

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO. Telephone Building, Federal Square

Executive Board: E. J. STACKPOLE, President and Editor-in-Chief; G. M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor; A. R. MICHELER, Circulation Manager

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Member American Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulation and Pennsylvania Associated Dailies.

Entered at the Post Office in Harrisburg, Pa., as second class matter.

By carrier, ten cents a week; by mail, \$3.00 a year in advance.

Monday, April 7, 1919. May I reach That purest heaven; be to other souls The cup of strength in some great agony; Enkindle generous ardor; feed pure love; Beget the smiles that have no cruelty— Be the sweet presence of a good dissolved, And in diffusion ever more intense.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS

CITY COMMISSIONER LYNCH, as head of the Department of Streets and Public Improvements, has just issued an interesting little pamphlet showing the highways and ward lines of the city.

City Engineer Cowden is responsible for the compilation, and one of the conspicuous features is the ward and precinct map arrangement.

Harrisburg people cannot know too much about their own city, and when the Telegraph suggested a year or two ago a series of automobile tours for the purpose of learning what had been going on in the city for a period of years, it did so for the purpose of awakening our people to a realization of the progressive development of the community in which we are all interested.

During the war many improvement projects were sidetracked owing to the high cost of materials and labor, but now that we are resuming the normal in our municipal life, it is reasonable to expect that there will be much activity in the completion of the improvement undertakings which have been so long under consideration.

Altogether, there is a spirit of co-operation among officials and citizens generally in developing the important phases of our city's essential growth. While we are passing through a period of readjustment as a result of the war, there is, notwithstanding, a general appreciation of the local conditions which justify the undertaking of the projects held in suspension during hostilities.

THE GOLF COURSE

IF ANOTHER site for the landing of the Victory Loan dirigible airship can be found, which would seem easily possible, the Reservoir park golf links should not be used.

No doubt the committee entered into the arrangements thoughtless of the care and expense that have been lavished on the Reservoir links to bring them up to their present

high standard. If the airship lands on them, with the crowds that will flock to see the arrival, that part of the course will be ruined for the year, for the grass planting is not yet in shape to stand trampling and the rain-soaked turf would be crushed into thousands of holes.

These links belong to the public. No charge is made for them. They are kept up at public expense and the money spent upon them should not be thrown away. It will not do to offer to repair damage, for damage done a grass lawn at this season cannot be repaired short of next spring.

OUT BY JUNE

AMERICAN troops in the Archangel district are in no great danger and are expected to be out of Russia in June, according to the statements of War Department officials.

They ought never to have gone into Russia as they did. What was needed at the time was strong intervention with thousands of troops to back up demands of America for a free representative government in Russia or no intervention whatsoever.

TOO EARLY

ENTHUSIASTIC business men at the N. W. Ayer dinner in Philadelphia, Friday night, hailed William Howard Taft as the next occupant of the White House. They were premature. It is not now apparent who will be the candidate of the Republican party for the presidency next year. It is too early now to venture a guess as to the result of the national convention. But it is true that Taft has been growing in the public estimation ever since he was defeated in the three-cornered fight in 1912. He is a bigger man to-day in every way than when he was President.

Perhaps his friends may decide to push him forward next time. Certainly, they would be justified if the peace league is to be an issue, for Mr. Taft was the originator of the idea and he preached it long before President Wilson had begun to think of such an organization. And it will be generally agreed, at least among Republicans, that Mr. Taft's ideas on the subject are much more lucid and practical than those of the President.

It might be pointed out that Taft's defeat would be an indication of weakness, but Grover Cleveland was beaten in a much less strenuous fight than the three-cornered contest which resulted in the first election of President Wilson and was afterward a successful candidate for the office and made a wonderful record himself as a wise and far-seeing statesman. Stranger things have happened than the re-election of Taft, but the time is scarcely ripe for seriously discussing candidates.

SENSIBLE VEToes

GOVERNOR WILLIAM C. SPROUL is to be commended for establishing two lines of veto activity—divorce laws and measures tending to increase financial burdens on counties. He has shown tendencies to be vigorous in his use of the veto power and his comments are interesting.

Some years ago the State passed back to the counties the cost of primary elections and the trend of legislation for a long time has been to add to expenses of administration of county affairs. It is now planned to return half of the personal property tax to the State, giving to the counties, which enjoy it all at present, the benefit of the State system of stiffening up returns of ownership, which worked well when administered by the Auditors General of recent years. Other bills are pending which would call for rigid attention to details of county expenditures. The Governor is right when he submits that the cost of elections, for instance, should not be put up and that service on election boards should be a matter of patriotic duty instead of a chance to get money out of a county treasury.

There is no field wherein lawyers who specialize in divorce have been busier in recent years than in the Legislature. Every session bills to provide for particular cases have appeared and while some have been meritorious there have been many, particularly in the last half dozen years, which should never have reached the Governor. In the dozen or so bills vetoed this year, two have been efforts to complicate the divorce laws still further.

MAKE WHEELS GO ROUND

WITHOUT discussing the cause or causes of the failure of the Peace Conference to come to a conclusion in Paris, it is obvious that until a satisfactory settlement shall have been reached there will be more or less unrest and uncertainty here in America.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

People who follow politics are awaiting with considerable interest the effect of Governor Sprout's announcement that after study of the anthracite situation he is convinced that if miners' wages are to be maintained and the trade prevented from demoralization, the advance in prices is justified, but that the same time railroad rates must be revised and put back under State control and something done to get local demand to realize itself in the public.

The Philadelphia Inquirer gives space to a warm commendation of the Governor from Thomas Kennedy, president of the United Mine Workers of the Seventh District at Hazleton. The statement of Governor Sprout, as given in the broad and intelligent understanding of the anthracite situation, I am more than pleased when he says that we are all anxious that the present wage scale in the anthracite be maintained. That, coming from the Chief Executive of the State, will, in my opinion, silence those who had hoped to see a wage scale which would do much to stabilize the anthracite industry.

The North American in its financial page says that the increase will affect seventy per cent of operations and indicates that there will be activity in production, while it gives space to a statement from Pottsville which says that "constant increases in prices is a menace" to the industry. The Anthracite Consumers' Union, which is a consumer, criticizes the Governor's findings. The Philadelphia Press prints an editorial calling for defeat of the North bit taxing all coal as something which would injure the consumer. The North bit is not being taken seriously just now.

The action of Westmoreland county judges in making that county "dry" was much discussed among legislators and "wets" made little effort to conceal their disgust. The "drys" were correspondingly jubilant. This week will be an important one in regard to liquor legislation in the House and a few more jobs like that of the "wets" will add to the dismay of the "drys."

It was an odd coincidence that E. B. Haradenberg and P. Gray Meek, rivals for election as Auditor General more than fifteen years ago and colleagues in the State Senate, should die within a month or so of each other. The same county auditor general was a close personal friend of the Senator from Bellefonte and while he was no match for Senator Meek when he started to say things about the Republican party he used to lose no opportunity to point out to Meek where he could have made them sharper.

Opinions appear to differ whether there will be much interference with the legislative program because of the absence of the Governor. The same reasons have been made to advance legislation and send it to the Governor in Bellefonte before he gets home. It is not for those who abandoned the session on May 15 has not been abandoned. Some well posted men in the general assembly, The Philadelphia Press notes for the next month to be one of the most interesting in legislation as it relates to State politics.

Attorney General William I. Schaffer is to speak as representative of the Governor at the Reading functions on Wednesday. Mr. Schaffer has been much complimented in attacking Governor Sprout in his attack on Bellum control of intra-State business and his prompt demand that telephone and telegraph rates should be returned to the Public Service Commission.

Death of Judge W. W. Carr, a Democrat, made the Philadelphia Record and various Democrats eager to establish a precedent that the successor of a Democratic Judge should be a Democrat. The Governor would like to appoint, and he will be kept dodging Democratic applicants and their friends. Just why a party whose representation in the assembly of 257 has shrunk to 29, should be heard from is hard for some legislators to understand, especially in view of the federal service in this State.

LABOR NOTES

Thirty trades are represented in our shipbuilding plants. Berlin, Germany, has 1,000,000 munition workers. Toronto, Canada, telephone girls secured a \$11 weekly minimum wage. Some London, England taxi drivers were earning \$45 a week.

An American federation of manufacturers is being planned. Cleveland is said to be short 12,000 men for war work. Barbers at Lardar, Ontario, have received an increase in pay. Cranberry pickers in Massachusetts are earning \$15 a day.

Toronto, Canada, ship carpenters are 100 per cent organized. Northampton, Mass., finds the community market plan a money saver.

When the war began the Krupp Gun Works were the largest of their kind in the world, employing 96,000 people. Over 400 printers are idle in Dublin, Ireland, in consequence of a lock-out in the book and job printing houses. Miners from the Pennsylvania anthracite fields are to be used to open the coal mines in the Leans, France, district.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



Where the American Sawed-off Shotgun Stopt the Hun

(From the Literary Digest)

THE sawed-off repeating shotgun, loaded with buckshot, which was pictured a few weeks ago, appeared in the critical fighting around Chateau-Thierry, and more than won its right to be considered a real American addition to the horrors of war—at least from the German standpoint. The gun worked to such good effect that, to quote Captain J. H. Hoskins, who used one, "the Kaiser would have won himself a war on June 6 had he only pressed his advantage, and had it not been for those shotguns, our boys would have been in the hands of the Prussian Guards. The 256 men in our company had been reduced to seventy-two and ammunition was nearly exhausted when orders came to fall back to the first line of trenches nearby. When we rolled into these we fought with those automatic shotguns stacked up in bunches of eight, with extra ones lying on the first parapet in the rear wall of the trenches and plenty of shells handy. Each gun had a shell in the chamber and five in the magazine. Each shell was loaded with twelve big buckshot and twenty-eight grains of ballistite powder. It nearly kicked us down every time we fired, but we didn't mind that when we saw the execution done to the Germans. The way those sawed-off repeating Americans used the weapons was thoroughly effective. Our colonel had ordered that no one should fire until he gave the command, and it looked to me that he waited until they were all on top of us. But when the word came to open fire, the Germans were advancing very confidently, for they knew we were in desperate straits. They were coming in new to them. They were advancing, but we were waiting for them. When they began to fire, they bunched in closer than ever, with corresponding destruction from the shotguns. Not a German reached our lines after we began using these shotguns, and I'll tell the world that on June 6 the Kaiser had won himself an advantage and had it not been for those shotguns."

And the Cat Came Back

(From an Army Report.) Statement of Sophie Guillaume—I had a beautiful cat which I loved very much. It was very beautiful, I needed it as for an animal, and he will be kept dodging Democratic applicants and their friends. Just why a party whose representation in the assembly of 257 has shrunk to 29, should be heard from is hard for some legislators to understand, especially in view of the federal service in this State.

Enemies of Peace

How can we expect peace—When there are men and women in the world and they fall in love. When motor car tires are made of rubber and there is glass in the road. When telephone operators refuse to talk English. When it costs \$2 to put on the old nosebag in a decent restaurant? When Congress insists upon sending out garden seeds that will not come? When strike-on-the-box matches refuse to strike? When the kids leave tin trains of cars for the old man to stumble over? When the women are all trying to win 10-cent bridge prizes? When the butcher weighs his meat in wind-tight scales? When married couples will insist upon picking the wallpaper together? When everybody has relatives? —From the Pittsburgh Post.

KITCHENER'S LAST DAYS

Several pages of "The Grand Fleet 1914-1918" (by Admiral Viscount Jellicoe, are occupied with an account of Lord Kitchener's closing hours on the Iron Duke. The question has sometimes been asked, "Could not Viscount Jellicoe have advised the Hampshire to wait till the weather improved?" The Admiral tells us that Lord Kitchener would never have consented to delay. "He impressed me strongly with the idea that he was working to a time-table, and that he felt that he had not a day to lose. He mentioned three weeks as the limit of his absence, and I expressed astonishment at the program which he had planned to carry out during that period. He was most anxious not to lose a moment on the sea trip, and I asked me more than once what I thought was the shortest time in which the passage could be made."

Man Formerly in Our Town

There was a man in our town, There was a wondrous wise. He jumped into a "Covenant," And scratched out both his eyes. And when he saw his eyes were out With all his might and main to her, He jumped into drastic modifications and changes in his proposed League of Nations, impelled thereto by the indignant protests of the Senate and American public, And scratched them in again.

BY BRIGGS

[Bailey Millard, onetime editor of a New York magazine, now on the staff of the San Francisco Bulletin, reveals some of the secrets of the New York magazine editor-always carries in his mind the picture of a Western reader. At a gathering of editors at the evening board, I always would hear some of them say: "Well, I am running such a series because that's the kind of stuff that lives in the West." A regular saying among the manuscript readers in our office: "They like it out West." By out West they meant the Middle West, even Pittsburgh was west to them. It used to make me smile, for I was from a long way farther west than the region they had in mind. But I had lived in the Middle West, too, and this ready sizing up of the literary requirements of the readers residing in the neighborhood of the Great Lakes or the Mississippi River always seemed a bit of editorial cocksureness that was as inapt as it was amusing. A certain widely known novelist wrote a very long and very pretty decision. I say of this manuscript was sent in for my consideration. I did not read it. In fact, I never read it until after its publication. By my direction the manuscript was read by three readers, one of them a lady. All these readers declared that it was so salacious as to be absolutely unprintable. The two men were very suspicious of their denunciation of the story, and the lady blushed a deep red when she handed in her report. All agreed that the reading public would not stand for the story. I had the manuscript returned to the author. That was in 1905. Would you believe it?—the story was published in 1911. I was in charge of the editorial department of my magazine on the recommendation of my successor, and the public not only stood for it, but let it up and wanted more from that particular author, who had been dead. Now what had happened to make this story more acceptable to the magazine than the one I had read in 1905? It was very simple. Any oldtime editor will tell you that the gradual decadence of taste on the part of the great mass of magazine readers, and the constant feeding into them of rotten sex stories, has not only made readers less easily shocked, but also actually eager to embrace these fleshpots. What a shame that the editors are responsible for this condition. But if you were to ask one of them to-day why he befouls his pages with a known sinner, he would say with a proud smile, "Oh, they like it out West!"

EDITORIAL COMMENT

It is hard to tell whether a German government has been set up or "framed up."—Buckley Eagle. Too many bathing suits, safety razors and cukes of soap in this country to make possible a big crop of red anarchists.—Utica Observer. Former Kaiser Bill wants to go to a warm climate. For once we feel like accommodating him.—Washington Post. What we need is a law that will make an unjust strike impossible and a just strike unnecessary.—Greenville S. Piedmont. Considerable astuteness was shown by James Monroe in limiting his much-discussed doctrine strictly to one point.—Washington Star. The government claims that it has decreased train-robbery; there are those who insist that every train is a robbery now.—Venango Herald.

A CHECK TO BURELSON

[From Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.] Judge Kunkel, in his opinion deciding the right of the Postmaster General to change telephone rates in Pennsylvania without the approval of the State Public Service Commission, discriminates sharply between the Government's general war power and the authority which it arbitrarily claims in the present instance. In the end we probably shall have a judicial decision defining as right or wrong the high-handed proceeding of the Government in seizing the telephone and telegraph companies as and when it did. For the present Judge Kunkel contents himself, however, with deciding in effect that there is no emergency the Federal Government has no power to set aside State authorities. That is sensible, at least. And it brings into relief the war power which the Government entirely apart from the motives which may have prompted it. They do not commend themselves to the general public.

To win the war the people were willing that the Government resort to any expedient. But they object decidedly to the war emergency being used as a cloak for setting up conditions of social socialism to the public detriment and in violation of private rights. As in the case of the railroads, so with the wire communication companies; seizure by the Government of the right to regulate the power of the States over what is distinctly their own concern. The restraining action of Judge Kunkel in Pennsylvania and the judge in other States puts it squarely up to the Federal administration to prove its right to substitute centralization of control for the rights of the States to exercise authority in purely State affairs.

The Shadow at the Door

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.] Ah, distinctly we remember the eleventh of November. When each separate army member had his own camp and was eagerly we scanned the morrow; prayerfully we sought to know. Hope that all the load of sorrow that hung on the camp door would be lifted; that the Conference to meet and talk it over. Would end war forevermore. But that Conference, not fitting, still is sitting, still is sitting. In the classic shades of Paris, where it talks—then talks some more. And its talk is all the seeming of most visionary scheming. While the world wakes from its dreaming; finds a shadow at its door. And it fears that war's dread shadow that grows blacker at its door. Will be lifted nevermore. —HOWARD MARKLE HOKE.

IN APRIL

A morning of gold and green And a path to the top of the hill, Music and scent and sheen, Color and flame and thrill. Sap in the veins of the tree, Twitter and bud and birth, If Hope in the heart of the bee, And Love in the whole of the earth, Sleep in the eyes of the sky, And a hush in the hearts of the sea, Slumberous fields that lie Burdened with beauty and dream. Silence and shadowy light, And a graceful crescent curled; Peace on the lips of the night, And God in the width of the world. —Parrin Holmes Lowrey in Contemporary Verse

"They Like It Out West"

[Bailey Millard, onetime editor of a New York magazine, now on the staff of the San Francisco Bulletin, reveals some of the secrets of the New York magazine editor-always carries in his mind the picture of a Western reader. At a gathering of editors at the evening board, I always would hear some of them say: "Well, I am running such a series because that's the kind of stuff that lives in the West." A regular saying among the manuscript readers in our office: "They like it out West." By out West they meant the Middle West, even Pittsburgh was west to them. It used to make me smile, for I was from a long way farther west than the region they had in mind. But I had lived in the Middle West, too, and this ready sizing up of the literary requirements of the readers residing in the neighborhood of the Great Lakes or the Mississippi River always seemed a bit of editorial cocksureness that was as inapt as it was amusing.

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INSISTS ON RIGHTS

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.] Judge Kunkel's decision that the United States has no right to decide according to its own rate is in line with that of a Kansas court, which is now in the Supreme Court of the United States and is to be argued in October. Until then the decision in the various States will be respected. It is presumed that the same would apply to railway and telegraph rates, and it is likely that the Supreme Court will hand down a "leading decision" when the time the matter has settled itself, which is not likely.

Judge Kunkel is careful in his decision to draw a sharp line between the Presidential "war power" and those which have "no relation to war." It can hardly be claimed that at present the local telephone charges have any relation to the military situation and it is even hard to believe that seizing the lines in the first place was of any value to anyone. It seems to have been solely the idea of Mr. Burelson, who did not act until the war was practically over, that is believed to be the idea was simply to start a movement in favor of national ownership and operation. It is certain that there is little sentiment in favor of this "leading decision" and there is no reason in the world why the lines should not be returned at once.

Pennsylvania has a jealous regard for its justly reserved rights. It is not to be understood that the Federal administration should care to interfere in domestic matters which really do not concern it in the least. We have a commission erected for the very purpose of maintaining the status of all public utilities, and until its decisions are shown to be unjust, we shall abide by them. It is curious that the political party which has always claimed that the Federal Government should care to interfere in domestic matters which really do not concern it in the least, we have a commission erected for the very purpose of maintaining the status of all public utilities, and until its decisions are shown to be unjust, we shall abide by them. It is curious that the political party which has always claimed that the Federal Government should care to interfere in domestic matters which really do not concern it in the least, we have a commission erected for the very purpose of maintaining the status of all public utilities, and until its decisions are shown to be unjust, we shall abide by them.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Adjutant General Frank D. Beary, who is in Washington to discuss the return of the Keystone men, is connected with militia affairs. —Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, well known here as a lecturer, aroused ire of Philadelphia school teachers at a meeting by a criticism of the president. —H. C. McElowney, Pittsburgh banker, is head of the loan committee for Allegheny county. —Councilman Eugene Tropp, of Scranton, well known to many here, is seriously ill. —Herbert A. Gibbons, Philadelphia newspaperman, has started a movement to rebuild the century of John Calverly, leveled by bombardment of Noyon. —Major Norman F. Brown, Pittsburgh officer, home from France, says that Americans along the Rhine want to be returned.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg men have been helping in the improvement of French highways? —Historic Harrisburg—Early roads into Harrisburg followed Indian trails very closely. —"Nobody Home"—"Why didn't you send your man to mend my electric doorbell, as you promised?" "He did so, madam; but as he rang three times and got no answer he concluded that there was nobody home."—Boston Transcript.