

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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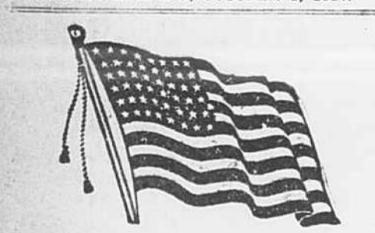
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TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2, 1917.



FIFTY YEARS IN MEDICINE.

FIFTY years considered as time is a brief space. At least one physician who participated in the organization of the West Virginia Medical Association in this city fifty years ago is still alive and well and is an honored citizen of the town—Dr. J. H. Brownfield. But when it is measured by scientific achievement this fifty years is the longest half century in medical history. The practice of medicine has actually been revolutionized since the meeting at which West Virginia practitioners organized their state association. Previous to that time there were great physicians and great surgeons and a record of service that any profession might take great pride in, but after all it was a profession that depended largely upon empiricism for its results. In the fifty years that have elapsed since then it has become one of the exact sciences. Moreover, secure in that position, it is proceeding so rapidly in the conquest of disease that even the immediate prospect is dazzling, while the potentialities are a severe tax upon the ordinary imagination.

In the very same year that the West Virginia Medical Association was born Joseph Lister began to announce the results of his experiments in antiseptics. Pasteur at the same time was busy with his investigations, but it was not until a full decade later that he felt sure of his ground and boldly announced the germ theory which thereafter was the basis of all modern progress. Since then advance has followed advance with such rapidity that no one but those who have made a special study of medical history can do more than point out a few of the more important achievements, or remember any except some of the more prominent names of the brilliant investigators who followed Pasteur and Liebig in the research work and showed how to apply the discoveries of the laboratory to the ordinary practice of medicine.

As medicine became more scientific the profession underwent changes too. Higher educational standards were demanded by the medical schools, higher ideals were required by the code of ethics and the fine body of men we have with us today is the result. It would of course have been impossible to improve upon the spirit of the service and self sacrifice which was characteristic of the men who gathered here to lay the foundation for the splendid organization to which Fairmont is now host. Nor has the added knowledge and skill increased the community standing of the physicians. It has, however, increased their ability to serve their fellow men, and in welcoming them to this city for their semi-centennial meeting the people of Fairmont realize that they are welcoming one of the most useful bodies of men this or any state contains. They are welcome and honored guests. May their stay here be as pleasant to them as it is certain to be to us.

SECOND LOAN CAMPAIGN.

AS was the case with the first Liberty loan, any bank in Marion county will take subscriptions for the second issue, the campaign in behalf of which began yesterday at noon and will end at midnight Saturday, October 27. The banks make nothing out of this. As a matter of fact, the service they render costs them money, but they bear the expense and the additional work cheer-

Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

CONFUSED BY HIS TRAINING.
From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The political economist whose first, second and third line of trenches and route of retreat is that precious old "law of supply and demand," which will just naturally take care of everything while we are busy with other affairs, is having some confused notions with himself. He is confronted by the most stupendous production,

fully. It is a contribution to the cause which they take a patriotic pride in making. We feel, however, that they would appreciate it if those who intended to subscribe for bonds would do so as early in the month as is possible. This will have a tendency to reduce the final hour rush and will to that extent lighten the worry and the work that will be thrown upon the banks.

A minimum of \$3,000,000,000 has been set for the next bond issue, but it is hoped by the treasury officials that there will be at least 10,000,000 subscribers and a total subscription of at least \$5,000,000,000. To reach such a goal, which would set a new mark for government financing, every one must cooperate. And above everything else people must save. An operation such as this is only possible when millions of people through systematic frugality and prudent rearrangement of their personal affairs save from current income and turn the proceeds over to the government, taking in return the government's promise to pay. To stimulate this process the new bond issue was made as attractive as possible to the average man and the average woman. It will draw interest at 4 per cent payable semi-annually and it is certain to run ten years and, at the option of the Secretary of the Treasury, may run 25 years. It will be free of all taxes except estate or inheritance taxes, additional income taxes, excess profit taxes and war profit taxes. But these are forms of taxation that do not bother the people that the government relies upon to make the loan a success. Regarding the security little need be said. United States bonds are the safest investment in the world today. And every time a plain American citizen, who is going to save the price out of his wages, steps into a bank and subscribes for another one of them he makes them safer—if such a thing were possible.

FAIRMONT'S OWN UNFORTUNATES.

"THE poor always ye have with you." That is not a moth eaten platitude. It is from the fountain of much practical wisdom, the Bible, and it is as stern a reality now as it was when it was first written, hundreds of years ago.

There are poor and unfortunate in Fairmont even in this time of great industrial activity, when there are two and three jobs for every one at all able to work. The office of the Associated Charities in the city hall opened for the winter yesterday, and the reports of the opening note that, early as it is, the slight lowering of the temperature brought requests for food and clothing to make unfortunate people comfortable.

These are our poor. We must manage to take care of them somehow without in any way reducing our efforts for the benefit of the Red Cross and the other activities made necessary by the great calamity that happened to Europe. Benevolence in Fairmont is scientifically managed, but even that kind must be sustained by contributions of money and supplies. The best that it can do is to take care that no unworthy person is permitted to live off the community. That is most thoroughly done here. Your dollars will not be wasted or spent upon unworthy people if they are sent to the Associated Charities.

According to Charleston dispatches, Adjutant General Bond has filed a protest against the dismemberment of the First regiment. If that does any good it will be because the War department for some other reason decides upon a change of policy, which is altogether unlikely. Other states have had regiments torn to pieces so that the guards could be fitted into the general military scheme and Maryland lost even a solid brigade. The trouble with the First was that Bond knew for a long time that this state would not be permitted to have more than one full regiment, but instead of trying to adjust the situation and prepare the men for what was coming, he maintained the two organizations until after they passed out of the control of the state. The Second regiment was the pet of the Bond administration, and of course it had the best chance when the reorganization finally came. The men of the First are all good soldiers. They went into the service to serve the country, and they probably are not very much interested in Bond's "protests" now. The disbandment of the regiment may make considerable difference to the officers, but it cannot make any great change in the prospects or the comfort of the men in the ranks.

Coal shipments to Canada have been stopped. That is about the last bit of velvet there was in the trade. So far as the mines that are supplying the open market are concerned everybody is now on the same level.

New York City, which is going to elect a mayor this fall, will make the selection from four candidates, a straight out Tammany man, a regular Republican, a Fusionist and a Socialist. In other words the opposition to Tammany is split three ways. Well, it is an axiom of applied politics that every town gets the kind of government it is entitled to.

It is not at all probable that any of the so called anti-American United States Senators ever will be expelled, yet there is no denying that the movement in that direction is attaining serious proportions. These men made the mistake of thinking that they were opposing a program when in fact they were in opposition to a principle which the whole American people stands for, and they will either have to subside and drift with the current or submit to expulsion.

An official statement on the military situation in Europe issued at Washington says that the German losses have been staggering, but that Germany is still powerful. The people bear the losses. As long as they are willing to sacrifice themselves Germany will be able to present a strong defensive formation. It is a sad thing to contemplate, however; this terrible sacrifice and suffering for such an unworthy cause.

SHORT AND SNAPPY

Those people who are predicting peace by Christmas remind us of those other people who predicted peace by Christmas, 1914, and by Christmas, 1915.—Charleston Mail.

Mayor William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, has announced his candidacy for the United States Senate. That is as far as he will ever get.—Wheeling Intelligence.

The United States is paying out \$14,000,000 for entertainment for the soldiers, while the slackers with reluctance are coughing up the price for their own blow-outs.—Clarksburg Exponent.

which should mean a softening in prices, but in practice gives phenomenal growth in values and advances in prices. If production is stupendous, prices must be classed as stupefying.

Aside from wheat, the crops grown this season are officially reported by the government as the greatest ever grown, sufficient to feed the entire world; but the man entrenched behind his sole protection of the law of supply and demand is bewildered to find prices steadily growing higher. If it is obvious that the grandest crops ever grown in America, enough to support liberally the whole world, ought to inundate the market with a surplus abundance for Americans at fair prices, it is equally obvious that nothing of the kind happened or is about to happen. Americans are fairly begged by Washington officials to eat less, wear less, use everything. The white potato production alone amounts, according to government figures, to 462,000,000 bushels, a net gain of 100,000 bushels over the average, equal to almost five bushels of potatoes for every man, woman and child in the United States. The law of supply and demand has not yet brought potato prices to the normal, white beans, with a crop increase of 1,000 per cent, according to government statistics, and fruits and vegetables, with a gain in production of 100 per cent, command the highest prices ever known.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO)



Evening Chat

Speaking of potatoes, a woman the other day went out to dig some late ones for dinner. She found a number of small ones not fit for anything but the hogs. She brought them into the house and placed them in a basket by the stove. Later she came into the kitchen and to her horror saw small wriggling snakes coming from her potatoes. The supposed potatoes were black snake eggs. She says she will never again touch small potatoes.

Wool goods in the city is very high in price and they say will be scarce later. Dresses of wool are not made very full. In Paris a woman is only allowed five yards of wool goods for a dress. Should we be restricted to five yards for a whole dress I imagine we could turn out as good looking one as the French women. Necessity being the mother of invention, many good ideas would come to us as we worked. Wool will, however, be much more appreciated this year as are all things we cannot get enough of. Even goods supposed to be all wool will be found to contain some cotton. However an addition of cotton will not materially affect the looks or the wearing qualities of a dress. It will effect the pocketbook though, for we pay for it in the same proportion as though it were entirely wool.

Sunday morning on Main street a small boy was at his wit's end. He was trying to sell papers and had no change, which was proving quite a calamity. Three customers waited, paper in hand while he scurried here and there in search of pennies. No one seemed to have any. One gentleman suggested that the boy take 20 cents change for a quarter as they only way out. The boy could not be persuaded to lose the penny.

Again he excused himself and hurried here and there, asking everyone he met for change. No change could be found. Not a soul about had pennies—the children had dropped them all into the Sunday school box. There was nothing for the customer to do but give back the paper or pay extra for it. Some felt sorry for the little fellow and gave him the extra pennies—several returned the paper and went elsewhere for one. The child stood unable to decide what was the thing to do. Many were forced to purchase of other boys though the lad's disappointed face made it hard for them to do so. As far as we could see the boy still stood about uncertainly, now and then asking passer-by for pennies. Wonder what kind of a business man was in the making.

Think This Over.
When a nation is compelled to face a long, bloody war, the outcome of which is uncertain, a great depression is felt, and the inclination is to regard such a state as a most dire calamity. To many it will seem that the suffering and privation, loss of life, blow to business concerns, deadly standstill of progress in every direction save that progress which centers in the perfecting of war munitions and machinery, all serve to cause an almost unsurmountable condition from which complete recovery is most doubtful.

It will be said of our own country's entrance into the war with Germany, that no war save one in defense of actual enemy invasion will bring results that will counter balance such sacrifice as stated. Many will dwell on the wonderful prosperity and national well being which was our portion before becoming involved in the struggle, and in the darker days which lay before the final curtain on this bloody world drama, these citizens will not cease to harp upon past contentment and security. Why not for a moment forget the little circle of private satisfaction and stand off far enough, and up high enough to take a genuine broad peep at the national swing during the past few years.

America has had a longer career as a republic than any other country recorded by history, but we state with certainty, as things were going, another hundred years would still have found us a republic? The people of this nation were in a state of great unrest—unity of aim in the populace was a thing of the past. Selfish interests and personal ambition had strangled any consideration for national advancement. The situation between labor and capital was growing more and more acute and government investigation and arbitration was becoming a daily affair. Prolonged delivery into the conduct and management of corporations and companies produced no result except further exasperation on the part of the people.

The feeling of national unity was so nearly dead that only actual entry into warfare could awaken it, and even yet it is still blinking and rubbing its eyes. So selfish and hardened were great business interests that on the very edge of our engagement, when a babe on the government had to give to England orders for desperately needed ammunition because of extortionate prices asked by her very own producers. Would you consider this a condition of national security? Also, while prices climbed incessantly and money poured in a flood into the hands of big business, were these same men satisfied and happy in their prosperity? Not at all—they were lying awake nights, scheming new ways to throttle competition, news ways to squeeze the public, and how to safely wriggle through law loopholes cleverly constructed by subsidized politicians. Our cities were being constantly jarred by exposures of absolutely rotten city administration—each exposure being a trifle more "smelly" than the last. Is a constant exploitation of the common people a safe way to conduct a republic, I as you?

Then there was another side. The youth of our country was in a most regrettable trend. Where this fault lay is hard to state, but indications of real decadence were not lacking. Nothing so unerringly points this out as the mad craze for all sorts of outrageous dances which swept the entire nation. It speaks well for the real stamina of our young people that they emerged from this flood of nastiness and suggestion as cleanly as they did. But it must have left its mark, at that. The women became absorbed in cards. The significant thing about this was that it was the brainy, educated club women and college women who were bitten most severely by the fad for bridge. The women with time and talents for greater and better things spent hours and hours and days and nights over the

bridge table. Clean dancing and card amusement in moderation are not to be condemned, but these obsessions were rotten spots which plainly exhibited fatal tendencies.

Can it be that great America was treading near the edge of the same chasm of moral disintegration and national degeneration which has always preceded the destruction and downfall of those nations which history tells us lost their national and individual ideals and trod merrily the primrose path—as far as it went!

Be that as it may, we needed a little cheering up of some kind. We have it. These boys who are marching out from our villages and cities with picture show and cigarette atmosphere clinging to them, are going to have a thorough readjustment of vision. They will be real men when they return! We can count on our next generation, now, all right although it might have been a question to some of us before. These boys will be reliant, disciplined, dependable citizens. They will come back in better physical condition than they left—those who escape wounds and illness, for the nation is trying to take care of its fighting men. They will return in a state of absolute unity and democracy. The rich man's son cannot fight side by side with the poor man's son in those French trenches without a mutual liking and respect awakened by hardships endured together and the single cause for which they fight. The fathers of these boys will be drawn together more closely than any other conditions could guarantee.

Absolute necessity for quick action will make state and national politics finally go away back and sit down in a manner that will cause a healthy smile on the faces of the common people. Our women and girls, who have been clutching at straws for amusement and employment will have a chance to develop every latent resource. This war will present us with a nobler, braver, warmer womanhood, a truer, grander generation of mothers. War is a calamity that is true, it means sorrow and suffering, and it means—chastening! Could it really be true that we needed it, and that God really does always stand at the helm?

RED CROSS ARTICLES NOT SOLD ANYWHERE

Vigorous Denial is Issued of An Idle Story Widely Circulated.

Harvey D. Gibson, general manager of the American Red Cross has sent out to the Division managers the following telegram which is self explanatory:

"Story is being industriously circulated to the effect that sweaters, socks and other articles knitted for the Red Cross are being sold either to public in shops or direct to the soldiers. Very important that you issue notice at once to each chapter denying this as vigorously as you know how. No articles whatever, knitted or otherwise made by Red Cross workers and turned in to any Red Cross chapter, branch or auxiliary, or to any supply warehouse, are sold either to the soldiers or in shops. If any wiful case of this sort should come to the attention of headquarters the charter of the Red Cross chapter or subsidiary sanctioning it would be immediately withdrawn with full publicity. Should it transpire that an actual instance of the above character occurred wherein an individual sold articles after their having been turned in to the Red Cross, such action would be clearly in violation of the fundamental law covering the Red Cross, and we would take vigorous steps to prosecute the offender. It is also true that any case of persons other than those acquiring the right prior to January nineteen hundred and five using the name or emblem of the Red Cross to assist in the sale of merchandise, is a violation of the provisions of the Federal criminal law, and the offender should be reported to the United States district attorney for prosecution. There is no way to prevent people from making the same type of articles as are produced by Red Cross workers and selling them for their own advantage thus subjecting the Red Cross to unjust criticism. Should they use the name or emblem of the Red Cross in connection with such sales, however, they will be vigorously prosecuted."

H. D. GIBSON, General Manager.

RUFF STUFF

Lamp in the Astonisher that the Board of Affairs is considering a building ordinance "looking to the prevention of encroachments on the city streets."

Must think The West Virginian will want to use some of their old streets when it remodels its new home.

What is the use of passing such ordinances?

There is plenty of law now to keep the streets clear, but it is only enforced against the poor devils who have no pull.

And it will be the same way with the new laws as long as the present gang infects the city hall.

At that they had better not be too quick with the passage of the new law or it will embarrass their good friend Deveny who promises to keep Monroe street blocked for the coming winter just as he did last winter.

But look who he is. What rights have the public when he wants the streets?

There is always something crooked about fish stories.

One paper says Tusca Morris's pike was 41 inches long and the other says it weighed 41 pounds.

Now who can you believe?

But Tusca has the head to prove that it was some fish.

Have a letter from Camp Shelby.

Do not know who wrote it, but the guy is no friend of Goat Ridgely.

Bel he is trying to shine up to Goat's girl.

One of Goat's girls, that is.

Well, maybe Goat is just a buck private, and not entitled to drive a truck but if they ever get to handing out commissions for gall Goat'll be a general or something.

People are beginning to make donations to the museum.

Hope some one will take the trouble to file a muster roll of the Home guard.

Posterity certainly ought to be given an opportunity to know who the patriots are at this critical time.

NO STOMACH PAIN, GAS, INDIGESTION IN FIVE MINUTES

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A large fifty-cent case of Pape's Diapepsin is worth its weight in gold to men and women who can't get their stomachs regulated. It belongs in your home—should always be kept handy in case of a sick, sour, upset stomach during the day or at night. It's the quickest, surest antacid for the stomach in the world.

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