

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

Established 1885. Member Associated Press.

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

W. J. WIEGEL, General Manager.
JAMES G. HERBERT, Editor.
A. RAY MAPEL, Advertising Manager.
C. V. REDIC, Circulation Manager.
J. MONROE BOYER, Superintendent.
Publication Office, Monroe Street.

TELEPHONES

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

Foreign 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.

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, MAY 5, 1917.



SCRAMBLE OF THE JOBLESS.

DETAILS of the census of the unemployed are filtering into the office of the Governor and they provide interesting reading as they make their appearance in newspaper dispatches from the state capital. From some of the towns the count so far reported is so small that it aroused the suspicion that the enumerators were not very efficient—but perhaps that story of yesterday which said that the idle are rushing into the mills at Wheeling in order to avoid being enrolled among the jobless, explains matters.

If it does everything will be lovely for all concerned. Both the state and the federal authorities will be more than delighted if it should turn out that every able bodied man in West Virginia is at work at some useful occupation. But if this gratifying report should be made when as a matter of fact it does not square with actual conditions the municipal authorities under whose supervision the count is being made may expect to hear some criticism that they cannot afford to ignore.

In more ways than one this enumeration is a serious thing. The fact that a man is officially enrolled as a loafer in 1917 at a time when the nation is facing a crisis may turn up seriously to embarrass him in later life. In order to avoid troublesome explanations, to put the matter mildly, every one should hunt a job and go to work. There is plenty of work to do.

PRACTICE THRIFT.

IN his address at the conference of Governors at Washington Thursday Secretary of Commerce Redfield made the statement that if the waste in this country were turned into cash it would pay the initial war appropriations of \$7,000,000,000 many times over.

That sounds like a wild exaggeration, yet it probably is very near the truth. When several years ago Supreme Court Justice Brandeis, then acting as an attorney for the public in Interstate Commerce Commission hearings over an application of the railroads for permission to increase freight rates, made the statement that the roads could save a million dollars a day if they wanted to there was an angry protest from the interested parties and the public refused to believe him. Yet since then transportation experts have admitted that he was substantially correct.

But aside from the aggregates, which in any event would be colossal, it is the duty of every individual at this time to reduce waste in every possible way. If this policy is adhered to we will be able to carry on this war, no matter how long it hangs on or how great it becomes, without in any serious way straining our resources.

CONGRESS ON CENSORSHIP.

YESTERDAY in the House the censorship clause was voted out of the espionage bill by a decisive vote. This result was a foregone conclusion because no one seemed to be considering the proposition on its real merits. Then in a modified form it was voted back in again. Over a

year ago The West Virginian spoke of the necessity for thrashing out this censorship matter before we got into war and predicted substantially what has occurred regarding it during the past few days.

The censorship clause as it originally appeared in Congress was drawn by the General Staff. Little things like the constitution do not trouble army staffs as a rule and a glance at the bill as it was introduced indicates that our own is not much better in this respect than some of the others. But the vices of the measure it tried to get through started such a roar of objection that in the end the House swept the whole thing out without giving the military situation any consideration, and without knowing very clearly why it was acting as it did. The subsequent action shows that it was better advised later, although the measure is still open to serious objection.

A censorship in the sense that the Japanese and even the British understand it is a constitutional impossibility in this country. The American people feel too strongly about the value of liberty of the press to permit it to be subverted. There probably are no editors whose patriotism is under suspicion, but it is a fact that there are a few in whom the disposition to be sensational is so strong that their judgment cannot be relied upon and who, to put it bluntly cannot be trusted all the time.

During the Civil war this state of affairs was dealt with effectively, if somewhat summarily, by the people, who sometimes felt called upon to visit a newspaper plant, wreck it completely and give the offending editor a swift chase across country. That is scarcely feasible in these days when newspaper plants are big factories that it would take a wrecking crew days to put out of business, and most newspapers are owned by corporations.

YOST LAW ENFORCEMENT.

AMONG recent contributions to the gaiety of a sad world is that dispatch from Charleston which said that at the office of the State Prohibition department few reports have been received of attempts to evade the new quart-a-month law. Judging by the amount of liquor that was brought into the state during the two or three weeks preceding the date on which the amendments to the Yost law went into effect there will be no incentive to evade the new provisions for months.

It will be time enough to look for systematic and serious attempts at bootlegging a month or six weeks from now. By that time the authorities at Charleston are likely to hear reports quite different from those they are getting now. By that time, if the lawless element of the state is to be made to understand that the people of West Virginia are determined that this shall be a dry state, Commissioner Hallanan and his assistants will have to be very vigilant indeed, and the people they should keep the closest watch upon are the police authorities of the districts where bootlegging was most prevalent during the past year.

Herbert C. Hoover upon reaching Washington yesterday to take up his work as chairman of the Council of National Defense's Food Advisory committee, declared that his recommendations are based upon the mistakes of the people of Europe. And judging by events of the past few weeks he will find plenty of people here who are determined that they will have nothing to do with Europe's old used mistakes, and want to have a brand new lot of their own.

That speaking program for the annual meeting of the Fairmont Chamber of Commerce, which is to be held next Thursday evening at the Y. M. C. A., ought to interest every wide awake citizen of the town, whether he is a member of the Chamber or not.

Washington dispatches of last night indicated that a movement is on foot to have the government take charge of the coal mining industry during the war. In the end this will happen if the producers do not take some steps to bring the whole industry in line with any fuel policy the military and naval exigencies of the government may adopt. Months ago this newspaper pointed out the probability that coal operators would soon be face to face with this problem and urged that something be done to meet it, but nothing has, apparently.

The Senate spent yesterday debating the embargo provision of the administration espionage bill and sustained the proposition to embargo tin plate. There is a whole volume of protective tariff argument in that one little action. Previous to 1891, when the tin plate provision in the McKinley bill went into effect, there was no tin plate industry in this country; all the tin plate we used came from abroad. Now the manufacture of it is one of our most important industries and we are sending it to Europe. Where would the people of the United States have been if the McKinley bill had not been enacted?

Politics is sometimes exciting in this country, but it never is a circumstance to what it is turning out to be in Russia, where mobs marched the streets of Petrograd yesterday and demanded the downfall of Foreign Minister Milukoff and wound up with cheering him and his policies after he had made a speech. That exploit seems to leave our own silver tongued orators way in the shade.

Yesterday seems to have been the Gaul's day on the western front.

SHORT AND SNAPPY.

West Virginia ought to have sheep on a thousand hills, and more.—Charleston Mail.

Somebody has to raise everything you eat. Return the favor by raising something for the other fellow.—Martinsburg World.

Marshal Joffre cannot speak English, but the language he spoke at the Marne was understood by the whole world, and particularly by the Germans.—Parkersburg Sentinel.

stop America from fighting Prussians.

There must have been a freight increase on booze.

Giant hydroplanes being built by Herr Hohenzollern. Like America the Germans have to do some of their building after war was declared.

They are going to lay out a zone around the Fair Grounds so the soldiers over there can't get into the saloons.

"What if there ain't no saloons?"

The order doesn't say anything about that.

Have you ever been sunk by a sub?

Well join the navy and see how its done.

But don't go near the water.

"No panic among passengers." But all grimly thinking of what Lucifer intends doing with the Kaiser and the sub commanders.

Worry About This If the war lasts over a year the American league will abandon its next year's schedule.

The prize fighters are still in the ring. We hear no more of Scotty and Dr. Dumba.

Presenting Col. Joffre tokens of esteem only serve to make the colonial feel the worse for leaving.

Put he has done his bit, 20 years as a fighting man for his country is enough.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)



WHY DO FOOD PRICES KITE? SPECULATION?

The West Virginian starts News Investigator to vital Food Centers of Nation to Find Out What's the Trouble. First Article From Washington.

By BASIL M. MANLEY. WASHINGTON, D. C., May 5.—In the very shadow of the nation's capital, where legislators now talk only in terms of billions of dollars, thousands of families, unable to pay the prices asked for even the poorest cuts of meat, are now eating what in past years was considered fit only for the re-rendering kettle.

I have seen with my own eyes butcher shop after butcher shop in the poorer sections of Washington where no real meat was for sale, and only such things as pig tails, hog kidneys and hog faces were on the counters.

Let me quote from the official report of the food commission of the District of Columbia, just made public. This commission was composed of George M. Roberts, superintendent of markets; C. F. Nesbit, superintendent of insurance, and Wm. C. Woodard, health officer—all government officials.

Here is their official statement: "Interesting figures were obtained from proprietors of some of the smaller stores, whose business is with the poorer people. They show clearly that the poor have been compelled to resort to the strictest economy to provide food, on account of high prices. Their purchases are of the cheapest possible articles and in smaller quantities than heretofore.

"The sale of ordinary cuts of meat in this class of stores seems to have been discontinued and the meat now purchased consists of hog livers, hog kidneys, neck bones, hog faces, etc." The suffering among the poor in Washington is probably more acute than in any other city in the Union. Official statistics show the average increase in wages throughout the country since 1907 has been 16 per cent, although there were numerous cases of increases as high as 30 and 40 per cent.

But in Washington the poorer people, who are practically all employees of the government, were able after the strongest kind of appeals to secure from Congress only a 10 per cent increase for those getting less than \$100 a month, 5 per cent for those getting from \$100 to \$150 per month, and nothing at all for those getting over \$150.

In the meanwhile, the cost of food, as shown by the official figures of the bureau of labor statistics, increased 61 per cent!

It is impossible to go into one of the large Washington markets without seeing a pinhead-faced mother wandering from stall to stall trying to find some kind of food cheap enough for her slender purse to purchase a filling meal for her family.

It is no uncommon sight to see women in the markets weeping bitterly because they cannot afford to buy what they know their children and husband need to preserve health and efficiency.

Are present prices justified? Here is what the official food commission of the District of Columbia says:

"After all the causes which may reasonably tend to increase prices are considered, there appears no just ground for such high prices of many products as are demanded of the consumer at this time."

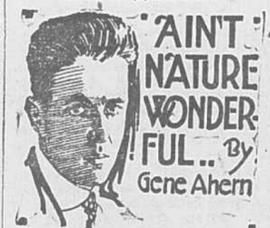
As principal causes contributing to this unjustified increase the commission ranks at the head of the list speculation and the virtual breakdown of the railroads. Here is the commission's evidence of the artificial character of the prices created by speculation:

"On February 26 potatoes were selling in Washington at \$8 per barrel; onions for \$14 per 100 pounds, and eggs at 43c a dozen. Three days later, on March 1, after this committee and certain departments of

the Federal government had begun to make an investigation of the situation, these articles had dropped to the following prices:

Potatoes, per barrel \$ 6.50
Onions, per 100 pounds 11.00
Eggs, per dozen30

"There had, of course," comments the committee, "been no increase in the total potato and onion supply of the country between these dates. There was no addition to the American stock and no reduction in the American demand, yet prices dropped."



By GENE AHERN.

VERSE LIBRE, ETC.
'Twas the day before pay day,
And all through the office
Not a case note was stirring,
Not even a four-bit piece.
Poet's license applied for.

Recruits are shuffling in slowly. And there's a young army of patriots too busy to enlist writing patriotic rag songs, as "America, We're Right Behind You," "Uncle Sam is Calling You," "U. S. A., Here's My Boy."

As the cannons yelp ka-bong! Merrily we sing along.

Patriotic parades are being given and there are so many patriots in the parade there's nobody left to watch them.

And after the patriotic parade, the enlistment officers check up two more recruits.

"On everybody's tongue." Apologies to well-known ad. LET GEORGE DO IT! This way out!

The Origin of "Fillbuster." What is the origin of the word "fillbuster"? Charlevoix and others derive it from the occupation of a crusader in a "fillbote," or "Vly-bote," first used on the River Vly, in Holland. Another authority tells us that it was given to the followers of Dominique de Courgues, who sailed from Finisterre, or Finluster, in France, on the famous expedition against Fort Caroline in 1567. It was long current in Spanish as "fillbustero" before its adaptation into English.—London Chronicle.

TO Sweeten the Stomach Aid Digestion Prevent Constipation —TRY— HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters It helps Nature in Many Ways

CHORAL SOCIETY

SCORES SUCCESS

Sang the Creation last Night With Splendid Effect.

The Fairmont Choral society in its presentation of Hadyn's Creation, an event at the M. P. Temple last night, added another successful chapter of its history as an organization. The event was the third concert to be given by the society since its organization a year and half ago and is said by many to be the best number they had produced. A chorus of 75 voices rendered the chorus work under the efficient direction of Louis Black, of the W. Y. U. School of Music and the soloists were Mme. Elsa Gundling Duga, soprano, of Wheeling; Walter D. Barrington, tenor, and Jack Abbott, bass.

It was Mme. Duga's first appearance in this city and she greatly delighted her audience. She has a splendid voice of rare sweetness and purity and her enunciation is perfect. Walter Barrington and Jack Abbott who are among the leading vocalists of the city were in excellent voice and rendered their respective roles in a brilliant manner with excellent interpretation. The fact that both are members of the Choral society added considerable prestige to the production.

The chorus numbers were rendered with splendid precision. Miss Hazel Bock, of Farmington, also a member of the society, presided at the piano, her excellent accompaniment adding much to the success of the production. Mrs. Grace Martin Snee, of Morgantown, presided at the organ and accompanied several numbers of the composition. Part of the accompaniments were rendered with both piano and organ accompaniment.

A large audience composed of representative people heard the production.

INDUSTRIAL FAIRMONT

Baltimore and Ohio employees were today engaged in constructing a large platform at the lower end of Walker's siding to facilitate the unloading of automobiles. At present the autos are unloaded from the freight cars with a great deal of difficulty and danger of damaging the machines. The platform is being built between the tracks so that cars can be unloaded from either side and will be large enough to permit the unloading of two cars at once.

Two car loads of Chevrolets have

CAPITAL AND CONFIDENCE

are the two necessary elements in banking success. This bank is provided with ample capital and the following list of directors who direct its affairs assure the confidence of the public in its successful operation.

- DIRECTORS.
Geo. E. Amos Howard R. Furbee C. E. Hutchinson
J. M. Brownfield Frank C. Haymond E. C. Jones
S. S. Cochran H. J. Hartley W. S. Meredith
Z. F. Davis H. L. Heintzelman Duncan Sinclair

THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK
On the Corner Near the Postoffice.
CAPITAL \$200,000.00

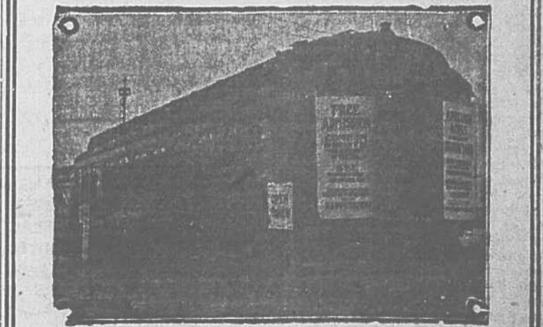
Indian Land Sale!

United States Government Supervision

Nearly a half million acres belonging to the Choctaw Indians in Southeastern Oklahoma. Soon to be sold by the Interior Department

Not Necessary to Live on This Land
Not Necessary to go West to Buy It

Farming, Timber and Grazing Lands in the probable Oil and Gas belt of Oklahoma. Will be offered at prices appraised by the government at from \$2 to \$7 an acre, with long time payments, no taxes until paid for. Deed and title direct from the U. S. Government.



Indian Land Exhibit Car

Visit the Demonstration Car now in Fairmont sent here by the McAlester Real Estate Exchange, of McAlester, Oklahoma, to aid you in making locations of desirable tracts of land. The car contains a fine display showing Western development, also maps and quadrangle folios, published by the United States Geological Survey, showing the locations and character of the lands. Car will only remain here a few days, open from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m., including Sunday. Located on B. & O. railroad track.

WALKER'S SIDING
Fairmont
Admission and Information Free.

RUFF STUFF

BY RED

Well West Virginia is doing her little share of war bond buying. She thus far has purchased a quarter of a million dollars worth.

"Down with Milukoff," said the Russians.

"Mogbuk licksy ploftot," says Milukoff.

"Long live Milukoff," says the Russians.

Fourteen years ago today Quality circulation was called Blue Blood.

Ten years ago today Williams Jennings Bryan was never suspected of having spoken to a pro-German audience and to have tried to help them