

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

Established 1866. Member Associated Press.

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY by the Fairmont Printing and Publishing Company.

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Publication Office, Monroe Street.

TELEPHONES

Advertising Dept. | Circulation Dept. | Editorial Dept. Bell 158 Cons. 250 | Bell 68 Cons. 97

Foreign Advertising Representative, ROBERT E. WARD, Brunswick Bldg., New York, 123 W. Madison St., Chicago.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily (by carrier) 40c per month, payable monthly. BY MAIL Daily, one month...\$1.40 Daily, six months...\$2.00 Daily, three months...1.00 Daily, one year...\$4.00 All subscriptions payable in advance. When asking for change, in address give old as well as new address.

Entered at the Postoffice at Fairmont, West Virginia, as second class matter.

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THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

NATIONAL.

For President—Charles Evans Hughes of New York. For Vice President—Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana. U. S. Senator—Howard Sutherland of Randolph. Congress, First District—Thos. W. Fleming, Fairmont.

JUDICIAL.

W. N. Miller, Parkersburg. Harold A. Ritz, Bluefield.

STATE.

Governor—Ira E. Robinson of Taylor. Secretary of State—Houston G. Young of Harrison. Superintendent of Schools—Morris P. Shawkey of Kanawha.

Auditor—John S. Darst, of Jackson. Treasurer—William S. Johnson of Fayette. Attorney General—E. T. England of Logan. Commissioner of Agriculture—James H. Stewart of Putnam.

State Senator, Eleventh District—Charles A. Sinsel, Taylor County.

COUNTY.

Sheriff—W. H. Veach, Farmington. Assessor—W. S. Hamilton, Fairmont. Pros. Attorney—M. Earl Morgan, Fairmont. County Commissioner—W. P. Mason, Mannington. House Delegates—Geo. W. Bowers, Mannington. Walter Ellason, Fairmont. B. S. Hutchinson, Union District. Co. Surveyor—Thos. E. Minnear, Annabelle, Lincoln Dist.

SATURDAY EVENING, AUGUST 19, 1916

"America First and America Efficient"

TRUTH ABOUT THE GUARD.

THE attempt to make a matter of party politics out of the deplorable disorganization in the National Guard of West Virginia is reprehensible in the extreme. What the military forces of the state now are is due largely to politics—guard politics. And it is beginning to be apparent that the organization will never be brought back to a condition of efficiency until that is completely ironed out. A thoroughgoing reorganization, the first step of which is a vigorous shaking down of the officers, seems to be the only thing that will accomplish the results desired by the citizens who are jealous of the good name of the state.

The situation is simple enough. The states where the guards are conducted as units of the military forces of the nation should be conducted have been undergoing reorganization for the past two years to bring them in line with the program of the War department. Nothing was done in this state, not because of party politics, but because of guard politics, which cuts across party lines and is all the more dangerous to the welfare of the guard on that account. When the Government issued its call for troops recently West Virginia was in a state of complete unpreparedness. Adjutant General Bond called out the Second regiment, although he must have known it was inferior in every way to the First except in the fact that it had a machine gun company while the First at that time had not.

After he got the Second in camp Bond despaired of ever whipping it into shape and he called out the First, too, doubtless with some idea of amalgamating the two commands and saving the face of the state. Guard politics stepped in again and he failed completely. He probably would have failed anyhow, for he did not, and does not now, seem to have a very firm grasp upon the situation. Finally the First came home and since then efforts have been made to force Bond's hand in some way. There may be some who are in that game for the benefit of the guard, but it is certain that the most active care not a whit for the organization or the best interests of the state so long as there is a prospect that the schemes which they hope will further their self interest have a prospect of going through. Unfortunately for themselves they have been working along wrong lines. It seems to be clear to all except guard officers and some newspapers that as matters now stand the War department has not the slightest jurisdiction. The place to begin the reorganization of the West Virginia National Guard is at home; the time is now, and the way is to get rid absolutely of the officers who have by their self seeking activities demoralized the whole service.

TIME FOR VIGILANCE.

ALL over the country there are indications that the health authorities are beginning to wake up to the seriousness of the outbreak of infantile paralysis. Pretty soon travel in this country will be attended by as many restrictions as it is in Russia, where even in times of profound peace it is impossible to move into the next block without first getting the consent of the authorities. It may cause considerable inconvenience for a time, but we will have to make the best of it in the interest of the public good. At that the precautions taken to prevent the spread of this dreadful malady which cuts off children, by far the most valuable asset of the nation, are not to be compared for an instant in either efficiency or extent with the measures which were taken during the winter of 1914 to stamp out the foot and mouth disease which ran a course among the cattle of the nation.

If this mysterious menace to child life becomes epidemic in the United States it will constitute an everlasting reproach to the medical and sanitary service in particular,

and to the medical fraternity in general. Boards of health and health officers should bear that in mind. They should fight this plague with all the energy and all the intelligence they possess. They should make it a point to enforce all the laws that have been enacted for the protection of the health of the public, especially those requiring practicing physicians to report cases. Indeed, now would be a favorable time to send a few conspicuous flouters of the laws applying to the practice of medicine to jail.

CAUGHT WITH THE GOODS.

BECAUSE President Wilson found it necessary to veto the army appropriation bill Congress in all probability will be compelled to stay on the job for some time after September 1, which was the day set for adjournment. For once the country will be glad Congress is dragging out the session. The people know that the Congressmen would much rather be at their homes looking after their political fences, but because they have been caught trying to "put across" a piece of parliamentary trickery which would be impossible in practically all, if not all, the other legislative bodies in the land, they must stay in Washington. The punishment is light, but it gives great satisfaction.

The practice of putting "riders" on the regular supply bills is an old one. Once in a while it serves a good end in making possible the early enactment of a perfectly good piece of legislation, but a bare enumeration of the bad, not to say crooked, legislation that has been put through in that way doubtless would fill a large book.

It is an evil that is recognized fully. The constitution of the State of West Virginia and of most of the other states prohibits it absolutely by the inclusion of the simple provision that no act shall embrace more than one subject. Congress could attain the same end by a mere change in the rules of the two houses.

WEALTHIEST PEOPLE.

AMONG the wonders that the war has worked is the change it has brought about in the financial situation. A dispatch from Washington yesterday said that the money in the United States, including the gold, coined and in bullion, the silver dollars, the subsidiary silver and the various kinds of currency, totals \$4,471,595,666. On a basis of a population of a hundred million that is \$44.71 for each individual.

There are probably more than 100,000,000 of us, but if we let it go at that figure, and assuming that there has been little or no increase in the per capita circulation of France since the war began, that makes us the richest people in the world by a matter of three dollars apiece. The per capita circulation in the country famous for the depth of the woolen stockings in which monsieur and madame deposit their savings was a trifle over \$41 for each inhabitant according to the latest available figures.

The richest people in the world, barring a few Indians who do not count any more now than they did when the country was first settled! It is impossible to contemplate that fact without a slight shiver of apprehension. Only the future can tell what it portends.

PRACTICAL JOKING.

EDWARD ROSE, popular among his friends and at the threshold of what might have proved a useful career, lies dead at the home of his father in Mannington, and the Recording Angel has marked up another fatality under the head of practical joking. Rose's death was a horrible one; he probably welcomed the end as a blessed relief from the agony he suffered. Yet there was not the slightest malice about the action which led to this unfortunate result. The youth who applied the match which set off the powder in Rose's pocket thought it would be "funny" to see Rose jump.

A large proportion of practical jokes are the result of that kind of thoughtlessness, although some of them are so carefully planned that the perpetrators spend days in working out the details and preparing to "spring" them. At bottom practically all of them are cruel. The so called fun lies in the effect upon the victim of a physical or mental injury. Not infrequently they result as the "joke" on Rose resulted in the death of the victim, or in his permanent injury. Public opinion should discourage the practice. And it would do no harm if the coroner would make a point of making a careful inquiry into fatalities that grow out of it.

President Wilson got rid of troublesome Representative Hay by appointing him to the vacancy on the court of claims created by the resignation of Judge Atkinson, of this state, but about now he probably is sorry that this is not China, where an obnoxious official frequently takes the hint when he receives a silken cord. Just when the Democrats thought they had got the preparatory business of their hands in a way that would enable them to go to the people with some chance of getting by, Hay had to pull his little trick and gum the whole game. Now it will have to be done all over, and the ingrained objection of the southern Democrats to adequate national defense will be paraded again for the edification of the voters.

Candidate Hughes has been explaining to Pacific coast audiences just what "dominant Americanism" means. It doubtless was a surprise to many Democratic editors to learn that it means just what it says.

Kapitan Koenig belongs to the tribe that makes good. He is one of the few on either side who has "followed through" the task that was assigned to him. In his way he ranks with Hindenburg and Mackensen, and Germany ought to do something handsome for him in the way of honors.

SHORT AND SNAPPY.

The navy is to be enlarged, but Josephus will remain of the same calibre.—Charleston Mail.

An empty pocketbook in old age is not as bad as an empty nervous system. This is the time of the year of all times to "watch your step."—Uniontown Evening Genius.

The talk of forbidding Sunday automobilism in London, on account of the scarcity of gasoline, reminds us that this bally war is a horrible thing, bah Jovel.—Clarksburg Exponent.

It would be unwise to put a stamp tax on fashionable bathing suits because of the difficulty in finding room to affix the stamp.—Wheeling News.

The threat of a Government probe brought the price of wheat down, but the Government grain crop report sent it up again. The Government is a large factor in the grain market.—Connellsville Courier.

Democratic deathbed repentance on the tariff fools nobody.—Grafton Sentinel.

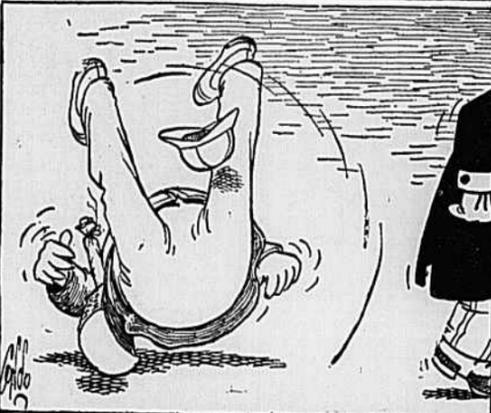
As they are to get five times the ordinary value of their islands, we fail to understand what the Danes are kicking about.—Wheeling News.

The drop in the price of gasoline is especially interesting to newspaper men who are contemplating renovating a fast winter's suit.—Bluefield Telegraph.

A good way to wind up your affairs is to put your wad into an auto and let it turn over a few times and come down on you.—Shinnston News.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)



Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

REPUBLICAN MONEY IN STATE AFFAIRS.

From the Wheeling Intelligencer. One of the most substantial achievements of the Republican party in this State was the creation of the State Board of Control, a fit companion piece of legislation to that other accomplishment the Workmen's Compensation Act. The Democrats in their irrelative criticisms of the State administration that succeeded to their negative party's action are careful to avoid any reference to either of these two departments of Republican origin, for the good reason that they are unsalable. A party is judged by its work, not by its capacity for complaining. The invective is easy, but performance is something that begets confidence and inspires hope for the future. Doing things is the promise of the fulfillment of other pledges, and that is why the Republican party commands the continued approval of the appreciative electorate of West Virginia.

For over seven years the Board of Control has been administering the appropriations for the various state institutions, taking the place of the various boards which governed them separately. In that time it has handled more than half of the disbursements for the expense of the state government with every penny accounted for and without so much as a dollar misapplied or improperly diverted to the pocket of any official or employee. In these days of carelessness and inefficiency in official stewardship this record stands out with particular significance of the faithful performance of the Board's duties. And in this connection the Intelligencer challenges comparison with any State in the Union for a similar record for probity and honesty in the disbursement of the public funds.

The creditable showing is due in a large measure to that capable business man and conscientious director of the affairs of the Board of Control, its chairman Hon. James S. Lakin. The economical administration of the humanitarian institutions is especially noteworthy compared with the old order. In no case has there been any charge of a contract wrongfully awarded, or of exceeding the exact needs and purposes for which it was invited. The economy of administration has been evolved, through a system of strict accountability enforced upon the subordinate state employees with a careful attention on the part of the Board to the small details that formerly were left to the indifference of the officials. In this respect alone the Board has been a priceless boon to the taxpayers in its saving qualities and the intelligent conservation of the appropriations.

It has been owing to the honest and attentive supervision of the great charities of the state, constituting the three hospitals where unfortunate humanity is cared for, that the yearly per capita cost of inmates has not exceeded \$123 to \$130. This has been accomplished without denying them in any particular of nourishing, wholesome food of abating any of the creature comforts they are entitled to. This is in remarkable contrast to the per capita cost of similar institutions in other States. It rises to \$210 to \$250 in Pennsylvania and New York, and is marked by corresponding increases in Ohio, Maryland and other commonwealths. This economical showing is supplemented by the low per capita cost of the entire administration of the government in West Virginia under the present rule, which amounts to but \$2.48, while the cost of the National Democratic government in its extravagance and incapacity is figured to amount to \$11 per capita, over four times greater.

With the Democratic speakers in the coming campaign, or the partisan press assailing these Republican achievements, or the honest administration of important trusts? They will not, because they are unsalable. They are impregnable facts, supporting and buttressing Republican management of the people's affairs and the taxpayers' money against the desperate defamations and vituperation which the

resourceless and issueless State Democracy has ignominiously reduced to.

Confederates to Meet.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 19.—Plans have been completed for the reunion of the West Virginia division, United Confederate veterans. It will be held in Huntington Wednesday and Thursday October fourth and fifth. The call has been made by General C. S. Pylon, division commander, who announces that Hon. Robert E. Lee, of Baltimore, a grandson of General R. E. Lee will deliver the principal address.

RUFF STUFF

BY RED.

In the case of West Virginians it ought to be the people striking against the railroads.

There are 66,662 postoffices in United States and service in '16 will be protected after March 4, '17.

What the use of living any longer? Because of the pickle famine we will have to take our ice cream straight.

New York can make paper out of garbage; Germany out of crop waste; the Times out of politics and other people out of news.

It's really a shame about the bakers! They now want us to pay six cents for bread. We expect to see them going over the hill to the poor house in a procession of autos.

As much as we love Major Mansfield Neely, M. C., we often wonder if he gives the average West Virginian credit for being able to see beyond his nose.

Great joke about the War department holding up its plans to give M. M. N. a chance to lay on the soft kind words.

Many go into Pennsylvania without health certificates who would stand a fat chance getting back to West Virginia if we had a quarantine.

Oh, for the life of a railroad president!

Germany's man of mystery says: "Bring on Haig." A man of mystery naturally could be expected to be a man of spirits.

It didn't pay Wilson to try to hold Hughes to "strict accountability" for what he muttered on the western slope of the Rockies.

Wilson wants railroads to give in to the men. Railroads want men to give into men. Men want railroads to give into men. Although it runs in a circle, we'll soon learn from the ticket agents who will be the goat.

The New York street car men getting a few days off duty seemed to like the holiday and want a few more days off.

After regaining 53 square miles of their lost ground in seven weeks, the Allies left 8,000 square miles in France and 11,000 in Belgium which they overlooked before they stopped.

And what bewhiskered bo's'n of the briny will not pull his grandchild up on his knee in years to come and tell of the day he spotted the first submarine going or coming from one hemisphere to 'other.

Perhaps the Bremen got twisted and is now between Henlopen and Mayson trying to figure which one of the Aleutian Islands it has wound up in.

A president getting \$75,000 per annum must seem small potatoes to those railroad presidents who have jobs good for long stretches at twice that amount.

It's all right for our county physician to suggest a quarantine. Suggestions seem to be what that job consists of.

NEW YORK LETTER

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

DEMOCRATIC testimony that the Underwood tariff bill falls by upwards of \$300,000,000 to raise its share of the revenue needed to carry on the government is furnished by the Senate Finance committee which has, after strenuous labors, reported a supplementary revenue bill imposing special taxes designed to raise \$285,000,000 revenue. Probably many Democrats would be reluctant to admit that this means taking out of the pockets of Americans over \$300,000,000 which, under a different tariff could just as well be taken out of the profits of foreigners; although there is much evidence to support that contention, clearly established instances where the wholesale price of the foreign manufacturer has been advanced exactly the amount of the reduction in the tariff, so that the American consumer gained nothing from the reduction of the duty. But no Democrat can deny that these special taxes are made necessary by the failure of the Underwood bill to provide sufficient revenue. The special taxes are bound to be onerous in many cases. For instance, every theater or place of amusement which seats 250 must pay a tax of \$25; which seats 500, a tax of \$50, and so on up. All bowling alleys and billiard parlors must pay a special tax of \$5 for each alley and each table. Every mortgage and certificate of indebtedness must pay a stamp tax of 50 cents for every \$500 of amount. A form of duty is imposed by special taxes on: (1) goods entering and coming out of custom-houses and bonded warehouses. Steamship and Pullman tickets bear special taxes, and many other things, all in addition to doubling the income tax, and imposing heavy taxes on inheritance. The House tax on war munitions was rejected when it was found it would hit cotton, and there was substituted an additional tax on the profits of corporations which, it is expected, will be collected almost entirely in the Northern states.

Tariff Still Charms.

Reports from the west indicate that whenever Gov. Hughes touches upon the tariff and states the Republican position his remarks are most enthusiastically received. This confirms the view of the Republican managers that a majority of just about 1,500,000 of the voters in this country believe in a protective tariff. In 1912, it is recalled, the combined Republican and Progressive vote exceeded that received by President Wilson by upwards of 1,300,000. In that election there were some Democrats who voted the Progressive ticket, and many Republicans who, being opposed to Roosevelt and feeling Taft could not win, voted for Wilson. But taking it all in all, the estimate of a million and a half majority of protectionists is doubtless correct. Assuming this to be true, and knowing the unequivocal and unwavering advocacy of protection for American workmen by the Republican party, the Republican managers figure that every Democratic or unidentified voter who is won by an exposure of Democratic incompetence. Mr. Wilson's weak, vacillating foreign policy, his needless invasion of Mexico, and so on, means an addition to those who will naturally vote for Hughes on the square-toed issue of protection. Furthermore, they find considerable measure of confirmation of their view in the spectacular efforts of the Democrats to preempt a small corner on the protection bandwagon. Mr. Wilson's eleventh hour conversion to the creation of a tariff board, etc. In due time, the Republican orators will make a drive on the tariff, accompanying their arguments with analysis of the Underwood tariff bill and its effects which, they assert, will pretty nearly blow their Democratic adversaries out of the water.

Face Saving Legislation.

It is generally an occasion of surprise that the party in power should devote so much time and energy to what is merely face saving legislation. Such a measure is the Philippine bill just passed. This measure had for its real purpose the pledging of the United States to retire completely from the Philippines within five years. Even the potent influence of President Wilson was insufficient to save this provision, and without it the bill is almost meaningless. It makes certain changes in the Philippine government, but they are unimportant. The preamble is bad, because it is false. It is designed to raise in the minds of Filipinos hopes of independence which there is no immediate prospect of gratifying. The embodiment of this preamble in the legislation is worse than useless. The New York Tribune pronounces it "Enacting a Lie." Senator Borah demanded why the Democrats wanted to pass this bill at all in its emasculated form, but he got no satisfactory answer. Mr. Borah had voted for the bill when it contained the Clarke amendment, fixing the five year period, but he voted against the bill when that amendment had been stricken out and, furthermore, he surprised the Senate by announcing that he had become convinced that the great majority of the American people were against the scuttling policy in the Philippines. The real reason why the bill was passed in its emasculated form was "to save the face of the President." He had decreed that the bill must pass and he and his friends in Congress believed that if Congress passed something called a Philippine bill the people would be too unintelligent to observe that what he had actually demanded had been rejected, and would construe the passage of the mere shell as a Wilson victory. Another "face-saving" measure which probably will be put through is the Wilson-McAdoo Shipping bill. It won't be the real Wilson-McAdoo bill, which Congress could not be induced to pass, but a comparatively innocuous substitute which can do nothing worse than involve the waste of \$50,000,000 of the public funds, and which won't involve the United States in the European war, as would have the original Wilson-McAdoo measure. Here again, the only object in passing the emasculated Shipping bill is "to save the face of the President."

Jobe for Contributors.

The attention of your correspondent is called to the fact that there is disposition in some quarters to go far too far in criticizing the awarding of political jobs to contributors to the Wilson campaign fund. It is pointed out



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that there is nothing intrinsically bad in giving a good place to a man who has contributed to the presidential campaign fund. What is bad is the appointment to important offices of men without the ability to give good service, merely because they were contributors to the campaign fund, and the displacing of men who are rendering especially good service, or serving with skill in peculiarly difficult positions, merely to make room for what Secretary Bryan termed "deserving Democrats." No more striking example of what is condemned has occurred than the displacement of Ambassador Herrick, at Paris. Mr. Herrick was rendering service so extraordinary for its efficiency, under the most delicate and difficult circumstances, that he had compelled the unqualified admiration not only of the French, but of the entire European diplomatic corps. He was the energetic, sympathetic, skillful friend of the thousands of non-combatant citizens of the central powers who were detained in France because of the war and were in dire need of the services which he so freely rendered them. And Mr. Herrick was displaced to make room for an amiable gentleman from Indiana without either experience or qualifications but only "a deserving Democrat."

Many Corporations Dissolve.
CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 19.—During the month of July, 41 corporations operating under the laws of West Virginia were dissolved. This is shown by the report for the month that completed by Stuart F. Reed, secretary of state. Two companies changed their names and five changed their location of their places of business. In this month 57 resident corporations were chartered. Eight foreign corporations were authorized to do business in the state.

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