

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME"

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MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 25, 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.

A MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

THE TIMES this morning editorially advocates making the bridge which is to be erected across the Monongahela at this point a memorial to the men and women who served in the great war. This is an idea that ought to meet with general approval and The West Virginian most heartily concurs in the recommendation of its contemporary.

A concrete bridge, properly constructed, will last as long as a conventional memorial, and if the right kind of care is taken of the designing it will be many times more impressive. The bridge design as it stands would produce a most beautiful structure, and, as The Times suggests, it could easily be changed to make it conform to the new purpose.

The suggestion at least ought to be taken up at once and given sympathetic study. And in considering the matter it should be borne in mind that the memorial part of the bridge should be made in every way worthy of the city and country. There will not be much trouble to raise what ever money is necessary for such a purpose.

SLATE MAKING.

POLITICS is essentially a game of opportunism. Not even the wisest politician can tell from one election to the next what is going to happen. Yet neither the actual participants in the moves nor the onlookers ever grow weary of attempts to control the changes. Slate making has the same fascination for those who are interested in politics that postmortems have for baseball fanatics. Both keep everlastingly at it between campaigns, and neither ever seems in the slightest degree downcast over the fact that most of their wise conclusions and forecasts prove to have been erroneous. Occasionally they hit it, which is not at all strange when it is considered what a wide range they take and the large volume of predictions the more industrious and alert minded produce in the ordinary off season.

But even when this view of the matter is taken one cannot help but wonder why the Charleston correspondent of the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times was in such a hurry to put Congressman Neely in the running for governor in 1920 and Governor Cornwell for United States senator two years later on a Cornwell-Watson-Neely slate. Even if the reconstruction was not almost certain to make over our politics as thoroughly as it will make over many other things this kind of a guess at political conditions in this state must be based either upon the hopes of some people, whose names it is not at all necessary to mention, or on a very grave lack of information, without which no one may safely indulge in prophesy, upon the part of the man who wrote the story for the Pittsburgh paper.

No one who was on the outside knows what took place

RUFF STUFF

Lamp in a Washington dispatch that one of the men considered as a possible delegate to the peace conference is William Jennings Bryan.

Whoinellize?

Turkish government is reported to have demanded that a choice collection of Turk generals who fled to Teutland be returned to take punishment for Armenian atrocities and other things.

Want to start something, apparently.

Well, if it is proper to punish Talaat Pasha it is the correct caper to do things to the von guys who cut loose in Belgium and northern France.

So, here's three cheers for Turkey.

We believe that gull is personal offense.

Old Ben the Hun is reported to have telegraphed the government at Berlin that the German army is in no position to renew hostilities, and

of those mysterious Washington conferences at which the Democratic nomination for United States senator in West Virginia was fixed up. Several gentlemen have given versions which they declared to be the whole truth, but none of the tales agree, and no one takes any stock in them. It is quite possible, however, that there was a tacit agreement among the schemers that Cornwell should have the support of the Watson adherents in 1922 in return for the support of the friends of the governor in 1918. It may be, too, that there was some sort of an understanding about Neely for governor in 1920. But if there was Neely soon regretted it and made up his mind to play a lone hand, else the double dealing in the Panhandle on election day would have been a little less open handed.

As a matter of fact in the light of the election returns all the bean pots in the Democratic party in this state have been spilled. If there were any deals they are now all off. Cornwell and Watson may continue their partnership, but neither of them can afford to trust Neely. In the mean time it is worth while for all amateur slate makers to remember that in this thimble rigging that went on prior to the election Colonel John T. McGraw slipped back into his accustomed place as the official head of the Democratic procession in this state, and he is in position to make himself quite a factor if he wants to. Of course he does not want anything himself, but he still has memories, and perhaps here and there an ambitious friend. As for Chilton—well, what are the slate makers and the prophets going to do about Chilton?

BATTLE LOSSES.

GENERAL MARCH'S announcement that the total casualties of the American army in the great war were 236,117 is apt to strike some people as a pretty high contribution to the cause of liberty, but the figures will convey a wrong impression unless it is remembered that it includes the slightly wounded. This class of casualties never before figured in the battle statistics of American armies.

But it was real war that our gallant young men experienced on the other side, for the killed in action and those who died of wounds sustained in action together numbered 36,154. The total loss of life in the Civil war is placed at about 300,000. That, however, includes over three years of fighting and both sides.

It should not be assumed from this comparison that war has become any more deadly in the interval since our great domestic conflict. It has merely become more intensive. Motor traction, better staff work, thanks to air scouting and wireless communication, and many other improvements in the mechanics of it have made it possible to carry on actual fighting almost constantly. Some of the losses sustained by the British and French armies under these conditions are startling, but when they are put under scrutiny and examined on a percentage basis it probably will be found that the fighting on the west front in spite of the poison gas, the flame throwers and the introduction of the new element of air fighting, was not any deadlier than the fighting of our Civil war.

In five days during 1863 the two armies sustained losses of almost 90,000. The three days of Gettysburg account for 53,000 of these and Chancellorsville's two days took the remainder. Pickett's charge at Gettysburg, which was all over in a few hours, cost the Confederacy 14,000 lives.

Paris dispatches say that the peace congress doubtless will take steps to restrict the use of submarines in the future to a-tual naval operations. The whole subject of savagery in warfare no doubt will occupy a lot of the time of the delegates, but if they are as practical minded as they ought to be they will realize that the only way in which to prevent such things in the future is to make it impossible for mad nations to prepare themselves to make war on the world. The best way to prevent a maniac from shooting you is take away his gun.

The Navy department has issued a report on the sinking of the steamer Lucia, the boat which was equipped with buoyancy boxes and believed to be unsinkable. It appears that after a torpedo had hit the Lucia so squarely that four men in the engine room were killed she kept afloat 21 hours. That record ought to be an effectual bar against all jokes about the sinking of an unsinkable ship, but at the same time ships equipped with water tight bulkheads that can be closed from the bridge have made records just as good.

Albert J. Dick, who died after a brief illness yesterday morning, lived a semi-retired life during recent years, but among the older residents of the city few men were more widely known. During the active period of his life he was connected with both of the Fairmont newspapers and was a printer of much skill and ability. His death will remove a familiar figure from the city.

According to Copenhagen reports a new republic which stretches along the seacoast of Germany from Holland to Denmark has been formed. If this sort of thing does not stop in Germany the map of the country will look as nearly like a razy quilt as it did before Bismarck began to weld the little kingdoms, principalities and duchies into an empire.

The country is full of projects for air mail service now that the war is over and motors for air craft will be comparatively easy to obtain. All of this is interesting, but it is most earnestly to be hoped that the postal authorities will not become so completely absorbed in these and other innovations that they forget that the old and tried forms of taking care of the mail are very much in need of improvement. It may be doubted that there ever was a time when the mail service of this country was as bad as it is right now.

VIOLA ITEMS.

Mrs. G. M. Meredith of Meadowdale was visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Pitcher on Sunday.

Mrs. E. B. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Harris and two children are all sick at this writing.

J. B. Davis and son, Arnold, of Norwood, was calling on the former's brother, F. H. Davis, at this place on Sunday afternoon.

Miss Lillian Hyler was visiting her sister, Mrs. C. E. Hawkins, of near Winfield, a few days, recently.

Mrs. C. B. Fisher of Fairmont spent Thursday and Friday with her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis are both sick with the flu at this writing.

On account of the situation the literary society at Viola has not yet been reorganized for the winter.

G. H. Corbin, of Catawba, spent Saturday and Sunday in Fairmont.

A recuperative diet in influenza. Horlick's Malted Milk, very digestible.

Prison County Sycamore. Home style for breakfast each morning. Bowers Restaurant. Adv.

Get your Thanksgiving Turkey at Bobb & Krumpholtz's.

Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

SECRET CABLE DIPLOMACY.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Seizure of the marine cables by the government evoked proper protest in Congress, the thing looks up badly with the departure of the dignitaries for the peace table, the probability that Creel will control the news for American consumption, and the righteous opposition of the President to "secret diplomacy."

Three thousand miles is not shouting distance. We will depend upon the administration, controlled cables for our opinions of what goes on in Versailles. And the cables seem to have been made safe for the Democrats. Creel has shown himself an apt dispenser of information proper to the party. Here is a chance for him to step high, wide, and handsome.

Secret diplomacy is only baneful, it would appear, in like manner to the going of oxes; it depends upon whose ox is gored and whose diplomacy is secret. Senator Levin, who spent some nervous days recently in arousing the populace to a realization of what the Kaiser would think if the election went Republican, also advised the people that Wilson must be sustained in his great possession of inside dope. In the meantime Germany has gone populist, the Kaiser has quit deploring the prospect of Democratic victory, and the President is safeguarded more than ever in his prized monopoly of information.

Postmaster General Burleson opines he has achieved a neat stroke of business in taking over the cables. He foresees a great increase of traffic under his management. The fact that the cables have been burdened twenty-four hours a day since the war began and have been compelled to refuse some nervous calls through sheer incapacity means nothing in his life. On his assumption a crowded street car can always carry more if the government operates it. It all sounds so vague.

AN AMERICAN "OFFICIAL PRESS."

From the New York Times.

Sixteen employees of the Committee on public information sailed from New York Tuesday, constituting "the United States Official Press Mission to the Peace Conference"—The World.

We have heard of an official press in Austria and Germany. Is there an official press in the United States? If there is, by what authority, founded upon what constitutional power of the Government, does it rest? Its ultramarine purpose is described as "to interpret the work of the Peace Conference by keeping up wide-wide propaganda to disseminate American accomplishments and American ideals." Is an official press, a Government press, among those ideals and accomplishments? Will the official interpretation of the work at the Peace Conference take precedence, as Government and official business, on the cables which Mr. Burleson in the mystery and abyss of his wisdom has seized, over the unofficial interpretations of mere lay correspondents who are so sacred credentials of preeminence from Washington? An official United States press! From the Ewbank tolls the burly laughter of Bismarck, communing with Dr. Busch over the triumphs of his Foreign Press Bureau and his long and various gullings and bedevilments of domestic and foreign opinion by means of his "reptile press."

AN EXPLANATION DEMANDED.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Whatever their motives, the Republicans are making a real point, and a point that must be answered, in their criticism of the extension of Government control to the cables. Mr. Burleson's explanation is no explanation at all. So far from satisfying the mind it creates fresh doubt. If there were imperative reasons for taking over the cable lines, those reasons were made stronger four or five months ago when they are today. At present it is difficult to see any good reason at all for his action. Coming just at this time, it gives rise to damaging suspicions.

and the Republicans are exploiting these suspicions with great effect. The Administration owes it to the country to give an explanation that will explain, and that will remove the doubts that have been created. The continued and unnecessary exercise of anything that smacks of autocratic power is greatly to be deprecated.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO)



Nov. 25, 1918. | COURTNEYS' STORE NEWS | Reliable Advertising

Early Christmas Shoppers!

If You Are Wondering What to Buy For Christmas Just Step Into This Store and Look

See what is displayed in all our cases and on our tables. Notice the price cards on everything and your indecision will vanish for you will at once see just what you want to give at "the price you want to pay."

Sensible gifts that are useful and acceptable are here in abundance, so come in and look around to your heart's content.

The Dolls at this store will make the heart of every little child beat faster and it will be wise to select one now while our stocks are complete.

All American Dolls with neat hair and prettily dressed at 65c up to \$4.00.

Serge Dresses

For all occasions, no matter for what purpose you wish a dress you will find one to fit your need in our present assortment.

A serge dress is the practical dress for winter wear and our assortment includes styles suitable for more dressy occasions as well as for practical every day wear. The American woman is forever young and in these serge dresses you will find the styles delightfully youthful and the prices reasonably small—\$14.50 up to \$39.50.

MISSES' MIDDY DRESSES—for school wear, in navy blue serge, plaited skirt, very stylish, in all sizes—14, 16, 17, 18. Special ly priced at \$12.75.

True Values | Courtneys' | 108-110 Main St.

Today's Poem

EDMUND VANCE COOKE

P.A. SAYS.

"Pa says my manners are a sight; He says my language is a fright; He says I ought to be perlitte To fathers such as he. Pa says I ought to watch my jaw And guard my tongue; but gee! If I should ever jaw my pa, The way my pa jaws me!"

"Pa says a lie's a 'festered tooth A-rottin' in the mouth of youth,' And boys should set the seal of truth Forever on their brow.' But when I've took a trip or two With pa, he says, 'Remember, now, You're under twolve. Half fare 'or you Is too much anyhow!'"

"Pa says that while me, fight and die, He thinks boys ought to self-deny On candy, cake, and maybe pie. He says we ought to jump To help the soldiers play the game, And take our little bump.' But for coffee, just the same, He sneaks a second lump!"

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tending war powers in time of peace even beyond the limit created in war.

We hope and believe that a good answer can be made to Republican criticism. And we trust it will be made without further delay.

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Thomas Caruso, 21 Meredith Street, (Rear of Court House)

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SPICES, FLAVORS, FRUIT COLORS, ETC.

All the little things so necessary to cook's best reputation at this time, and in her daily work, are afforded by us. Our spices, flavors, fruit colorings, are of standard drug quality. They are the best on the market that's our positive claim. Such goods will give the best of service. Spices and flavorings go farther and thus cost less. Place your orders early.

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FULLY EQUIPPED

to take care of every need in the banking line, and offered by men of long and successful experience, we solicit your patronage.

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And you indeed may be thankful that—in spite of the present difficulties in merchandising matters—we've been able to make fortunate purchases that provide these

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