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WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 28, 1918.



By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.
 Then join in hands, brave Americans all.

FOOD PRICES IN FAIRMONT.

At a time like the present when all prices are rising the retail merchant cannot justly be held responsible for all the increase in the cost of living. However, it is not the high prices that have been irritating the housewives of this city, who declare that they are going to open a war upon the merchants. The basis of the dissatisfaction and ill feeling which has spread through the city is a suspicion that the merchants are taking too large a margin of profit and are not doing what they can to keep prices down. In other words, that they are poor buyers themselves largely because they feel that they can pass the costs along to the ultimate consumer with a good stiff profit added.

If the merchants are not really of this they ought to welcome an opportunity to make their case clear. Publicity is the only certain cure for the kind of the kind which they are about to encounter. They will do well therefore to ask for an opportunity to appear before the Civic committee of the Womens club, if that body decides to make an issue of the price question, and lay their side of the matter frankly before the members of the committee. On its part the committee ought to seek expert service, so that it may be in position to make a just estimate of what the food dealers say.

The West Virginian believes that there is a lot of truth in the charge that the local dealers in foodstuffs do not make all the effort they should to keep down their own costs and expenses, and incidentally the prices they must charge for their wares. We think that a weekly "fair price" list such as is issued in Wheeling and Morgantown would have a tendency to hold prices for staples at least to the proper level if the prices were carefully arrived at. To figure prices on the basis of the commodity way of doing business in this town would not help much. This phase of the price question cannot be worked out in a day or two. It will take time and work on it ought to be started at once.

As for the market proposition, which has been suggested as another means of holding down prices, the ladies will do well to be sure of their farmers and gardeners before they make any extensive commitments along that line. If they will investigate a bit they probably will find that the producer is not averse to charging high prices himself. In the long run a farmers' market place would have a favorable influence upon the cost of living in Fairmont, but if one is started in the hope that it will prove an immediate remedy for all the evils we are opposed to along that line there is bound to be great disappointment.

We rather think that if the women get after the grocers by organizing an aggressive and intelligently managed Consumers league and practice going to the store themselves with a basket until they get the habit they will get quicker relief and make possible the ultimate establishment on a sound basis of a public market.

WORK OR FIGHT.

THAT Pennsylvania draft board which has announced that the work or fight order does not apply in its county needs a good stiff injection of either patriotism or horse sense. But perhaps the real offender in the case is the chamber of commerce which asked the draft board to make the ruling—and then in all probability took the trouble to see to it that the board got the same view of it that the business men have. That view is that because here are no munition plants in the county and the farmers all have plenty of help there is no necessity for enforcing the order locally.

If every one cooperated with the government in that manner it would not be long before the whole war effort went to smash and the country was compelled to confess

RUFF STUFF

These dusky ladies from Alabama are ready users of their pocket artillery.
 And you never can tell when they're shooting for fun or shooting to kill.
 See Melville Davison Post, a literary fellow, over Harrison county way out for C. W. V. for senator.
 That ought to fix the high brow element.
 But of course the rough necks still like the voting at the primaries.
 Bet Clem has not forgotten that.
 Amsterdam has it that Austria has voted another peace move.
 Wouldn't be much interest in that on this side of the Atlantic.

that it is incapable of sustained effort in any business which does not have a dollar and cents incentive. It is nonsense to say that no good can come from the enforcement of the order in this particular county, which, by the way is Center county. There is much that the men of military age who are now working at non-productive jobs could do if they hunted for productive jobs. But the business people disliked the prospect of the changes that would ensue and they have persuaded the board to make its ridiculous ruling.

When the rules were announced the Provost Marshal General added the statement that the boards must use common sense in enforcing them. It would be interesting to know how many Pennsylvanians relish having this action advertised in the newspapers as a remnant of the Keystone brand of common sense. Center county had better quit thinking about Center county and do a little thinking on a national scale. It will then see that making all able bodied men go out and hunt jobs which will make them producers will give women a chance to become wage earners and thus increase their capacity to help the government if it does not do anything else.

And if the farms or the other producing fields of labor cannot supply places for the men who are compelled to leave non-producing jobs they will not have to travel very far west or south before they can get work in the mines, where they will be doing double service for the Republic.

GERMANY STARTED THE WAR.

FOREIGN MINISTER von KEUHLMANN'S repetition of the moth eaten assertion that Russia is responsible for the world war will deceive no one, unless it be the Germans themselves, who are more than willing to be deceived about a matter of this kind. Back in 1914 when the German foreign office was casting about for a way in which to escape responsibility for this great crime against civilization an effort was made to fix the blame upon Russia, but when the Russians produced documents which proved that Czar Nicholas had promised that the Russian army would not be permitted to strike as long as negotiations regarding the Ayrastian ultimatum were in progress the Germans switched, first to France and then to England. Finally last year they switched back to Russia, which in the meantime had undergone a complete change in government, and it is apparent that they mean to stand on that.

But the record is straight. Germany willed the war and all the proof one needs to make that clear can be found in the admissions of German statesmen. And the most convincing of these admissions is that of Herr von Jagow, who at the outbreak of the war, and until the exposure of the German plot in Mexico, was the German foreign minister. Shortly after hostilities began von Jagow in explaining the position of Germany said, "We could not agree to the English proposal for a conference of ambassadors, for it doubtless would have led to a serious diplomatic defeat, for Italy, too, was pro-Serb, and, with her Balkan interests, stood rather opposed to Austria."

In other words Germany's interminable meddling had led her into so many false positions that she had at last got into one from which she felt she could not withdraw without great loss of prestige, and so the war was decided upon and Austria was told to go ahead, although every one in the secret knew that war would result.

Reports at War Savings campaign headquarters seem to indicate that by comparison with the country districts Fairmont is falling down. Perhaps this is not a very accurate estimate of the situation. There have been no daily lunches and other features of a high speed campaign, but the work has been going on steadily and one hesitates to believe that Fairmont can do itself justice in a matter of this kind only under forced draft, as it were. Nevertheless conditions are such that the appeal of the workers that more attention be paid to this matter ought to be heeded by all, and especially by the business men. The Governor's plan of having all business suspended for two hours on Friday so that all may have an opportunity to go to the mass meetings and make a thrifit pledge especially ought to have the support of the business community.

The matter of extending the draft ages above and below the present limits came up for discussion in the Senate yesterday and it was at once apparent that any attempt to push them down to 19 years is certain to meet with defeat. Before the matter was dropped yesterday it looked very much as if the new limits would be from 20 to 40, and while the top limit is too low the lower one is all right.

Today is the first anniversary of the landing of American troops in France and within a few weeks it will be possible to say that we have an army of a million men, complete in every detail, fully equipped and living on its own supplies there. For a country with an individualistic economic organization and a peace loving instinct that is a marvelous achievement. Germany with all its military efficiency could not have done it. The German Staff did not believe we could do it. But it is only a beginning and if we have to stay in this war two more years new records for military achievement and might will be made.

Right now it does not much matter who started the war, and we probably violate no confidence when we say that Uncle Sam is going to end it.

It took the United States Senate a long time to find out that there was nothing to the Chilton contest of Senator Sutherland's right to represent this state in that august body. Up here in the West Virginia hills the Chilton contest never was regarded seriously.

We are warned that it is too soon to form estimates of the military results of the Austrian defeat in Italy. It is not too soon, however, to know that Austria is out of the war for the present summer unless Germany is willing to weaken her striking power on the west front in order to help her chief ally.

Also we know what the German General Staff's alibi is going to be after it is all over—Austrian weakness.

BITS OF STATE NEWS

Yesterday's Wheeling Intelligencer made the announcement that the Intelligencer is now comfortably ensconced in its spacious new building at 1505 Market street, Wheeling. In the future all business connected with the editorial and business departments of the paper will be taken care of in the new building. The offices are the very latest word in the newspaper world and every effort has been made to arrange them so as to take the best care of the many patrons of the paper and insure the most efficient service. The business of the paper was formerly taken care of in the building of the News Publishing company on Main street, while the paper was also edited in the office of the News. A cordial invitation is extended to all to visit the new home of the paper.

C. M. Kittle, who has been named regional director as one of the six Federal managers for railroads in the Southern region is a former citizen of Beverly, W. Va., says the Martinsburg Journal. Mr. Kittle, whose office will continue in Chicago, will have jurisdiction over all departments of the Illinois Central Railroad, the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley railroad and the Gulf and S. Island railroad.

Capt. Will Hutchinson, of George street, Parkersburg, has a flock of Liberty hens which are doing their bit in laying unusually large eggs containing two yolks. Capt. Hutchinson sent one of these eggs to the Sentinel office. It measures eight inches in circumference one way and six inches the other. Mr. Hutchinson also has a war garden in which he is raising a banner crop of vegetables this season.

Quite naturally lots of people jump to the conclusion this has been the coldest morning of spring into summer ever known, but the records kept by Weather Observer George W. Van Dyke at Martinsburg dissipate this error. According to his records it was just as cool the night of June 23-24 in 1902 as it was last night, when the temperature dropped to 42 degrees. On the 7th it was as low as 45. June 2, 1897, the record was 41 degrees, and on June 2, 1907, it was 44. However, in the record of 25 years there was but one, and that was on June 24, when it was as cool as late in June, as was the case last night. The preceding cold weather made harvesting more enduring, many who drove binders wearing their coats while at work.

Rooming houses in Wheeling are to take the same route as the old tradition, that has just been wiped out. Intimation of this stand came this morning in a statement from Chief of Police Campbell Henderson for the civilian vice committee.

It was the decision that women caught in the rooming houses from now on, will be held at police headquarters without bond for trial, and correct names must be given. If the women are convicted in police court, they will be given a sentence in the workhouse sufficiently long to permit of the medical committee of the Ohio County Medical society to make an examination. If the report recommends treatment, the girls will be sent to hospitals for treatment just as fourteen girls from the red light area when that district was closed. The girls caught in raids in addition to being registered, and subjected to this program will likely also be required to provide the police with a photograph for filing with their registration.

HOUULT

The war savings meeting at Hoult church last night was fairly well attended. The speakers were Mr. Dunlap of the West Virginian and Mrs. DeBolt. A savings society was organized with Mrs. D. Bowman as president and Mrs. Nellie Herr as secretary. A feature of the meeting was the community singing led by Mr. Ritchie of the Times.
 Mrs. Florence Wilson, of Forest, O., is visiting relatives here.
 Miss Hazel Bowman and little brother, Walter, went to Little Falls this morning to visit their grandmother, Mrs. E. J. Bowman.
 Robert Levery and Anna McElfresh

PUTTING THE GRIN INTO THE FIGHT.



Tommy tank commander on top of deck of Fifthav bus: Ah, I say, my good fellow, 'tis jolly well fine, I'm feelin' right 't home, don't cha know.

**Visit This Store Every Day
 Walk Leisurely Through Every Department
 You'll Find Tempting Bargains Aplenty!**

Be Wise

Thrifit is two-fold—it is wise spending and intelligent saving. The man who starves that he may save is not thrifty; he is foolhardy, for he destroys his capacity to earn and hence to save. The thrifty man or woman spends wisely and thereby increases their capacity to earn—and save!

**Follow Our Own Boys Into the Fight!
 Buy War Savings Stamps**

Provide the money to back them up against the Hun—Do it regularly, every day or every week, until the war is won.
 Exchange your change at This Desk for
 W. S. S.

**Bathing Suits
 Now Await Your Choosing.**

If you purchase your bathing suit here you can rest assured that one of the suits you will see will surpass it for stylishness. We searched till we found what we believe to be the most fashionable, attractive and serviceable bathing suits to be had. Then we marked them with prices that will not impoverish your purse.
 \$1.50 up to \$7.50.

True Values

**Only A Heart of Marble Could Resist
 "Niagara Maid"
 Silk Underwear**

More and more wise women are discovering that Silk Underwear is an excellent investment and that the most durable as well as the most beautiful is

**"Niagara Maid"
 Silk Underwear**

Its fabric is pure glove silk—luxuriously and superbly strong. The exquisite embroidery and ribbons are put on with just the right air—a certain assurance of being exactly correct, which is very smart indeed. Another wholly satisfying feature is their fit—always distinctly shapely but comfortably ample.

"Niagara Maid" underwear is irresistible in the shops, because of its daintiness and style, and the woman who has once worn these garments buys them with happy assurance that they wash and wear as well as they look and feel. There is Economy Real in "Niagara Maid" Silk Underwear.
 Vests—\$1.75 to \$2.25
 Camisoles—\$1.00 to \$2.60
 Bloomers—\$2.50 and \$3.00
 Teds—\$3.00 to \$5.00

A Waist Or Two That's New

Will fit nicely into any well-dressed woman's wardrobe. Here are a host of new creations to choose from. Many of the models having arrived during the last few days.

New Silk Georgettes—Blouses in all the wanted colors and white
 \$5.65, \$6.75 and \$7.50.

New summer Waists of Voile, Dimity and Organdy, beautiful new styles at
 \$2.00, \$2.50 up to \$3.50.

Courtneys' 108-110 Main St.

VIOLA ITEMS.

Mrs. Vadie Hartley and children were visiting friends at Hoult a few days recently.
 Mrs. J. J. Harris spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Hall McBee in Monongalia county.
 Miss May Pitcher was visiting Miss Edna Devault at Mt. Harmony Sunday.
 George Nuzum, of Winfield, was a business caller at this place Monday.
 Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Harris, of Fairmont, were calling on Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis Monday evening.
 Miss Ethel Harris is attending school at Morgantown.
 Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Harris were calling on Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Devault Sunday afternoon.
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Harris at Meadowdale.
 Billie Curry has purchased a new Victoria.
 The saw mill at this place has shut down non account of the scarcity of water.

WATER GLASS

Preserves, Conerves Eggs.
 Eggs are cheaper in the summer time than they are in the Fall and Winter, so if you will just buy a lot of eggs now, and lay them down in in Embassy Egg Preserver you will have fresh eggs for cooking purposes all winter long, and with the knowledge that you save a great deal of money by having them this way. Purity, quality Water Glass, one bottle makes gallons of solutions. Lays down twelve dozens of eggs. Price 50c.

CRANE'S Drug Store

The Shoe Of The Day

This is the "Cavalier" model, a stylish shoe for street or dress wear these war times. It has a low, serviceable heel, a smart toe, a hugging arch and a top that fits. Made in high shoes and colors—colored and black leather also white duck.
 A SHOE OF THE DAY FOR THE WOMEN OF THE HOUR
 Prices, \$4.00 to \$8.00

Shurtleff & Welton

A Check Book

Is easier to carry than money and you are not in the same danger as to loss.
 Checks are of no value except to the person in whose name drawn, and money if lost is usually gone forever.
 Paying by check adds dignity to the transaction and gives you receipt and record.
 Open an account today and see what a satisfaction it will give you.

The Peoples National Bank
 CAPITAL \$200,000.00