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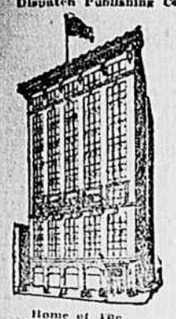

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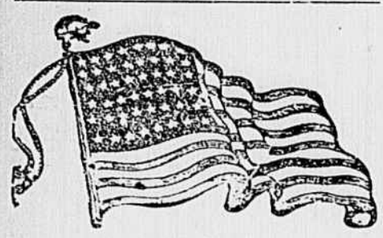
FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1921.



Reduction Not an Injustice

FRANK MORRISON, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, protests that there is no justification for the 20 per cent reduction in the wages of employes of the United States Steel Corporation. He says: "The employes of the steel trust are unorganized. They are helpless. The steel trust is a law unto itself, and it is permitted to violate the antitrust laws because of the fear that it will interfere with the company's foreign trade."

We hold no brief to defend the so-called "steel trust"; but public knowledge of its career supports the statement of sincerity of effort on its part to comply with the anti-trust act, as construed by the courts, in numerous instances when its practices were declared out of conformity with the statute. It has taken more than a quarter of a century of judicial effort at construction to clarify the act, so in the confusion which has surrounded it violation of some of its provisions may not offhand be charged as deliberate defiance. The steel trust, whether involuntarily or intentionally, perhaps has been no more frequent a violator of the law than several other big corporations constituting our key industries.

As to the wage reduction announced by the corporation, this is no greater than reductions that are taking place in numerous other industries in response to the lowered costs of living and the necessity for abandonment of the high level of war wages, to bring about a resumption of industrial activity, essential to the welfare of all forms of labor. Although the steel company's employes are unorganized in the sense of being under the dictation of the American Federation of Labor, they received the benefit of wage advances during the period of war activity, and now they are being treated no worse than the organized employes affiliated with the Federation of Labor in numerous other large industrial concerns which have been forced to institute cuts in wages in order to keep on producing.

Bounded by Good Roads

VIRGINIA is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean; on the north, south and west by good roads States. A revision in elementary geography which reflects no credit on Virginia!

News comes from Charleston that West Virginia, to the west, through its Legislature called in extra session for that purpose, has voted an issue of bonds in the sum of $50,000,000 for the building of good roads. To the south, North Carolina recently issued bonds in a similar amount that it might lift itself out of the mud. To the north, Maryland, already known as a good roads State, is spending millions of dollars each year in the construction and maintenance of highways that are a joy to the traveler after crossing the boundary from the Virginia mudholes that are called roads only through courtesy.

Already North Carolina is receiving advertising throughout the length and breadth of the country by reason of its progressive action which is bringing in new industries, fresh capital and added inhabitants. It is not beyond reason to believe that before it has laid a mile of road out of the newly available funds it will have received in advertising dividends a large percentage of its roads investment. The same promises to be true of West Virginia. It has proved true of Maryland. It is true of every other State that has let it be known to the world that its emergence from the mud stage had been decreed.

Virginia, surrounded by good roads, still struggles in the mud. It is making a splendid start, but much remains to be done. It is not necessary that it follow in detail the programs of its neighboring States, but they have shown the way. The Virginia Good Roads Association will ask for a bond issue of $50,000,000. That precise sum may or may not be necessary. It is a question for the General Assembly to determine. As Mr. Tucker pointed out in his Richmond address, Virginia should build roads to the limit of its financial ability, but various factors of taxation and revenue will enter into the final determination of whether or not bonds will be necessary, and, if so, in what amount. It is a problem to be approached sanely and, once determined, Virginia will go forward to remove the reproach and economic burden of impassable highways.

Spoken in Heat

THE TIMES-DISPATCH does not believe that any considerable number of persons—certainly not the Piedmont and Valley sections as a whole—will agree with the Charlottesville Progress in its petulant denunciation of Richmond following its selection as the site of the State's great medical school, the Medical Department of the University of Virginia. When the keen edge of its chagrin has worn off and it views the commission's decision in the calm light of what it means to the cause of medical education in this State and the South, we believe even the Progress will regret that it has characterized it as "the proposed selfish grab," and called upon "all genuine and loyal Virginians" to rebuke "the selfish and grasping spirit of the capital city." Were it otherwise, Richmond would resent the charge that "enough public money has already been spent on beautifying and adorning that place (Richmond) to satisfy the most greedy," but the words have been spoken in the heat of a local disappointment, and so will be forgiven and forgotten.

Richmond is prepared to work hand in hand with Charlottesville for the greater glory of the University of Jefferson, and that glory will be magnified—not dimmed—by the placing of its medical department in the capital of the State with its superior advantages. Richmond has heard the decision of the commission in no selfish spirit, but it does rejoice because it believes the decision was carefully considered and wisely delivered. Surely those Virginians who served so arduously on the commission are "genuine and loyal," and no one in his right mind will accuse them of aiding and abetting Richmond in putting across a "selfish grab." Their devotion to the profession, their loyalty to the State and their love for the university are too well known to warrant such a preposterous suggestion.

No More Temporizing

THE reaction in public sentiment in Germany against the Fehrenbach Cabinet because of its failure to put through its scheme of inducing the Harding administration to plead its cause before the allies in the effort to escape just reparations, has forced its downfall. Secretary Hughes' note of refusal was humiliating to German pride, for defeat meant diplomatic blundering, and, although German diplomacy since the outbreak of the world war has been a series of blunders, it is not in the nature of the German idea of fitness to admit extenuating circumstances. The rebuke had to be administered.

The resignation of the Cabinet, however, will not alter the situation which confronts Germany, though, no doubt, the crisis will be urged as a plea for further time in which to make answer to the allied ultimatum. But it will be a futile plea. The German government has been notified as to what it may expect, and the quicker it proceeds to form a new Cabinet, the sooner will it be prepared to make intelligent and satisfactory reply to the allied ultimatum. There will be no more temporizing on the part of the allies. Germany must announce its willingness to comply with the terms of the allied demand by midnight, May 12, otherwise the morning of May 13 will find French and Belgian troops marching into the heart of its richest industrial districts, with Berlin as the ultimate objective, if need be.

German procrastination has served its day of usefulness to stay the hand of justice.

Saying It With Flowers

RICHMOND'S iridescent iris, emulating the proverbial acorn, may give birth to an organization that will help to spread Virginia's fame and bring to it material as well as beautiful rewards. Already the idea, following the campaign which made the iris Richmond's official flower, has germinated, and, properly cultivated, there is no reason why it should not grow and unfold into a State-wide horticultural association.

The suggestion has been made by the James River Garden Club, which is now holding its annual Flower Festival and Iris Show, and if that association displays the same vigor and resourcefulness that it did in elevating its favorite bloom to official recognition by the City of Richmond, no one will question its success.

The idea is sound in conception. Other garden clubs throughout the State are interested and anxious to co-operate. A State association will have a wide field for fruitful activity, and the originators of the plan are deserving of and should have every possible aid in carrying it into successful execution. No State is better suited in soil and climate for the propagation of flowers of almost every description. Their cultivation is a joy to all who love them—and who does not?—and they can be made a valuable asset. Why not get behind the James River Garden Club and, with the iris leading the procession, make Virginia the State of Flowers?

The whole trouble is that great German minds in the diplomatic business never learned how to come square up to the rack with a definite yes or no.

That now distinguished foreigner in Ohio who has been granted the privilege of two wives doubtless has written back home that this is indeed a free country.

A flower show and the "long season in May" will find it hard to harmonize, but here is hoping the flowers will win out with the iris at the head of the column.

SEEN ON THE SIDE

BY HENRY EDWARD WARNER

The Weather Man.

High in a sheltered tower he sits
And picks the highs and lows to bits;
Throws every sort of foolish fits,
Then pulls himself together.
When Rocky Mountains reek with dew
He brings humidity to you,
And sometimes what he says is true
With reference to weather.

He is no grouchy son of hate
To twist the tail of roaring Fate;
He has no mastiffs at his gate,
But keeps his door wide open.
If he should miss it now and then
He is the mildest still of men,
And snickers as he tries again,
And smiles, and keeps on hopin'.

If he should mark the weather now
To bring cool breezes to your brow,
There'd come a blizzard, anyhow,
To keep the records swerving.
If he should yell for ice and snow,
Nix would an Arctic tempest blow,
At least I've never seen it so
Since I have been observing.

But what I started out to say
Was, as he digs and pounds away
And says what it'll be today,
E'en though he knows he's lying
He smiles and smiles, and tries again;
Hopes that he'll hit it now and then,
And is most patient of all men
Who try and keep on trying.

Hard Stunts.

1. Biting yourself on the back of your neck.
2. Flying 1,000 feet high in a submarine anchored to a basement.
3. Making a dollar buy a square meal for two.
4. Convincing your wife that she is mistaken about anything.
5. Inducing the cook to look pleasant when company comes.

Charcoal Eph's Daily Thought.

"When a man got nothin' else t' do t' worry hisse'f," said Charcoal Eph, in one of his moods, "he kin git a lot o' 'musement tryin' t' think o' sump'n dat ain't got two sides. Eat a dictionary, Mistah Jackson."

Lagniappe.

The world was made in six days, but only Once.

Spending money wisely is the stingiest kind of economy.

Absolute justice won't come yet a while, Sister.

Twin sisters swap clothes, but not beaux.

Old Man Probability holds his job against fierce odds.

Bowie Says.

"Boss, yo' all git any free tickets fo' de circus now'n den?"

Warning.

Nero was such a lum fiddler that they had to smoke him out to stop him.

Up With the Times

By B. O. B.

Rumor of Judge Landis' resignation to give all his time to baseball probably is another attempt of his enemies to strike him out.

Danville has decided not to invite Billy Sunday to reform it. Apparently believes it has reached a sufficient degree of goodness.

Suitable reward will be paid for information leading to whereabouts of that new straw hat recently seen adorning the head of a Richmond citizen.

Ham Lewis is booming Woodrow Wilson for 1924, but way down in Ham's heart he knows a certain citizen with iridescent whiskers who would make a far more radiant candidate.

Peru is welcome to the honor of having invented the jazz and the shimmy, but for the sake of its reputation it would better have stuck to its bark.

Perfectly consistent that Ford's senatorial candidacy pulled a flivver, while that of Newberry rolls away in a limousine.

New governor of Porto Rico is an original Harding man, and his name is Riley. No way to beat that combination.

Street car parade showing progress of transportation was incomplete in that it did not include the "two rooms and a bath" type indigenous to Richmond.

Allies notify Germany it has violated its treaty, but it's dollars to doughnuts that Germany already knew it.

Judging by the unusual number of colorful snake stories coming out of West Virginia, the former liquor leader who recently declared himself converted to the beneficence of prohibition was a wee bit hasty.

Echoes From Down Home

If you do not know what to blame it on, what's the matter with prohibition? That seems to be the rule with some folks.—Raleigh News and Observer.

When the North and West are inclined to complain at the number of committee assignments Southern Democrats have in the two branches of Congress, it might be consoling to them to consider the number of Cabinet places the Republicans of their sections have gobbled up.—Kinston Free Press.

The government prohibition officer says one or two breweries can make enough beer to supply the sick of this country, under the interpretation of the law permitting beer to be prescribed in cases of illness. The prohibition enforcement officer may be a smart man along certain lines, but he knows very little about people. Stock up the drug stores and arm the doctors with prescription blanks and one-half the men in America can get sick in a day.—Honey Grove Signal.

When Congress has finished voting $396,000,000 for the navy and $331,000,000 for the army, we shall probably hear that the country is entirely too poor to spend a few odd cents on safeguards for mothers and babies. In fact, the country probably will be.—Wilmington Star.

Textile workers in North Carolina and Tennessee may be called out on a strike. If they'll take our advice, they'll look the bad ones over and see if they can't get a base on balls.—Raleigh Times.

North Carolina is third in building and loan work. Which is largely responsible for the splendid development the State has had recently. The more houses erected by the B. and L. provides the more permanent citizenship and the more permanent citizenship means a more substantial progress for the city.—Durham Herald.

The victories of peace are provertially slow. The cost of living is still 88 per cent above what it was in 1914.—Winston-Salem Journal.

The State Department of Education is in earnest about improving the standards of teaching in the public schools. The department has undertaken the gigantic task of providing summer-school instruction for every teacher on the rolls either in county normals or in the larger State summer schools. North Carolina is determined that its teachers shall be worth more and shall be paid more for doing more.—Asheville Citizen.

Health Talks by Dr. Brady

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Vitamins and Food Fallacies.

Scurvy is a mystery to the laity because the fully developed disease is not commonly seen in this country, though mild forms of scurvy are perhaps much more common than people in general are aware. The fully developed disease, in infants or adults, is characterized by bleeding from the gums, sore swollen gums, foul breath, bleeding beneath the skin or mucous membranes from slight or no local cause (discolorations of the "black and blue" kind, sometimes wrongly ascribed to blows or abuse), pale complexion, a painful gait or pains in the legs (sometimes mistaken for "rheumatism" or "paralysis"). But this full-fledged scurvy is not the ordinary every-day scurvy, which is too easily overlooked or unrecognized. The more common form is not so clearly manifested; there is lack of physical and mental vigor, vague pains usually lightly ascribed to "rheumatism" (although there is no such disease or condition as "rheumatism"), lack of appetite, in infants a noticeably pale or muddy complexion and stationary weight and fretful disposition. The scorbutic nature of this condition in infants has been proved in innumerable cases by the prompt improvement and recovery of such infants after some antiscorbutic substance has been added to the diet, such as orange juice tomato juice, fresh cooked vegetable pulp strained through a sieve, or pure fresh raw milk.

It is a fallacy to assume that foods which contain vitamins when fresh lose their vitamins in the process of canning. Many canned foods are innocent of vitamins, but canned foods of an acid nature, such as pineapple, tomato, rhubarb and berries, may retain most or all of their vitamins for many months.

Pasteurization more completely destroys the vitamins of fresh milk than does boiling for a few minutes, because the twenty minutes or thirty minutes of heating at 145 F. induces some change which five minutes or less of heating at 212 F. does not produce—it has been found that such short boiling does not impair the antiscorbutic value of fresh milk, whereas pasteurization does.

Dried for powdered milk, prepared by subjecting the milk to a temperature of 230 F. for a few seconds, has been found to retain much of its antiscorbutic value. Dr. Hess found antiscorbutic vitamin was retained even by sweetened condensed milk when the milk was zealously protected from the air in the course of the condensing process, and he suggests that oxidation by the air accounts for the loss of vitamins in various cooking and canning processes. He cites the reports of Variot and other good observers who have insisted that sterilized milk does not cause scurvy—the milk was sterilized in hermetically sealed bottles, thus preventing oxidation by the air.

Home canning processes commonly do not exclude the oxidation factor; nor do all factory canning processes.

Questions and Answers.

Victim of Braces.—When I was fifteen years old my mother made me wear shoulder braces because I slumped so. I wore them several years. The result was far from what we hoped for. They made me more round shouldered than ever . . . (D. M.)

Answer.—Braces, splints or supports of any kind should never be worn except by advice and under the personal supervision of your own physician. Great harm is done by such ill-advised resort to surgical appliances. It should be clearly understood that a brace, splint or cast never strengthens weak or undeveloped muscles, and often makes the defective muscles weaker by preventing their proper functioning.

Weak Eyes and Eye Medicine—Is it not possible to prevent eyestrain by simply washing the eyes with eye medicine every day whether the eyes pain or ache or feel tired or not and doing this from childhood throughout life? (D. H. W.)

Answer—Certainly not. No such medicine is known. It is not advisable to apply any medicinal wash to the eyes every day as a habit, and in actual eyestrain the eyes do not necessarily pain, ache, look red or feel tired. Of course, rest of the eyes (no near work) and such glasses as the oculist may prescribe are the only remedy for eyestrain.

Piles.—I am troubled with protruding piles. Would it be a serious operation to have them removed? How soon after operation would I recuperate?—J. L. G.

Answer—In the hands of a reputable physician the operation for piles is less serious than the piles uncured. Usually three or four days of rest, and resumption of usual vocation in a week or ten days.

News of Fifty Years Ago

[From the Richmond Dispatch, May 6, 1871.]

Rev. W. H. Ruffner returned yesterday from a tour of inspection in the North, during which he visited schools in Philadelphia, New York, Boston and some other places.

In Henrico County Court yesterday the grand jury made thirty-two presentments for unlawful gaming.

Collector J. F. Regnault received up to last night $21,350 on account of license taxes. The list of sixty lawyers who have failed to obtain licenses will be handed to Police Justice White this morning in compliance with the law.

A new boat line on the James and Chickahominy Rivers is announced in our advertising columns today. The fast and elegant side-wheel steamer Palisade, Captain Charles Nelson, will leave her wharf at Rocketts on Tuesday next on her first trip.

The President has ordered the reinstatement of H. L. Chandler in his position of tobacco inspector, from which he was recently removed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue in order that S. F. Maddox might have the place.

The laying of the corner-stone of the free bridge has been again postponed on account of the heavy rain. It will be laid tomorrow.

The principal wholesale grocery houses of Richmond announce that from May 10th to September 10th their places of business will be closed each day at 6 o'clock.

The Petersburg Courier has passed into the hands of R. P. Barham & Co., gentlemen heretofore connected with the paper. Charles Peebles, who has heretofore edited the Courier, has retired on account of ill health.

The President issued the Ku-Klux proclamation required by the act yesterday and the law is now in force.

The Communists are falling back and the Versailles government troops are getting the upper hand at all points around Paris.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE ON TOPICS OF THE DAY

Kiwanis Club Praises Times-Dispatch for Support in Recent Activities of Organization.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—For the past two months the Kiwanis Club of Richmond has been involved in a number of activities, which has necessitated quite a bit of work on the part of its members.

In all of its activities the Kiwanis Club, either directly or indirectly is looking to the welfare of the community, and is always glad to co-operate with any upbuilding movement.

The club at a recent meeting passed unanimously a resolution of thanks and appreciation to The Times-Dispatch and Evening Dispatch for the wonderful support you have given to the club in your news columns on the recent district convention, musical comedy presentation at the Strand Theater and Mr. Cobb's lecture at the Auditorium.

Sincerely yours,
FRANK G. LOUTHAN,
Secretary.

Tucker Wins a Vote.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I am a farmer, deeply interested in developing the State of my adoption, consequently every political question and candidate interests me. I do my own thinking, seek advice and information, but admit no dictation. I was busy plowing when informed that Senator Trinkle would speak in Charlottesville at 8 o'clock. Being tired could not keep me from going to hear him. The opening phrases of his speech harrowed down all my hopes for inspiration and uplift. That indefinable, but vitalizing, influence of leadership was lacking. No irrepressible gleams from that priceless jewel, the spirit of true democracy, were flung as a white banner in the sky, that new voters might see that which ever has and ever will be a pillar of fire to guide through the wilderness to the land of pure delight.

I pity those who expect to vote without hearing each candidate speak. They will have as much in common as a wall flower at a cross-roads break-down has with the fellow who dances three sets with the girl of his dreams at the New Year's ball.

As for oratory, it sounded to me like "rattling of de bones" rather than one swelling rise of emotions following the sweep of a master's hand across the harp of opportunity. Expecting a feast for mind and inspiration for the heart, I was given a wordy bill of fare; but the table was set for Trinkle. But for his stating so, I would never have imagined him a "university alumnus." Closing his speech by telling "how grand it will be" to sleep in the Governor's Mansion, I bet a pig he snores. And I told my wife, "If this is the best Virginia can offer, we will vote for Trinkle not because we want him to pilot the ship of State, but only because—

"The game is more than the player of the game,
The ship is more than the crew."

I came late from the field, where I had been planting corn, and a message told that Mr. Tucker would speak. To hear all his speech I had to hurry to town without my supper. I was already prejudiced against the name "St. George," having known a Louisiana fellow so named, whose very walk was a portrayal of that abomination of spirit, "I am holier than thou." And such is the blighting, insidious effect of slander that I had a mental conception of an old man, senile from dissipation.

As Mr. Tucker spoke, I recognized the self-possession of the veteran instead of the assumption of a squad corporal of militia. I listened, not to a corner store harangue, but to the inspiration of "Words fitly spoken are like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

Hearing both were lawyers, I supposed the reason they did not campaign in the most satisfactory way—joint discussion—was simply because each held the same brief. Hearing them speak, Trinkle impresses me as an attorney arranging his fee, then the case. But, needing wise counsel, I go to "Old Man Tucker." In the corn field today some of the glory of that "pleasant land of France," as told by Macaulay, in "Battle of Ivry," seems to shine in Virginia:

"Now glory to the Lord of Hosts,
from whom all glories are!
And glory to our sovereign liege,
King Henry of Navarre!
The King is come to marshal us, in
all his armor drest,
And he has bound a snow-white
plume upon his gallant crest.
He look'd upon his people, and a tear
was in his eye;
He look'd upon the traitors, and his
glance was stern and high.
And in they burst, and on they
rush'd, while like a guiding
star,
Amidst the thickest carnage, blaz'd
the helmet of Navarre."

And now that Virginia's great national standard-bearer has fallen, I do not see how any well-informed citizens can fail to let their "oriflamme today" be the white-crowned head of Harry St. George Tucker.

W. W. PINLEY.
Win Wilkes Farm, Charlottesville, Va., April 27, 1921.

Finds Prices Still High.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I note a statement in The Times-Dispatch to the effect that building material has declined considerably, and would ask if you will kindly give me the address of the manufacturer who is selling at lower prices. I am just in receipt of quotations on finished lumber of all kinds including doors, and the prices from all of them are not only identically the same, but they are higher than the highest war-time prices, and higher than I have ever known before. In fact they are the highest now they ever have been.

J. H. BOLTON.
Burkeville, Va., May 5, 1921.

INFORMATION BUREAU

Inquiries regarding almost any topic, excepting on legal and medical subjects, are answered free. As all inquiries are answered directly by personal letter, a self-addressed, stamped envelope is required. Address The Times-Dispatch Information Bureau, Richmond, Va.

'Darkest Before Dawn."

Mrs. N. A. K., Bedford City.—"The darkest hour is just before dawn," is an old English proverb, which expresses more practically the homelier adages, "When things are at the worst they soonest mend," "When gale is highest, boat is mightiest," "The longest day will have an end," "After a storm comes a calm," and finds an equivalent in other languages, as in French, "By dint of going wrong all will come right;" Italian, "Ill is the eve of well;" in Persian, "It is at the [illegible] part of the defile that the [illegible] begins to open." That the night, as a rule, are darkest just before dawn is doubtless true, for the moon has then reached far on to the western horizon, while the sun is still below the eastern horizon.

The Weather

(Furnished by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

Forecast: Virginia—Overcast; light rain in east portion Friday; Saturday fair, with rising temperature.

North Carolina—Partly cloudy and continued cool Friday; Saturday fair, with rising temperature.

Local Temperature Yesterday.

3 P. M. temperature	50
Maximum temperature to 8 P. M.	52
Minimum temperature to 8 P. M.	48
Mean temperature yesterday	50
Normal temperature for this date	64
Deficiency yesterday	14
Excess since March 1	261
Excess since January 1	491

Local Rainfall.

Rainfall 12 hours ending 8 P. M.	.38
Rainfall 24 hours ending 8 P. M.	.57
Excess since March 1	1.22
Excess since January 1	2.18

Local Observations at 8 P. M. Yesterday.

Wind, direction, northwest; wind velocity, 10; weather at 8 P. M., light rain.

Special Data.

	A. M.	1 P. M.	8 P. M.
Temperature, dry bulb	50	53	48
Temperature, wet bulb	49	57	48
Relative humidity	94	91	96

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES.

	Temperature. 8 P. M.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Asheville	48	50	44	Cloudy
Atlanta	52	62	46	Cloudy
Atlantic City	46	48	43	Rain
Boston	48	48	44	Rain
Buffalo	54	58	46	Clear
Charleston	60	68	52	P. Cloudy
Chicago	56	60	46	Clear
Denver	70	76	44	Cloudy
Galveston	70	74	52	Clear
Hatteras	58	64	52	Cloudy
Havre	72	74	46	P. Cloudy
Jacksonville	64	72	50	Cloudy
Kansas City	68	70	48	Clear
Montgomery	68	72	46	Clear
New Orleans	68	72	52	Clear
New York	46	52	41	Rain
Norfolk	54	60	48	Cloudy
Oklahoma	64	68	52	Clear
Pittsburgh	52	54	46	Cloudy
Raleigh	50	54	48	Cloudy
St. Louis	68	70	50	Clear
San Francisco	56	60	50	Cloudy
Savannah	66	70	50	Cloudy
Tampa	68	72	54	Clear
Washington	48	50	48	Rain
Wytheville	46	50	44	Clear

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

May 6, 1921.

Sun rises	5:11	HIGH TIDE: Morning	3:15
Sun sets	7:02	Evening	3:40

SHAKESPEAREAN TRAVESTY IS BIG HIT AT ACEDEMY

"When Caesar Marks Antony" More Than Lives Up to Reputation as Laugh Producer.

The large audience which took refuge in the Academy Theater yesterday from the pouring rain outside were rewarded by a pleasing entertainment. "When Caesar Marks Antony," a Shakespearean travesty which was advertised as having remarkable laughing possibilities, more than lived up to its claim in that respect. The Clayton and Drew players who presented this ridiculous burlesque of famous characters caused more than the usual merriment inspired by the one-act comedy sketches. The piece abounded in local quips which were hugely relished by yesterday's audience, but, for that matter, nearly every line called forth either a smile or a laugh.

Clara Howard followed this travesty in a series of songs and stories. Miss Howard is an attractive girl who has a more than pleasing personality, a sense of humor, and a good voice for the lighter musical comedy type of song. She has a stunning costume for each song, and there are many, and changes right on the stage so as to lose no time in the process. Miss Howard's act has a nice combination of comedy, music, dancing and good looks, and these get her over in good style.

Bert Kenney and Nobody are back again, in the same act, but with a few new songs. He is the same mournful black man who talks alternately to us and to his invisible companion, but he is the same popular entertainer who plays to many encores.

The team of Jerome and Howall present "A Chinese Circus," which combines a little song, dance and playing of weird instruments, but it closes with a veritable whirlwind of stunts on the horizontal bar. It is the closing number of the show and should not be missed, for it is decidedly one of the best acts on the program.

Animal sagacity is demonstrated in the opening number, in which Peggy and her master, Foster, show what one has learned and the other has taught. Peggy's forte is not acrobatics, as so many of the canine vaudevillians are doing this season, but she specializes in mind reading and other such mental tests. The usual news pictures are shown preceding the acts. L. A. L.

"BEAU REVEL," PLAYING AT THE LYRIC, IS ENTERTAINING

"Beau Revel" is the feature at the Lyric Theater for this week-end. Florence Vidor, star of "Lying Lips," is seen once more in the female lead and is ably supported by Lewis Stone as "Beau," and Lloyd Hughes as Dick Revel.

The thread of the picture is woven around "Beau" Revel's favorite game—trifling with the affections of women. He has only one sincere affection in life which is for his son, Dick.

Dick falls in love with Nellie Steele, an after-dinner dancer, and intends asking her to become his wife. His father believes that Nellie is not the sort his son should marry and forces Dick to agree to a wager that he, Beau, will be able to compromise Nellie within two weeks.

He starts out on the execution of this idea, but is repulsed at every turn by Nellie. He finds himself for once in his life really in love and proposes to Nellie. Many complications arise which seem impossible to solve, and the end is a genuine surprise.

The remainder of the bill is made up of an Eddie Boland comedy and a Lyric News. The orchestra enlivens the program, rounding a very delightful entertainment.

AGNES AYRES NOW PLAYING AT BIJOU IN "THE FURNACE"

Agnes Ayres, who will be remembered by Richmonders as the talented young actress in "Held by the Enemy," is again a winner in the Thursday, Friday and Saturday offering at the Bijou Theater, "The Furnace."

An able cast supports Miss Ayres, and the theme of the screening is one which holds the rapt attention of the audience throughout. Particularly worthy of mention is the splendor of the wedding scene.

Miss Ayres has won a warm spot in the hearts of all movie fans everywhere, and her latest is no exception to the general rule.

TO REORGANIZE COMPANY "E" OF NATIONAL GUARD

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, VA., May 5.—Sixty men have signed a petition for the reorganization of Company E, First Virginia, National Guard, and R. E. Craighill, formerly lieutenant-colonel in the One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry during the world war, has been elected captain. A. S. Burnham, who formerly commanded Company H, and was later made major of the same regiment, is first lieutenant. B. H. Kyle, a surgeon with the army in France, has been elected surgeon, and a second lieutenant will be selected later.

WEDNESDAY CLUB CHORUS REHEARSES MONDAY NIGHT

Musical Organization Plans for Next Week One of Best Concerts in History.

Miss Jean Trigg, director of the Wednesday Club chorus, has issued a call for a dress rehearsal Monday night at the City Auditorium, when every member is expected to be in place. The spring music festival of the club will take place next Wednesday and Thursday, with a matinee the second day, and all is in readiness for one of the most interesting series of concerts in the history of this, the oldest musical organization in Richmond.

The chorus is devoting itself solely to folk music this season and those who have attended recent rehearsals declare the quality of the work under Miss Trigg to be of a far higher order than that of almost any previous year. The singers have been in training nearly all the winter, meeting once each week, and their preparation has been both careful and thorough. Tickets for the festival are now on sale at the Corley Company, and the public can reserve seats for all three concerts or for separate programs.

Announcement is made by the board of governors of the club that the doors will close each evening at 8:30 o'clock and at the matinee at 2:30 o'clock and that no late comers will be admitted until the conclusion of the number in progress. Only by strict enforcement of this rule, it is said, can the artists and those members of the audience who have assembled promptly be assured protection from excessive interruption.

In addition to soloists of wide reputation both in this country and Europe the Philadelphia Festival Orchestra will play at each concert, Dr. Thaddeus Rich conducting. Dr. Rich, one of the most gifted orchestral leaders in America, also will conduct the chorus, which is to be accompanied by the orchestra, Miss Trigg yielding her baton to her distinguished colleague. In order to make the festival a financial success the co-operation of all public-spirited citizens is needed, and these are urged by the club to purchase tickets whether they are music lovers or not, remembering always that everybody has friends who would be delighted to occupy the seats.

ATLANTA CUTS DISCOUNT RATE TO SIX PER CENT

Action of Federal Reserve System Taken to Indicate Financial Relaxation.

ATLANTA, GA., May 5.—M. B. Wellborn, Governor of the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank, announced today a readjustment of rediscount rates, putting all paper handled by that institution on a flat basis of 6 per cent.

The rate of commercial, agricultural, industrial paper and notes secured by government bonds was reduced from 7 to 6 per cent, and that on all government obligations was advanced from 5½ to 6 per cent. The new rate becomes effective tomorrow, May 6.

Reflects Relaxation.

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Action of the New York Federal Reserve Bank in reducing its rediscount rate from 7 to 6½ per cent reflects a tendency towards relaxation in rediscount rates in other reserve districts, Secretary Mellon said today.

The Treasury Secretary said financial conditions over the country appeared to be very much better, but that as much could not be said for the industrial situation.

UNDERWRITERS' AGENTS URGE FIRE PROTECTION

DANVILLE, VA., May 5.—The report made by agents of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, who spent a month here recently, has been completed, pointing out numerous deficiencies and the fire hazard being considered high.

Numerous recommendations are made, which, if followed, will entail an expenditure of many thousands of dollars. The water supply is considered good, but the fire department is characterized as weak, inefficient and undermanned, with much necessary equipment for a town of this size lacking and the individual efficiency being "generally low."

The recommendations include the addition of fully twelve to the full-time force, the purchase of an aerial truck, also a new large motor pumper. It is urged also that the firemen be given periodical drill, also that the city adopt a building code to cope with the fire hazard. The last report made by the board was in 1911.

BRUCE QUITS DIRECTORSHIP OF LOCAL RESERVE BANK

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The resignation of Howard Bruce, of Baltimore, as a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, was announced today by Governor Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board.

Mr. Bruce's resignation, the governor said, is effective at the close of the June meeting of the directors of the bank, F. A. Deland of this city, has been named to complete the retiring director's term, which expires December 31.

The Poet's Corner

Idleness and I.

All the drowsy afternoon,
Idleness and I
Dreamed beneath a spreading tree,
Looking at the sky.
All the [illegible] world
Like a cloud drift by!

When had Idleness and I
Taken such a trip?
When had we put up before
Heavy staff and scrip,
Meeting on a summer day
In such a fellowship?

Long and long ago, may be,
We and Idleness
For a whole glad sleepy day
In a rushing brook,
Reading in the haunted page
Of the earth's green book.

Then, forgetting what I found
In the volume old,
I returned from solitude
Where the shadows fold,
Seeking what the foolish seek—
Empty joy and gold.

Now, grown wise, I crave again
Just the simple sky
And the quiet things I loved
In the years gone by.
We are happy all day long,
Idleness and I.

—Charles Hanson Towne, in Century Magazine.