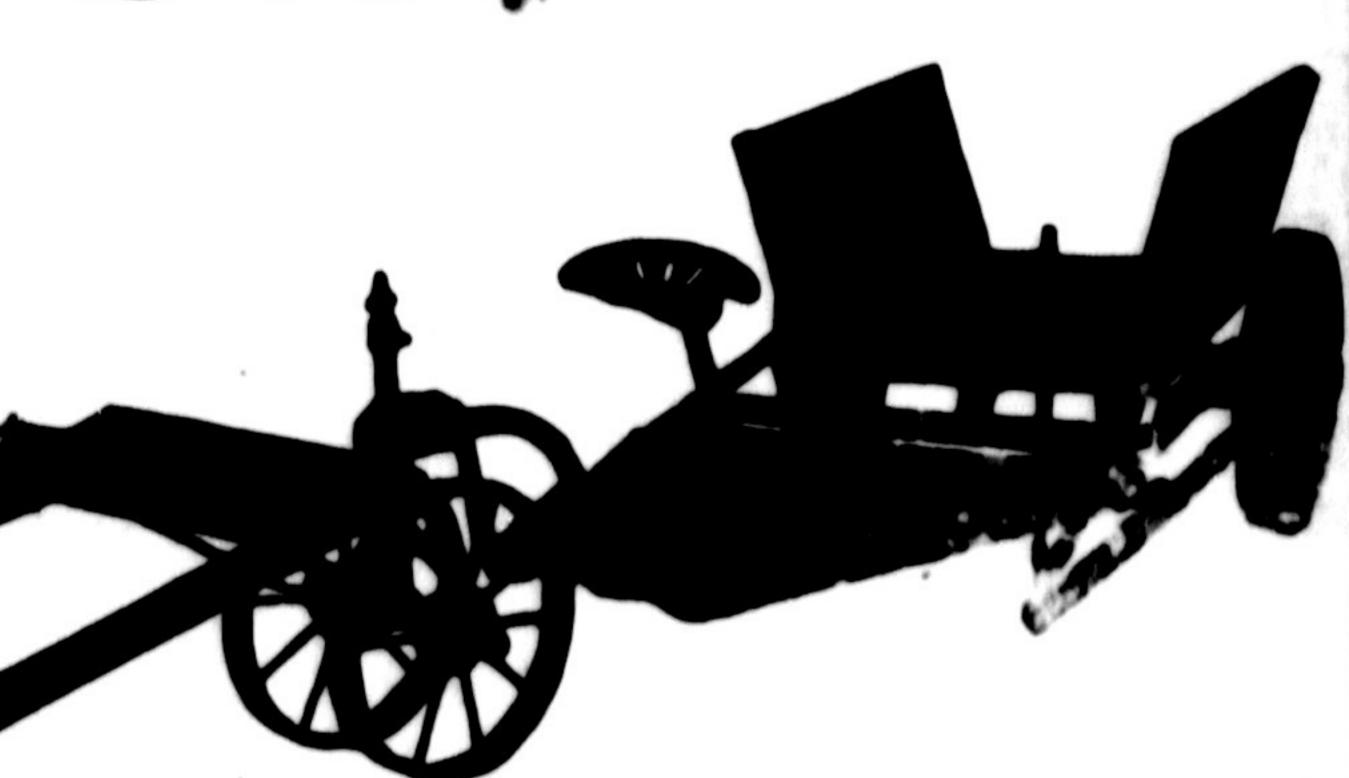






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