

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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E. J. STACKPOLE, President and Editor-in-Chief; F. R. OYSTER, Business Manager; GUS M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 12

Who aspires to nothing, who learns nothing, is not worthy of living.—Hells.

SEVENTY YEARS A RAILROAD

SEVENTY years ago to-morrow the State of Pennsylvania granted a charter to the Pennsylvania railroad—then a more or less vague dream, to-day the most wonderful reality in the universe of transportation, the standard railroad of the world.

What a far cry it is from the little single track, wood-burning system that followed the granting of this charter to the four tracks and the giant mile-a-minute locomotives of the present day, and yet in what a brief space of time the miracle has been accomplished.

Just as the canal boat supplanted the stage coach, so the railroad came along and displaced for all time the system of internal waterways that were then the wonder of all the world.

What are you doing to help along the floral decoration of the city this year? Surely you can put up a window or porch box and thus aid in the movement.

HARDING'S ATTITUDE

SOME attempt has been made here and there by friends of Justice Hughes to create the impression that Senator Harding, who is to be temporary chairman of the Republican National Convention at Chicago, has been "put over" on the Progressive element of the party by the "stand-patters" and that he will be antagonistic to Colonel Roosevelt in any manner where antagonism will mar his chances of being nominated for President.

It is true that Senator Harding made the speech nominating Taft four years ago and that he was an ardent organization "stalwart." But since then there has been many indications that he has grown more tolerant and it is known that certain Progressive leaders are very friendly, to say the least.

Mr. Harding sees tariff and preparedness as the big issues looming up as the principal issues of 1916, and in this he coincides with the platform as laid down by Roosevelt, only the Colonel puts preparedness first.

Don't let anybody tell you that the Chicago meeting is going to be a one-man convention. Every delegate will do his part and no one man—not even Harding—is going to dictate the nomination or prevent the popular choice of that convention from being named.

More power to the Civic Club of Harrisburg. With its splendid club house now in its possession why not let us have a reception day for the women of the city?

THE WEST SHORE UNION

THE West Shore Firemen's Union is doing an excellent work. It is a very young body, but very vigorous, and it has started out in a way that gives those who have observed its activities hope that it will be of vast service in the development of the West Shore.

Everybody along the west side of the river realizes that something should be done in a community way for the up-building and harmonizing of the many scattered little towns that some day will be one. Some of them touch each other's borders even now. But there has been difficulty in getting together. Time after time efforts have been made to form some sort of joint civic association. Each time

which is entirely a matter for municipal regulation. To-day the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania is tied hand and foot and swamped with all manner of things which never should have been submitted to it. Of course, the act creating this commission was more or less hurried in its passage through the Legislature and it is reasonable to expect that amendment and improvement will come with the next session.

But, returning to the main proposition, we simply want to emphasize the importance of the people of Harrisburg realizing through their own investigation and study of the interests of the community that they are citizens of no mean city. This will arouse the community spirit so essential to the proper development of any town or city.

There is published every month in New York City a magazine devoted to the automatic sprinkler and a whole page is given in the current number to the recent circular issued by our Chamber of Commerce. It will have been noted on other occasions that the activities of the city are attracting the attention of business men everywhere.

THE PEOPLE MAKE THE TOWN

GOVERNOR BRUMBAUGH struck the keynote of the whole problem of municipal government when, in addressing the delegates to the borough convention here yesterday, he said:

Based upon a rather long observation of borough government and the fact that I was at one time an officer in such a government, I am convinced also to emphasize the importance of every citizen in a borough taking a patriotic interest in his community, and having him willing to serve when occasion arises in any office to the end that the community shall be chosen to administer its affairs.

The improvement and standardization of borough laws is important, but not vital. The best laws in the world will not make good government where the people are wicked or indifferent. But, on the other hand, many a city, handicapped by obsolete and cumbersome statutes, has been made to blossom like the rose and yield contentment, health and prosperity for its residents because of the public spirit of its citizens and the loyalty and interest of its officials. The people of the community make the town. If the streets are unkempt and houses run down, if the whole place has a discouraged, hit-or-miss, live-or-die, survive-or-perish air, the people are of the same sort. Just as the condition of a house is indicative of the character of its occupants, so from the appearance of a town one may judge the spirit of the people who reside there.

There is vast opportunity for improvement in the government of Pennsylvania boroughs and doubtless much will be accomplished at the present meeting looking toward that end, but if the delegates catch the spirit of civic service as outlined by the Governor and carry it home with them the convention will have paid for itself many times over. What we need in Pennsylvania is a deeper understanding of the duty of the citizen to his home town and of the right of the community to a share of his thought and energy. This makes not only for the betterment of localities where it is practiced but it sets a good example elsewhere.

What are you doing to help along the floral decoration of the city this year? Surely you can put up a window or porch box and thus aid in the movement.

BRICKS FROM A PACIFICIST

I have always taken great pleasure in reading the Telegraph, because I have felt that it was usually fair and impartial in its reports on the campaign. Recently, I with others to whom I have spoken about the matter, feel that the Telegraph has shown a tendency not to deal "on the square" with a certain other group.

I hold also that the editorial writer of the paragraph in to-day's issue entitled "From Holland" tells only half the truth. He tries to make out that the Hollanders mobilized their 500,000 soldiers recently to frighten the Germans away. Is it not just as true that Holland mobilized her troops because she was afraid that the allies were going to trespass on her neutrality? Holland has no more confidence in the allies than she has in Germany.

It is ridiculous for your editorial writer to say that Germany is afraid to attack Holland because she has an army of 500,000 trained soldiers. Germany has not been afraid to face ten times 500,000 why then should she be afraid of Holland's soldiers? No, Germany has not attacked Holland because she is learning that her course for the past two years is alienating the friendship of the neutral nations. And this is the weapon which pacifists insist on and we believe the world will soon come to demand that our statesmen shall depend on, namely, public opinion, and not depend on brute force for settling international differences.

Persons and newspapers may sneer at the pacifists, but they have God and righteousness on their side, and eventually their sneers will be answered. It is strange that your editorial writer could write such a paragraph and place it directly under these beautiful and virile lines from Henry Van Dyke:

"Four things a man must learn to do if he would make his record true: To think without confusion clearly; To act from honest motives purely; To trust in God and Heaven securely." O, inconsistency thou art a jewel! I would respectfully call your attention to the admonition of one of the greatest and most righteous of our Secretaries of State, who was not known as a pacifist either: I refer to John Hay; he said: "If the press of the world would adopt and persist in the high resolve that war should be no more, the clangor of arms would cease."

Respectfully yours, JOHN MULLONEY, President of the Harrisburg Arbitration and Peace Society.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Ex-Congressman Jesse L. Hartman, of Hollidaysburg, to-day announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for State Treasurer and his petitions were put into circulation on Capitol Hill and in this city, the plan being to file them before the end of the week.

Hartman is considered to be the State administration's candidate against Harmon M. Kephart, of Greensburg, and J. Verner Clark, of Washington, who was endorsed by the Bull Mooseers and who has filed a Republican nominating petition.

It is believed that the circulation of the petitions for Mr. Hartman is the outcome of recent conferences and it is said that his candidacy is largely sponsored by his former associates in Congress who include such men as ex-Congressmen Ainey, Patton, Reynolds and others and Congressmen Vane, Lefane, Griest and Crago.

Mr. Hartman served in Congress from the Blair-Bedford-Cambria district from 1910 to 1912 and is prominent in banking and other interests in Central Pennsylvania.

THE BOROUGH CONVENTION

To the Editor of the Telegraph: Though not a resident of Pennsylvania, the program of the State Association of Boroughs, has been of more than ordinary interest.

If there is any one branch of government by the people that needs a comprehensive and co-operative system of conduct, it is that part of government that lies closest to the people themselves. It is sometimes apparent—show me the towns and I will tell you what kind of people live there. While this is not always true, it is a fair index to the composite character of the community.

My home is in Des Moines, Iowa, which city was one of the pioneers, if not the pioneer in the institution of the commission form of government. The commission form of government is a combination of a council, delegated to a chosen body as a committee of the whole and then divided so that each commissioner was and should be held responsible for the whole of the community.

This theory like all theories is never delegated by the people to individuals, gives every promise in itself that work will be well and economically done; referendum on the recall and referendum on the veto at the last election is in the Des Moines plan, and this should terrify the man who contemplates evil. The theory is fine and the practice all depends on the man who is to administer it.

There is one topic in the program that should have the hearty co-operation of all people; should be made standard for each borough and for each county as well, and that is the uniform system of bookkeeping and bookkeeping for municipalities. The reasons for this system are so very numerous for the adoption of such a system that I refrain from every expression of any of them, except to commend.

This meeting can be made of great benefit to all the people and the capable appearance and business-like interest that is shown in the State from coast to coast is a fine thing to see. My disappointment to the people represented here.

SIDNEY A. FOSTER, April 11, 1916.

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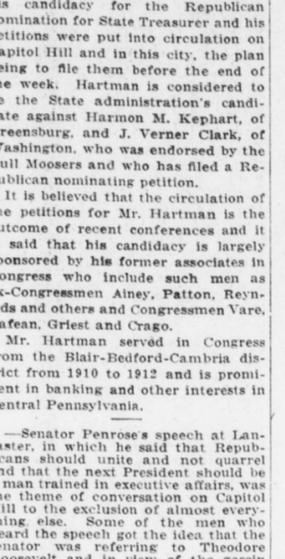
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THE CARTOON OF THE DAY

THE INNOCENT BYSTANDER



—From the Philadelphia Record.

DIXIE GOES AHEAD

Southern Ports Are Out For Trade

By Frederic J. Haskin

WITH the country full of talk about foreign trade, and the need for improving the merchant marine, and cultivating the business of South America, the far Southern ports of the United States rise up and demand to be heard.

New Orleans, of course, has a large and well-established business, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Tampa, Mobile and Pensacola are the ones in question. They all have fine harbors which are free from ice all the year around; the government has spent many millions to improve their channels, and the citizens have built and are building excellent terminal facilities. They are all dressed up to go to the international trade party; they have no need to ride in Robinson Crusoe had a fine harbor; but he had no bottoms. That's all that prevented him from forming a cocoaanut trust, and getting rich.

The southern ports are in the same fix. They have not the bottoms, meaning thereby, regular sailings for foreign ports. Therefore, they can't get railroad rates from interior points that would attract manufacturers to export via the Southern ports? It used to be that they had the bottoms they could get the rates, and vice versa. But generally and broadly speaking they have neither.

Now this is not to say that the Southern ports are not doing a prosperous business. They are. They are shipping out cotton and lumber and naval stores, and the tramp steamers that come directly by way of Charleston, and the regular sailings for foreign ports. Therefore, they can't get railroad rates from interior points that would attract manufacturers to export via the Southern ports? It used to be that they had the bottoms they could get the rates, and vice versa. But generally and broadly speaking they have neither.

In a very real sense, it is a national waste. Manufacturers in the middle West—at Cincinnati for example—can reach South America much more directly by way of Charleston than by way of New York. Both the rail haul and the water haul are shorter. But there are no regular bottoms from Charleston to South America; and the manufacturer must have regular sailings in order to fill his orders. So he ships via New York, and adds to general congestion and confusion of that port.

Shoes are actually shipped from interior points to Charleston, up the coast to New York (for there are plenty of coastwise bottoms), and thence to Cuba and Mexico. That is why the greatest of Charleston is why the greatest of Southern cities are interior points, while the Northern cities are ports. The Northern port cities handle immense quantities of manufactured goods, and make a large profit upon them.

Why do all of these commodities go North for shipment to Cuba and Central and South America, when it is a shorter distance, both by rail and by water via the Southern ports? It used to be because the southern harbors lacked terminal facilities. That reason is fast disappearing. All of them have greatly improved their docks and coal bunkers and warehouses, and they are ready to build more as fast as they are needed.

The great difficulty lies in the fact that the lines of transportation have been fixed by time and usage and they all point North. The trunk lines from the middle western manufacturing section all lead to New York and Boston and Philadelphia, and to some extent to Norfolk. The trunk lines from the middle west and you ride unheeded of railways that began life as sawmill lines which would go around a large stump. Then, too, competition by way of the Erie canal forced down Northern rates. The result is that, although Charleston is nearer Cincinnati than New York, it costs less to ship to the Northern city; while Norfolk has a still greater advantage in rates. For example, on certain manufactures, the shipper gets a commodity rate to Norfolk, which amounts to eighteen cents a hundred, while to New York he has to pay a class rate of thirty-five cents a hundred.

Now the people of the southern ports are fully aware of all these facts. They realize that if they can get the railroads to give them rates, ship lines would soon be established.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Austria will also put its clocks back, but the war's end won't be delayed by that.

—The skill Villa displays in sidestepping indicates that he must have been a close observer recently of White House methods.

—We can't say that Spring is following a "hot trail."

—Naturally it's not hard to turn the head of the man who has a "screw loose."

—Roosevelt's second choice for the Presidency is Wood, and nobody has as yet required an explanation as to his first choice.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

UP TO THE MINUTE. He has a modern ball-room in every way.

That so? Yes. The smoking room has been enlarged three times to accommodate the husbands who don't dance the new steps.

THE STATE FROM DAY TO DAY

THE CASE OF FRANK M. BIERCE

The case of Frank M. Bierce, a Warren man who had served three years in the American Navy, was made a sergeant in the British army when the war broke out and now he wants to re-enlist in the American Navy. I don't know how long before Secretary Daniels. We wish him joy!

McKeesport is the scene of a scrap between the jitney owners and the mayor on the matter of parking their cars. The businessmen are against the mayor in the fight because they figure that the jitneys bring thousands of dollars worth of trade to the town from points up the valley.

Tommy—"Pop," what is the difference between a fad and a wrinkle?" Tommy's Pop: "Young girls have fads, my son; old ones have wrinkles." The Philadelphia Record is responsible.

Leonard Collette, of York, has returned home after spending several days in Litzitz. With all due respect to Leonard, we wonder whether his ancestors had a de before the last name.

The lakes and rivers are calling; canoeists are responding; and the usual canoe accidents will take their place in the natural course of events.

The Erie Herald, speaking from experience, says "compromise is the secret of success in married life. If you want to go the lodge and she wants you to take her to a motion picture show, compromise and go to the movies."

The "champeen" checker players of Greensburg went down to ignominious defeat last week before N. W. Banks, of Michigan, who is "certainly the champion checker player" according to the Greensburg Tribune. It is said that no unturned barrel nor cracker boxes were in evidence at the bout.

The gateway that the senior class of Pennsylvania State College will erect as a memorial to the class will be one of the most imposing of any of the college gateways of the country.

There is a man who recently registered at the Hotel Nelson in Johnstown. He hails from Peoria, Ill., and he isn't the "ghost that never walked." For this man is traveling 7,000 miles on a dollar and a wager of \$1,500 if he does it without borrowing any money.

Evening Chat

Announcement that the Harrisburg Public Library is arranging to add to its shelves books of instruction in Spanish and for easy reading by those interested in the language spoken by so many people has attracted much attention and it is probable that some classes in Spanish will be formed here soon.

Many people here are awakening to the importance of Spanish and are commencing to realize what it means. Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh, who is not only an educator of wide experience in this State, but who was head of the schools of Porto Rico right after American occupation, said to-day in speaking about Spanish: "I'm glad they are going to get Spanish books for your Library here. They will be in demand more and more and you will be astonished how many people take up the language in the next few years. Do you realize that one-tenth of the people in our country speak Spanish to say nothing of the millions to the South of us? We have a great trade opportunity in Central and Southern America and I think we are going to need commercial men who have a knowledge of Spanish before long. To my mind the study of Spanish is something that should receive more attention from educators and I am glad that the Library is going to do its part toward making books on Spanish available."

According to J. T. Campbell, who is one of the crop experts of the State Department in Agriculture, a good many people in this State are turning to cultivating Canada field peas and oats. These crops are something new to Pennsylvania farmers, but they have been tried out and are held by the State experts to have passed the experimental stage in this part of the State. They have to be sown early in the Spring, but the plants are hardy.

There is no more dignified man in Harrisburg than Dr. F. E. Downes, city superintendent of schools. Dr. Downes has a most trying position, one that permits of no frivolity during working hours, yet there is no man in professional life in this community who never met a better companion on an outing. He can sail a boat just a little bit better, swim a little bit faster, fish a little more skillfully, walk a little bit farther and know outdoors just and a little better intimately than anybody else in the party he happens to be with. And he does love to play. You know, he continues to play that one of the most entertaining features of the Telegraph is the frank and friendly manner with which it presents in its Evening Chat column personalities of public men with whom the people as a whole do not come into close contact. Nearly every man has some surprising traits, some characteristics that are as pleasing as they are astonishing when once revealed. Who don't you let us have an inside glimpse of one of our well-known people every evening? So, by way of accommodating the Telegraph to-night gives in this column a few words and a few facts about Dr. Downes, at the risk of offending the modest subject of the remarks.

Capitol Hill continues to be the resort of the visitors from far and near. Last week there were people registered in the big building from Serbia, Cuba and Mexico. To-day a number of folks from Idaho, California, Kansas, Florida and Alabama.

A good story is being told about Dr. John Hull, one of the associates, inspectors of the State Department of Health. He found in a borough up in the coal regions that there was some question whether the schools of the town administered by a board of prominent business men, could be closed because of measles by the board of health composed of rather forceful, but less prominent, citizens. The State in this matter Dr. Hull was sent. Dr. Hull used to be a medical man in the regular army. The schools were closed.

Among visitors to the Capitol yesterday was Robert W. Archbold, Jr., a prominent young Philadelphia attorney. Mr. Archbold is a son of the Scranton judge.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Provost Edgar F. Smith, of the University of Pennsylvania, is to make one of the addresses at Juniata College anniversary.

—George H. Lysle, mayor of McKeesport, is after the jitney men because they do not obey regulations he laid down.

—Ex-Senator E. H. Tustin, of Philadelphia, says that Philadelphia is going to have one of the best collections of playgrounds of any city in America.

—George Wentworth Carr, one of the men speaking for preparedness, is a prominent Philadelphia lawyer and has been active as a reformer.

—J. D. Bowman, long head of the Perryville furnace on Carbon county, celebrated his 97th birthday this week.

—Judge C. A. Groman, of the Lehigh county courts, has been getting after license holders with warning to observe moral standards.

DO YOU KNOW

That Steelton steel is used for rails for Cuban lines?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG The first street car line was operated in Harrisburg before the Civil War but it did not last long.

Does Newspaper Advertising Pay?

A large paint manufacturer asked this question of retailers throughout the country: NO. 4 SAID: "We have always regarded the problem of advertising as a big one worthy of our most careful attention. In our opinion much of the money spent in newspaper advertising is highly profitable, while much more of it is entirely wasted, depending upon the thought and care used in preparing the copy."

"We began with some products just two years ago, and we are now selling an immense amount of paint and varnish than any other store here. We question much more of it is entirely possible without advertising in our local papers."

(Continued to-morrow)