

# The Pioneer Press.

"HERE SHALL THE PRESS, THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS MAINTAIN, UNAWED BY INFLUENCE AND UNBRIBED BY GAIN"

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## PENNSY SYSTEM TO HAVE 50,000 MEN

Ready in Case of a Strike to Prevent Interruption of Service.

The Pennsylvania railroad will have at least 50,000 men—perhaps as many as 60,000—on the lines east of Pittsburgh, pledged and ready for special duty to prevent, if possible, a complete interruption of the service in the event of a strike. This is indicated by the immense volume of responses that have been pouring in at all points on the railroad, in reply to General Manager S. C. Long's call for volunteers. The freedom with which volunteers have come forward does not mean that a strike of the 25,000 engine-men, conductors, firemen and trainmen could fail to be a serious matter, or that the railroad could be kept in operation except with great difficulty. The volunteers would have to be withdrawn from other branches of the service, and in some cases would require additional training for their new duties. It does, however, prove that this railroad can count upon the complete loyalty and devotion of a very large number of employees in any company. Some of the engine-men, conductors, firemen and trainmen, even, have assured their employing officers that they would remain loyal.

In other branches of the service, including the clerical and office forces, response has been very general. An overwhelming majority of the shopmen have placed their services at the disposal of the company. At all the large shops, such as those in and about Camden, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Harrisburg, Altoona, Reno and Pitsburgh, practically every man has offered to do everything in his power to guard against a tie-up of the railroad.

Many pension employees have eagerly written that they are still fit for active work and ready to serve on call. Other volunteers include men who resigned to take up different work but still feel that ties of the old loyalty. A typical letter from one of these men, whose father before him worked 40 years for the railroad, offered the services of the writer and of 25 other men, including 10 ex-engine-men and 5 ex-firemen, "in gratitude for the kindness extended by the railroad to myself and my old father."

Stockholders have offered to protect the interests of the property in which they are part owners. One of them volunteered his services free for three months, and promised to recruit others for similar service.

"I am now nearly 70 years old, clear-headed, firm on my feet and at your service," said a letter from one of the Soldiers' National Homes. The man who wrote it was an excursion agent, many years ago, for seashore travel.

"I would take almost unlimited chances to remain loyal," wrote an old employe, now well up in the service, who offered to do any work required.

A fireman who declared he would not go out said: "The officers of my division have been very good to me. It is my duty to do likewise. I shall do all in my power to prevent this trouble."

A yardmaster with 31 years of service said that not one in ten of his 100 men would strike, if ordered to. "You would have to get a gatling gun to drive them away."

One effect of the call for volunteers has been to increase very greatly the number of new applications for positions in the service.

CHARLESTON: Peter Rhodes, 100, is the oldest man registered to vote in the state primary. He lives in precinct No. 2, Harper district, Roane county. He was born in Virginia, the records show, forty-seven years before the separation of West Virginia from the mother state.

Those senate appropriations seem large, but it's cheaper to be prepared than to get licked.—New York Sun.

## THE CITY COUNCIL DECIDES TO OIL PRINCIPAL STREETS

WILL PURCHASE 8,000 GALLONS FROM THE BAKER OIL COMPANY, RICHMOND

CITIZENS WILL BE ASKED TO CLEAN STREETS IN FRONT OF PROPERTY

SPECIAL MEETING TONIGHT TO PASS TWO ORDINANCES—ROUTINE BUSINESS

Definite action was taken last night by the City Council to improve the condition of the streets, it being decided to purchase an 8,000 gallon car of oil from the Baker Oil Company, Richmond, Va., and as quickly as it arrives place it on the streets.

The council also decided to ask the citizens to sweep the streets in front of their several properties the day before the oil is put on, and thereby save the city the expense of cleaning the streets. It was also decided to use hand sprinklers, which is much cheaper than the former method employed and will cause the oil to be more evenly distributed and cover a large area. Street Commissioner Bromley estimated that the 8,000 gallons will cover 40 city squares. The oil will cost \$7.07 F. O. B. Martinsburg.

### Two Ordinances.

An ordinance governing the cleaning of cesspools, etc., by the board of health was read the first time and referred to the ordinance committee, which is composed of Messrs. Bert, Cline and Wiltshire.

The Martinsburg Power Company asked that an ordinance be passed ratifying and confirming the franchise granted the Edison Manufacturing Company November 14, 1889, and transferred to the Martinsburg Power Company March, 18 1895. This was also referred to the ordinance committee, and at a special meeting tonight both will be passed.

### Many Pavements.

The following pavements were ordered laid on East Liberty street:

Miller Small, A. P. Lord (3), George Frederick, Mrs. Johanna Porter, Cleg Keplinger, Mrs. Charles Lambert, (2), A. Snyder, J. R. Clifford, Mrs. George Schubert, Steven Elum, Mrs. Mary Brown, Mrs. Drenner, Mrs. Carter Agae, John Freeman, Mrs. Mary Ricker, Daniel Pitzer, Mrs. Samuel Boehm and Mrs. Catherine Sullivan, Gus Yountz, Third street; Pentacostal church, Pennsylvania avenue and High street, and Jerry Cashman, High and Avery streets.

### Must Repair Streets.

The Martinsburg Gas Company repairing a line on West King street did not leave the street in as good condition as found. The street commissioner was instructed to make the repairs, and the gas company will be required to pay the bill. It was announced that the policy of the administration would be that all persons using the streets for laying or repairing gas or water lines will be required to leave them as they were found, or pay the city for the work.

### License Granted.

R. M. Jacques was granted a license to operate a shooting gallery at 135 East Martin street.

### To Erect Sign.

Charles E. Fisher was given permission to erect a large sign at his jewelry store, 209 North Queen street but the matter of permitting a small

sign to be erected was withheld.

### Water Line Trouble.

C. C. Lemen, who laid a water line to his property on Avery street, asked for a reduction in the rate, claiming he was entitled to such because of the expense entailed in laying the line. The water board will pass on this.

### Must Lay Pavements.

The residents of North Maple avenue will be required to lay their pavements, and Recorder Zirkle was directed to notify them again, and if they fail to heed the notice action will be taken.

### Clean Lots.

Messrs. Walker and Dorn were directed to clean their lot at the North Queen street crossing, the Shawkey heirs to cut hedge on North High street, and Mrs. Rigsby on East John street.

### Fence Quarry Holes.

Street Commissioner Bromley was directed to build a fence around the quarry holes on Third street. The bridge on the Charles Town road at the quarry being reported in a dangerous condition, the street commissioner will also give it attention, and if found to be in the city limits repairs will be made.

### Remove Garbage.

Those in charge of the garbage on Saturday nights were directed to remove the cans from the streets.

The fire committee was directed to ask for bids for the firemen's uniforms.

The street commissioner will place a railing at the end of the sidewalk at Strothers's property on Virginia avenue.

Street Commissioner Bromley will make an estimate of opening a ditch on Hess avenue.

Those attending the meeting were Mayor P. W. Leiter, Councilmen, D. N. Dunn, G. B. Wiltshire, W. S. Bert, F. M. Cline and John T. Wolford; Recorder John H. Zirkle, City Attorney Paul H. Martin, Water Superintendent George H. Shaffer, Fire Chief Martin Quinn and City Health Officer Dr. C. E. Clay.

### Attend Banquet.

After adjournment the mayor and council accepted an invitation to attend a banquet given by the T. P. A. at Wood-He's cafe.

## TURNPIKE DIRECTORS WILL NAME OFFICER

Who will Be Stationed on Williamsport Pike to See That Speeding is Stopped

In reply to the request of the many residents of the Martinsburg and Williamsport turnpike that speeding on that highway be stopped, the county court has ordered the directors of the company to appoint an officer to be stationed on that road for that purpose.

The directors will have to appoint the officer and while nothing definite regarding who he will be is known, it is thought that the company will hold a meeting shortly and name him.

The Kaiser thinks the trouble with the Russians is that they will not stay whipped.—Florida Times-Union.

Not only is the Colonel not a sure winner, but he isn't even a good loser.—Charleston News and Courier.

Carranza's General Trevino evidently wants it understood somewhere that he is not inviting Villistas to join him in a war against the United States, but has resumed battle against them. This is an agreeable coming from that quarter.—New York World.

## MEAT PRODUCTION IN THE FAR WEST

Increase in Beef and Mutton Output Means More Production Cost.

That hereafter there should be a slow increase in the output of beef and mutton in the range states of the west, but that this increase is likely to be accompanied by an increase in the cost of production, are the chief conclusions of a report on "Live Stock Production in the Eleven Far Western Range States" which the department of agriculture has just published. This report is one of the five sections of the extensive report on the meat situation in the United States, in the preparation of which the department specialists have been engaged for some time. It discusses the reasons for the long decline in meat production in the West and explains why there is reason to believe that this is now a thing of the past. In addition it includes detailed studies of the present cost of producing steers and lambs.

Between 1910 and 1914, the year in which the investigations on which the report is based was made, the numbers of live stock in the eleven states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming, declined about 13 per cent. For this decline the report holds the settlement of public lands and the consequent reduction of the range primarily responsible. A number of other causes have contributed to the downward movement, but it is pointed out these have been more than offset by high prices and therefore more profitable range animals, and the general agricultural development which have favored production by leading to a more widespread adoption of the practice of winter feeding and winter pasturing on alfalfa and cultivated crops.

The prediction that this decrease hereafter will give way to an increase is based upon the belief that the amount of live stock on farms and homesteads will be greater in the future, that the stock ranges in the national forests will continue to improve, that the carrying capacity of the stock ranges on the public domain may be increased by legal regulation, and finally that high prices of range animals and better methods will result in a more efficient utilization of the available forage, or, in other words, a greater production per unit of forage.

In 1914 it was estimated that no more than 20 per cent of the new settlers had more live stock than was necessary to supply them with work and milch animals. The situation in this respect, however, was changing even then, and the movement for the production of more live stock may be expected to continue because both market and agricultural conditions make this indispensable to really successful farming. The change will be gradual, it is said, and only a few head of stock will be added to a farm, but ultimately and in the aggregate the increase will be greater than that which is likely to be accomplished in any other way. The problem for the States and the National government, it is said, is to aid in the change and working out a system which will make such agriculture profitable.

In addition to this increase in the numbers of farm stock, there is little doubt that the carrying capacity of the existing ranges can be greatly enlarged. This has been demonstrated in the national capacity of many ranges

from 15 to 30 per cent. This process should continue for at least ten years more and should result in building up the carrying capacity of the national forests as a whole by perhaps 15 per cent.

A similar control could be exercised over the public domain outside of the forests, it is estimated that the capacity of these ranges could be increased about 30 per cent. About one of this would result from the improvement in the range itself after overstocking and premature grazing were prevented and natural reseeding facilitated. The remainder would follow water development, the construction of fences and the introduction of methods of handling stock which are out of the question as long as the improvement of conditions on the range merely provides an incentive for new men to crowd in and undo by overstocking whatever good has been accomplished. The carrying capacity of these ranges has greatly diminished in the past and under the present system there is no reason for supposing that it will increase in the future.

Other factors, though of less importance, that should tend to increase the future production of live stock are greater economy in the use of forage both on the range and on the farm, the use of more and higher grade bulls and better management of the breeding animals through the year. The last two, it is said, offer the possibility of increasing the calf crop five or ten per cent and the average weight of a two-year-old steer perhaps thirty pounds.

It is believed that a yearling steer where winter feeding is practiced will cost approximately \$30 and a "long" two-year-old \$45. In the range sections of the southwest, on the other hand, the costs may be estimated at from \$15 to \$19 for a yearling and from \$20 to \$25 for a two-year-old. With sheep there is a similar variation. In California the cost of producing a lamb it placed at \$1.55, in the southwest \$1.71 and in the northwest at \$1.82. In considering these figures it must be remembered that they all may be materially altered by increasing or diminishing the percentage of births in the herds and flocks. Better methods, it is pointed out, will almost certainly increase the calf and lamb crops and in this way reduce the cost of production per head.

In estimating these costs the investigators charged against the stock the market value, in the vicinity, of all the feed consumed. In this way the necessity of considering the money invested in land and equipment was eliminated but, on the other hand, allowing the stock owner a profit on the feed increases somewhat the estimated cost of producing animals. As the owner might not get his profit on the feed if he did not raise stock to utilize it, the actual profits in stock raising are probably somewhat greater than the difference between the market price of the animals and the report's estimates of the cost of production.

Tauscher says that he was deceived by Von Papen, and maybe he was. Von Papen fooled a good many other News.

One more chance of the men who would rather carry a pike through perdition with Roosevelt than pace the Elysion Fields with any other leader.—Boston Herald.

President Wilson declares that he will gladly sacrifice his political fortunes in order to avoid a war with Mexico and his words ring true.—Savannah News.