The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR PAPER CALL "WESTERN UNION."

Subscribers on our carrier routes failing to get The West Virginian any evening should call "WESTERN UNION," state the fact and give name and residence, and a messenger will deliver a paper to your door at once. There is no charge to the subscriber for this service. The West Virginian plans to render to its subscribers the best newspaper delivery service possible and this is part of the plan.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 3, 1917.

MORE ABOUT THE NEW CHARTER.

GRANDMOTHER printed another long screed devoted largely to political folk lore this morning. The past is Grandmother's long suit, but what this community needs above all other things is to realize that a new day has dawned and that it is essential to continued progress in Fairmont to get rid of the kind of politics practiced by the people who are trying to prevent the new charter from going into effect.

This ordinance was designed to put an end to government in the interest of bootleggers and professional election corruptionists. It is because it would do this that it is being fought in the courts, and the writer of The Times article knows as well as any one else does that it is taking gross liberties with the truth to say that "every step taken in the courts to defeat it has the almost unanimous approval of Fairmont citizens."

If the public spirited, law abiding, church going citizens all really understood the facts about this charter litigation there would be an outburst of indignation which would compel even hardened defenders of gang government like The Times to hold their peace. Even as matters stand the obstructive tactics were begun and have from the first been financed by Gang politicians who know that they will lose their grip when the new charter goes into effect. Not at any stage of the proceedings have they had the support of public opinion.

The whole thing is out of step with the tendency in this city. This newspaper is already on record as believing that the government of Fairmont should be taken completely out of partisan politics and it further believes that the present is an opportune time to effect that change. The public spirited citizens who have been learning how to cooperate in the Fifty-in-Five movement should carry their efforts a step further and settle this charter dispute forever by agreeing upon some workable plan of municipal government which is in harmony with the spirit of progress and the aspirations for decency and honesty in public affairs which now pervade Fairmont.

SYSTEMATIC RELIEF.

WHEREVER the armies of the belligerent nations have operated there one may find want, disease, distress and mental anguish in the most poignant forms. There is so much of it that one is appalled; is assailed by a feeling that the little that he or she might be able to give would not be worth while in a situation that cries aloud for sums in the hundreds of millions.

But it is of pittances that the large relief funds that already have been raised were made. There have been many contributions of princely proportions, but the bulk of money has come from many people not any of whom individually contributed a large amount. This is especially true of the really wonderful efforts along this line that have been made in France and Great Britain—efforts, by the way, which make the aggregate of the contributions of rich and prosperous America seem paltry.

The small gift is made to assume importance because of the organizations that have been built up for carrying relief to the suffering. The Belgian Relief which is in American hands although the French and English have each contributed much more to it than we have, is a fine example. The committees organized to succor the Syrians and other Christian subjects of the Sultan, which is also an American enterprise, is also worthy of the highest praise for the efficiency with which it has carried out its pressing and very difficult task. Ranking with either of these well advertised organizations is that built up for the relief of the Jews in Poland, Russia and other war zones. In the hands of this organization even small sums are made to serve some important humanitarian purpose. In the past week throughout the United States contributions have been received for this Jewish relief. Last year over $1,000 was raised in Fairmont. This year it is not expected that this sum will be equalled for the reason that no personal canvas has been made. It is to be hoped, however, that all who feel that they would like to give a little something to relieve distress growing out of the war will take or send contributions either to Simon D. Goodman of the Underselling store, or to one of the two Fairmont newspapers. Remember that through the splendid organization that has been built up every penny given now is made to serve some useful purpose and make some one's life brighter.

MISTAKEN PARTISAN ZEAL.

IT has come to the knowledge of The West Virginian that a few men in the belief that the action of the United States Circuit court brings the end of the litigation over the new charter in sight, and makes a new election in the very near future inevitable, are contemplating some action in the courts designed to tie the hands of the present city government, especially with regard to carrying out the municipal improvement program endorsed by the voters at the special election held in December.

Such a step would be unfortunate in the extreme for many reasons. Among other things it would be permitting partisanship to mount to the point where it closely resembled civic disloyalty, and, because it would be an affront to a public which had ample opportunity to declare its position on this improvement work at the election, in the end it would injure the cause of good government.

The West Virginian sincerely hopes that the gentlemen who have been considering such a step will at once dismiss it from their minds.

CIRCULATION FIGURES.

WHILE he was making a critical examination of the details of the January circulation report yesterday one of The West Virginian's bright young men made what appeared to him to be a most interesting discovery. And when he had conferred with others in the office who are familiar with that branch of newspaper making it was agreed by all that it was more than merely interesting—probably without precedent.

It is nothing less than that since the price of The West Virginian was advanced to three cents per copy on the first of the year we have been selling more papers on the streets than were sold when the price was two cents. The average daily street sale for the month of January was 643 and Saturday of last week the total ran up to 1,062.

In all well regulated newspaper offices the heads of all departments watch the street sales, the editors even more closely than the circulation people because the trend of street sales shows how the paper is striking the public. If the street sales fall off something is radically wrong with the paper. If they show a healthy tendency it is an indication that the paper is on the right course even if it is a long way from perfection. Street sales are due to actual demand. No one buys a paper on the street unless he wants it.

We take pleasure in setting forth these simple figures and facts about the street sales of The West Virginian because we know that the business men of Fairmont are interested in knowing what kind of circulation they are getting when they place an advertisement in this newspaper. If any of our friends think they would like to know more about the intimate little details of the circulation they are invited to call around and make their wants known. There are many interesting facts bound up in the voluminous records and statistics on file in the circulation department. For over a year now The West Virginian has been publishing circulation figures and we have the record day by day for a much longer period.

University presidents and authorities on international law are gravely going on record to the effect that the new German U-boat policy is an infraction of all the rules. Well, this information will not be news to Germans in authority. They know it full well, and on the assumption that their acts are justified by their necessities have staked their all on one desperate effort. If they fail, and it has been their misfortune to fail at every genuine crisis since the war began, they doubtless will be prepared to take their medicine.

Alaska and three states, Indiana, Oregon and Tennessee, went bone dry yesterday. This has certainly been a bad winter for booze—and for the kind of politicians who took their orders from the booze interests.

Dispatches from London say Americans in England are clamoring for passage home. Seldom does trouble break out anywhere in the world without finding gadding Americans in the immediate vicinity.

When a servant girl hunts a gas leak with a match or a candle and something happens the funny men of the newspapers think it is fine material for jokes. But when a plumber does it and a tragedy results it takes on another aspect. The Chicago authorities should make an earnest effort to run down that story of the janitor of the tenement which was destroyed yesterday to the effect that he saw a man examining gas pipes with lighted matches in his hands.

It's cold, of course, but what nice pictures Jack Frost has painted on the window panes.

THEY'RE OFF, BOYS! WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CHECKERS TOURNAMENT RAGING IN WEST

Left to right—Newell W. Banks, National champion; John Rickelson, referee; David C. Whitehill, scorekeeper L. Schirm, timekeeper; Thomas A. Pike, timekeeper; and Alfred Jordan, international champion.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 25—A unique sporting event is in progress at the Los Angeles Athletic Club in the nature of a checkers tournament for the championship of the world.

A series of games is being played between Newell W. Banks of Detroit, Michigan National Checkers Champion and Alfred Jordan, formerly of England, who is the international checkers champion, having won this title in actual play with the champions of England, Australia, New Zealand and several other European countries as well.

Checkers is called "The Silent Sport." There is no cheering, no "booing," or "guying,"—nothing but stillness, broken at rare intervals by the scraping sound of the checkers as they slither from spot to spot under the impulse of each man's move.

No one speaks above a whisper in a checkers game. A tense contest is completely upset by any noise. Each man is given five minutes in which to move. If he takes six, he forfeits the game.

The moves on a checker board being acording to number, the board being tagged from one to 32. There are 48 possible ways of opening a game. Checkers is no child's play sport. It is an exact science—as exact as mathematics which is its underlying principle.

There will be forty game in the present tournament. The winner will take the $500 purse that is up along with the title of World's Champion Checker Player.

in this town would help things considerably.

We trust that by next week we can assure our citizens that the negotiations have been completed and that work is progressing on this industry.

With the general conviction that the French are a plucky race, Haroid S. Bloch, vice president of the Bloch Brothers' Tobacco company, has returned to Wheeling after a sojourn in France. This time he saw France at war. He said he learned more on the last trip. A business man's impression of the country seems to be that secured by Mr. Bloch. The sfficiency with which the French are conducting their task, the philosophic attitude in the face of peril, were striking things to him.

Although Paris had dropped the gayety which Mr. Bloch had known to be her characteristic upon a former trip, she was not altogether in mourning. The restaurants closed at 9 o'clock. The theatres were open. Mr. Bloch said he enjoyed himself more on the last trip, but in a different way. He lived in France wor a year with headquarters in Paris. He talked to many Frenchmen. They all have no idea of closing hostilities until national conscience can be satisfied as to the princples for whch they are fightng. Many of ths assocates expect to see an end of the conflict next fall.

In a recent issue the Pocahontas Times printed the following: "The Highland Recorder published a letter from Lewis county giving an inaccurate account of the killing of an Indian warror who approached a fort and imitated a turkey gobbler to draw out a hunter from the fort into an ambush. A letter puts the occurrence at a fort located where Jane Lew now stands. As a matter of fact that is a story of Jesse Hughes, one of the most noted of the Indian fighters of his day. The time was about the year 1790, and the occurrence took place at the fort standing at the junction of the waters where the city of Clarksburg now stands. We have heard the story placed at other points in West Virginia, but Mowe's Historical Collections of Virginia published in 1845 gives the details. Jesse Hughes was at the fort. A turkey was heard gobbling on the hill. A young boy got his rifle and was about to go out and get the turkey when Hughes prevailed on boy to let him go, and after a time he returned without the turkey. The boy complained about it and was reproaching Hughes, when Hughes produced a fresh scalp and threw it at the boy's feet and said: "There, take your turkey, Jim, I don't want it." After Hughes left the fort he went up one of the streams to a a ravine and up that and came out on the hill on the rear of the gobbling, and there saw an Indian on a chestnut stump, which was surrounded by sprouts. Hughes shot and killed the Indian. The place that this Indian was killed must have been just about where the Waldo hotel stands. This is one of the most beautiful palaces in world. Anyway a very fine city now stands where once that Indian sat on a chestnut stump and wrought his own destruction.

Miss Mabel Turley, of Madison, daughter of W. H. Turley and known to several here in Barboursville, says the Cabell County News, was stricken blind while in college at Philippi. After being brot home her sight was suddenly restored, and then in a few hours she was again blind. Again she is able to see. It is a strange case.

Clarksburg's Great Clarksburg general committee is going through the throes of planning a new government for that town and it is among the possibilities that the city maager plan will be adopted. In telling of what was done at a meeting held Thursday night the Exponent said: "It was proposed to make the water works board a commission in itself. The other three departments would be looked after by a mayor and two members of council. The mayor would lookafter finance and police; the councilmen-commissioners, public service and public welfare. The salaries of these officials would be: Mayor, $3,000; commissioners, $2,700 each, per annum. But when the question arose whether or not it would mean a saving to adopt the city manager form of government, various members of the charter committee took up the question and the general opinion seemed to be in favor of the city manager plan.

Daily Optimistic Thought.

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than the praise of fools.

Two Claim to Be Wife of Rich Man; One Asks Million

MRS. ZOE Z. CUNNINGHAM

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 1.—Two women, one young and pretty, the other 71 years of age, are fighting to be recognized as the wife of Thomas W. Cunningham, former mayor of Joplin, Mo., and retired banker, whose wealth is estimated at $2,000,000.

Mrs. Zoe Z. Cunningham is the young woman who claims she and Cunningham married two years ago. Before her marriage she was Dr. Zoe Wilkins, an osteopath for the wealthy of Kansas City, Joplin, New York and Colorado Springs.

For two years she has been known at Cunningham's request, it is said, as "Miss Cunningham," "daughter" of the banker, who is 72.

Only when another claimant to the title of wife of Cunningham turned up, did "Miss Cunningham" claim she was his wife.

Tabitha Taylor, 71, of Joplin, says she is Cunningham's common law wife and she is suing Cunningham for $1,000,000 as half his property.

THE HOTEL LOBBY.

What has become of the old-fashioned dime museum, George?

Y' got me, Sol.

Well, Roland, it's went. The twin jitney museum is now ancient. Since the masses got acquainted with hotel lobbies the lid was nailed down hard on the freak emporium and smothered with moth balls.

Go into a hotel lobby any time of the day or on the way home in the morning, hide behind a palm (we don't mean the bell hop — hee! hee! that ain't 'alf bad, wot?). Get your orbs bocused and watch the frisking freaks or lobby leopards in their native haunts.

F'rinstance, see that very important looking Luke strutting around wearing his soft hat a la devil-may-care-father-is-rich sort of a way? Lookit him putting on airs. Now he goes up to the desk, asks if there's a telegram or some mail. Out loud now, so every one can hear you: "I'm expecting a telegram from N'Yawk. I'll be in the dining room."

Then he goes up to the porter and asks, not very loud, but just so he can be heard two blocks away: "I say, porter! When is the next train for New Orleans?"

"Oh! he's the best in the first race. There's many such as him, Ralph. Putting on phony dog. Wants everyone to think he's so bored with hotel life. Fifteen times out of 10 he's a salesman for men's garters or carries a sample case of sewing machine oil.

Look! Look! let's hoof it awa. Let's go over to Fogarty's gymnasium and watch Terrible Hennessy work out.

FAIRVIEW.

The series of meetings conducted by Rev. Mr. Coffman of the Methodist church, South, are largely attended and some very alive and impressive sermons are given. Rev. Mr. Webb, of Fairmont, was here Tuesday evening and Rev. Mr. Pallok preached Wednesday evening.

The many friends of Rev. and Mrs. Carter, formerly of this church, have the heart-felt sympathy of the community in the death of their daughter, Emile, at their home at Point Pleasant this week. Messrs. Jess and Ira Yost were business visitors in Wheeling this week.

Mrs. Marion Bowman was in Fairmont shopping Wednesday.

Mrs. Elihu Yost entertained Clara Hewitt, Ida and Edna Yost and Stella McChesney at an informal afternoon eating apples and telling jokes.

Mrs. Frankie Dragoo entertained a few friends informally Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Mable Trippett entertained the Needle Craft Sewing Circle Tuesday afternoon. Refreshments were served and Kodak pictures were taken of the group.

Will Yost was a Clarksburg visitor Tuesday.

Mrs. Mollie Hamilton was visiting Miss Etta Lynch at Clarksburg this week.

Mrs. J. L. Tennant was shopping in Fairmont Wednesday.

Miss Sallie Martin who is taking the night school course in short hand and typewriting at the High school in Fairmont is a Fairmont visitor today.

Charley Billingslea, of Fairmont, is a business visitor here today.

Margaret Chalfant leaves next week to take up studies in the Margaret school of Pittsburgh.

Mrs. Frankie Dragoo entertained the Needle Craft society Thursday evening. A good time was the order and all left voting many thanks to the hostess.

Miss Lillian McBee entertained Miss Gogian, Miss Shank, Miss Evans, Miss Rector and Miss Madline Flemming at a informal chating dish lunch.

Miss Lena Little is shopping in Fairmont today.

Jim Powell was a business visitor in Fairmont Tuesday.

P. W. Yost is still indisposed in health and little Miss Fox is confined to her room.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Mitchell are the happy parents of a baby girl this week.

Mrs. Elza Amos and Miss Grace were guests at Dr. and Mrs. J. W. P. Jarvis Wednesday.

Miss Ellis Eddy, of Robinson Run, underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Mrs. Elias Kennedy is very ill.

Mrs. Barth is indisposed with measles at her home at Keystone.

Miss Mildred Cummins is indisposed with cold.

Dewey stewart who is a patient in St. Mary's hospital, at Clarksburg, is improving.

Cover for Water Bottle.

A hot-water bag often proves to be the friend in need, and if possible one should provide a suitable dress for it. One seen recently was made of white flannel embroidered with a simple wreath in pink and green.

DON'T USE DYES FOR GRAY HAIR

APPLY Q-BAN — SIMPLE, SAFE, HEALTHFUL AND GUARANTEED TO RESTORE NATURAL COLOR.

Don't use dyes. They are not only sticky, disagreeable and in bad taste, but actually dangerous. A good many reputable drug stores won't sell them.

Use Q-Ban Hair Color Restorer. This will accomplish wonderful results. Simply wet your hair with Q-Ban Hair Color Restorer. Back will come the natural, dark shade, evenly, gradually and permanently. This is the right way, and healthful one. Q-Ban claims no instant miracles — it leaves that claim to dyes and the like. But it does restore the original color correctly and helps your hair in growth, helps it to be glossy, lustrous, soft, beautiful, charming.

Q-Ban is all ready to use. It is guaranteed to be harmless and sold under the makers' warranty of satisfaction or your money back. At Martin's Drug Store and all good drug stores, a large bottle for 50c, or send direct to Hessig-Ellis Drug Co., Memphis, Tenn.

"Hair Culture," illustrated, interesting booklet, sent free. Write for it today. Try Q-Ban Hair Tonic; Q-Ban Toilet Soap; Q-Ban Liquid Shampoo; also Q-Ban Depilatory for removing superfluous hair.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)

RUFF STUFF

BY RED.

We don't care what other thermometers say; ours says it's 70 above.

* * *

And the little red ball with the long stick of glass on it isn't but three feet from a big gas fire.

* * *

Fourteen years ago today the thermometer went up during the day and came down in the evening.

Ten years ago today the fool was living and prosperous who said "It's not the weather so much as it is the wind." But in the meantime he has died, having been frozen to death at a temperature of 666 Fahr.

* * *

Holy macherel, where's that groundhog?

* * *

There's murder due a certain specimen of woodchuck.

* * *

He Slept With the Window Up and the Gas Out

We'd much rather see the duck do it than to believe it without seeing him?

* * *

Because with 1900 tons of blankets and sound asleep on the steaming hot radiator our anatomy was frozen.

* * *

Wilson is right. If the Germans want to send notes telling how bad they are just soak the note in vinegar and make it sweet and forget about it.

* * *

The President will take the same action he would have taken had there been no note sent by the Kaiser.

* * *

So why in the devilish dickens do these dips persist in using paper. There's a shortage of it.

* * *

Too darn cold it is py vhich we go to var mit guns and sossidges.

* * *

Now fair suffragists how many will join the army and walk 46 miles this afternoon carrying 60 pounds of luggage to keep the Germans from sinking some merchandise?

* * *

And sleep in a tent tonight, just the snow covered ground for the floor?

* * *

Just at present we favor William Jennings Bryan's plan Fight it out on the Chautauqua circuit.

* * *

Willie Hearst is skyhigh again. This time he figures Japan will fight America.

* * *

There's no war we'd love better to get into than one with the Japs.

* * *

We never knew until yesterday that we could read Chinese. We could tell by putting a torn ticket together just where the edges fitted

* * *

We wish these cold mornings that Doc Ruley would give us some other kind of an eye-opener than dry stuff.

* * *

Ha! we're on the trail. What doth it profit a man to find the germ and be unable to kill it?

* * *

What doth it profit a man to have a cold and not be able to get more than a quart a month?

BITS OF STATE NEWS

In this week's issue of the Cabell County News this somewhat laconic item was printed: "Mrs. America Jefferson died at Milton, Saturday morning, at the age of 102. Funeral was held at Oak Hill, near Le Sage."

Negotiations have been almost completed whereby the Philippi Woolen Mill will start in action at once, says this week's issue of the Philippi Republican. These negotiations will in all probability be completed by the first of next week and the new parties will take charge at once, and it will be running at full capacity within the next thirty days. If the proper help can be secured the capacity of the mill will be doubled. This mill is already a 10-loom mill and when turning out its capacity output employs forty-five men. A nice pay for 45 men

Do Not Hesitate

to come into this bank if you have any financial business you wish to transact. Call and talk it over with us. We are equipped to handle your financial matters in a satisfactory manner, and welcome the opportunity to help you.

We endeavor to make our service fit each individual need and ask you to give it a trial.

4 PER CENT ON SAVINGS AND TIME CERTIFICATES

THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK

On the Corner Near the Postoffice.

CAPITAL $200,000.00