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December, 1913 22,210 Average for the year 1913-21,377 Average for the year 1912-21,175 Average for the year 1911-18,851 Average for the year 1910-17,495

NEW IDEAS IN PRISONS. OW some of the ideas John Francis, warden of the Western Penitentiary, proposes to put into operation when the new prison now being erected by the State is completed, are being worked out elsewhere in an interview with Warden Edmund M. Allen, of the Joliet State Penitentiary, Illinois.

KEEP THE GARBAGE CONTRACT. EVERY householder in Harrisburg should carefully study the instructions issued yesterday by the Department of Public Safety relative to the providing of garbage receptacles.

ONLY A HUNDRED DOLLARS. WHILE the principal aim of the Associated Charities of Harrisburg is the organization and development of the system of co-operation with charitable and philanthropic associations and institutions in helping the poor and needy, the problem of temporary relief has been a serious one during the winter months just past, and the consequent drain on the charities' financial resources, naturally, has been unusually heavy.

THE REWARD OF EFFORT. FROM faraway Montana comes a story that has in it a lesson or two for Harrisburg boys and girls, and for older ones, too. The Crazy Mountain schoolhouse is a 10 by 12 shack, with a roof which slants but one way and is covered with black tar paper. Cracks in the floor were so big that pencils easily fell through them. The only light that came in was from three tiny windows, two in the rear and one on the left.

was damp, for the first three weeks they had no fire. Most of the pupils had no books. But teacher and pupils went to work to do the best they could with what they had and to get better equipment as fast as they could. One day a premium list of the Montana State fair came to this little school. Both teacher and pupils began to read to see what there was they could do. "Best kindergarten work," they knew they could not do that. "Best shop work," that sounded even more hopeless. "Best collection of wild flowers, pressed and mounted, with a description," everybody shouted: "Of course we can!" and the race was on.

The Mexican children who lived far up on the mountain plucked the flowers belonging to the higher altitudes, while the rest brought in those peculiar to the lowlands and meadows. At school the flowers were placed in textbooks and magazines, and in the absence of a flower press the boys and girls would sit on them. At home the flowers were put in books under the heaviest weights that could be found. One boy placed two sacks of flour on the books, another a tool chest, while a third said the heaviest thing he could find was the large "bucket" in which his father carried the feed to the pigs. The girls resorted to just as ingenious expedients, utilizing trunks, bureaus, and even one leg of a bed in which adults were sleeping, in order that the necessary amount of pressure might be obtained.

When the days of collecting and pressing the flowers were over, all of the specimens were brought together, and after the very best ones had been selected, each was carefully mounted on white cardboard, and the entire collection of sixty-eight wild flowers was sent to the State Department of Education to be entered at the fair. When the judges gave their decision it was found that the Crazy Mountain school had won the first prize, the blue ribbon and the \$5. for the best collection of wild flowers from any school in the State.

On the day of the prize award the rural inspector stood in the little booth and called the attention of the bankers and businessmen to the splendid exhibit and to the pictures of the little school. When one of the leading merchants saw it, he said: "Go and tell the people of Park county that boys and girls who will do work like that are entitled to a better schoolhouse and better equipment, and tell them that as soon as they get the house they can come to my store and get anything in it without money or without price."

It is a good story for Sunday perusal and Sunday moralizing. The small boy's definition of wasted time is a rainy Sunday.

WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE. J. A. Herf, active in the meeting of the State Board of Education this week, is owner of the Lancaster county farms. Senator Penrose used to take oratorical prizes when he was a student at college. Edwin A. Seabrook, Philadelphia manufacturer, has been visiting Ohio towns and making addresses to local associations of sheet metal men.

SEVERE BLOW TO EDITOR. [From the Kaw City (Mo.) Democrat.] Lost, strayed or stolen. One read-headed pig, weighing between 40 and 45 pounds; crop of his right ear. We hope some one will find this pig and bring him home, as he is the only pig we've got (or had) and is the only hope we have (or had) of eating spare ribs and sausage next Spring.

EVERYBODY KNOWS. No Need of Any Formal Statement About His Candidacy For the Senatorship. GROOMING MR. MESTREZAT VERY BUSY AT PHILADELPHIA. Fred Reynolds May Be a Candidate For Congress in the Bellefonte District.

Although the third class cities of the State are just commencing to get the commission form of government into operation, there are rumors reaching the ears of the Legislature that the Legislature will be asked to make a change in the method of governing the third class cities which will provide an additional class, to be known as a new class. Objections are being made in some cities to the expense of a plan of operation under the act of 1913 and it is feared that it has caused confusion and not produced results which have been made and denied with equal vigor. The advocates of the reclassification are of the opinion that the grouping of all municipalities having a population between 10,000 and 100,000 into one class works a hardship upon the smaller classes and there is some talk of reviving the bill passed in 1912 to create four or five classes, those having over 1,000,000 population to be the first, those between 500,000 and 1,000,000 the second, those between 100,000 and 500,000 the third, between 50,000 and 100,000 the fourth and all between 10,000 and 50,000 to be the fifth. The bill was passed to allow more than three classes a decision given about a dozen years ago. Advocates of the change in plan of government are demanding that the power to legislate be taken from executive officers and are urging the Pittsburgh plan of 1911, which does not give the mayor power to legislate. It is done by the city council. These people would have the mayor and directors of public safety and public works constitute the executive branch and have a small council, the size depending on population and the manner of election to be either at large or by districts. In all the discussion heard there does not seem to be much desire to return to the general legislative system, but the small council with members paid for services is apparently favored.

The meeting of the State Board of Agriculture held here during the week, while not marked by large attendance, attracted more attention than this organization has ever experienced. To begin with, it started off with an unusual program, designed, says Secretary Critchfield, to let the representatives of the rural population know just what the State is doing, and some very practical papers, notably those of Commissioner of Health Dixon on waste and fertilizer through failure to apply sanitary methods, were presented. Then Governor Tener stirred up the board by asking it to give some practical and daily advice along the Riverside road. Arrival No. 2 was reported from North Franks street, No. 3 was noted at the Commonwealth Hotel yesterday. The flies were not much to brag of, being small and not very tricky.

Supreme Court Justice Mestrezat is being trotted out again as a candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and it is said that prominent bosses in the party have been urging him to announce himself, especially since Guthrie does not show much inclination to help pull the re-bosses out of the hole. The Uniontown jurist is said to have a boom all ready to launch. In the contrary, if he stays in said to have been on the brink of making an announcement. Mestrezat is strong, but whether he can command the united support of the Democrats, which is necessary to get anywhere, is doubted. Another thing, he would not take orders.

John Alladay, of Franklin county, has refused to be shunted off the track for the Democratic congressional nomination in the Seventeenth district in spite of pro-republican tests by the friends of Congressman Frank Dershem and the snorting of the reorganization bosses of the first division. He seems to think that this is a free country and that any man can enter a race for any nomination regardless of what tin gods in Harrisburg, Lewisburg, New Bloomfield or any other place may say. He is a Democrat and he is a Democrat hereabouts must have their thinking done for them.

CONGRESSMAN C. E. PATTON OF CLEARFIELD, has not been a candidate for election from the Twenty-first district, and has so announced to his personal friends. He has opposition from two sources, one being a Washington party C. E. Patton members gave him a larger vote than the regulars, but they will support their own ticket this year. Patton's demand that Penrose retire from public life for the good of the party has increased Republicans. The Republicans in Center county are now grooming Colonel W. F. Reynolds for the place, and J. Linn Harris, of the State Forestry Commission, is also likely to seek the nomination. This situation has awakened the Democrats and a movement has been organized to nominate the Rev. John M. Hewitt, rector of the Bellefonte Episcopal Church, for Congress on the Democratic ticket. The re-bosses have not yet made up their minds.

LONG LIVE THE GERM. BY WING DINGER. Up in der county of Perry this week. Der district school teachers did meet, Und during der session a question came up. Dot brought every last vun to his feet. Vun member got up und said: "Ladies und gents. Some vun has discovered der bug Vat gets in der chests of two people at once. Und comes out mit a kiss und a hug. "Dis germ like all other bacilli," he said, "Can be knocked out the system mit case. Und der people who suffer can quickly get rid. If dey vish, of dis awful disease" In a jiffy dose teachers got up und dere feet. Such excitement you neffer did see; Und for harmony's sake a committee vus named. To decide vat der bug's fate should be. Der committee reported in time that der bug Should not be molested, which pleased. All der folks in der meeting, which leads me ter think Dat dey all mit der germ are diseased. Und mit them I agree dat der fellow who'd kill Off dis bug vere far better, by heck, Vere he took to sea und upset ober-board Mit a mill stone encircling his neck.

PRE-EMPTIONS HAVE STARTED IN STREAM. Numerous Party Names Have Been Taken For the Coming Election Campaign. Half a Dozen Have Been Pre-empted For the State Campaign as Well.

Although the primary campaign of 1914 will not open until February 21, which is the first day of securing signatures to nominating petitions for the primary on May 19, the names of nine political parties have been pre-empted in papers filed in the Dauphin county court and at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Most of these names have been pre-empted for the nomination of State and Congressional tickets, but there are many taken for various districts in Philadelphia and Allegheny counties. It is expected that there will be more, but the record of 1912 may not be attained. Parties which pre-empted names in that year contained sole rights to use through votes polled.

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY TRAIN VIA READING RAILWAY. Between Harrisburg and New York, the "HARRISBURG SPECIAL" will run daily, leave New York 8:45 a. m., arrive Harrisburg 1:40 p. m.; leave Harrisburg 4:35 p. m., arrive New York 9:35 p. m. Dining car service in this train Sundays.—Advertisement.

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STORK-NEWS. One Must Have One's Reveries. James Bryce has been reduced to the peerage. Well, There's the Poisoned Needle. Probably will be a long time before humanity discovers anything else half so exciting as radium. Makes No Great Pretences. [From the Washington Star.] Tammany, by seldom assuming superior standards, has managed to escape a great deal of criticism. 'Twould Hardly Be Possible. [From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.] Secretary Daniels wishes it to be distinctly understood that the reason he has asked for more chaplains in the navy is not because the navy is wickeder than the army, but because under a Republican administration.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. HOUSING CONDITIONS. To the Editor of The Telegraph: The miserable housing conditions in portions of the old Eighth Ward, as observed recently by some city officials, are not of recent origin, nor are they confined exclusively to that section. In various articles for the Telegraph, I have, from time to time, brought in, incidentally, some of the unsanitary and repulsive conditions existing within a short distance from the heart of the city.

SHIRTS. HEADQUARTERS FOR SIDES & SIDES. THE LEADER OF THE CLASS. is the child with the least handicaps. There are children who are cross and irritable because of eye strain, wrong glasses now or the lack of glasses may bring a lifetime of eye trouble. I study the child's needs and fit glasses with absolute exactness, never advising glasses except when absolutely necessary.

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