

# The West Virginian

THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME

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SAURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 21, 1918.



## THE AMERICAN'S CREED.

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

## REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.

THE announcement that the women of the state mean to renew their fight for an act requiring registration of births and deaths, especially births, which will be regarded with some show of respect by doctors and midwives, was to have been expected. West Virginia ought to have such a law and it is to be hoped that when the time comes the friends of the measure will make the kind of a fight for it which will focus the attention of not only the members of the legislature but of the people of the entire state upon the subject.

The law as it stands attempts to secure registration of births and deaths by paying a fee of 25 cents for each case. A penalty of \$10 is provided for failure to register, but a month's time in which to perform the duty is given, and if any physician was ever compelled to pay the ten dollars that fact has escaped our attention. Yet there are many instances in the course of every year when the registration of births is neglected.

This is an injustice to the child and to the mother, and it is high time that some steps were taken to see that every birth that takes place in West Virginia is fully and promptly registered. The club women of this county should see to it that before the Marion county legislators start for Charleston they are fully acquainted with the desires of their constituents in this vitally important matter.

## NEW AND DANGEROUS COMPETITORS.

WE are all more or less familiar with the idea that the war has changed the political map of the world and we look forward to the time when we will be able to see what the new arrangement looks like when it is spread out before our eyes in different colored blocks. But we are not so well acquainted with the fact that economic changes quite as profound, and, as far as the immediate future is concerned, more important, have taken place in the economic balance and that this country particularly emerged from the war with some keen competitors which were only possible rivals when the war began.

The two most important of these are India and Japan, but China is coming along fast and will loom large as soon as the political unrest there can be quieted so that industry may have a chance to develop with some reasonable guarantee of security. Even before the summer of 1914 we were feeling the effect of Japanese competition in certain lines. Japan then was, comparatively speaking, a poor country. The war made Japan rich, and the natural effect of the new wealth was to stimulate production of goods which enter into world trade. What has happened in India is set forth in the following extracts from an article recently published by The American Economist:

Industrial expansion in India became so marked as to induce the British Government to increase its restrictions on flotations which had been provided in the Indian Companies Act of 1912. This act became effective on April 1, 1914, yet in 1914-1915 there were organized 112 companies with an aggregate authorized capital of about \$14,000,000. In 1915-1916 and 1917-1918 there were 278 companies formed with an aggregate authorized capital of about \$99,000,000. There was a steady increase in the average size of the organizations. Altogether more than \$129,000,000 have been invested in Indian industrial institutions during the four years of the war.

Among the first institutions developed were those for the tanning of hides. During 1913-1914 India exported 1,632,000 hundred-weight of hides and skins and 298,000 hundred-weight of leather, valued in the aggregate at about \$22,000,000. Of this amount the United States took \$12,300,000 worth. Now there is a good demand for all sorts of leather articles in India, including shoes. The tanning industry is growing rapidly.

boozes across the line in automobiles near Martinsburg was made under direction of United States Marshall Smith

Wonder if this is the same United States Marshall Smith who has his office in the court house in Fairmont?

If it is, why does he go all the way across the state to find automobile bootleggers?

Let's see the Astorisher this morning that a maid on boys who were running

India has a practical monopoly of jute production and jute mills have been long established. The war has had an accelerating effect. The number of mills has increased from 60 to 74 in four years, and the value of these manufacturing exports has more than doubled. The Report of the British Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy after the war calls attention to the severe competition of the Indian jute manufacturers. Also a marked expansion of the cotton weaving industry of India has taken place in the past three years, especially the last year. Production rose nearly 50 per cent above the normal pre-war average, reaching the enormous amount of more than 500,000,000 yards. The number of looms has increased to 110,500 or 26 per cent. In the twelve months from April, 1918, the quantity of cotton goods produced in Indian mills was 660,576,000 pounds of yarn and 381,404,000 pounds of woven goods. Coarse yarns decreased and fine and medium yarns increased. American long staple cotton is now being introduced into India, which will tend to increase the product of fine and medium cloth.

The development of electrical undertakings is progressing rapidly, and electrical power is being introduced and is looked forward to as a great boon. The Hydro-Electric Power Company of Bombay is the largest undertaking of its kind in India, and when completed will produce about 50,000 horse-power. Most of the machinery for these electrical developments come from the United States. Iron and steel workings and engineering industries generally have received an impetus from the war. Brass and gunmetal work is being developed. Jute mill machinery is being manufactured, and a steel plate mill is being projected, with facilities for making all kinds of structural steel.

Labor is notoriously cheap in both India and Japan and the Japanese ships, which are subsidized by the government and maintained on a scale so low that they have always been considered unfair competitors in the carrying trades, will be prepared to handle a large commerce. These conditions on top of the fact that the new factories in the east must find new outlets for their products now make their possible competition with the products of American factories a serious menace which congress cannot grapple with too soon. We do not expect that the present congress will do anything, but the next one, which will be Republican in both houses, ought to be prepared to act as soon as it can get organized.

## GERMANY'S NEW FRONT.

WAY off here in the West Virginia hills we do not know a lot about what is going on in Germany, but it is permissible to guess, and our guess is that if Hindenburg and the rest of the high up Prussian army chiefs do attempt to establish a new German west front, and start a counter revolution, Germany is going to have a civil war which will be terribly destructive to human life, if not of property, while it lasts.

That the Prussian Junker and military clique is capable of making a desperate last effort to save their situation it is easy to believe. They have been the dominant people in Germany and under any government that is based upon democratic ideas they are bound to lose power and prestige. To their way of thinking a political forlorn hope is justified.

That they would be able to command the support of a large percentage of the Prussian section of the army and perhaps of some of the Bavarian commands, although that is not so sure, probably is true, but a serious amount of demoralization and disintegration has already taken place in the German army, and the men since they got back home have evinced great interest in and sympathy for the radical political leaders. What the struggle would develop into if a military and Junker counter revolution were to be attempted would depend pretty much upon how much of an appetite for fighting these fellows still have.

As far as the Allies are concerned, the proposed new German front does not mean much. There probably is enough war supplies in Germany for the Germans to make war upon each other, but good care was taken in the terms of the armistice to see that they could not resume the war against their old foes.

As a sharp reminder that conditions have not been standing still in the east while the world has had its interest centered on the war in Europe, comes the announcement that a Japanese financier has been appointed financial adviser to the Chinese government. This is a post which for many years was always held by an Englishman.

Up to Thursday night reports received at Red Cross headquarters indicated that 11,000,000 people had answered the Christmas Roll Call. These figures will be greatly increased in the final statements, of course, but they show conclusively that the American people think of the Red Cross. It is a privilege which no public spirited American man or woman should deny themselves to belong to this great organization.

Carl R. Gray, who was president of the Western Maryland railroad when the government took over the roads, and who then became director of the division of operations in the railroad administration, has resigned and will take a long rest. No one is more entitled to a vacation. The task which Mr. Gray undertook was a tremendous one and he discharged the duties of it with splendid success.

President Wilson, who might have strengthened his position if he had told the American people frankly before he went just why he was going to Europe, gave an interview to a reporter of the London Times which is called an explanation of his purpose, but the average American reader will be just as much in the dark after reading it as he was before. A great deal of effort is being made to create the impression that any expressions of opinion in this country regarding the Peace conference that are open to the interpretation of being critical of him are liable to weaken Mr. Wilson's position over there, but while the American people can see the necessity for support of the President, they find themselves handicapped because of a lack of a clear understanding of what he stands for.

Lord Northcliffe, the British Journalist whose ability to gauge the trend of thought in the British Isles has made him one of the most powerful journalists in the world, came out yesterday in a statement advocating open diplomacy in the settlement of the questions growing out of the war. This is right in line with the American desire and Northcliffe's advocacy of it is most encouraging, for what the United States and Great Britain want in a matter of this kind is likely to be accomplished.

Wood county was formed from Harrison by Act of the Assembly passed December 21, 1789, by which it was declared "that all that part of the county of Harrison lying westwardly of a line to begin thirty miles from the Ohio river, on a line dividing the counties of Harrison and Kanawha; thence northeasterly to intersect the line of Ohio county at twenty-one miles distance from the Ohio river on a straight line from that point where the Ohio county line strikes the state boundary and then easterly to the center of Harrison and after that line to the center of Harrison."

There was no mail at Hot Springs when the government spent \$900 and has no far got the mail of one day.

This is the fourth day.

For the way it does not function this strongly reminds one of the local postal situation.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—[Editor The West Virginian.]—In our opinion, the acid test of popular government is approached. By a co-operation never equalled, we have helped to win the greatest way in history. This crisis has brought our people from all walks of life together for a common purpose. We must keep together. It will not do to relax our effort now. We have problems before us second only in importance to winning the war and it will require the united effort of all our people in patriotic service if we are to win the victory of peace. We must build up a new civilization in which individual qualities will play a larger part—the rating of a man must be based upon what he is and does, and not upon whose son or grandson he chances to be, or the amount of money he has.

We face a future that calls for stout hearts, clear heads and vigorous manhood. The war has saddled us with a very heavy burden, and to meet it successfully demands an increase of our man-power and the necessity to maintain it at the maximum. Indeed, after orderly conditions are established the most important of America's assets is man-power. How shall this be built up? The way is open and easy. Millions of the youth of the land, our years' experience has demonstrated the necessity for this and made our duty clear.

We have put through our training camps over two millions of our young men, and we know what it has done for them. It would be hard to overstate the benefits. They have learned personal hygiene, how to care for their bodies and to ward off disease; their mentality has been speeded up, their shoulders squared and broadened, their lung capacity, on the average, nearly doubled. They now stand erect, with muscles hard as nails—they are fit and ready for any undertaking requiring courage and endurance. They have learned obedience to authority. One of the greatest lessons for our youth is to learn and rarely needed by most of them; they have increased self-respect and a proper consideration for the rights of others, and have acquired a keener appreciation of the duties and obligations of citizenship.

The touching of elbows in the training camps of boys of all nationalities, from all parts of the country and from all walks of life, and training them without distinction, will prove to be the real melting pot that will Americanize our citizens of the future and create a common bond of sympathy and understanding that should keep our people together and to destroy, or at least minimize, class distinction. Every boy in the land will be better for such training.

This training would be very beneficial to middle-aged business and professional men who have been demonstrated at Flattsburg and Fort Sheridan. The War Department recently authorized another such camp at Louisville, Ky. to be known as Camp Pershing. It is a part of Camp Taylor. This we understand, opens early in January. It presents an opportunity for those at and approaching middle life that will make them better and stronger men. No other plan devised within our knowledge will do so much in a short time for health, strength and efficiency as Military Training. It will remake American manhood, and it is as necessary for peace as it is for war.

JOHN J. MITCHELL, VICTOR F. LAWSON, E. P. RIPLEY, CYRUS H. McCORMICK.

NOTE—The above is from some of the foremost men in the country. Mr. Mitchell is president of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, Chicago; Mr. Lawson is publisher of the Chicago Daily News; Mr. Ripley is the president of the Santa Fe Railroad, and Mr. McCormick is president of the International Harvester Co.

## TODAY IN STATE HISTORY

By E. E. MERRITT

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This is the fourth day.

For the way it does not function this strongly reminds one of the local postal situation.

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We Guarantee All Goods

## Courtneys' Store

True Values 108-110 Main St.

Our Telephone is No. 55-R.

## With Christmas Just Around the Corner Many Are Caught With No Idea What to Give—But Don't Worry—

Enthusiasm Here At Highest Pitch!

Enthusiasm is an intangible but highly important asset of our business. Like Justice it is something that cannot be seen, but can be very strongly felt. We are enthusiastic about our business—every one of us. We do not like half-hearted methods and we do not tolerate them either in ourselves or in our co-workers.

Choice, Dainty and Wholly Lovable! Both Philippine and Glove Silk Underthings.

Not one chance in a thousand of going wrong if you select from this complete stock.

"Niagara Maid" Glove Silk Models attractively and handsomely hemstitched models entranced by fine lace and insertion—while still others are selected plain tailored styles.

Virtually No End to Our Assortments!

The Price Range Has Been Reduced—NOW \$11.75 to \$85.00

## A New Suit for Christmas and at These Prices

There's No Reason Why You Shouldn't Have It!

<b>\$15.00</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
For Suits that sold for \$18.50 to \$25.00	For Suits that sold for \$28.50 to \$42.50	For Suits that sold for \$49.50 to \$75.00

Savings invested in these Suits at THESE PRICES will return daily dividend in comfort and Satisfaction.

Camisoles—hundreds to select from—\$1. to \$2.50  
Envelopes—just as dainty as can be—\$2.75 to \$5.  
Bloomers—very sensible, and durable—85c to \$3.50  
Vests—a woman never has too many \$2 to \$4

Philippine Undergarments

surely denote the donor's good taste.

The handiwork of our Islanders shows to wonderful advantage in these dainty garments.

Remarkable values here at \$2.75 to \$4.75

Reliable Advertising

Give—But Don't Worry—

A walk through this store will suggest dozens of highly Useful Gifts—Things you probably would never think of, yet things that are sure to please either by their beauty or usefulness, of both. BUT COME NOW!

## It's Wonderful the Number of Women Slipping Into Winter Coats This Christmas!

Or it would be wonderful if it were not as wise a thing as a woman could do, or could be made to do by her family.

In this matter there is no need for any flight of fancy, or for any sentiment. It is entirely a matter of Practical Common Sense.

Christmas Savings and Gift Money was never invested in anything better than a comfortable Coat! Provided—it is one of fashion and of quality and the fashion as well as the quality about which there need be no doubt, as long as this stock is HERE to choose from. YOU'LL APPROVE OF THESE PRICES—THE SAVINGS ARE MOST ATTRACTIVE.

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Savings invested in these Suits at THESE PRICES will return daily dividend in comfort and Satisfaction.

Can You Use a Sweater? If you can or if you want one as a gift for some friend or relative—then we advise you to inspect the smart models we are showing. Bright, attractive colors in both wool and Fibre. Many new Fish tailed models—others fitted at the waist—while there are the belted and sash models, too.

We have priced them so you can afford one or more \$4.75 to \$12.50

Look at These New Kimonos and you will surely purchase one, and what could you give that would insure more complete satisfaction.

Such a gift will be useful every day in the year. In Silk, Silk Crepe, Crepe de Chine and Cotton Crepe, Copen, Rose, Blue, Pink, Lavender, etc., afford excellent selection.

Comparison will prove the prices attractive. \$2.75 to \$18.50

Dependable Merchandise

## Aero Letter Reaches Here By Usual Mail

Today Trevor Nutter, secretary of the Fairmont Business Men's Association, received a letter from the Aerial League of America, congratulating him upon his appointment as a member of the committee of aeronautic affairs of this city.

The letter carries an aero mail rubber stamp impression, while the government postage stamp is that of an aeroplane thereon. The probabilities are that it was the design of those in charge to mail the letter by aeroplane a portion of the way from Chicago, but it was necessary to use the regular mail service because of no flight. As a result the mail had been marked as if it had been carried by aeroplane.

## Christmas Cheer for Yanks Over There

(Correspondence of Associated Press.) LONDON, Nov. 21.—If your son is in France or England at Christmas time you needn't necessarily feel that he is losing all the joy of life. Perhaps he is going to have the opportunity to a real English Christmas.

Invitations have been issued to as many American soldiers and sailors as possible in France, through Y. M. C. A. secretaries there, and those in camps and on battlefields in England were not forgotten. More than two thousand of them will be interesting for the holidays in London homes here and on Christmas they will more than watch the brandy burning

## Catarhal Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure catarrhal deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. Catarrhal Deafness is cured by the use of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a running ear, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Many cases of deafness are caused by catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the mucous membrane. Eustachian Tube. The blood on the mucous surface of the system.

We will give One Hundred Dollars to any case of Catarrhal Deafness that cannot be cured by Eustachian Tube. Call on Dr. J. C. CURET, 100, South St., New York, N. Y.

## Come in Tonight

and Select a pair of Shoes or Comfort Slippers for the person neglected to this time. A gift that will be appreciated Xmas day and every day.

Just guess the size we exchange.

Shurtleff & Welton

WALK-OVER BOOT SHOP

## RUFF STUFF

If the weatherman has the least intention of doing the right thing about Christmas weather it is about time for him to show his line.

Let's see the Astorisher this morning that a maid on boys who were running