The Intelligencer

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Intelligencer Publishing Company.

Terms Per Year, by Mail in Advance Postage Prepaid.

Daily, (6 Days Per Week), 1 year...$5.75
Daily, Six Months..... 3.00
Daily, Three Months..... 1.50
Daily, Three Days Per Week..... 3.00
Daily, Two Days Per Week..... 2.00
Daily, One Month..... .45
Weekly, One Year in Advance..... 1.00
Weekly, Six Months..... .50

[THE INTELLIGENCER, embracing its several editions, is entered in the postoffice at Wheeling, W. Va., as second-class matter.]

TELEPHONES.

Editorial Rooms—Bell..... 323
Editorial Rooms—National..... 323
Counting Room—Bell..... 322
Counting Room—National..... 322

The Intelligencer receives both the day and night service of the Associated Press.

Wednesday, August 21, 1912.

THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The convention of the State Business Men's Association, which was held in Wheeling during the past week, was in all respects an important and noteworthy gathering. Being composed of business men assembled for business purposes, the convention got down to business and transacted business from the first hour until the last hour of the session. The State Business Men's Association is urging the passage by the Legislature of a number of interesting and important enactments. One in particular proposes to deal with fraudulent advertising, or rather with announcements of fake sales, absurd price reductions and like deceptive statements, all of which are calculated to injure legitimate business, as well as lower the standard of advertising and merchandise. Another measure proposes to deal with itinerant venders, a class of merchants who flit from one point to another, and who flood markets with cheap and worthless goods, pay no local taxes and demoralize trade generally.

These are not the only measures which the Business Men's Association has taken up, but they indicate the character of its program, and also the substantial importance of the work carried on by the Association. The Business Men's Protective Association of this city, organized years ago, has proven of great value to the business men of Wheeling. It can be fairly said that the State Business Men's Association is an outgrowth of the Wheeling Business Men's Protective Association. The success of the Wheeling organization stimulated the formation of like organizations in other towns and cities, and the State organization was a natural result. The business men of the State thus organized can be a great power for cleaneg and better business conditions, and for the general betterment. It is also gratifying to note the intelligent and active interest which the Business Men's Protective Association of this city has taken in affairs not in direct connection with business problems. It has encouraged all worthy enterprises, and as a result of their labors Wheeling is measurably a better city than it was before the Protective Association was established.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

By an overwhelming majority, both the Senate and House of Representatives have decreed that the Panama Canal shall be free of toll to American ships engaged in coastwise trade.

The Intelligencer has doubted the wisdom of this action. There is good reason to believe that the effect of this provision will be to create a monopoly of the Panama Canal transportation in the hands of a few American ship owners, and in the long run will not be beneficial to the country at large. The majority of Congress, however, regard these concessions to American vessels as a stimulus to the construction of American mercantile marine, and if they so operate the result will undoubtedly be good. The lamentable weakness and inefficiency of American shipping has been a sore spot in the American economic system. The authors of the free toll laws believe that the advantages which free tolls will give to American ship owners will stimulate the building of American ships and of American registry of foreign built ships. Undoubtedly we need a stronger mercantile marine, if for no other reason than to supplement our navy in times of war. One of the amendments adopted by the Senate looks to this. The provision that no foreign-built ship admitted to American registry shall be allowed to partcipate in the mail-carrying contracts, unless it is constructed with particular reference to speedy and economical conversion into an auxiliary naval cruiser. A similar restriction is made upon the granting of the free toll privilege to American vessels engaged in foreign trade. These restrictions may entirely safeguard national interest, and at the same time stimulate the building of new American steamships and the entry to American registry of foreign built vessels.

THE CRIME OF CRIMES.

Theodore Roosevelt has been identified with the Republican party for thirty years. He is leaving it at a time when the party is not only less corrupt, but when it is more responsive to public opinion than at any other period during those three decades.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1882 when he wanted to go to the Assembly, although at the election that fall the people of New York repudiated it by a majority of 20,000.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1884, when tens of thousands of honest, independent Republicans refused to support a tainted candidate like James G. Blaine. Mr. Roosevelt was not among them.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1886, when he accepted a nomination for mayor from the bosses and corrupt corporations to defeat Henry George.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1889, when he wanted to be a civil service commissioner, although the chairman of its National Committee was Matthew Stanley Quay.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1897, when he wanted to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and obtained that office by the favor of Hanna, Platt and Quay.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1898, when he wanted to be Governor of New York and was willing to help save Platt's corrupt machine in return for the nomination.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1900, when Platt and Quay nominated him for Vice President.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1904, when the bosses interposed no objection to his nominating himself for President.

The Republican party was good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, when it meekly permitted him to foist William H. Taft upon the country as a proxy.

The Republican party would have been good enough for Theodore Roosevelt in 1912 if it had nominated him for a third term, and Mr. Roosevelt would have welcomed the support of every man and every interest now supporting Mr. Taft.

A new party is necessary not because the Republican party is hopelessly corrupt or hopelessly reactionary, but because the Republican party refused to nominate ME. That is the crime of crimes. Because of that iniquity the Republican party must be destroyed.—The New York World.

THE COUNTY AUDIT.

Careful readers of the audit of Ohio county's accounts as they concern Sheriff Clemans and ex-Sheriff Taylor will note that many thousand dollars of the sum alleged to be due from the two sheriffs are on account of interest, yearly interest on the county funds held by the two officials, or interest on the account of orders issued by them. In justice to both Sheriff Clemans and ex-Sheriff Taylor, it must be said that their practice in this matter has been the common practice of sheriffs in every county in the State. There is, of course, no reason why public funds in the hands of the sheriff should not draw interest, but that interest ought to, and does, belong to the public. Nevertheless, it has been the custom for sheriffs of West Virginia to appropriate these interest earnings to their own use.

There is little justification for a wrong act, to say that it has been the custom generally. The auditors of the Tax Commissioner's Department are experienced men. They know the law, and undoubtedly their findings are substantially correct. In all probability full and complete restitution will be made by both sheriffs, but it is at least a matter of satisfaction that the findings do not indicate criminal intent on the part of either official.

James Whitcomb Riley made a quarter of a million by his verses, but the average poet takes his pay in free copies, and they are blamed hard to get at that.

The noise suppressors are having a convention at Boston. The most practical method of stopping noise in Boston will be to head off the Red Sox from winning the pennant.

Beans are said to be the best substitute for high cost meat. But don't expect to get them cheap, with Uncle Reuben's tires and gasoline to pay for!

After the war game has been over a farmer's meadow field, it is hard to convince him that his grass is only theoretically trampled down.

Only $3,000,000 for the Astor baby? District nurse should see if the family needs help.

HOW DRY IS BILL.

The Weston Independent inquires: "How dry is Bill Thompson, Democratic nominee for governor, that certain hypocritical Democratic sheets should belabor his opponent for alleged wetness? Isn't Willie the Wet also somewhat sobby, isn't Bibulous Bill a sort of tea-loving Thompson?" The questions are pertinent to the issue, all right.—Parkersburg Despatch-News.

The Prettiest Girl in Wheeling

"My niece," said a well-known man the other day, "is often called the prettiest girl in Wheeling. I believe half the compliments she gets are due to her shirt waists. They are always as clean and dainty looking as a snowflake. She's mighty particular about them. She won't use the cheap, ordinary rosin soaps for washings, but buys this 'Easy Task Soap' you hear so much talk about. It seems that 'Easy Task Soap' just naturally goes after the dirt and doesn't eat into and rot the fabrics like the common yellow rosin soaps. It costs the same—a nickel a cake."

NEW MARTINSVILLE

The 200 feet extension to the depot platform is now completed and the employes started to work this morning to build a concrete curb around the old platform preparatory to raising it four inches. The raising of the platform four inches will greatly benefit the baggage master and the express employes owing to the fact that the trucks fall several inches short of the car floor and much time is needlessly wasted in loading heavy articles. When all of the contemplated improvements are completed, residents of this city, who have been spending the summer away from home, will hardly recognize the depot.

Miss Amelia Cost, of Clarksburg, and guest, Miss Cora Dunkey, of Washington, D. C., who have been the guests of Rev. J. Franc Cost and wife, for the last few days, returned to Miss Cost's home this morning.

Mine Host J. A. Davis, of the Eakin House, is a business visitor at St. Marys today.

The heavy clouds hanging in the sky today have not done much to cheer the fans and they are all wishing for sunshine.

The Misses Virginia Jacobs and Edna Kelley, of Morgantown, who have been the guests of their uncle, ex-Judge T. P. Jacobs at his home on the corners of North and High streets, for the past few weeks, departed for their respective homes this morning.

Silas White, the man that ran ahead of his ticket when he was elected constable for Grant district, is a business visitor in the city from Pine Grove.

Attorney E. H. Yost is a legal visitor at Wheeling for the day.

Abe Ice has opened up the Maple hotel near the depot and he is prepared to furnish the patrons of this popular hotel with the same high class service they have been accustomed to receive in the past.

Thomas Burlingame, of the Burlingame Supply Company, is a business visitor at Clarington this morning.

Mayor McElhinney is a business visitor at Wheeling to-day.

Carlee Edgar, the Pine Grove livery-man, is a business visitor at the county seat.

Miss Rosie Hughes, of Piney, is a guest at the Eakin House.

Miss Ida Aechelman, who resides on German Ridge, near this city, departed for Akron, O., this morning to spend a few days with her brother, Fred Aechelman and wife, at their home in that city.

G. H. Meriteth, of Smithfield, passed through the city this morning enroute to his home from his vacation spent in the vicinity of San Antonio, Texas. G. H. has been away several weeks and looks much better since his sojourn in the south.

Many a man passes himself off as a genius because he keeps his mouth shut.

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

(By E. J. Edwards.)

A Bit of Hitherto Unwritten History.

It is a curious fact that the government and the people of Mexico always have claimed that they were really triumphant in the war between Mexico and the United States, which began in 1846.

Although the armies under General Scott penetrated Mexico and captured Mexico City, nevertheless in the treaty of peace which was made at Guadalupe-Hidalgo, a little village just outside of the City of Mexico, the United States agreed to pay to Mexico fifteen milion dollars and to become responsible for all claims adjudged against Mexico prior to 1843. Furthermore, the United States promised to pay all other adjudicated claims held by citizens of the United States against Mexico if the amount did not exceed three million, two hundred andfifty thousahd dollars. Mexico's claim is that if the United States was really as victorious in the war as we say we were, then the United States should have exacted all of the Mexican territory which was passed over by Mexico to the sovereignty of the United States by treaties and for which the United States paid fifteen million dollars.

The late Moses Yale Beach, for many years the proprietor of the New York Sun, and from whom Charles A. Dana and his associates bought the property in 1868, really made it possible for Mexico to make and hold to the claim that it and not the United States was victorious in the sole war that has been fought between the two countries.

While official representatives of the State Department at Washington conducted for this country the preliminary arrangements which culminated in the treaty which was drawn up and signed at Guadalupe-Hidalgo, Mr. Beach was a secret and yet accredited representative of President Polk, and in that capacity visited Mexico early in 1848 for the purpose of learning what terms of peace would be acceptable to Mexico.

Mr. Beach, upon his return to Washington, informed President Polk that he had learned confidentially from the Mexican authorities that if the United States would pay twenty million dollars to Mexicoand would assume the payment of all the claims adjudicated in favor of American citizens against Mexico, then Mexico would cede to this country all her territory north of the Rio Grande and it would be very easy to negotiate a treaty of peace with her.

But when Mr. Beach informed President Polk that a large money payment would go a long way toward securing a treaty of peace, Polk at first declared that the American people would never approve of a payment of that kind. He declared that they would say that we won the war with Mexico and were entitled to the territory north of the Rio Grande.

Thereupon Mr. Beach said to President Polk: "I am sure Mexico will accept fifteen million. If we pay Mexico fifteen million dollars, we shall pay precisely the sum which we gave to Napoeon Bonaparts for the Louisiana Territory. It is a mere trifle to us, and see what a magnificent area it will give us! We shall have the entire country between the Atlantic and the Pacific north of the Rio Grande and south of the Canadian boundary. Moreover, the European nations will say that we did not wage a war of territorial aggrandizement on Mexico, but paid her for what we got."

President Polk, after due consideration, became very greatly impressed with this confidential information. He told Mr. Beach that the service he had rendered was invaluable. He caused it to be confidentially known to the American peace commissioners that the administration at Washington was willing to offer a large sum to Mexico in return for its territory north of the Rio Grande, but the President insisted that not more than fifteen million dollars be offered.

This is the secret history of the manner in which the United States consented to pay Mexico fifteen million dollars for its territory north of the Rio Grande. And this is the reason why Mexico has always claimed that although General Scott captured the City of Mexico, yet Mexico was really triumpant in the war.

To-morrow Mr. Edwards will tell of "A Famous Senator's Confession of the Cause of His Weakness."

UNCLE WALT: The Poet Philosopher.

POOR ADVERTISING

I hired Jim Wiggleshaw to make a fine mud fence for me. Some people say that Jim's a fake, and with them I agree. He said he'd build as fine a fence as ever raised the dead, and I possessed so little sense, I let him go ahead. And now that fence is a disgrace, an eyesore to the town; It's crooked, sagging, out of place, and almost falling down. It cannot stand the wind and flood, it crumbles in the gale; Jim made it of the cheapest mud that he could find on sale. And off, with language full and free, that Jim crow fence I've cursed; but, much as it's annoying me, it's hurting Jim the worst. For every passerby will pause and say: "This beats my time! Such work as old Jim Wiggleshaw's is nothing but a crime!" Old Jim's Complaining more or less the long and sad year through; he's always loaded with distress—he can't get work to do. He finds it hard to get the cards, while others many make; he's left around so many ads proclaiming him a fake. And every job you leave half done will bring you grief and tears; It is an ad, and it will run displayed for years and years.

WALT MASON.

HARMAN WILL NOT JOIN THE BULL MOOSE PARTY

PARSONS, W. Va., August 16, 1912.

Hon. Wm. M. O. Dawson, Chairman, Charleston, W. Va.:

Dear Sir—Replying to your communication of the 13th inst., in relation to my position as one of the Presidential Electors, beg to advise that I agree with you that each elector should declare himself so that the people may know where he stands, and I have no hesitancy in doing so.

I am unable at this time to subscribe to many of the tenets of the Progressive platform, and I regard it my duty as a citizen to say so.

I am a progressive in principle, that is, so far as it is the duty of any party to keep pace with modern developments and the needs of our country, but I am not ready to accept new and untried theories, especially when they have a Populistic and Socialistic tinge.

Had Mr. Roosevelt made his fight within the party instead of forming a new party, with an entirely different platform from that upon which we have stood since we first became voters, then I might have felt different about it.

Holding the foregoing views, precludes me from voting for Mr. Roosevelt.

I am not unmindful of the fact that taking this position will separate me from many of my old political associates, and may have the effect to interfere with any political ambitions which I might have in the future. But no selfish consideration should ever stand in the path of a man's duty, especially when questions of great importance to our country's welfare should be properly solved.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. HARMAN.