

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 5

Experience keeps a dear school; but fools will learn in no other.—B. Franklin.

BORDERING ON TREASON

SENATOR STONE, the Democratic chairman of the committee on foreign affairs; Senator LaFollette, some times Republican and most of the time not, and their little band of fellow conspirators against the good name and safety of the nation they so woefully misrepresent, stood on the borderland of treason when they brought about the defeat of the armed neutrality bill yesterday.

The President has been betrayed in his own household. No German plotter could have asked more than Stone volunteered. But this traitorous conduct on the part of men who should have been first to defend the honor and welfare of the country has served one good end. It has indicated very clearly that the great majority of congressmen and senators are heartily behind the President in his determination to arm American shipping against piratical submarines and to take whatever other steps may be necessary to protect Americans against foreign aggression.

If anything it has strengthened the position of the President and the loyal Republicans and Democrats who stand with him on the common ground of national defense. Just as good came eventually from the treachery of Benedict Arnold in revolutionary days, so good may be expected from the traitorous conduct of Stone and his followers in the Senate. The bill that the new Congress will pass will go much farther than the mere arming of merchant vessels. The public is aroused and prepared to go to any length to convince doubting foreigners of the solidarity of the country against outside interference of any kind.

Why not spell it La Folly?

Pennsylvania contributed nothing to the House and Senate opposition to the armed neutrality bill. The good name of the State for patriotism never has had a stain.

GERMAN WOMEN AND STYLES

THE German government is a powerful institution, but there are points past which even it may not go. It tells the people what they may eat and what must be let alone, it regulates their mode of travel and their hours of work, it sets their clocks ahead for them and turns them back, it orders them into the trenches and out at will, but—the best it can do with women's styles is to make the feeble suggestion that the government will not regard any woman as unfashionable who wears her winter clothing through the summer months. Now if the government can only regulate the thermometer and arrange with the weather man not to let the mercury get above 70, say, in the sun, why there may be a FEW women who will continue for a little while wear their winter toggery, but not much longer than it is necessary for them to get a line on the cut and pattern of the new gown worn by "that stylish Mrs. Schmidt" on the next street. The Kaiser is a married man. He knows about how far this "world power" stuff goes with the ladies.

Put out a few crumbs for the birds these icy days.

A POLITICAL PORTENT?

THOSE who believe in signs or see any significance in peculiar coincidences may regard yesterday's weather as a portent of no particular good for President Wilson and the Democratic party. It will be recalled that yesterday, March 4, the day the President is required to take his oath of office, was precisely the kind of a "flare-back" day that March 4 eight years ago was—and the history of the Taft administration and what followed is a sad story for Republican ears. Not even the most bitter enemy of President Wilson could wish him the misfortunes that beset President Taft, but there are quite a few who will hope that history will repeat itself four years hence at least to the extent of reversing political prestige at Washington. If there is anything

in the weather there is something good and plenty coming to the Democracy.

The Kaiser ought to send over an iron cross for Senator Stone in return for the double-cross he gave the President.

THE INAUGURAL

TO-DAY'S inaugural is a momentous occasion. At no time since the Civil War period has the nation faced a future fraught with more grave possibilities than those which confront President Wilson at the outset of his second term.

There is strong contrast between conditions to-day and those of that other inauguration day only four years back. Then the President stepped into power with a subservient Congress at his beck and call and a myriad of petty domestic problems, and a few big ones to solve. The thought of a world-war was in nobody's mind, save perhaps of the few in which the dream of universal dominion had even then taken definite form, and the frightful state of affairs to-day was beyond the imagination of any man.

At that time the President took up the duties of his office with a man at his elbow who proudly boasted that his main purpose in office was to place the United States on a basis of permanent peace with the nations of all the world. To-day that plan of peace is shattered; on the perch whence has flown the white dove the warrior eagle preens his feathers and the nation is on the brink of warfare, if not actually at war.

Tremendous tasks are before the chief executive. His the duty of putting the country on a war footing. His the responsibility of rising to a leadership that shall place behind him in hearty support the last man and the last dollar of the nation, if need be. It is too late now for regrets. The past, with all its nightmare of make-shifts, its unnoted insults, its mistaken policies, its errors of judgment, its transgression of American rights, its murder of American women and children, is gone. It is to the future that we must look. Many Americans had hoped for a change of helmsmen, but fate has decreed otherwise, and the only thing left for us is to support the man whom destiny has chosen to guide the ship of state, with every ounce of strength and loyalty at our command. We may differ with him in many things, but in his efforts to place the country on a war footing he must have fullest co-operation if we are to come out of the impending conflict without tremendous sacrifice and with honor and success.

President Wilson has not always been above his party. Indeed, his administration has been marked by as bitter partisanship as ever has been witnessed in national affairs. But for all that Republicans will not forget that he is the President of the whole country, and not of any particular party; that the safety of the nation is largely in his hands and that he is entitled to every particle of assistance it is possible for the rank and file to render in the present crisis. The country must do its part if it expects the President to do his. Few will envy him his task.

AWAY WITH THEM

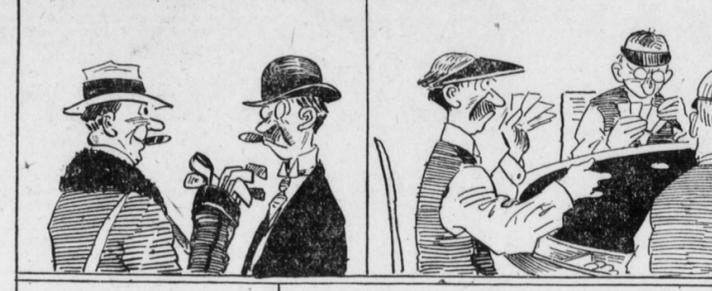
THE Legislature at last has discovered that the State has too many laws. It is proposed to repeal a large number of statutes which have become obsolete through changed conditions and which do no more than cumber the books of the Commonwealth and obstruct the processes of law to the advantage of nobody, not even of lawyers. It is doubted if many of these laws ever did serve any useful purpose, but that aside, since it is generally admitted they are useless let's get rid of them as fast as possible. Away with them! We are overlaid at best.

PROHIBITION PROHIBITS

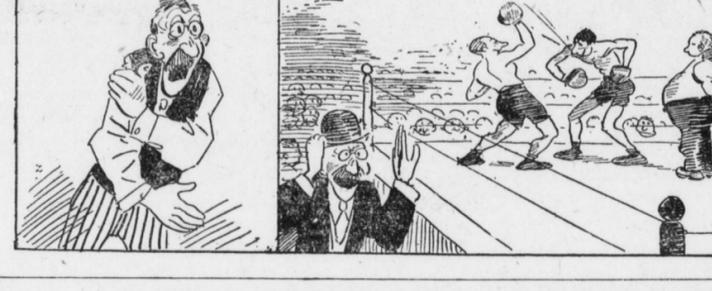
AT last prohibition really prohibits. The President's signature to the "bone-dry" bill makes it unlawful to take liquor into "dry" States, even in quantities limited to the hip-pocket flask or the dress-suit "life-saver." It has been the favorite plea of the liquor men that "prohibition does not prohibit," and it was this everlasting taunt perhaps as much as anything else that spurred the man-

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELING?

AFTER YOUR MORE FORTUNATE FRIENDS HAVE TOLD YOU THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY SOUTH TO PLAY GOLF - AND YOU HAD LOST SEVERAL WADS OF DOUGH DURING THE WINTER AT POKER - AND YOU HAD NOT WON A POT ALL SEASON AT KELLY



IF ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU SAW THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PAPERS: OH-H-AIN'T IT A GR-AND AND GLOR-I-YOUS FEELIN'?



AND YOUR MUSCLES WERE ALL SORE FROM ALL BOWLING - AND YOU HAD BEEN BUNKED ON EVERY FIGHT YOU WENT TO: - BASEBALL TEAMS START ON TRAINING TRIPS

By H. H. SHENK

WILSON THIRD PRESIDENT TO BE SWORN IN ON MARCH 5

Curator of State Museum and Former Head of the Chair of History at Lebanon Valley College

THE inauguration of President Wilson on the fifth day of March reminds the student of history of the two previous occasions when inaugural days fell on Sunday. The first of these occasions was in 1849 when General Zachary Taylor, fresh from his laurels in the Mexican war, took the oath as President of the United States. The second occurred in 1877, when after much doubt, it was finally decided on Friday, March 2, and announced in the morning papers of the following day that Rutherford B. Hayes and not Samuel J. Tilden was President-elect of the United States.

On both these occasions, 1849 and 1877, the closing days of Congress were marked by exciting scenes, for in those days party spirit ran much higher than it does to-day. In the House, Representatives dilatory motions, and various attempts at filibustering were in order of the day. A Philadelphia newspaper of March 5, 1849 says: "While killing time by useless motions a fight occurred between Johnson, of Arkansas, and Picklin, of Illinois, at halfpast two o'clock (Sunday morning) in which Mr. Johnson inflicted severe blows upon Mr. Picklin, causing the blood to flow freely. They were separated and Mr. Picklin led out of the hall." Another altercation took place in the Senate when Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, raised a point of order and Mr. Foote accosted him. Warm words were passed between the two when Mr. Foote shook his fist in the face of Mr. Cameron and the latter struck him for this Mr. Foote afterward apologized. The houses after an all-night session adjourned at about 6 o'clock on Sunday morning, March 4, 1849. Just before this adjournment, President Polk sent in several important appointments, one of which at least was confirmed.

Far more serious were the closing days of Congress in March, 1877. When it was evident that the electoral commission would decide in favor of Hayes, a number of Democrats undertook to filibuster to prevent final decision in order, perhaps, that the dispute might be prolonged until after the time for the inauguration.

Randall's Big Job The Speaker of the House at this time was a distinguished Pennsylvania Democrat, Samuel J. Randall. He undertook to bring about harmony with the conclusions of the electoral commission he ruled all dilatory motions out of order. Concerning this the New York Tribune of Friday, March 2, says: "Congress devoted the whole day yesterday and a large part of the night to the electoral commission bill. In a filibuster to prevent final consideration of the report of the commission the whole desperate pack rose to their feet and inaugurated such a scene of disorder as has probably never been witnessed in the stormiest scenes of Congress before. After about ten minutes of disorder which cannot be described, the Speaker sent the sergeant-at-arms among the desks on the Democratic side and compelled the members to sit down. Randall reported to have declared that his determination to prevent this filibuster came to him as an inspiration, and that he considered it the greatest crisis and the greatest patriotic achievement of his life. This Congress adjourned at noon, Sunday, March 4.

Taylor succeeded a political opponent, Hayes succeeded a member of his own party, Wilson succeeded himself. Only in 1877 at the time of the disputed succession was the question seriously raised as to whether it is safe to wait until Monday to take the oath. Taylor held a conference with such of his cabinet appointees as were in the city on Saturday. He did not, however, take the oath until Monday, March 5. Out of this has arisen the story about the "President for a Day." The reference here is to Senator Atchison, who was elected president pro tem of the Senate in the closing days. Neither President Taylor nor his predecessor nor the members of Congress acted as though they

thought Atchison temporarily President. Buffalo Dinner to Successor - President Polk gave a dinner in honor of his successor, Thursday, March 1, at which members of both parties were present. A feature of this dinner was a large hump of buffalo meat which the retiring President had specially ordered from the west. President-elect Hayes and party left Columbus, Ohio, at noon, Thursday, March 1, before Congress had formally decided the contest, and arrived at Washington at noon the next day, where he was the guest of Senator Sherman, about to be Secretary of the Treasury. The New York Times of March 5, says: "The quidnuncs have been busy all day (Sunday) trying to find out whether Hayes has taken the oath or not; and if not whether he is President or not; or whether the country is to be without a President until to-day, noon." But this doubt was resolved by the incoming President. On Saturday evening, March 3, 1877, President Grant gave a farewell dinner to members of his cabinet at which Mr. and Mrs. Hayes were the guests of honor. Among the guests were Secretary of War J. Donald Cameron and Miss Cameron. Just before entering the dining room, without the knowledge of the rest of the diners, President Grant, President Hayes, Secretary of State Hamilton Fish, U. S. Grant, Jr., and Chief Justice White retired to the red room where the oath was administered. It seems to have been agreed by both Mr. Hayes and the Chief Justice that there was no necessity for this, but it was urged by both General Grant and his Secretary of State and Mr. Hayes acquiesced. He again took the oath on Monday, March 5, at noon.

Politics in Pennsylvania By the Ex-Committeeman

Ebening Chat

Selection will probably be made within a few weeks of a Pennsylvania artist to complete the scheme of mural decorations in the first floor corridors of the State Capitol. The subject is being given close attention by Governor Brumbaugh, whose desire to make the State's official building not only an art center but a place where the history of the Commonwealth will be told on canvas by representative artists of Pennsylvania. The south corridor contains the series of paintings depicting the religious influences which entered into the making of the State, and it was planned to have the north corridor, where the industrial paintings which make the Keystone State prominent in manufacturing, mining and other lines, William B. VanInghen executed the paintings for the south corridor and John W. Alexander, the distinguished Pittsburgh artist, was commissioned to paint the north series, but he objected to filling a bond and sued before he could enter into the matter. Mr. VanInghen is being discussed for the commission for the industrial paintings and there are some other mentioned. Governor Brumbaugh has been making inquiries and has had some of the ideas sketched out for him.

The completion of the series for the Senate chamber will be a matter of a year. The State authorities expect to have the gold medallions of Washington and Franklin repaid by allegorical paintings by Miss Orlan Oakley who painted the series which was unveiled last month. These paintings were not in the contract and a new one will be made. In addition mural decorations for the rear of the Senate chamber, which will depict some stirring incidents in the history of the State after this work is done she is to decorate the Supreme Court chamber, which will be a matter of some years, as it will take over 1,100 square feet.

George P. Wilson, who was formerly chief of the bureau of rates of the Public Service Commission, for whom the now defunct Pennsylvania transportation bureau of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, gave some of the complacent people in that city an awful jar the other day when he declared that he personally knew of many bushels of potatoes being held in cars by speculators at their very doors. The speculators bought up the potatoes and held them in cars, taking chances on the demurrage charges and the high prices to get out with a profit. He said that he knew of 85,000 bushels so held.

William R. D. Hall, who will become chief of the publicity bureau of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, and in charge of the publicity and entertainment features. He is a former Philadelphia newspaperman who served in the three years in which he was statistician of the State Highway Department to turn around public sentiment as regards that branch of the government, which is now among the most popular on the Hill.

The brightest ray of life for those whose span of life is fast drawing to a close seems to be the recalling of old time coincidences and the relation of reminiscences of the time "when I was young," an aged woman declared said on Sunday evening after the thunderstorm in this section. She said that a similar storm had occurred just three days after the declaration of war against the Central Powers. The thunderstorm swept the Eastern coast on the 9th of April, 1861. The people of this section believed it to be an omen of the close approach of another disaster. Three days later, when war was declared, all were unanimous in their former belief. Other old residents are basing their belief that the war is not an active member of the past. Ever important war that the United States has been engaged in has been declared in April. Some urge that history will repeat.

The reading of titles of the many bills introduced in the Legislature is a duty that is skipped over by the presiding officers of the lower house much to the relief of the hard working lawmakers. In the main the titles are long and tiresome and their recitation on introduction would only retard the deliberations of the bodies. The House on Saturday afternoon gave up the practice of having the representatives "read in place" their bills, and instead they were sent to the Speaker by him assigned to the proper committees. In the Senate chamber, however, where things are slower and more sedate, the old practice of having a member read each title of his bill in full is still observed. To visitors the manner in which Lieutenant-Governor McClain reads the titles to these bills is a great attraction.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—A. Merritt Taylor, the Philadelphia transit expert, had a birthday the other day, and friends sent him a postcard shower. —James M. Yeager, former United States marshal, made one of the addresses welcoming home the Lewis-ton soldiers of the Eighth. —President J. C. McCracken, of Lafayette, has referred to Washington the plans for military training for his college. —J. E. Patterson, prominent in Luzerne county coal mining operations, is taking an active part in the fire prevention work in the coal regions. —John A. McSarran, master of the State Grange, will be the head of the Grangers' new casualty company, which is designed to insure the farmers against accidents. —Rabbi Krauskopf, prominent Philadelphia, is taking a leading part in the move to abolish capital punishment.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg is making hundreds and thousands of parts of machines used to manufacture munitions? HISTORIC HARRISBURG In old days the Capitol grounds used to be the drilling place for the militia companies. Cargoes Quinquere of Ninevah from distant Ophir Rowing home to haven in sunn' Famine With a cargo of ivory and apes and peacocks, Cedarwood, sandalwood and sweet, white wine. Stately Spanish galleon riding from the Isthmus, Dipping through the Tropics by the palm-green shores, With a cargo of diamonds, emeralds, amethysts, Topazes, cinnamon and gold mold- dore. Dirty British coaster with a salt-caked smoke stack, Butting through the channel in the mad March days, With a cargo of Tyne coal, road rails, pig-lead, Fire wood, iron ware and cheap tinne trays. —Masefield.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

NOT A LAST- ING MARRI- AGE. I am wedded to my art. It looks as if your art would be a grass widow. A GREAT BENEFIT. Wiley: Since I have joined the reading circle I find that I am beginning to think more consistently. Hubby: Then we ought to be able to save a little money now.