HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

Established 1831

PUBLISHED BY
THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO.
R. J. STACKPOLE, Pres't and Treas'r.
F. R. OYSTER, Secretary.
GUS M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor.

Published every evening (except Sunday), at the Telegraph Building, 216 Federal Square.

Eastern Office, Fifth Avenue Building, New York City, Hasbrook, Story & Brooks.
Western Office, 123 West Madison street, Chicago, Ill., Allen & Ward.

Delivered by carriers at six cents a week. Mailed to subscribers at $3.00 a year in advance.

Entered at the Post Office in Harrisburg as second class matter.

The Association of American Advertisers has examined and certified to the circulation of this publication. The figures of circulation contained in the Association's report only are guaranteed.
Association of American Advertisers
No. 2333 Whitehall Bldg. N. Y. City

Sworn daily average for the month of
December, 1913
22,210
Average for the year 1913—21,577
Average for the year 1912—21,175
Average for the year 1911—18,851
Average for the year 1910—17,495

TELEPHONES:
Bell
Private Branch Exchange No. 2040.
United
Business Office, 203.
Editorial Room 585. Job Dept. 203.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 14

CIVIL SERVICE

As an example of the manner in which the Wilson administration is attempting to keep its pre-election promises of political reform, one need no more than quote the following "rider" from the post office appropriation bill reported to Congress by a Democratic committee dominated by Speaker Clark, Representative Underwood and President Wilson:

> That hereafter any assistant postmaster to secure faithful performance of official duty may be appointed by said Postmaster General, who may require such bond without regard to the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to regulate and improve the civil service of the United States, approved January 16, 1883, and amendments thereto," and the Postmaster Geenral shall have power to revoke the appointment of any assistant postmaster and appoint his successor at his discretion without regard to the act, amendments, rules or regulations aforesaid.

A more brazen attempt to eliminate the merit system in order to grab offices for greedy job-hunters was never made in Congress. The very language of the "rider" is indicative of its design. There is no attempt to conceal the fact that it is the purpose of those who framed it to throw out of office hundreds of assistant postmasters who have attained their present positions as the result of competitive examinations.

Selected on account of especial fitness and qualified by long experience for the work they perform, they are to be thrown out to make place for those who happen to be the political favorites of local Democratic bosses.

There has not been a national Democratic platform in a score of years that has not protested against the "spoils system" in national government and that has not declared in vigorous language for the perpetuation and the extension of the Civil Service. Yet we find Democrats elected upon such a platform openly trying to jam through the most flagrant violation of Civil Service pledges that has ever been attempted by any party.

President Wilson has been fond of telling visitors to the White House that he can do nothing that the Baltimore platform does not endorse. We fancy he will find it difficult to make the program of his lieutenants tally with his own requirements in this respect.

At all events it is gratifying to note that Republican Congressmen are fighting for the retention of the merit requirements and it is to be hoped that they will find sufficient consistent Democrats to stand with them in preventing the wholesale distribution of what Democrats used to be so fond of describing as "pap" and "pie."

Automobilists should not rejoice too much over the discovery that crude oil can be used as motor fuel. About the time it becomes popular some good excuse for raising the price will be found.

COOKING DIPLOMAS FOR BRIDES

A CERTIFICATE of proficiency in the domestic arts should be given away with each and every bride, according to H. L. Jones, a wealthy farmer of Geneva, Ill., and that is why he threw in a certificate for good measure when he gave his daughter, Millicent, in marriage to Merton Armagast, of Joliet.

Jones' idea is based on the old adage that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, and that bad cooks spoil happy homes. When Mr. Armagast asked the father's consent to the marriage, Mr. Jones replied:

"You can have my daughter, but not until she learns to cook."

Whereupon Miss Jones foreswore social life and went away to a school of domestic science. The other day she returned with a diploma in cookery. Immediately the couple were married.

There is more than the germ of a pretty little romance tucked away in this entertaining yarn. It contains some wholesome lessons. In the first place it is evident that while Mr. Jones entertains some practical ideas of housekeeping and the duties a wife owes to her husband, his wife does not, else there would have been no need for the belated domestic course. Too many mothers are like her. Too many daughters are the victims of over-indulgent parents.

From the time a boy is knee-high to his father the family looks forward to and discusses a career for him. Preparation for work is begun with his first day in school. But while a large majority of girls are destined to become wives and mothers, very many of them—and this applies especially to those of families whose income is more than necessary to meet the ordinary needs of life—are encouraged to believe that household work is menial and that the nurse-girl is a proper substitute for the mother-care.

Mr. Jones has the right idea, but it came to him a little late. No girl should marry who does not know how to conduct a home. If her prospective husband told her that he intended to hire an entirely inexperienced man to superintend his business the average young woman would shy off from him as a man scarcely fit to consider as a life-mate. Yet she thinks nothing of offering her own services as housekeeper without a knowledge of the first fundamentals of the art of housekeeping, for art it is. It requires managing abilities of no mean order to successfully conduct the affairs of a home and a reputation for fine cookery is more to be desired than skill in water color or embroidery, and certainly of much more real worth to the family fortunate to possess such a one.

Many a young man who tells his girl that he would gladly lay down his life for her is careful not to come in the front gate until he is sure the dog is tied.

EVERYBODY IS INTERESTED

THE Pennsylvania Good Roads Association, in appointing a State organizer and announcing its intention of making a State-wide effort to popularize the good roads movement in Pennsylvania, is taking a course that will commend it to the friends of better highways.

The good roads movement is, or ought to be, essentially a people's movement. To some extent this has been lost sight of in the perfectly natural effort of the farmer to exert his utmost effort for rural roads, the automobilist to demand main highways and the city people to insist on improved avenues of travel to and from their suburban homes. It is undoubtedly a fact that the general betterment of the roads in Pennsylvania has been retarded by the pulling and hauling of conflicting interests.

These interests need not conflict. They will all fare better by taking the larger view of the good roads question, as voiced in the announced policy of the Pennsylvania Good Roads Association, to the effect that better highways have an economic and ethical value to all the people far more important than any benefit that may accrue to a particular class of road users.

The man who never himself traverses the public roads, if there be any such, is vitally interested in this matter, because of the improvement to the whole community that follows the improvement of its highways. A piece of literature put out by the above-mentioned association contains the following pointed summary of the situation:

"Everybody everywhere is all the time paying something for roads. Everybody everywhere is paying more for poor roads than for good roads."

It has been estimated that bad roads are costing the people of Pennsylvania at least $20,000,000 a year. Every citizen bears a part of this needless burden, and it is the duty of every citizen, from the standpoint of his own interest as well as that of the community at large, to lend a hand in the effort to "pull Pennsylvania out of the mud."

Those who have been "on the water wagon" since the first of the year will doubtless now take opportunity to get off and skate.

QUEER ENCOURAGEMENT

IN a long dispatch from Boston setting forth the new spirit of optimism which is said to have taken possession of manufacturers and businessmen in New England, a correspondent of the Philadelphia Public Ledger accounts for the alleged change of sentiment in this way:

> Ground for encouragement is found also in the reports from England that the woolen cloth weavers there have been raising the price of their goods. They say the lower tariff will open our markets to them, and that the demand for their goods here is so great that they cannot afford to sell them at home at the old price. If the English woolen cloth men are doing this, they are doing only what the Canadian lumber men did when the duty on lumber was reduced a dollar a thousand feet, and what the Canadian farmers did when the duty on eggs was cut down to relieve the high cost of living. The price of eggs did not come down here, but it went up in Canada, and many of the Canadian lumber dealers added a dollar a thousand to the price of their lumber.

Surely this is peculiar "ground for encouragement!" We are delighted to hear that industrial confidence and courage are improving in New England, but we should like to feel that there is a more substantial cause for it than that ascribed by the Ledger correspondent.

If, as a result of increased American demands for their goods, English woolen cloth weavers are raising their prices, that must mean the sale of English goods in home markets previously supplied by American manufacturers. It must also mean that so long as the condition exists, there will be a reduction in the output of American mills and a corresponding reduction in the number of jobs for American wage earners. As one tariff expert pithily put it, "You cannot expect to get wages at home for work done abroad."

Of course, it is not to be supposed that the English manufacturer will raise his prices to our protective tariff level. To do that would be to build a wall against himself. His chances of driving us out of our own market would be no better than they were before.

If he is to get in and stay in, he must sell just a little more cheaply than the American manufacturer can afford to sell. He may go as close to that line as he pleases so long as he is on the right side of it. His prices may be and will be infinitely above the free trade, cheap labor level of the United Kingdom, but they will always be a shade below the standards of protection-paid wage earners.

Such being the case, what is the "ground for encouragement" in the news from England? The only encouraging feature we can see in it is that, although we are not going to have the free trade prices that were promised us, the British manufacturer is reasonably sure of getting rich on our tariff law.

It develops that a Democrat is a first-class reformer—when he is not in office. Civil Service publications please copy.

Secretary Bryan says he is at a loss to understand "unseen and unsuspected attacks" made on him. May be they are some of his chickens coming home to roost.

A man may be perfectly straight and still follow his natural bent.

EVENING CHAT

Harrisburg's younger folks have taken to the hills. They have gotten out their bobsleds and chair sleds and other kind of sleds, including the kind on which you go down flat, and are having a fine large time. The cold weather and the light snow flurries have caused the coasting to be very fine on most of the slopes and while the streets heading from the "Ridge" are no longer used because of trolley lines there are still some good coasting places for the youngsters at points where there are no dangerous crossings. Allison Hill affords numerous fine coasting places and Reservoir Park is a very popular place. Still, people do not have as much fun coasting as they used to years ago. Market street hill was the great place and one could start at Thirteenth and go to Tenth. Herr street is still used, but the trolley cars in Cameron prevent long trips. Out in Twentieth and other streets in that section there is excellent coasting. The fact that coasting has declined in the streets which slope from Sixth recalls how our fathers used to coast off the old reservoir hill which stood where the Central high school now stands. The coasters used to start away up high and go with a series of bumps for a distance of squares. But all those long coasting stunts have passed away.

People who were fortunate enough to be up with the sun yesterday morning saw a beautiful sight in the skies. The sun was coming up with a wealth of gold and red and the moon was sinking in the west. The moon was brilliant, as it was the night before and last night, too, but it shone in magnificent contrast to the glory of the orb of the day.

The State's new seed law, under which any person desiring to have seeds tested for private or commercial purposes can do so, provided the costs and a fee are paid to the State, is resulting in cleaning up of the seed supply in a rather unexpected way. Most people who buy seeds have complained about the presence of thistles or dodder and they blame the man who sells them. Now the merchants, who get their supplies from wholesalers, are looking after No. 1 and asking that the State examine their samples. The new law is becoming a sort of revenue raiser.

The meetings of the City Council are commencing to attract much more attention than ever bestowed upon the old Councils, except when some big project was up. Every evening following a Council meeting there is a buzz of inquiry all over the city and people ask whose tenure of office came to an end or what changes were made. The new Council is a real news producer, far better than anyone expected. And it is characteristic of the Harrisburg way of doing municipal business that the lawmakers have taken hold in a way that is winning attention from other cities where the operation of the new law has met some snags.

Among people here for the Progressive conference is M. T. Stokes, publisher of one of the Coudersport papers, who has been called the stormy petrel of northern tier journalism. Mr. Stokes is now defendant in an action for libel brought by ex-Judge Ormerod, who has held court here several times and who is well known. They have had a bitter fight and the court trial will be interesting.

The Rev. E. M. Mulock, who leaves Paxton Church next week, is the thirteenth man to serve as pastor of the historic church. Incidentally, he is a Princeton man, and like the President, who was former head of the university, he does not regard thirteen in an unfavorable light. Mr. Mulock's pastorate has certainly not been characterized by anything that suggests what that much abused numeral is commonly supposed to stand for.

O, FROTH, HOW COULD YOU?

By Wing Dinger.

Dear Froth, that wasn't nice of you
To roast us as you did,
Now I have never even thought
Of trying you to kid.

I've hied me to my Webster,
For something nice to say,
About you and your column
You publish every day.

But, my, the way that Noah
Defines Froth is a shame.
He says its foam and bubbles,
With knowledge much the same.

You really ought to be more kind
About us when you shout,
For if we didn't publish you'd
Have naught to froth about.

I know it makes you grouchy,
When glory comes our way,
But be a sport, and choke the sob
—Perhaps you'll have your day.

WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

—Ex-Senator James L. Mitchell, of Jefferson, who is here for the Progressive conference, is living on his farm in that county and enjoying life.

—John A. Rigg was elected head of Chester railways.

—Mayor Armstrong, of Pittsburgh, is busy avoiding banquets.

—Dr. C. D. Schaeffer, former mayor of Allentown, has given $30,000 for medical research.

—Hugh E. Crilly, the Allentown Democrat, has been chosen to head the Lehigh Hibernians.

—Joseph B. McCall, head of the Philadelphia Electric Company, is one of the youngest electric chiefs in the country.

CONGRESSMEN TO PROD PALMER SOME

Will Demand to Know What He Is Going to Do About the Governorship

BERRY BOOM ANNOYS MANY

Enemies of the Former Treasurer and Chronic Office Seeker on Warpath

According to advices from Washington, colleagues of Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer will interrogate him to-day or to-night as to whether he has prepared an answer to their request that he become a candidate for governor, and if he continues to dodge will demand to know whether he is behind the boom for ex-State Treasurer William H. Berry, launched at Scranton last week by E. J. Lynett, the Scranton publisher who is close to the Monroe congressman.

Folks in Washington believe that it will take President Wilson to induce Secretary William B. Wilson to become a candidate for the uncertain Democratic nomination for governor and the President is said to desire to keep the labor leader in his cabinet. It is also intimated that Palmer is awaiting a hint from the White House that he would be more valuable in Washington than as a candidate for governor and then he is expected to say that he will not keep some more deserving candidate out of the gubernatorial race, but will be a candidate for United States senator.

Berry was the big speaker at a Jackson day banquet at West Chester last night and threw large floral set pieces in the direction of the President, but he laid low on State politics. Judge E. C. Bonniwell, the chief Ryan boomer, was also a speaker.

Democrats Looking For Pieman

Democrats in this neck of the woods are asking if it is true that Milton O. Shearer, of Milton, has been named as a deputy revenue collector. They had been given to understand that Collector Kirkendall would not start firing those sixty Republicans to make way for hungry Democrats for some time. The folks in this section who have been carrying torches in parades and cheering whenever told to are commencing to wonder when the pie man is coming around. There should be some nice appointments placed around here.

Ainey Boom Worries a Few Bosses

Congressman Charles E. Patton, of the Clearfield district, has started things moving for the boom of Congressman W. D. B. Ainey, of Susquehanna county for the Republican nomination for senator. Ainey is being boomed hard, but has not said whether he will be a candidate. The announcement did not appear to worry Senator Penrose, although he said that he would make his own announcement in due season. The Progressives here to-day were sputtering over the Ainey business and declaring that it was a Penrose trick. It is not liked at Democratic State headquarters, either. The Democratic bosses are so busy that they get nervous over a movement in another party.

Morris Wants to Hold on

Scoutmaster Roland S. Morris is to be sharply interrogated by some of the Democrats of the State as to his failure to give a ruling on the question of election of a State chairman. Everyone supposed last year that the Democratic State committee was included in the committees which would have to elect new State committeemen and reorganize after the May primaries. But the reorganization gangsters want to hold on to the machine and are now claiming that Morris must serve out his term, which will run to December 31. In this way they hope to stave off an election which would result in Morris being dumped.

POLITICAL SIDELIGHTS

—William Flinn seems to be amused at that gubernatorial boom.

—Roland Morris is certainly some expert in ducking questions about his tenure of office.

—An effort is being made to get a bunch of local Democrats together to attend the Jefferson dinner in Philadelphia Friday.

—Maybe Palmer will speak out on Friday in Philadelphia.

—The Bull Moosers evidently do not think much of Democratic fusion.

—Herr Kremp is going to resign as Democratic division chairman. One by one the picturesque Democrats are getting fat federal berths.

—The Market Square organ does not play up the Progressives so much since they kicked fusion off the lot.

IN HARRISBURG FIFTY YEARS AGO TO-DAY

[From the Telegraph of Jan. 14, 1864.]

Gas Pipes Frozen

A member of the City Council informs us that many of the gas pipes in the streets are frozen up, and that this accounts for the failure to have the proper lights burning at night. Efforts are being made to remedy the evil.

Declare Dividend

The Harrisburg, Lancaster and Mt. Joy Railroad have declared a semi-annual dividend of 3½ per cent., payable after the 10th inst.

NEWS DISPATCHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

[From the Telegraph of Jan. 14, 1864.]

Heavy Cavalry Fight

Chattanooga, Jan. 12. — Affairs in East Tennessee are very exciting. A heavy cavalry fight occurred near Strawberry Plains on Saturday last. The enemy were repulsed with serious loss.

Troops Cross On Ice

New York, Jan. 14. — A special dispatch from Sandusky on the 13th inst., reports the arrival of General Terry and staff, with the First Brigade, Third Division, of the Sixth Army Corps. A portion of the troops have crossed on the ice to Johnson's Island.

EDITORIALS OF OUR CONTEMPORARIES

Room For Repentance

[From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.]

George F. Baker is a member of fifty-seven directorates, William Rockefeller of forty-nine, and James Stillman of thirty-four. Is the J. P. Morgan house the only one that should make concessions to the "spirit of unrest" and the new phases of public sentiment?

One of the Requirements

[From the Albany Knickerbocker Press.]

A retired army officer says he knows enough about draw poker to fill a book, but that was a foregone conclusion. A man who did not know draw poker could not be an army officer.

A LITTLE NONSENSE

"Have any packages been brought to the house, ma?"

"Only the one your father brought home last night."—Baltimore American.

Of all inane slang "I should worry" takes first prize.

LIBRARY TABLE

(By E. M. Scott)

"Fighting Modern Evils," a good example of how to treat the delicate subject of divorce is at hand in "Fighting Modern Evils," a book by Fred S. Miller. Mr. Miller hails from Chicago, in which city the divorce mill is popularly supposed to grind its hardest working overtime. Whatever his opportunities for observation at first hand may have been, the author has amassed a formidable array of facts which he presents with evident sincerity and with vigor and interest. Students of social problems will find much to attract them in "Fighting Modern Evils" which deals not only with divorce, but with the affinity and soul-mate, with fake religious cults, dance halls in our large cities and the conditions which raise the question of a wage law for women and children. Besides the facts and the conclusions to be drawn for them, the book includes chapters of narrative that read like stories of real life. "Old Faiths For New" is good example of these; a delicately reared and wealthy woman revealing the lures and sophistries that made her a devotee of a Persian sun-cult. "The Child of Divorce" is another story, portraying the pathetic experiences of a young girl whose mother was divorced and remarried. The affinity subject is also treated in this matter. The book is cleverly illustrated, especially so in the narrative chapters. (The L. W. Walter Co., Chicago, 480 pp., 32 illus., $1.50).

Letters to the Editor

PASTOR FOR PLAYGROUND

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

I want to add a word of endorsement to the move for a playground at Third and Reily streets. Pending the final disposition of the plot, I think the School Board could make no better move than place it at the disposal of those who are interested in this matter. I am happy to add this word in favor of the outdoor movement in behalf of the boys and girls.

Sincerely yours,
GEORGE F. SCHAUM,
Pastor Harris Street United Evangelical Church.

THE LANCASTER HOUSE

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

In answer to a statement published by the Telegraph yesterday, I want to correct an error concerning the condition of the Lancaster Hotel. I have been an employe of the Lancaster House for nearly eighteen years, and I am positive that the information furnished the police department is absolutely untrue. When the present proprietor took charge of the hotel I promised to familiarize him with the business, and I have been very careful in doing that so far as I knew. I do not know of this house ever having a register and I think you will find four or five other houses that do not use one. Our trade is about one-third white and two-thirds colored, and they are not all the lowest class of Harrisburg, either. Shooting and cutting have been numerous in the past year. We can certainly say that we have had none, and I think that you will find that our side rooms will compare very favorably with some of those that are now running in Market street. In order to do justice to our customers, our house is open for inspection at any or at all times, and I think you will find this place conducted about as well as the average saloon. I say this because we have been misrepresented.

B. A. STRIPLIN.

January 13, 1914.