

The West Virginian

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THE RULE OF TYRANNY.

At the behest of the big Democratic party, the old Council of Fairmont passed an ordinance forbidding Socialist orators to speak from the front of the court house steps and this ordinance has been approved by the present Big Four incumbents of the city hall. A similar ordinance was passed in Clarksburg and Rev. F. G. Strickland, a prominent socialist orator, was arrested and fined for the violation of the ordinance. He appealed the case to Judge Robinson's court who sustained him in his right of free speech. The court decision in part follows: (1) That the ordinance is an abridgement of free speech as guaranteed by amendment I of the constitution of the United States, and section 3, Article 7, of the constitution of West Virginia. (2) That the ordinance is not expressly or implicitly authorized by the city charter of Clarksburg, and is therefore null and void. (3) That the ordinance is discriminatory, oppressive, partial and unreasonable. The court cites numbers of cases from many other states bearing out his decision, but what is such a mere trifle of a constitutional right got to do with the city government of Fairmont which enforces such an ordinance? What have the people got to say about what a partisan Board of Affairs which is owned and controlled absolutely by the big business interests of the city which have been responsible for a tyrannical misrule in Fairmont for a number of years? But, God, there is now some hope of shaking this despicable oligarchy loose from its diabolical system of graft and incompetency, through the beneficent channels of a Republican legislature.

AMERICAN CONSUL IN NEED OF BREAD

Antwerp, if any Belgian city, should be exempt from the famine threatening the Belgian people. And if anybody in Antwerp should be able to get supplies of food, even though the people as a whole were starving, it might appear that such a person is the American consul. Nevertheless the American Commission for Relief in Belgium has received at London an appeal from Henry W. Diederich, United States consul at Antwerp, for flour to feed his own family and the American legislation. Mr. Diederich in the course of his appeal says: "About ten days ago Jarvis Bell of New York, while on his way to Brussels, kindly informed me that if my family and myself needed anything to let him or the Relief Committee know, and that they would provide as best they could. "At the time the offer was made, I did not think it would be necessary to make use of it, but we have been suddenly made to realize that Antwerp is not victimized, as common report has it, as a few days ago all the bakers in the city declared they were not able to supply bread any longer nor want to flour. "For the time being they again have started their work, but the outlook for a steady supply of bread this winter is very gloomy. In view of this condition it is requested that the Relief Committee let me have at the earliest opportunity some flour for myself and the families of the consular staff." When the United States consul in

Belgium's chief export city is reduced to applying to a private relief committee for flour for himself, his family and the legion, at so early a stage of Belgium's depletion of food supplies, it can be imagined what the situation must be in the interior of the country, a few weeks later, in mid-winter's cold, of the homeless millions who make up Belgium's destitute population. Consul Diederich's appeal for flour for the use of the consulate itself is the strongest confirmation, at this early date, of the most pessimistic accounts that have been sent out from London of the rapidly culminating situation in Belgium. The need of her 6 or 7 millions of idle, homeless and destitute men, women and children has not been exaggerated.

THE TIMES BALKS.

The Times has been always ready to defend the County Court in its partisan deprecations as well as to its methods of handling the business of the county. It even defended it in violating the law by selling the road bonds below par at a loss to the taxpayers of \$23,000, and applied the shorter and uglier word to the West Virginian for exposing the deal, an unjust and untruthful accusation, for which the Times has not yet made amends nor apologies, although it has been thoroughly convinced of its palpable error in its statements, but there seems to be a limit which even the Times refuses to overreach in its defence of the partisan County Court and that is in the payment for paving the streets of the city of Mannington out of the county fund, taking over \$1,500 of the money of the taxpayers of this city to apply on a \$5,000 job of paving that should have been paid for either by the city of Mannington or Mannington district. The court may rest assured that when the organ of its party refuses to defend it that it is getting pretty deep in the quagmire of public disapproval and is deserving the just censure it has been receiving at the hands of the taxpayers of the county.

Gerrymander is the term applied by the party out of power to redistributing the state.

Every married man's life is clouded by the conviction that he carried his wife's umbrella down town and left it there.

When a young man looks forward it is never to the time when he will be a grandfather.

A young man wants to know if his laundry has been delivered, but an elderly man merely is curious to learn if his socks have been darned.

One advantage the men will have when the feminist movement prevails is that they can go after the alimony.

A PARADOX.

There is no business depression, but business is resuming, is in effect what the Democratic press says.

Eph Wileys says an aviator is a man who is willing to wager the price of a funeral that he can navigate an airship successfully.

After he has learned his college yell a student often takes up some of the other branches of instruction.

FIRST CLAIM.

The Parkersburg State Journal claims the lead for Parkersburg over Wheeling in the matter of free text books. It also claims the best city government and several other municipal advantages. Parkersburg was sensible in getting a non-partisan charter, which the people of most all other cities of the state want and are going to have. We do not want to put any half bushel measure over Parkersburg progressive spirit. We hope its light may shine to encourage others to procure the good things that Parkersburg enjoys.

The University fans want an up-to-date college song and are willing to pay a good price for it. What's the matter with Kiser's "Guess the Rest" melody for a college yell?

Since the University boys wrote the "To Hell with Wesleyan" banner for the Thanksgiving football game, we commend their efforts in looking to outsiders for the sentiments for a college song.

MOVING ABOUT.

Look here, Weston Independent, if Jerome Haddox didn't move about, he wouldn't be Jerome Haddox.—Parkersburg State Journal.

No matter whether "Jeroam" roams he carries with him an inimitable style of writing that claims attention and a journalistic ability seldom equalled anywhere. No matter how obscure a little weekly paper is he brings it into the limelight immediately with the magic touch of his pen. Who ever heard of the Pochahontas Independent until Haddox commenced speaking through it like a megaphone. He makes a line of nonpariel scream like a cart load of 18 point exclamation points.

THE BELINGTON PROGRESSIVE.

The Belington Progressive celebrates the installation of a Linotype machine by the publication of a 38 page Christmas edition, showing unusual enterprise for a weekly newspaper.

Found Dead In Bed.

Pansy the 3-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shirl Gibson was found dead in her bed on Sunday morning at the home of the parents on 12th street. Heart failure had caused her death. The remains were interred to-day in Maple Grove cemetery by undertaker R. C. Jones.

PERSONALS AS THEY COME AND GO

Russell Nazam, stenographer in Prosecuting Attorney Tusca Morris' office, who was confined to his home Friday and Saturday on account of illness, is able to look after his duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Dudley returned Sunday from Corning, N. Y., where they were called by the illness and death of the former's mother. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Wallace, at their home on Walnut avenue, a daughter.

Mr. Frank Jeffrey, of Barnesville, O., arrived here Sunday to spend the holidays with his son, Mr. C. T. Jeffrey, and family on Jackson street.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Palmer, at their home on Walnut avenue, a daughter, Helen Esther Palmer. Mrs. Palmer was formerly Miss Ruth Johns, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johns.

Harry G. Arnett returned home last evening from the University of Pittsburgh to spend the holidays with his parents, Mar. and Mrs. Scott Arnett.

Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Wilson have returned from a brief visit in Wheeling. Miss Martha Taylor has gone to her home at Bridgeport to spend the holidays.

Miss Vinna Boydston will spend Christmas day at Annabelle with her sister, Mrs. Channing Moore.

Attorney Rollo Conley went to Pittsburgh yesterday to spend the day with his sister, Miss Bessie Conley, who is a patient in a Pittsburgh hospital.

Mrs. J. E. Powell spent Saturday in Clarksburg.

Mrs. R. M. Abbott, who had been the guest of her sister, Mrs. Edgar Davis, for several days, returned to Kingwood today. Mrs. Abbott assisted with the Christmas music at the First Presbyterian church yesterday and on next Sunday will return here to assist with the music at the First Baptist church on Sunday night.

Mrs. Stella Brown has gone to her home in Harrison county to spend the holidays.

Mrs. Leslie King and children have gone to Oakland, Md., to spend the holidays with relatives. Mr. King will join them for Christmas day.

Mrs. G. C. Schwarm went to Pittsburgh this morning to spend several days.

Mrs. E. W. Abbott has returned from Baltimore, Md., where she had been called by the death of her two brothers.

Mrs. J. I. Carpenter and daughter, Miss Genevieve, spent Saturday and Sunday in Wheeling.

Mr. Arthur Thompson, of the State Department of History at Charleston, will spend Christmas here with his sister, Mrs. C. O. Jackson. He is now in Clarksburg the guest of his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson.

John Murphy, a student at the College of Dental Surgery in Cincinnati, arrived home Sunday to spend the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Whitford Murphy.

Held on Serious Charge.

Elmer Hawkuiberry, of Metz, was arrested Sunday by Constable W. R. Riggs, charged with committing three offenses against Jessie Austin, a Fairmont girl. He is in the county jail where he awaits a hearing before Justice R. Leigh Fleming.

State Editors

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE. Some years ago a commission made a painstaking study of the subject of municipal government in West Virginia and prepared an elaborate municipal code which it was hoped, might provide a standard and uniform system of administration for all urban communities of the state. The

WOMAN ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

What She Gives to a Nation.

Shall we say that women contribute only the bandages, the nursing, cheering and comforting the wounded? No! They contribute the fighters. What sort of help and inspiration can a woman be who is encumbered and broken down by diseases and weaknesses peculiar to her sex. Can she hope to be a capable mother or an efficient wife?

The mighty restorative power of speedily causes all womanly troubles to disappear—compels the organs to properly perform their natural functions, corrects displacements, overcomes irregularities, removes pain and misery at certain times and brings back health and strength to nervous, irritable and exhausted women.

It is a wonderful prescription prepared only from nature's roots and herbs with no alcohol to falsely stimulate and no narcotics to wreck the nerves. It banishes pain, headache, backache, low spirits, hot flashes, dragging down sensation, worry and sleeplessness surely and without loss of time.

Why should any woman continue to worry, to lead a miserable existence, when certain help is at hand?

What Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has done for thousands it will do for you. It's not a secret remedy for its ingredients are printed on wrapper. Get it this very day at any medicine dealers in either liquid or tablet form. In the mean time address Doctor Pierce, Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., and simply write "Dear Doctor: Please send me without charge further information," and you will receive the advice of a Physician Specialist absolutely free; 138 pages, one aged 103 and one aged 108 years. The greatest number at one page book on women's diseases sent free.

OLD AND NEW.

Oh, sometimes gleams upon our sight, Through present wrong, the eternal right.

And step by step, since time began, We see the steady gain of man.

That all of good the past hath had Remains to make our own time glad. Our common, daily life divine, And every land a Palestine.

Through the harsh voices of our day A low, sweet prelude finds its way; Through clouds of doubt and creeds of fear, A light is breaking calm and clear.

Henceforth my heart shall sigh no more For older time and holier shore; God's love and blessings then and there

Aren now and here and everywhere. —John Greenleaf Whitier.

code compiled by the Kingsley commission was a very creditable piece of work, but it never could get through the legislature, because the people of our several cities have never yet reached a point where they are all of one mind as to the form of municipal government best adapted to their needs. They are today, perhaps, wider apart than ever in their views on that question, and it would be utterly useless to ask the approaching legislature to enact a municipal code prescribing a uniform plan of government for all urban communities.

There is one way, however, in which the legislature can free itself from the incubus of charter legislation, and that is by enacting a home rule law on broad lines permitting the people of the various cities to make their own charters. This has been done by Colorado, and the Colorado plan provides as follows:

That the people of each city in this state * * are hereby vested with and they shall always have the power to make, amend, add to or replace the charter of said city, which shall be its organic law and extend to all of its local and municipal matters.

The Colorado law provides for the machinery and procedure whereby the people of any city may work out their own salvation in the matter of charter without making any appeal to the legislature. On petition of a certain percentage of the voters a special election of charter commissioners must be called. The commission of twenty-one citizens elected presents a form of charter and it is submitted to a referendum vote. When the new charter has been approved by popular vote, certified to and filed with the secretary of state, it becomes the organic law of the city adopting it, and there are conferred upon the city government

all powers necessary, requisite or proper for the government and administration of its local and municipal matters, including the power to legislate upon, provide, regulate and control the creation of offices, agencies and employments, the definition, regulation an alteration of the powers, duties, qualifications and terms and tenure of all municipal officers, agents and employes, etc.

In short, the Colorado plan applies the principle of local self government to the affairs of all the cities of the state. It is municipal home rule, and a home rule law for West Virginia will be found preferable to the adoption of any elaborate municipal code.—Morgantown Post Chronicle.

FACTS ABOUT PENSIONS.

Very interesting facts concerning pensions and pensioners are contained in the annual report of the secretary of the interior. It shows that the pension roll at the close of the year contained 785,239 names, a loss of 35,933 during the twelve months, as against a loss of 40,094 during the preceding year. The number of deaths of pensioned Civil war soldiers was 33,629, as against 36,064 in 1913, and the present number of pensioned survivors of that war is 429,354, or more than one-half of the total number of pensioners.

While the pension bill of the government is decreasing and is expected to grow smaller with each succeeding year, new names are constantly being added to the rolls. During the year 95,606 certificates were issued, which was very large, but in 1913 443,622 names were added, that being the record year in the country's history, due to the claims filed under the act of May 11, 1912. The amount disbursed for pensions during the year was \$127,417,646 as against \$174,171,669 in the preceding year, and the estimated appropriation needed for 1916 is \$166,000,000. Of the needed amount \$166,000,000. Of the total amount disbursed for pensions from 1790 to 1914, which is shown to be \$4,729,957,370, \$4,347,974,496 has been paid on the basis of service rendered in the Civil war.

The secretary's report states that records of pensions for the Revolutionary war and the War of 1812 are being systematized in such a way as to facilitate examination by persons engaged in collecting historical and genealogical data. The last pensioned survivor of the Revolutionary war was Daniel E. Bakeman, who died in 1869, but Esther S. Damon, the last pensioned widow of the war, did not die until 1906, nearly 120 years after the war closed. The last surviving pensioned soldier of the War of 1812 died in 1905, 93 years after the beginning of that struggle.

The pension roll thus furnishes many examples of longevity. The ages of survivors of the Mexican war and of the Civil war pensioned under the act of 1912 range from 62 to 103 years. As the war ended 49 years ago, pensioners of the minimum age must have been fighting as soon as they entered their teens. There are eight pensioners aged 95, two aged 99, one aged 102 and one aged 103 years. The greatest number at one age is 55,869, aged 70, indicating a

preponderance of youths of 19 to 21 years in the struggle of the '60's.—Wheeling Register.

Harrison and Marion county Democrats are said to be seriously entertaining the idea of buying a car of coal thus emulating the South's plan to keep its head above water. That might result in opening up the closed mines in the region a few days.—Clarksburg Telegram.

The Fairmont West Virginian is handsomer than ever with its new head.—Ceredo Advance.

RIGHTO! The next Presidential election will be "Old Home Week" for the Republican party.—Intelligencer.

Just Smiles

The West Virginian has received a poem entitled "Unconscious Intent" but only the initials of the writer are given and as the paper makes it a rule not to publish anonymous communications, it cannot be used, but since the writer furnished a part of his name we are going to publish part of his poetry. One stanza reads as follows: "Ambitions reigns supremely, Great deeds are dreamed and did; And yet somewhere within one Old memories lie hid."

Auntie felt called upon to chide Annie for getting wet so often. One day mother and auntie were sitting by the dining table talking of Annie's still being out when it was beginning to rain.

Just then they heard the kitchen door open softly. "There she is now," said mother. "Who has wet feet now?" called auntie.

An ominous stillness for the space of three seconds, then a gruff voice replied: "The ice man."—Harper's Magazine.

A Dewey Story.

It is related that recognized ar-biter elegantiarum of the navy, Admiral George Dewey, that he once came on deck and viewed a quid of chewing tobacco lying on the otherwise spotless planking. Not knowing who was guilty, he immediately called all hands, broke out the iratic stay and yard tackles, a huge apparatus for hoisting out heavy boats, and made the crew hoist the quid overboard by its means. The lesson had its effect.—Christian Herald.

Current Comment

New Friends. When we let new friends into our lives we become permanently enlarged and marvel that we could ever have lived in a smaller world.

An Inducement.

If Irvin Cobb returns to London the authorities may induce him to establish quarters in the famous tower of that city.—Wheeling Register.

KEEPING FACTS FROM THE PEOPLE.

There is no doubt of the aim and effect of President Wilson's stand, as announced to Congressman Gardner. If the President has his way there will be no inquiry worth the paper to print the results on. The scandalous condition of the navy, the crying needs of the whole scheme for the national defense will be hushed up and buried under an official pretense of activity. Whatever Mr. Wilson's motives there can be no doubt of what his course means to the people. His exact program is that the committees of Congress shall investigate as the committees choose.—N. Y. Tribune.

WHEELING PROPOSES TO EXPAND.

The biennial charter fever is upon Wheeling, and a sub-committee of the Board of Trade has ready for presentation a new charter, which, the Register informs us, is modeled somewhat after the Dayton plan, featuring the city manager as its principal asset.

This is interesting, but not as interesting as the fact that the new charter proposes a greater Wheeling.—Huntington Herald-Despatch.

Best Stories.

Her Dainty Speech.

There was one young woman in the box party at the theater who took no part in the noisy clatter and giggle. With her gaze fixed upon the stage she watched the progress of the play, indifferent to the gayety around her, except that her delicate, aristocratic finely chiseled features bore a look of weariness and a scornful smile curled her lips.

At last, however, she turned her head slowly and looked at the other members of the party. Then she spoke to the elderly matron sitting by her side. "That chicken in the blue kimono," she said, "thinks she is the whole custard."—Argonaut.

No Danger.

Winston Churchill, politician and author, once had to take in to a dinner a young lady who had very decided views, which were in direct opposition to those of her partner. Mr. Churchill had just grown when he considered a very handsome mustache, the appearance of which seemed still further to incense the young lady. "Mr. Churchill," said the young lady, "I care neither for your politics nor your mustache." "Don't distress yourself, my dear

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Christmas will soon be here. Why not buy a useful present? You will be able to find them in our line of Gents Wearing Apparel. Pay us a visit before buying. OPEN EVENINGS.

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First National Bank OF FAIRMONT

THE MANICURE LADY By William F. Kirk

"I wish this life was a lot longer, George," said the Manicure Lady. "If we could stick around here four or five hundred years we might learn about all there is to be learned. This life is too short to get the right dope on the universe, even by going to a university."

"Yes, but if you could live five hundred years you wouldn't begin to know everything anyhow," said the Head Barber, "and at the end of the five hundred years you would want to live to be a thousand."

"You must think I am a awful homehead not to learn about everything in five hundred years," declared the Manicure Lady. "I ain't the wisest fish that ever breathed, George, but goodness knows that even at my tender age I have got jerry to a lot of things, and if a few years could teach me more than most of my customers seem to know, I ought to do pretty good in five centuries."

"I was telling Wilfred that I would like to be five hundred years old before I died, and he said I was barmy in the bean. He reminded me that most women begins to show the wear iv the time they are fifty or sixty, and I must admit that it did make me think how wrinkled a girl would be at the ripe old age of five hundred. But I wouldn't mind the wrinkles so much if I could know a lot of things that have puzzled me."

"People don't get no happiness out of knowing a lot of things," said the Head Barber. "I was happier when I was a kid than I am now, and I didn't know anything to make me sad."

"It don't seem to me that you know enough now to make your heart ache to the breaking point," asserted the

young lady. I beg of you," returned Mr. Churchill; "you are not likely to come in contact with either."—Kansas City Star.

Luke McLuke (From Cincinnati Enquirer.)

A woman's idea of someone to confide in is an old man with whiskers. But her idea of someone to love is a young man with a smooth face.

If I were President of this country I would build a big cage in Ellis Island in New York harbor, and every American who had been abroad for the first time would have to spend a week in the cage before landing. In this way about half of the nuisances would talk the other half to death about "When I was in—" and "When I was in—" and the home folks would live longer.

Suppose the women did have suffrage. On election day nearly all of them would refuse to go to the polling place because they didn't have a singleting to wear.

One reason while we are all down on the Turks is because the Turk minds his own business and doesn't send missionaries over here to write books on our divorce system. And he doesn't try to rescue us from a condition in which 25 men can have 25 different religious beliefs.

One reason why the good die young is because they are so lonely. In spite of our Higher Education there are a whole lot of things a girl will never know until she becomes a widow.

Any time you want to know how old a married woman is just ask her husband's sister.

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