

# The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME"  
 Established 1868. Member Associated Press.  
 PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY  
 by the Fairmont Printing and Publishing Company.  
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 Publication Office, Monroe Street.

TELEPHONES  
 BELL 1105-1106 CONSOLIDATED  
 All departments reached through private branch exchange.  
 Circulation Dept. 250  
 Advertising Dept. 230  
 Editorial Rooms 97

For an Advertising Representative, ROBERT E. WARD, Brunswick Bldg., New York. 123 W. Madison Street, Chicago.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
 BY MAIL—(Payable in advance only)  
 One Year \$5.00 Three Months \$1.50  
 Six Months \$3.00 One Month .60c

BY CARRIER—(In Fairmont)  
 One Year \$7.00 One Month .60c  
 Six Months \$3.60 One Week .15c  
 PER COPY THREE CENTS.

BY CARRIER—(Outside of Fairmont)  
 One Month .75c One Week .15c  
 PER COPY THREE CENTS.

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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FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 4, 1917.



### QUALITY CIRCULATION.

Whether from a long editorial in The Times this morning or our contemporary, which by the way seems to be strongly impressed with a belief that it has a strangle hold on all the journalistic wisdom there is also his "quality" circulation.  
 Granted. But how much?

### FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES COMING.

DOUBTLESS many American business men who for the past two years have been hearing about the virtual collapse of the American transportation system will, when they read Daniel Willard's prediction that the entire output of rolling stock and rails of this country will be shipped to the Allies, now our allies, will experience a distinct shock.

But it could be done, and American railroads greatly benefited by the process, if it were undertaken in the right spirit and by men big enough to put the job through in the right way. Take the case of Fairmont, for instance. Several times a day two railroad trains start either from or for this city at practically the same time. This is sheer waste. It could be arranged so that the city would have just as good service with but one train each time, and the roads would save just what the extra train cost. But under the competitive conditions under which our railroads have grown the double service has seemed the better part of wisdom for the stockholders of both railroads, and it is certain that the service is better in every way when there is competition than when there is not. The same conditions apply to the freight business. More freight could be handled with much less motive power and fewer cars if the scramble for tonnage were done away with and the freight business of the country carried on an efficiency basis.

The great problem is to find the man who can see the situation as a whole and lay the rules upon which this fundamental change in the transportation economy of the nation can be carried out. Once it is done it will be hailed as one of the most beneficial jobs ever undertaken in this country and one of its first effects will be to postpone for a long time to come, if not forever, the taking over of the railroads by the government. It would be an absolute impossibility under ordinary circumstances. Capitalists even the men who are running the roads, would be afraid to undertake it, not because they fear it as a practical undertaking, but because they would not be willing to trust the other fellow. Throat cutting was such a prominent characteristic of the early history of American railroads that it still affects the thought of the men who are in charge

### SHORT AND SNAPPY.

Teddy wants permission to raise a volunteer company to go into the trenches at once, but the administration so far has refused. Maybe that distinction is being reserved for Dr. Grayson.—Weston Independent.

The extent of the patriotism of some men consists of wearing an American flag emblem in the lapel of their coat. Can't win battles that way.—Uniontown Evening Genius.

A New York woman is trying to secure the release of a Kansas convict on a promise that she will marry him. He has other ways of avoiding the "selective conscription."—Bluefield Telegraph.

Only two more months now till Chautauque week in Charleston. Which the same reminds us that Ople Read and Ralph Bingham seem to be in greater demand these days than W. J. Bryan and Bob LaFollette.—Charleston Leader.

### Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

#### A PURELY BUSINESS PROPOSITION

From the Wheeling Intelligencer.

It is an encouraging sign that the press of the state is taking an intelligent interest in one of the most important matters to be considered at the extra session of the legislature, soon to convene. This refers to the budget system included by Governor Cornwell in his call. It was a measure insisted on by Governor Hatfield in his last message, but which got no further than the introduction of a constitutional amendment providing for a referendum of the question to a vote of the people. It was killed in the House of Delegates by a failure to receive the required two-thirds vote. It is revived again in the hope that mature reflection will have convinced the opponents of the measure of the economic advantages of such a system. The Fairmont West Virginian calls attention to a situation that was pointed out by The Intelligencer last week. It says: "It is almost certain that West Virginia's co-operation

today. But as a war measure—that puts another aspect upon the proposition. Many things will be done as war measures which would otherwise have been undertaken even unthought of. Old John Bull, who was fixed in his habits of thought and action if ever any one was, tried to get along on a "business as usual" program. But look what a mess he made of it. He won't know himself by the time he gets his uniform off. And it will be the same with us.

### NEED FOR COORDINATION.

SOME time ago the Commissioner of Education wanted \$20,000,000 appropriated to employ 40,000 instructors to teach children how to grow vegetables in vacant lots. Now the Secretary of Agriculture wants an appropriation of \$25,000,000 to enable him to solve the food scarcity problem.

It would be interesting to know whether the Secretary of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Education conferred before making these two recommendations, and whether the President approves of either or both schemes.

In the absence of any information on the question, the requests for a total of \$45,000,000 to solve the food problem would strike the common citizen as convincing proof of the need of the creation of some agency to coordinate the activities of the government. If the departments can not get together otherwise, Congress should compel them to.

The artificial character of the high prices for commodities is attested by the wild fluctuations which attend the ebb and flow of rumors. The sooner the government puts a stop to that by abolishing gambling in futures and fixing prices the better it will be for all concerned, and especially for the plundered consumer.

Even if they do send all the railroad cars and all the rails we can make in this country to Europe we will be better off than they were in England, where they took up rails and ties that had been down and in use and sent them to France for the construction of military roads.

It cannot be said that there has been anything like a rush locally to get into the army and navy, but if the run of Fairmont volunteers is going to be of the same quality as Louis William Lange, who gave up the superintendency of a big factory to become an ordinary seaman, we will more than make up in quality for what we lack in quantity. Young Lange has set the young men of this section a fine example, and it is the sincere hope of this newspaper that he will have a career in the navy that will be honorable alike to his country and himself.

Subscriptions for the Liberty Loan of 1917 poured in at the rate of more than a million dollars an hour yesterday. And at that rate they could continue for days at a stretch without in the slightest straining the credit of the country. That is one thing that we can take comfort in no matter how bad the experts make the naval and military situation look.

After tomorrow the City Beautiful contest entry blanks will disappear from the newspapers. Better sign up before it is too late and guard against that all gone feeling which you are likely to have about the middle of summer when you realize that your garden is a dandy, but is not eligible for one of the ward prizes because you neglected to enter it.

According to yesterday's report of a fire on Water street, "the East side fire department was called to the East side." Yet some time ago the city administration promised that the East side department would be sent back where it belongs within a few days. What is the matter now?

News of the resignation of Colonel Jolliffe will be received throughout the territory covered by the First West Virginia infantry with much regret, both because the regiment will lose through it a capable commander who has proved that he knew how to take care of the young men under him, and because Colonel Jolliffe's health is in such a condition as to make this step necessary. In Lieutenant Colonel Osborne, however, the regiment will have another commander who has seen actual war service and who is admirably equipped for the responsibilities.

Miners in this region have been granted an eight hour day and increased pay. The prosperity of the producers is filtering down in a most gratifying manner to the men whose labor makes production possible.

Don't let this weather fool you; winter is not coming back.

### STOP BULLETS IN ARMOR HE INVENTS

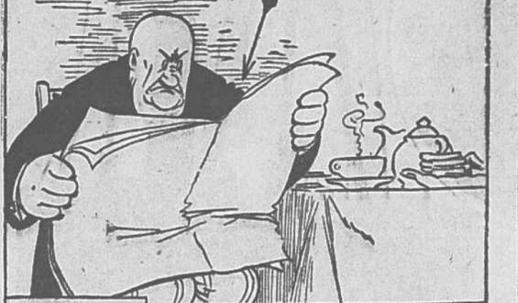


Dr. Guy Otis Brewster, of Dover, N. J., is here shown in the quaint armored headgear and jacket he invented for soldiers. In a recent test, Dr. Brewster fired at him from a distance of 80 feet and hitting the armor at a speed of 2,740 feet a second and a force of 2,400 pounds. The armor weighs less than 20 pounds.

### OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)

"THE UNPRECEDENTED INCREASE OF APPLICATIONS FOR MARRIAGE LICENCES IS SAID TO BE DUE TO THE DESIRE OF SLACKERS TO EVADE MILITARY SERVICE!"



HALF AN HOUR LATER



### RUFF STUFF

BY RED

Speaking of "Quality Circulation" there's a big difference between what some persons think is quality and what it decently is.

Baseball will suffer when war takes us all away.

Who cares about professional ball anyhow. All players ought to be made to join the Red Cross where they might do the world some good in war time.

"What's the use of us guys joining, Germany is whipped."  
 Oh yes she's whipped so badly she's sinking every boat in sight with her U-boats and—

If we don't fight over there we'll fight here.

War declared a month ago and—

"War measures to be speeded in Congress."

Don't see any sense in Colonel Jolliffe resigning. Even when he's sick he is good as the best.

It must go to the old boy's heart

### MONONGALIA MUSINGS

"It has been suggested that the gentlemen who have vacations, those sensible enough to like work, should take this year's vacation on a farm. The idea is sensible enough and should be heartily accepted. There is no use in anyone being too dignified to work on a farm. To shirk and loaf when you have an opportunity to perform useful work, is a low, mean method of spending your time. The great handicap to an increased production of food stuff is the lack of sufficient help in cultivating and taking care of crops. Help the farmer, he is your friend.

When the average American editor runs shy of a theme he writes an editorial congratulating the American people that Champ Clark failed to secure the nomination for President at the Baltimore convention. It does appear that Champ wobbles a little at times, or our vision is incorrect.

There is much truth in the assertion that the real necessities of life don't ruin people; it is love affairs.

### WHAT THE DOCTOR KNOWS

KIDNEYS MUST BE RIGHT TO INSURE HEALTH.

Few people realize to what extent their health depends upon the condition of the kidneys.

The physician in nearly all cases of serious illness, makes a chemical analysis of the patient's urine. He knows that unless the kidneys are doing their work properly, the other organs cannot readily be brought back to health and strength.

When the kidneys are neglected or abused in any way, serious results are sure to follow. According to health statistics, Bright's Disease, which is really an advanced form of kidney trouble, caused nearly ten thousand deaths in one year, in the state of New York alone. Therefore, it is particularly necessary to pay more attention to the health of these important organs.

An ideal herbal compound that has had remarkable success as a kidney remedy is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy.

The mild and healing influence of this preparation, in most cases, is soon realized, according to sworn statements and verified testimony of those who have used the remedy.

When your kidneys require attention, get Swamp-Root at once from any pharmacy. It is sold by every druggist in bottles of two sizes—50c and \$1.00. However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention the West Virginian.

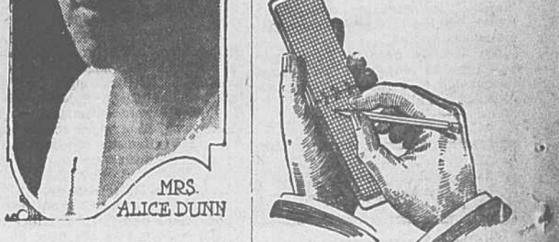
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 Will Limber You Up—A New Creation  
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Wants War Prisoners Brought to America  
 WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4.—Transfer to this country of German war prisoners in England and France so those countries may be relieved of their feeding was proposed in a resolution introduced today by Senator Hale of Maine, and referred to the Foreign Relations committee without debate. The resolution proposed an appropriation of one million dollars for the purpose.

Confessions Point to Masked Slayer of Woman Beauty  
 ST. PAUL, Wis., May 3.—Confessions obtained from two men, the police say, have cleared the way to the identity of the mysterious "man in the white mask," who will be charged with the murder of Mrs. Alice Dunn, beautiful young member of an old St. Paul family.

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