

**The West Virginian**  
"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME"

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**IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR PAPER CALL**  
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THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER, 26, 1918.

son, for Secretary of War Baker in many public or Ansell opinion announced that the War Department had not as yet made any recommendations touching the situation and would content itself with seeking appropriations for the regular army during the next year.

Some of the states set up state guards upon the federalization of their national guard units, and these states will be in position to wait for the working out of some settled plan for cooperation between the states and the federal government in a military policy, but West Virginia did not do this and the makeshift adopted here probably will not do for the interregnum. Fortunately there will soon return to us many war seasoned veterans, and the legislature should avail itself of the advice of these soldiers in formulating a new force of state troops.

Plans adopted now need only be intended as a stop gap. Even if we are to have some type of universal military service there probably will have to be state guards as a second line of defense. Existing law provides for that, and unless the federal government means to take over the whole burden of financing the defense forces it might be difficult to get the state legislatures to provide funds for forces over which the states have little control.

**DONT CALL THEM "WOPS."**

AMERICANS are going to do many things differently from now on. We are going to come to a full realization of the fact that an American is an American regardless of race or religion. And we are going to treat him as man should treat man.

The deciding factor in persuading native born Americans to this opinion came in the loyal manner with which our foreign born citizens and our negro citizens helped us win the war. They did help—on farms, in mines, factories, mills, shipyards, as well as in navy and army uniforms.

Some of us (thoughtlessly, possibly) were given to calling these men of foreign birth and of other colors by nicknames. Those who did this knew they were hurting the self-respect of the stranger. Such names as "Wop," "Dago," "Nigger" and numerous others were on the tip of many an American tongue, and every nickname carried its sting to the very soul of the man thus misnamed.

Now, however, the United States Bureau of Education launches a campaign among school children of the nation against this nickname evil. Our young people are asked to pledge themselves not to call a negro "nigger," nor a Mexican a "greaser," nor any foreign born among by any nickname offensive to him—and nearly every nickname is offensive to the person at whom it is thrown. All Boy Scouts are asked to eliminate from their talk all these nicknames. Many Boy Scouts camps already have given their word that they will do this.

Hopes are entertained that when the time comes when all our boys and girls have discontinued this bad habit, grownups will place a closer guard on our tongues, and then no one will be a "nigger," a "wop," a "greaser" or a "gunny."

They'll be men and women, standing on an equal footing in this respect at least, be they ditch diggers, scrub-women, bankers or wives of millionaires.

Honestly, we grown-ups would better blue pencil some of our nickname stuff ourselves before our sons and daughters do it for us.

Paris dispatches of this morning say that it probably will be three weeks before the Peace congress convenes. They go about these things with great deliberation, and it perhaps would be just as well if it were not for the fact that the bolsheviks are going about their disorganizing work without any deliberation whatever.

Correspondents who reported the Christmas visit of President Wilson to Chaumont stressed the dreariness of the weather in their dispatches, but that probably did not get any particular rise out of American readers today. Over almost the entire country the Christmas day weather was quite as dreary as it possibly could have been anywhere in France. Yet here as in Chaumont it was a joyous day, for the most part quietly celebrated, but which will be looked back to with fond memories.

The country and the Presbyterian church lost a good and forceful man by the death of Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, the noted evangelist. Dr. Chapman was a veritable human dynamo and he was especially effective in organizing and conducting large movements inside his denomination.

The Mexican chamber of deputies has conferred enlarged powers upon President Carranza, and among other things he now has authority to suspend customs duties. Having managed to worm his way into real power on the plea that he was the people's candidate, the Mexican executive finally finds himself strong enough to start on the path which made old Diaz a dictator who ran things pretty much as the financial powers of the country wanted him to run them.

**Evening Chat**

Christmas day has come and gone and we did have a few flakes of snow as anticipated, though hardly enough to call it that. Whether we are the happier or not is a question best answered personally by each and every one of us. Many of us get through the day best by keeping busy every moment. Thoughts of every description crowded through our minds. It is so true that on this day of all days one longs most for all the loved ones and time goes so fast and carries so many changes that many of these were not there. Others were thoroughly happy and sang in heart and spirit as each hour sped only too swiftly by. The children passed the usual sleepless night and awoke in the darkness to see down the stairs in bare feet with dream dress held carefully on of the way to prevent stumbling—merely to pass curious hands over and around the various packages grouped on the floor about the Christmas tree. Oh, was there ever anything half so exciting? Doesn't it carry you back—back to the days when you did just the same? Doesn't it bring your heart into your throat to remember—just to remember!

The tree was gorgeous in the darkness! At four or five in the morning—with no light save that which flashed fitfully from a fireplace kept alive by a few sleepless coals, one saw the glitter of tinsel angels and Santa Claus dangling from the branches. A little girl I knew—once on a ago—put out her finger and touched a small yellow bird which immediately flew back and forth and up and down on a slender wire. Drawing back her finger she gazed and gazed in rapture. I know that were many, many little boys and girls who went through the same experience this Christmas eve which has just passed.

In our house, just as the clock struck twelve, a small mouse crept stealthily out and walked sedately around our tree. This mouse did not, nor did he scamper. He walked—his tiny head eyes gleaming in the firelight. Quite out of sight in a wide arched chair, I watched him curiously. A late hour with faint glistening shadows, and the quiet made a fine setting for the scene which took place. I had just finished trimming a wonderful tree for a number of children and too tired to get further than my comfortable chair, was viewing my handiwork with pride and pleasure. I had turned very low the lights. Surely this year in spite of lack of Christmas tree trimmings of moderate price or especial beauty, our stores had a good stock of tiny red Santas with black bells and stockings and rim of white cotton hair glittering birds, angels and quaint figures, all of which could be attached by means of tiny red strings to the tree branches. This helped out wonderfully! The effect was even more than was expected.

My mouse enjoyed it immensely and it was not difficult to believe that even a mouse has intelligence—since we know that much or little of this desirable article can be packed sometimes into very small space. Two exquisitely small and finely ears stood out from his midjet head as he gazed for several moments at my Christmas tree. Certainly he used his brains when he ran all around again until he discovered a large package which he could climb upon enabling him to get still closer to that fascinating odor. He even tried eating a small green needle but tossed it away in disgust. And then he found a soft handkerchief wrapped in tissue paper and using it for a couch he sat down comfortably again and gazed quietly, thoughtfully, pensively—until I too grew pensive. Forgetting for a moment my small companion in contemplation of other things, I moved suddenly. That was the last of my guest that night.

Preston County Buckwheat, home style, for breakfast each morning. Boyers Restaurant—Adv.

Home baked Pies and Pastries. Boyer's Restaurant. Adv.

**Courtneys' Store**  
We Guarantee All Goods  
True Values  
108-110 Main St.  
Our Telephone is No. 55-R.

**Prompt on the Heels of the Greatest Xmas In the History of Our Country We Announce Our YEAR END SALE**

**IMPORTANT**  
We do not hold many sales, but when we do you may be sure that they are honest, above-board and founded on a legitimate cause.

Then, too, we carry only dependable merchandise, thus protecting you at all times from receiving inferior qualities.

Ours is a store of standard service—a store you can rely upon for service and satisfaction.

**With the Chill of Real Winter Now in the Air This Shipment of COATS Arrived Right on the Dot.**

We vouch for their perfection of workmanship, excellent quality of their durability and serviceability. In obtaining them at price concessions, we are offered the opportunity of extending to you the benefit of our savings. That is the way we have marked them all.  
\$25, \$28.50, \$39, \$42.50

**To Commence Sat. Dec. 28**  
There are few women indeed who will not have Christmas Gift money to spend.

TO INVEST it is still better and HERE, on Saturday, is the best opportunity for SAFE INVESTMENT, that we have known in many, many, long months.

For this YEAR-END SALE—Practically All Lines will Receive Our Attention in the Form

**Of Radical Reductions**

Our Great Selling of December has left us with many broken lines on hand, as well as much worthy merchandise that has been SLIGHTLY SOILED OR MUSED, either from handling or from being for display purposes.

We prefer to TAKE THE LOSS NOW and AVOID having to handle them at Inventory Time—January 1st.

STARTINGLY ECONOMICAL PRICES will bring enthusiastic buyers here for

COATS SUITS HANDKERCHIEFS  
DRESSES WAISTS SWEATERS  
UNDERWEAR PETTICOATS BATHROBES

PURSES, MILLINERY, ETC.

**See Tomorrow's Papers for Our Ad.**

Reliable Advertising **Courtneys' Store** Dependable Merchandise

**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.

**JOYRIDER OF THE AIR IS HERE.**

THE air joyrider is here. What are we going to do with him? There are no laws to fit his case. In New England the other day somebody took a flight in a big naval balloon. Navy officers found the balloon in a treelap on Sarah Mills' farm, near New Canaan, Conn.

There'll be other and more joyriders of the air—pretty soon. America is going to need a lot of air laws. Britain is making them now. Aviation is developing fast. Britain is making airships to carry 100 passengers. So is Italy. Germany was preparing to do so. United States makers are busy working out the problems of commercial flying. Air mail routes are increasing. Captain Lipsner is developing an air passenger ship to fly from New York. All these things mean a coming boom in airplane manufacture and use. The federal government has many airplanes on its hands to put to use. Federal air police? Maybe. As air ships increase the joyrider of the air will increase too. Florida had the first air law in the United States. A law to prohibit shipping booze by airplane was passed there.

With the development of air problems such as joyriding, careless dropping of tools, landing places, flight levels, etc., laws must be made for safety not only in the air but for the safety of the people below. We'll need legislators educated in air science.

**WEST VIRGINIA WITHOUT A GUARD.**

AN opinion of Brigadier General Samuel T. Ansell, acting judge advocate general, to the effect that the federalization of the national guard regiments wiped those units out of existence, and that the men in them when they are discharged from the army will return to private life without any future military obligations to the national or state governments, imposes upon the coming West Virginia legislature the important duty of recreating a state guard for this state. It is a duty, too which will have to be discharged without any assistance either in a financial or advisory character from the government at Washington.

**RUFF STUFF**

Well, folks, here's Winter.

About this time, as the almanacs don't say, look out for low gas pressure.

Also this is the season for politics to resume at the old stand in Washington.

Only this time it will not be exactly the old kind of politics.

For the guy up a tree there is going to be a lot of fun in watching how the politicians in both camps fidget around before they jump.

Old Count Bernstorff—remember him don't you?—says he is not in favor of turning the kaiser over to the allies "because a sovereign is not responsible for the policy of his government."

Wonder what Bernstorff would have got for saying that at this time last year, for instance?

Bill may not have been running things, but he thought he was.

And that amounts to the same thing when it comes to handing out swift kicks.

Army aviator trying to deliver a Christmas package to his girl, via the sky line, fell and smashed the plane.

Now he will be hauled up before a court martial.

Wonder if they'll soak him worse for demolishing government property than for being a bum Santa Claus?

When it comes to decorating Christmas trees the Weather man has it on the best of 'em.

Yesterday the few unpurchased trees standing around town looked forlorn.

Today they are things of beauty.

**Y. M. C. A. Team to Meet Clarksburg Five**

Fairmont Y. M. C. A. will meet the Clarksburg Scholastics at basketball on Saturday evening at the local Y. M. C. A. The game will be called at 8:30 o'clock.

Among the Clarksburg players are Crummitt, Heamer, Dawson, Fretwell, Chenoweth, Erwin and Lewis. The local team has been practicing three nights a week in hopes of winning this game.

**LAUREL POINT**

John Chipps of Uffington recently spent a night with his daughter, Mrs. Geo. Beall of this place.

Victor Barb and wife, of Clarksburg are guests of relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mercer expects to move to Morgantown in the near future.

The body of Mrs. Guy Shafer, who died at her home at the State Experiment farm Thursday evening, December 19th was taken to Hagers Sunday morning the 22nd for interment beside the bodies of her twin babies who died over a year ago. Mrs. Shafer was the daughter of David Morris, and wife and was about 30 years of age. She leaves beside her husband, an infant son about two weeks old, one brother, Chas. Morris one sister, Maude Fetsy who lives in Kansas, besides many relatives and friends who will be saddened by her early death.

George Bell and family are with relatives near Morgantown.

Mrs. Martha Scott an aged lady is seriously ill at her home near here.

**Stanhagen Visiting His Folks in the City**

William H. Stanhagen, who is in the aerial service, Americus, Georgia, is here to spend a ten days' furlough with his mother, Mrs. Amelia Stanhagen, of 723 Walnut avenue. He arrived in time to spend Christmas day with his relatives.

It is nine months since Mr. Stanhagen voluntarily enlisted in the service and he had not been home since that time. Until recently he had been stationed at the Great Lakes Training station near Chicago.

Mr. Stanhagen was formerly connected with the manual training department of the city public schools.

**Two Men Killed in Action in France**

Officials of the United States War department have notified Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Wright, who reside along Miracle run, Battelle district, Monongalia county, that their son, Raymond, has been killed in action in France. The official list carried the address as Fairview R. D. 3.

Mrs. Lee Hoult, of Hoult, has received word that her brother, Herbert Wiles, has been killed in action with the American forces in France.

Arrive Tonight.  
Lieutenant and Mrs. Roger S. Parry and little daughter, Mary Ellen, of Washington, Pa., will arrive here this evening to be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Lehman on Walnut avenue. Lieutenant Parry, who is a brother of Mrs. Lehman, will leave the latter part of the week for Camp Lee, where he is stationed with the U. S. Army. Mrs. Parry and daughter will remain here for several days.

Preston County Buckwheat, home style, for breakfast each morning. Boyers Restaurant—Adv.

**OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE (BY CONDO)**

LET'S SEE NOW—WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MY NAME, SIR, IS VANDERBURGHINGTON.

I REFUSE TO WASTE TIME AND WRITING MATERIAL ON A NAME LIKE THAT! ANY COURT WILL TAKE PITY ON YOU AND ALLOW YOU TO CHANGE IT! I'LL NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU UNTIL YOU HAVE A NAME THAT I CAN HANDLE WITHOUT GETTING MY WRITERS CRAMP!!!

THERE'S THE DOOR!!!

**Join Our Christmas Savings Club NOW OPEN**

Hundreds of checks have been mailed out by this bank to the members of the club this year. To the hundreds receiving these checks Christmas will be one of gladness.

Costs nothing to become a member only your regular payments—no fees, no fines, nothing to lose. We can arrange the payments to suit the person desiring to take a membership—from a few cents per week to several dollars.

**CLUB FORMING—JOIN NOW**

Get everyone in the family to join. Show this to your friends and get them to join. Everybody welcome. Come in and let us tell you about our different plans and enter you as a member of one or more.

**MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS A MERRY ONE— People's National Bank of Fairmont.**

**Inventory Sheets**  
IN PADS OF FIFTY  
\$1.00

JANUARY FIRST, with its annual inventory will soon be upon us. Why not be prepared? Use our inventory sheets and have a complete record of your stock when you have your inventory finished, we will bind it permanently for you, or can furnish you with a ring binder. Either method will make it always easily accessible for reference.

**Fairmont Printing and Publishing Company**  
FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA.