

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.

MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 11, 1916.

BUSY YEAR AHEAD.

REPORTS from City hall, where preparations for the sale of the bonds authorized at the recent special election and work on the plans for the public improvements which will be provided with the money are already under way; the visit of high officials of the Monongahela railway, who came to get first hand information as to how the improvements will affect their interests; the growing list of conventions of state wide importance that are to be held here during 1917; progress upon the Greater Fairmont campaign and many other things all indicate that 1917 is going to be a notable and a busy cycle hereabouts.

People who are thinking of extending their business, retailers making plans for the coming year, the public service corporations and others will save themselves and the citizens with whom they deal a great deal of trouble if they will keep these things in mind. Fairmont is coming out of the dumps, and the fellows who are not prepared to come out with her are going to be badly left. One of the shrewdest observers of local commercial conditions said the other day that business has been standing still in this town for the past five years. Well, it may be that it will make five years' progress in one during the next twelve months if the business men of the city are alert enough to prove to the consuming public that they deserve success.

A MATTER FOR EXPERTS.

THE New York World takes Major General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, to task for failing to present a system for general compulsory military service after his sweeping condemnation of the federalized National Guard system of second line defense, which is now in effect. The point is well taken. If we must make radical changes in the policy which this government has pursued for many years, the way should be pointed by experts. It was to solve such problems, among others, that the Staff was created.

The principal trouble with the existing system is that it is a thing of shreds and patches lobbied through Congress by butchers, bakers, candlestick makers—anything but military experts—and scarcely a single feature of it meets with the approval of trained soldiers. Most of the schemes that are offered as substitutes are open to the same objection. We will never make any headway while such a situation continues to exist.

The public mind is in such a state with regard to the question of national defense just now that if a plan that commanded the support both of professional military men and authorities upon constitutional law whom the people trust were submitted there is not much doubt that it would be possible to put it through substantially as it was outlined. It is highly desirable, therefore, that the Staff evolve a plan and submit it for the consideration of the people as soon as possible. It would be the height of folly to defederalize

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)



the National Guard, for instance, without first providing for some substitute. Yet there is a prospect that this is precisely what Congress purposes to do. Moreover, unless there is skilled guidance, Congress, abetted by the "preparedness" lobbies, is certain to again make a mull of the whole military problem.

AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION.

A Virginia University bulletin advertising the program for Farmers' Week and the winter short courses which has just come to hand contains this attention arresting question:

Do you know that there now exists in West Virginia sufficient agricultural information which if put into practice would at least double profits and yields and would make for a more permanent system of agriculture?

It is a fact that this fund of agricultural knowledge has existed at the university for a long time. The trouble is that not enough farmers know about it or, knowing, can be persuaded to take advantage of it in a practical way. But some progress is made each year. The Farmers' Week attendance increases rapidly and the classes in the agricultural college grow. Better farming is spreading throughout the state as the result of the teaching which is being given at Morgantown, and it will not be long before it will be possible to talk about the agricultural interests of West Virginia in something more than an academic manner. The date for Farmers' Week is from January 1 to 6.

Captain Koenig and the Deutschland are safely on the other side again. It indeed will be a merry Christmas for the doughty captain and his crew.

That alleged German cruiser on the broad bosom of the Atlantic which stops British merchantmen but lets them go again must be cruising for stock market purposes only.

Last night's dispatches say that Earl Curzon will be lord president of the British War Council and make no mention of Carson in connection with that highly important body. What a whirligig time is, Curzon is an Irish peer by appointment; he was born in Derbyshire. It scarcely can be said that he is popular with any element in the Empire. Sheer efficiency took him to the top. The most spectacular incident of his public career occurred during his second term as Governor General of India when he sought to put a check upon the military branch of the government at the head of which at the time was the late Lord Kitchener. Curzon lost the struggle and resigned. Now he is to be the head of a more militaristic machine than Kitchener ever dreamed of. Americans will wish him luck. He married an American girl, the beautiful Mary Leiter, now dead.

The Federation of Labor is in favor of increasing the pay of all government employes from the President down. As this includes the members of both branches of Congress, the Federation ought to be careful how it brings the matter forward. Congress may take the hint and act favorably upon it.

A Wheeling manufacturing plant has closed down because it could no longer get cars in which to ship away its product. A Pennsylvania coal company which found itself in the same fix some years ago sued the railroad for damages and got a verdict. The Supreme Court of the United States sustained the verdict last Monday.

Buy Red Cross Seals and subscribe to The Times Christmas Fund.

SHORT AND SNAPPY.

Lots of men who are opposed to equal suffrage have been owned body and soul by some political crook ever since they cast their first vote. This explains their opposition.—Cameron Star-Tribune.

Appropriate advice to American workmen who are receiving abnormally high wages: In time of war prepare for peace.—Charleston Mail.

Perhaps one of the co-eds from Kansas or California will be given the honorary post of cheer leader of the electoral college. They deserve some such recognition.—Clarksburg Exponent.

The program is so long for the short session that congress may feel tempted to pass an eight-hour law for its own benefit.—Wheeling Register.

So far as we have observed, neither the Australian ballot nor the corrupt practice act have helped much in purifying elections. And as for the primaries, they have made matters much worse.—St. Mary's Oracle.

BITS OF STATE NEWS

In an effort to reduce the high cost of living the Bluefield Housewives Protective League has been organized. Officers have been elected and committees appointed to help solve the question. The league has allied itself with the national organization. At a recent meeting, members of the local league adopted a resolution fixing the price which will be paid for certain commodities. Hotel, restaurant and boarding house proprietors have been invited to meet with the league.

Officials of the local water company estimate that a bath in Huntington costs three-tenths of a cent. They say that the average person uses about 15 gallons while the present water rate is 25 cents for 1,000 gallons.

Eight barges are being completed at the docks at Parkersburg for service as oil tankers in the Gulf of Mexico. Other modern steel barges will be brought down the Ohio river from Parkersburg shortly to be converted into tankers. The old cabins are being removed, bulkheads built in the holds and the decks made water tight. The Packet Joe Fowler will take the tankers to New Orleans where they will be turned over to a sea-going vessel to be towed across the gulf to the Tampico oil fields.

Though the price of river labor has advanced several hundred per cent. within the past few years, rivermen report that it is difficult to obtain roustabouts and other help on the river packets. The explanation lies, they say, in the increased activity of the steel mills and munition factories which are offering higher wages than the boat owners are able to pay. Roustabouts a few years ago were paid from \$20 to \$30 a month. Steamboatmen now have difficulty in obtaining that class of labor at wages of \$50 to \$60 a month and are predicting that they will be compelled to offer more.

During the first six days in January, hundreds of West Virginia farmers

will gather in Morgantown for the annual "Farmers' Week" of the College of Agriculture, University of West Virginia. The activities of the week will include among other things the state fruit show, state exhibits of boys' and girls' agricultural clubs, sessions of the State Horticultural Association, sessions of the Live-stock association, meetings of delegates from women's clubs and conferences of county agricultural agents.

Legislation providing for censorship of motion pictures will be submitted to the legislature at its next session and if provision is not made for the state to have supervision a bill will be presented amending the charter of the City of Wheeling, giving city officials the authority to designate a board of censorship which shall pass upon films exhibited here. Following the censoring of a picture shown here recently, the matter has been discussed by police and other officials and the conclusion reached was that if the state does not assume sponsorship for films the city should. It has been suggested that a commission of five composed of an attorney, a city official, business man, a minister and a farmer have jurisdiction.

According to the Martinsburg Journal the spring-like weather which preceded the present seasonable cold snaps fooled even Mother Nature. For instance the other day Funeral Director John H. Wilen stopped for a moment at the M. A. Snodgrass drug establishment and informed Mr. Snodgrass and Attorney A. C. Nadenbush that he had gathered a bunch of beautiful pansies from his flower garden a day or two ago, and that he and Superintendent Rhodes, of St. Joseph cemetery, had killed a big snake that was covoring around that cemetery.

The new Wellsburg government and postoffice building was opened last Saturday evening under the most auspicious circumstances. A reception and address by Hon. J. B. Sommerville of Wheeling, were the features of the dedication. The Wellsburg postoffice is different in architecture from any other public building in West Virginia. In design it is of old Dutch colonial style. The building is two stories and is of Fisk tapestry brick.

The supreme court has held that John White is the legally appointed sheriff of Monongalia county and is entitled to serve out the remainder of the term and make collection on the tax tickets now in his possession. The court refused the petition of William Snee, recently elected to fill out the unexpired term of John B. Wallace, deceased, for a writ of mandamus to compel White to turn over the tax tickets to him. It was held that White could only be required to turn over the tax tickets of the county on the demand of the county court, and since this had not been done, Snee could not secure possession of the office, even county court had appointed White soon after the death of Wallace.

RUFF STUFF

BY RED.

Say what you please about the British navy, it has sense enough not to try to catch Koenig.

The old old story again—Greece will soon be part of Germany.

Even as Rumania, Poland, Serbia, Belgium and Northern France.

And we now read that the German tanks are greater than the much touted British ones.

All Germans we know have greater tanks than the John Bulls.

Eight hundred newspapers in United States have quit on account of the high cost of paper and yet—

It is only the natural order of things that after the Thanksgiving turkey is gone Greece should be cleaned up.

A little nation with a big idea wakes up to find itself missing every once in so often.

If ever one Ford thief is caught he'll be blamed with all thefts and will visit a la Mott Osborne for life.

In two trips the Deutschland has carried cargoes valuable enough to buy 13 boats like her.

Dear Santa Claus:—Please bring us the scalp of the duck who is responsible for the h. c. of vegetables and meat.—Olive Consumer.

Olive, old stuffin', you've got your letter in the wrong sanctum. Send your Christmas letters to the Congressman and President who said some time ago that they were going to reduce the high cost of living.

Starve America to feed Europe is the right dope — from an European standpoint.

And while the war council is being patched up in England the war councils on the other countries are being congratulated on victories.

"Blue Goose" is captured.—Times. Wonder if that is one of Clem's birds?

We haven't read that story about the swallowing of hippopotamus for so long we enjoyed it this morning.

As Ring Lardner might say (had he read it in the World) it was a horribly good tale.

Kill The Cold Germ
WITH OLD BLACK JOE COUGH SYRUP.
Colds and grippe are caused by a germ. One of the ingredients in Old Black Joe Cough Syrup is an oil that medical science says will destroy this germ. Another valuable ingredient is one that opens the air passages and loosens the phlegm so that the oils in the syrup can reach the germ and soothe the irritation.
Old Black Joe Cough Syrup is absolutely safe for every member of the family. It is free from all opiates, chloroform and narcotic drugs. A big bottle costs only 25c at any store in city or country.

FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12



How Many People Will You Make Happy On Christmas?

Happiness is the greatest gift which Christmas brings, and it is so easy to carry happiness to everybody that knows us.

Often the simplest and most inexpensive gift carries a delightful message of good will and friendship.

Send as little as you will, but send something to all.

Our store is filled with attractive and desirable things and the gift you seek may cost you as little as you desire.

The beautiful and elaborate things are here, as well as the serviceable and practical gifts.

Here also are the toys and trinkets that bring joy to the hearts of the little folks.

But there is not a day to be lost if Christmas is to be comfortable for you and happy for your household and friends.

Start making your selection today before the last rush and hurry begins.

The Shopping List

- 17x54 inch Axminster rugs \$2.25
- Doll beds 20 inches long, \$1.25.
- Men's 6 piece Ivory toilet sets, \$10.00.
- 2 quart round Casseroles, \$2.00.
- Bottle Perin Toilet Water in ribbon tied box 75c.
- Women's fine linen initial handkerchiefs, 3 for 65c.
- 5 pound box Phelps' assorted chocolates \$1.75.
- Japanese China 7 piece tea sets \$5.00.
- Japanese China, 3 piece Mayonnaise sets \$1.75.
- Red Leather bound book of poems, 50c.
- Nickle plated candlestick flashlight, \$1.75.
- Cretonne Covered Candy Box, 50c.
- Men's Blanket Bath Robes, with slippers, \$6.50.
- Women's finest Silk Hose, all colors, \$1.00.
- Children's Daniel Greene Slippers, 50c and \$1.00.
- Boys' Giant Soldier games, \$1.

Furs Are Needed Now

We will have far weather nearly every day now, this is the very beginning of the fur season. Our furs are all perfectly fresh, made for this season, of soft, pliable, beautifully finished pelts in the newest styles, and guaranteed to be exactly as represented, as regards kind of fur as well as value.

Sets or separate pieces at moderate prices.



If One Can't Have a Fur Coat

a very good substitute is one of these warm, rich looking coats of Velour with great cape-like collars richly trimmed. The collars can be rolled up closely to the throat and the coats are lined throughout with guaranteed satin. Extra values at \$25 to \$35.

Other Stylish and Comfortable Coats at \$15 to \$20.

Dr. Moorman
Chiroprapist
Here
Tuesday



Dr. Moorman
Chiroprapist
Here
Tuesday

Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

UNPRECEDENTED IMPORTS

From the American Economist.

The Protection which for a time resulted from European war conditions seems to have entirely disappeared. As a matter of fact we are now buying more from foreign countries than at any previous period in our history. For the ten months ending with October, 1916, our imports reached the unprecedented total of \$2,097,598,565, this being an increase of \$566,330,050 over the imports for the same ten months in 1915. Of this more than two billions of imports, more than two-thirds came in free of Tariff duties; dutiable, \$661,631,110; non-dutiable, \$1,345,967,455. For the twelve months ending with October, 1916, the imports reached a total of \$2,334,927,745, an increase of \$642,336,629 over the amount for twelve months ending with October, 1915.

Surely the rich American market, made rich by long years of Protection, is proving a bonanza to the outside world, thanks to the low Tariff and no Tariff of the Underwood Free-Trade law. The enormous growth of imports is apt to be overlooked in the glaring blaze of huge war exports, but it cannot be overlooked when the war exports stop. When that time comes we shall be buying far more than we sell, and shall more fully realize the value of Protection and the disastrous folly of Free-Trade.

THE MILITANTS

From the New York World.

There is justice in the plea of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt that the public make a distinction between the great body of active Woman Suffragists and the small faction of unruly agitators who gained notoriety for themselves by their conduct in the House of Representatives last Tuesday while President Wilson was addressing Congress. Speaking with authority for the National Woman-Suffrage Association, Mrs. Catt emphatically disavows sympathy with their antics. It is unfortunate for the Suffrage cause that a few individuals more conspicuous for

bad manners than for brains should make themselves the means of casting discredit upon millions of sane, sensible women. But certainly the women who through the National Association are carrying on a rational campaign of education should not be held to blame, the more so that they openly condemn the methods of the Congressional Union.

PERSONALS.
Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Fleming, of Cameron, passed through the city Saturday evening en route to St. Petersburg, Fla., to spend the winter.
Miss Dora Wiles, of Morgantown was the guest yesterday of Mrs. R. M. Abbott at the home of the latter's sister, Mrs. Edgar Davis.



Spicy-Classy Sporty-Dressy

Every one of these seasonings go in to make our women's boots perfect in taste.

The style shown is one of the hits of the season.

A low heel boot for dress or street wear. Made in dark rich tan, also brown, grey and black—wing and straight tips.

\$3.00 to \$6.50.

SHURTFLEFF & WELTON



JOIN OUR Christmas Savings Club NOW OPEN

Hundreds of checks will be mailed out by this bank this week 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.

Call 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.

The Peoples National Bank OF FAIRMONT

MIRRORS

French plate bevel hand mirrors. Always acceptable and always appreciated by the woman of refinement and taste. No perfect toilet can be made without one, so give a mirror and you are sure to be on the safe side. 50c and up.

CRANE'S Drug Store