

The custom of government sanction for lotteries, indicated in the question, is recalled by a thin pamphlet in the possession of the Society, entitled "The Lottery Exterminator," published in New York, in 1842, as a first issue of a proposed periodical. For centuries, lotteries were a recognized source of revenue, and still figure in the budgets of several European states before the World War. The last of them in the United States, the great Louisiana Lottery, was not discontinued until 1890. Lotteries were used to raise money for the building of churches, museums and schools, or for the assistance of charities and the fine arts, with few qualms of conscience, until the last century.

In 1842 they were still flourishing in most parts of this country, but they were everywhere becoming an object of public indignation. Reformers were denouncing the evils of the system with all the flowing dramatic eloquence of the period, through the newspapers, and the usual mushroom crop of pamphlets that springs up when public opinion is aroused.

"The Lottery Exterminator" begins with the striking quotation:

"Wives have been induced to rob their husbands — children their parents — servants their masters, and foremen their employers; — mothers have neglected their children — disappointed in their ill-founded hopes has driven thousands to suicide; — in short, almost every crime that can be imagined, has been occasioned, either directly or indirectly, by Lotteries."

The pages of the magazine are devoted to the "ungowning" of lottery methods, descriptions of the unspeakable evils resulting from the pernicious system, and an exposition of the theory of probabilities. The periodical seems to have had a hopeful beginning, for the copy belonging to the Society is one of a second edition. There is a statement on the last page that the sale of the first edition has "exceeded their most sanguine expectations, every copy having been sold in less than 3 days." It had no second issue, and whether or not any lotteries were exterminated by its one number remains a mystery.

### **In Memoriam**

SINCE the last issue of this Bulletin the Society has suffered the loss of two of its most prominent members. It is a strange coincidence that two great men whose activities were carried on in different parts of the country, should have achieved their prominence

along such similar lines. Both men had a legal training which later was used to advantage in the organization of large and profitable industrial activities. Both men attained unusual honors in the political field. Both held the love and respect of their associates, were easily approached and always sympathetic to the many demands that were made upon their time and energies.

Ex-Governor William C. Sproul of Pennsylvania who died on March 21, was a man who had achieved success through a long line of activities, dealing with newspaper work, the organization of a ship-building plant, and his connections with many of the most prominent enterprises of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. At the time of his death he was President of the General Refractories Company. His political career started at the age of twenty-six, when he was elected a member of the State Senate of Pennsylvania. The confidence of his constituents was proved through his reelection in six consecutive campaigns and his presidency of the Senate for two terms. As Governor of Pennsylvania, to which position he was elected in 1918, he achieved such unprecedented success that he was mentioned as a possibility for the Presidency of the United States in the Republican National Convention held in Chicago in 1920, and refused the nomination for Vice-President which Calvin Coolidge later accepted.

With all his other activities he still found leisure to give considerable time to his interest in scientific work. He furnished money for the building of the Sproul Observatory at Swarthmore College and donated one of the most powerful telescopes in the East to this institution. The research possibilities offered by The Business Historical Society attracted him, and his loss to this organization will be keenly felt.

In Massachusetts there is mourned the loss of Hon. Charles G. Washburn of Worcester, whose personality and sympathetic handling of the problems constantly presented to him by his friends and associates made him of a man prominent in industrial activities and politics. His sudden and untimely death was a shock to all of his friends and associates and his loss will be felt by those who came in contact with him.

Mr. Washburn received a broad education in that he was a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science, and later finished his college education at Harvard, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Not content, however, with this unusually broad and technical

education, he took up the study of law and was admitted to the Bar of Suffolk County in 1886.

His combined training as an engineer and a lawyer gave him an unusual advantage in entering business and especially the manufacturing field with which he and his family had been previously connected. While yet a law student, he organized the Wire Goods Company, now the Wire Goods Division of the Washburn Company, which has grown with the years and is now an important industry of Worcester. Other manufacturing developments attracted him, but in later years he gradually relinquished his active management of many of his enterprises in favor of his brother, Mr. Reginald Washburn, under whose management the Washburn Company has become an organization of importance.

Mr. Washburn's energy and enterprise are reflected in the many other activities which occupied his time, among which may be mentioned his position as Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Director of the Worcester Gas Light Company, and the political prominence which he achieved early in 1900. He was elected to Congress at the death of Congressman Rockwood Hoar and was twice re-elected to this position. His connection with the special committee which revised the corporation laws of the Commonwealth was a notable honor, as was his position as delegate at the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention and at the Republican National Convention when Theodore Roosevelt was nominated.

As a college friend and intimate of Roosevelt, it was most fitting that he was one of the committee which notified Roosevelt of his nomination. This friendship between them endured throughout Roosevelt's life, and his selection as a biographer for Roosevelt and his assignment to deliver a memorial address on the occasion of his death, were tributes to this intimacy.

Mr. Washburn was deeply interested in a wide field of subjects, and his writings cover biography, economics, history and politics, and will be valuable to students for years to come.

Although a recent member of The Business Historical Society, he had shown a marked interest in the progress of its affairs and had been most coöperative in procuring historical business data of importance.