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, MAY 12, 1917.

INNOCENCE, OR SOMETHING ELSE?

DURING the wee small hours of Monday Bob Bennett routed Justice of the Peace W. W. Conaway out of bed and swore out warrants for Guy Lee and Richard Wilderman, charging them with maintaining a gambling joint. Officers presumably also routed out of bed, were given the papers and in a raid Lee and Wilderman and seven others were arrested and taken before the magistrate who set Friday morning as the time for a hearing of the case.

But yesterday at the time appointed for the hearing to begin Justice Conaway announced that Bennett had withdrawn his charges and the whole thing, consequently, was off. As for the names of the seven, who by this time had become merely witnesses, he did not know them.

Here is magisterial insouciance of a rare order. Something ought to be done to protect such a babe in the woods or the first thing we know some bold bad man will be using the machinery of the Conaway court to shake down all the shady joints in the town. And that, we take it, would be interefering with a vested interest.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

MILITARY experts seem to have arrived at the conclusion that Russia has been eliminated from the military situation in Europe for a long time to come. As we get it, their view is that while the Central Powers will have to keep some semblance of a force facing the Russian lines,, no intiative can be expected from the Russian side, and that the best brains, most men and heaviest metal can be withdrawn for use at some other section of the beleaguered iron ring. They may be mistaken, of course, but it must be admitted that this theory looks reasonable in view of the dispatches regarding the fluid condition of the political situation at Petrograd.

Matters have gone so far, especially since the United States came into the conflict, that Russian military inertia will not have the slightest effect upon the ultimate outcome of the war. It may prolong the struggle a few months, or even several years, but the end will be the same, except that ther are signs at both Londan and Paris that the longer peace is delayed the more onerous the terms will be for the Central Powers. But what of the future, of the political and economic development of Europe in the years that follow the peace?

It used to be said that Russia's foreign policy was planned a century in advance, and it is certain that policies laid down by Peter the Great and Catherine the Great r wonderful influence upon the trend of Russian statesmanship. And it was easy to carry out plans adopted long in advance because the government was in international matters not hampered in any way; it was not even "tempered by assassination." But now the will of the people must be taken into consideration. And what a conglomeration of races, tongues ,temperaments and desires that people is. Only the dual monarchy can show a more heterogenous ethnic mixture.

It will be one of the most wonderful things in history if Russia can overcome the handicap involved in this situation and after the war resume the glacierlike push beyond the borders, toward the Persian gulf and India in one direction, toward Manchuria and a warm water port in another. Only men who have given a life time to the study of such problems can even approximate now what effect the lifting of this pressure will have, but it is easy to understand that it will be pronounced. It will relieve the British of a great load of anxiety about the safety of their wealthy Indian empire and it may simplify the problems of the Japanese, who now that the war has swept away come of the most pressing of their financial burdens may be expected to be even more ambitious for territorial expansion than they were before.

THE PRICE OF WHEAT.

HERBERT C. HOOVER, the man who fed the Belgians until the American relief agents were driven out of the country by the Germans, and who was summoned home in order that he might advise the government on food conditions, said in New York Thursday that without control flour may go to $20 per barrel before the year is over, but that with control the present price can be reduced forty or fifty per cent and at the same time the producer be treated in a liberal manner.

This is the opinion of a man who has made an exhaustive practical study of the food situation throughout the entire world. Hoover for almost three years has been buying supplies in every country that produces foodstuffs. Millions upon millions of dollars have passed through his hands on their way to people who raise and ship grain in the United States, Canada, India, the temperate zone countries in South America, the British commonwealths in South Africa and in the antipodes. He comes as near knowing what the wheat and flour condition the world over is as any man alive, and he says without the slightest qualification that the present price can be reduced. He means, of course, that it can be reduced when the harvest of this year is ready for market.

But this thing can only happen if the government takes hold with a firm hand. Will Congress take the word of this expert as to what its duty in the premises is, or will it back and fill; hesitate and delay until speculators have mulcted a hundred million dollars or two our of the consuming public and the opportunity to properly manage and conserve this year's crop has passed? If it does betray the people in this matter every last member of both Houses ought to be retired permanently to private life and charitable obscurity at the first opportunity.

The Chicago Board of Trade has stopped speculation in May wheat futures and the Department of Justice announces that it is going to take steps to prevent further rise in the price of grain. But what is wanted is some action which will drive the price down to where it ought to be.

It is stated in Washington that Major General Hugh L. Scott is to be sent to Russia with the Root party in order that he may help to reorganize the Russian army. If the commission does not hurry, however, there will be no Russian army to reorganize.

Sending a food speculator to jail here and there will have no appreciable effect. What is needed is some policy which will bankrupt the whole tribe at one fell swoop and release the supplies they have cornered.

If those gentlemen of leisure whose names are on the Mayor's little list and whose ages fall outside the limits set by Congress for army duty are taking any comfort out of that fact they are celebrating before they are out of the woods. This list was compiled at the instance of the West Virginia Council of Defense and the settled policy of that body is "no idlers allowed." Every man in West Virginia who is capable of doing anything must go to work, regardless of his age.

Tomorrow is Mother's day. On this one day at least males should predominate in the congregations of all the churches.

That new offensive in Macedonia, if it is as strong as some of the dispatches seem to indicate, is of the utmost military importance, and will go a long way to neutralize the advantage to the Central Powers which they have gained by the now collapse of Russia as a military factor. Hindenburg is credited with the belief that the war will be decided in the East, but there are experts who believe it will end where it began, in the Balkan countries. In view of the doubtful condition of Austria, this latter theory always wears an air of plausibility.

SHORT AND SNAPPY.

Of all the misnomers in American political life, "non-partisan" is the worst. Deliver us from anything that is non-partisan.—Wellsburg Herald.

Well, anyway, as long as the present chilly weather continues we will escape that dread malady, spring fever.—Wheeling Register.

A husky head of cabbage will look niftier than a patch of scarlet sage to the average man this year.—Connellsville Courier.

Wanted: A National Anthem that some people can sing, or some people that can sing the National Anthem.—Clarksburg Exponent.

The papers say there are 229 fewer persons in the state prison than there were a year ago. If it were not for Fayette, McDowell and two or three other counties we might dust out the old place and put a padlock on the front door.—West Virginia News.

If it were possible for Col. Roosevelt to recruit a division in which he could include Bryan and LaFollette no guns would be needed. All that's necessary would be to turn them loose on a platform and they would soon talk the enemy to death.—Parkersburg News.

There's always an interesting item or two under the head of "Industrial Fairmont" in The Fairmont West Virginian. Fairmont, the city on a hill, is a city of metropolitan possibilities, and its industrial enterprise is making it more so from day to day.—Charleston Leader.

RUFF STUFF

BY RED

They tell us of a "tall slender handsome blonde twirler with his famous slow ball." But they don't tell us his name.

* * *

Let's christian him "Djer Hortense."

* * *

The Times is already telling the Government what men it should and should not take for the war.

* * *

It wants the Hughes family, none of which is physically fit; one-eyed John Taylor, whose only good eye is a bad eye; and Nigger Smitty, who is as batty as Der Kaiser himself.

* * *

Please let the War department handle it Mr. Times, because too many cooks spoil the watermelon.

* * *

Fourteen years ago today the King of Fairmont broke a customer's head with a beer bottle because he spoke illy of a certain brand of whiskey.

* * *

Ten years ago today the price of the cheese was not the same as it is today.

* * *

Five years ago today a citizen of Hoboken took off his shoes and immediately New York state asked Jersey to make some new laws.

* * *

It isn't Joffrey.
It isn't Joffer,
It isn't Geoffrey.

* * *

Our typewriter won't make that sound therefore we can't print it.

* * *

Mother's Day tomorrow.
The old man got paid today.

Yes, Jeremiah, there is a difference between doing your bit and chewing your bit.

* * *

Six girls and six boys met in dark barns in Chicago and rehearsed mad love scenes of the movies. They blamed the last barn fire in Chi on Mrs. O'Leary's cow.

* * *

We know different now.

* * *

There are 100,000 too many applicants for the officers' reserve corps.

Musk Loses Weight.

Charles Bassoni, a French chemist, demonstrates that a grain of musk loses weight until it ceases to give off its odor, after which its weight remains the same. This proves that perfume is caused by volatile particles given off by the odoriferous body.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)

MAKING PLANS FOR SPECIAL SESSION

Bills Providing for National Defense Are Being Drafted.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 12.—A large number of West Virginia legislators, including both Republicans and Democrats, have been in conference with Governor John J. Cornwell regarding the legislative program to be carried out by the special session of the Legislature, which is called to convene at noon next Monday.

None of the conferees would make a statement concerning the progress made, but it was generally admitted that the machinery for the session has been set in motion. A meeting of members of the Legislature with those of the State Defense Council Legislative committee was held. The legislators in this conference were Senators Gregory and Morton of Wood and Webster, respectively, and Delegates John and Johnson of Monongalia and Harrison respectively.

Several bills are being prepared by these conferees in the interest of defense. One of these provides for legalizing the Council of Defense, prescribe its duties and giving it full authority to act. Another provides for funds to permit the defense council to operate. These funds are to be raised other than from the general revenues of the state. Still another is to devise means of bringing about better crops and more industrial operations, and another to control the situation with reference to idleness.

There is reason to believe that by the time the Legislature convenes that an agreement will be reached with reference to the general appropriation bill.

Red Cross Dedicates New Headquarters

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 12.—Elaborate dedication ceremonies were held here today for the new American Red Cross headquarters, a big white marble structure, with President Wilson, Secretary Baker and former President Taft on the program. Representatives of Red Cross chapters all over the country, many high government official diplomats and others attended.

Put Stick in Knot.

When tying a knot in rope which must stand much strain, put a stick of soft wood in the knot for it to close on. When you want to untie the knot break the stick and pull out both ends. Your knot can be easily untied.—Farm and Fireside.

Spiritual Mongrels.

The religions in Russia are almost as diversified as the races. In European Russia the Greek church rules. In Asiatic Russia there are Mahommedans, Buddhists, Jews and Christians.

County Agent Smith Can Get Bean Poles

Fairmonters who expect to plant pole beans this summer can secure the poles with which to stake them for the nominal price of twenty-five cents a dozen by applying to County Agricultural Agent H. L. Smith, the poles to be delivered. A lady who lives on a farm in a nearby district has agreed to furnish poles at this price provided orders can be secured for a total of five hundred poles. Pole beans are so much more productive than bunch beans as to easily defray the expense of the poles and the labor required in staking them and it is thought the poles will find a ready sale.

Past Tense.

The original forests of the United States were larger in extent, greater in quantity of standing timber and more diversified in useful tree species than those of any other region on earth.—New York Telegram.

Good for "Nerves."

Onions furnish the most substantial cure for nervous prostration and all other nerve disorders. Lettuce has a soothing effect on the nerves. Celery is said to be most excellent for nervous troubles.

Mannington

To Bell Telephone Subscribers of Mannington Exchange.

At noon today the new switchboard, known as Common Battery Swtichboard, was put into service at Mannington and a new instrument for operation with this type of switchboard has been installed in each residence and business place where there is a Bell Telephone.

The new instrument should now be used and it will only be necessary to remove the receiver to have the operator answer, except for telephones that are served on rual lines.

The new equipment is of the most improved type and it will be the aim of the Telephone Company to give Mannington the best possible grade of telephone service.

The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company of West Virginia

Summer Colds Weaken

They are even more dangerous than winter colds, for they hang on so long that they become chronic catarrh. Heat and dust aggravate them, cause the infected surface to spread, and fill the body with systemic catarrh. Neglect costs health and energy.

PERUNA EXPELS CATARRH

It does more—It builds up the weakened system, regulates the digestion, removes the inflammation, overcomes the poisons of catarrh, and invigorates all over. Forty-four years of success proves its great value, of which thousands gladly testify.

Accept the verdict of two generations yourself. Don't be swayed by prejudice, when your health is at stake. Take Peruna and get well.

Liquid or tablet form, whichever is the more convenient.

The Peruna Company, Columbus, Ohio

PLANT POTATOES AT THE NORMAL SCHOOL

Enough Will be Grown to Supply the School Kitchen.

For the purpose of aiding in the preparedness campaign and the campaign for the conservation of food stuffs, the stulent body of the Fairmont State Normal school yesterday, under the direction of Prof. E. L. Lively, head of the agricultural department of the school, planted an acre of ground in the rear of the building in potatoes.

The ground was prepared for planting several weeks ago and everything was in readiness for the potato planting, but transportation facilities failed to land the seed potatoes which were ordered from Terra Alta, here on time and the planting was therefore necessarily postponed until yesterday.

Under the direction of Prof. Lively the potatoes were prepared for planting and amid enthusiasm were placed in the ground which had been preparec and fertilized for their reception. The plot in which the potatoes were planted is an elevated piece to the rear of the building having a good exposure.

It is the purpose of the agricultural department of the school to raise sufficient potatoes to provide the Normal dormitory with this commodity all during the coming season.

Always After the Storm.

An aged colored woman was much excited following the shooting of a colored boy by a negro who shot at another man and hit the boy. The police were trying to find the negro who did the shooting. "A policeman is just like a rainbow," asserted the old woman. "They always show up after the storm's over."—New Haven Journal.

Telling the Truth.

To tell truth, rightly understood, is not to state the true facts, but to convey a true impression; truth in spirit, not truth to letter is the true veracity. —Stevenson.

Nothing to Be Gained.

A Roman stoic philosopher was discoursing one day on life and death. "They are just the same," he said; "there is no difference between them." "Why don't you die, then, if there is no difference?" one of his disciples asked. "Because there is no difference," returned the philosopher.

WAS THE VICTIM OF A GENERAL BREAKDOWN

But L. H. Cook of Watson Was Soon Builded Up by Nerv-Worth.

This entirely new Nerv-Worth enforsement from Watson proves anew the power of Nerv-Worth to overcome even the deep-rooted ailments in a short time. This is the statement made to Crane's drug store a few days ago by Mr. Cook:

"I have taken one bottle of Nerv-Worth for a general break-down. I was so nervous that I could not sleep. I am a coal miner and I can now work a full day.

"L. H. COOK.

"Watson, W. Va., One Mile from Fairmont."

Nerv-Worth calms the nerves, whets the appetite, adds flesh, aids digestion, rouses the liver, regulates the bowels, restores restful sleep, banishes sick and nervous headaches and other aches and pains, builds up run-down systems. If it does not do this for you your dollar back at Crane's drug store, Fairmont.

Follow This Tip

When you want to locate a desirable
Apartment,
a Room, or
a Boarding House,
just pick up a copy of

The West Virginian

and refer to the classified columns, where you'll find the largest and most dependable list it is possible to secure.

When you want it quickly — The West Virginian.

MORE THAN NINETY PER CENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNTRY

involves the use of checks. No large success is ever attained without the use of that method of handling the business.

Begin on your successful career by opening a checking account with the Peoples National Bank, and demonstrate to the public that your methods are right.

THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK

On the Corner Near the Postoffice.

CAPITAL $200,000.00

Reaching the People QUICKLY!

The following information will interest every person who wants to reach the people of this city and county with a message whether he wants to tell of his merchandise, advertise his live stock, rent his property, buy a house, exchange an automobile, employ a stenographer or invite the public to an entertainment. The more than four thousand people in this county who are willing to pay three cents a copy for THE WEST VIRGINIAN make up a

Quality Circulation

of which a newspaper should be proud, and which a merchant in business should desire to reach.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION OF

The West Virginian

March 31, 1917.

IN FAIRMONT		
Delivered by Mail	8	
By Carrier	1281	
Sold by Dealers	348	
Service Copies	103	
Average Daily Street Sales 3 Mos.	786	2526
IN MARION COUNTY, OUTSIDE FAIRMONT		
By Mail	718	
By Carrier	971	1689
Total in Marion County		4215
OUTSIDE MARION COUNTY		
By Mail	455	
By Carrier	45	500
Grand Total		4715