

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

Established 1837. PUBLISHED BY THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO. E. J. STACKPOLE, President and Editor-in-Chief. F. R. OYSTER, Secretary. GUS M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor.

Published every evening (except Sunday) at the Telegraph Building, 214 Federal Square, Both phones.

Member American Newspaper Publishers' Association. Audit Bureau of Circulation and Pennsylvania Associated Dailies.

Eastern Office, Fifth Avenue Building, New York City, Hasbrouck, Story & Brooks.

Western Office, Advertising Building, Chicago, Ill., Allen & Ward.

Delivered by carriers at 10 cents a week. Mailed to subscribers at \$3.00 a year in advance.

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

Sworn daily average for the three months ending Feb. 28, 1915.

Average for the year 1914—25,318. 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—17,406.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 3.

THE GOVERNOR JUSTIFIED

GOVERNOR BRUMBAUGH won the first point in his fight for the passage of a local option bill when the law and order committee of the House, yesterday afternoon voted to comply with his wish to keep the bill in committee until the temperance forces of the State have had time to develop sentiment in its behalf.

The Governor's request was reasonable. Years ago those opposing local option tried by every means known to the devious ways of legislative manipulators to keep the option bill in committee. That its friends are now striving to prevent it from being prematurely reported reflects the growth of the local option sentiment in Pennsylvania and indicates a fear on the part of those who are endeavoring to defeat the passage of such a law at this session that some of their more or less wavering adherents may hearken to the call of those at home and the intimation of personal opposition by the Governor himself when they come out for renomination two years hence.

There are those who pretend to see in the declaration of Governor Brumbaugh that he will oppose for renomination every legislator who does not vote for the option bill, an attempt to drive members into line, regardless of their opinions or pledges. Would it not be far more in accord with the well-known square deal policies of the executive to believe that he deemed it only proper to tell legislators at this time that he is determined, in event of defeat of the local option measure, to do his part toward the election of a Legislature in 1916 that will be certain to enact the law to which he is pledged?

It would have been unfair for the Governor, having decided on this course, to have withheld information concerning his decision. Legislators and the public know now exactly where he stands and there can be no future charge of unfairness or lack of information if circumstances should make it necessary for him to go before the people two years hence on this issue.

Sooner or later a local option bill will be enacted in Pennsylvania. The sentiment is growing by leaps and bounds and there is no stopping it. The people have a right to decide whether or not liquor is to be sold in the communities in which they reside. The temperance question is far more vital to the welfare of society than many of the proposed constitutional amendments submitted to the people in recent years and the voters are fairly entitled to express themselves thereon at reasonable intervals. The local option controversy will be a bone of political contention until it is brought to a conclusion by giving the people the law which so many thousands of them so insistently demand.

The question in this session of the Legislature will not be decided by a partisan vote. Republicans and Democrats will be found on either side. Nevertheless, responsibility is bound to rest heavily upon the majority with respect to any legislative action and the Republican party ought to lead the way in the world-wide movement that has freed Russia from the curse of vodka and is spreading fast even in France, the land of the grape and the winepress.

REA, AN OPTIMIST

IN his annual report as president of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, Samuel Rea displays the best kind of optimism. Recognizing every difficulty that the business interests of the country face and fully aware of the perils of injudicious legislation confronting them, Mr. Rea nevertheless anticipates for the immediate future a prosperity such as the country has not enjoyed for the past two or three years, qualifying this opinion only with the reservation that to attain this happy state business shall henceforth be given that reasonable consideration which he believes is indicated in the recent decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission granting the five per cent. increase asked for by the railroads.

Particularly significant is this optimistic view of the Pennsylvania president in light of the fact that it is made despite one of the poorest annual earnings reports made by that company in recent years.

Another important feature of Mr. Rea's findings and recommendations is

his suggestion that the Interstate Commerce Commission be enlarged as to membership and given additional powers for the regulation of such railroad matters as from time to time shall be laid before it. Only a few years ago our railroad managers were telling us that the Interstate Commerce Commission would ruin the railroad business of the country if given too wide a scope. In sharp contrast to this is this suggestion that the jurisdiction of the board be increased and its regulatory functions enlarged. Mr. Rea must be pretty thoroughly convinced that henceforth the Commission will treat the railroads fairly. It would seem to be good sense to increase the size of the board in view of the fact that railroad business is constantly growing and that more and more the Interstate Commerce Commission will be called upon to decide points of difference between the shipper and the transporting company. It is vitally important that no more such ruinous delays shall occur as that which marked the investigation preceding the decision in the five per cent. rate case. That delay was not only disastrous to the railroads but cost the businessmen of the United States millions upon millions of money which might have been kept in circulation had it been found possible to render an opinion in this case with the promptness that the situation demanded.

Harrisburgers will rejoice that there is to be no delay in the completion of the great freight station and freight yard improvements now under way, and everybody will join with President Rea in his hope that the railroads in the near future will come into the possession of the means necessary to undertake many other large enterprises long contemplated, but held up by reason of poor business conditions.

THE BEIDLEMAN BILL

IT is to be sincerely hoped that Senator Beidleman's county receiver of taxes bill will be passed by the Legislature. The effect of this measure would be to save thousands of dollars to the county annually and put an end to the cumbersome and obsolete system of tax collectorships now prevailing. There would then be no question as to when taxes are to be paid nor to whom. The authority would be invested in one man and two deputies, one or more of whom could always be found at the courthouse, and whose duties it would be to sit two days out of every year in each of the voting districts of the several counties coming within the scope of the proposed law.

Tax collectorships have been made for years to serve political purposes in every county in the State. This would not be so bad were it not for the fact that the system has burdened the taxpayers with expenses that are entirely unnecessary.

The Beidleman bill is thoroughly in keeping with modern ideas of conducting public affairs with the same care and economy that characterizes private business. There is no reason why it should not be passed and every reason why it should be. The only excuse that any legislator can find for withholding his vote from it will be that he is more interested in providing places for henchmen than in the public welfare.

THE H. A. C. FIELD

IT would be too bad if in the event that Harrisburg should have no Tri-State baseball team in the field this summer circumstances should arise that would prevent the Harrisburg Central and Technical High school teams from using the island field.

The school athletic associations rely upon the money they realize from attendance at baseball and football games to meet their expenses for all manner of sports during the year. They have no other means of raising the revenue necessary to keep athletics alive, and it is to be sincerely hoped that nothing will be done that will prevent them from using the island grounds under conditions that will permit them to charge admission to the games they conduct there.

There is no other place in the city adapted to the purposes and if they were barred from charging admission to the island the boys would be left without means of uniforming their teams and buying the paraphernalia without which athletic sports in the schools would be impossible.

HAVE EXTINGUISHERS READY

IF the stable in which was housed the cow, which, by upsetting the coal oil lamp that started the great Chicago fire had been equipped with a hand extinguisher it is extremely likely that that conflagration would not have occurred. It is a very easy matter to put out a small fire if the means is at hand. The most disastrous conflagration in the history of the world was no bigger than the spark from a match head when it started.

This is why John Price Jackson, State Commissioner of Labor, is so insistent in his demands that the State regulations with regard to fire fighting apparatus in industrial establishments be observed. The extinguisher that hangs on the wall from year to year without inspection is an investment of a very doubtful character. Most likely when it is needed it will be found to be out of working order.

The hose that stands rotting on its reel only occupies space that might be better used and is entirely worthless from a protective standpoint. The Commissioner is right in having given official notice that fire fighting equipment must be regularly inspected so that it shall be ready for instant use, and his recommendation that all such equipment be placed in charge of some capable person in each industrial establishment is worthy of prompt attention by those whose plants may any day be turned into ashes as a result of their own carelessness. The interests of the community and the lives of employees demand the strictest kind of fire prevention measures.

EVENING CHAT

The new borough of Paxtang with its electric lights and board of health is right up-to-date in everything except delay and it is just now giving an illustration of fixing up its streets with the road drag. The drag is being used on the streets effectively and is furnishing a good demonstration of what can be done with such an appliance. The drag is being taken over all of the streets and is making even surfaces after the winter weather. Drags are also being used in a number of the townships of Dauphin and Cumberland counties to get the roads into passable condition and where such things were unknown a couple of years ago they are now quite common. Within a short time the State Highway department will put its repair gangs to work on the main highways which radiate from the city like the spokes from a wheel and it is expected that by the first of April the roads will be in fair shape for automobile traveling in portions where the winter was severe upon them. Already there is considerable automobile traveling in the vicinity of the city and the pleasant Sundays have brought out the owners by the score.

"Hawshaw, the Detective," a cartoon service furnished to many of the newspapers for their Sunday supplements was the leading character in a detective drama being presented on the legitimate stage in the sixties. The play was entitled, "The Ticket of leave man," and was presented in this city March 8, 1875, in Brant's Hall, known as Rouse's theater, and is in the present Commonwealth Trust Building, 222 Market street. J. W. Jennings, a prominent actor at that time, played the part of "Hawshaw," who was supposed to be the best sleuth of the age.

It is generally thought that the present cartoons drawn by the comic artist originated from this character, and that possibly some of the exciting things portrayed in the comics were chosen from the old-time play. A number of the older residents of the city when asked about the play, said that they recalled it, and also had seen it when they were children. All of which goes to prove, "There is nothing new under the sun."

A number of prominent Pittsburgh newspapermen were here yesterday to call on the Governor about the child labor bills and to discuss legislation. Among them were George S. Oliver, vice-president of the Gazette-Times; A. E. Braun, vice-president of the Post and Sun; A. R. Williams, of the Press, and Edward Hope, of the Leader.

March has been living up to its reputation since it came in according to the people at the weather bureau. The wind has been on the job steadily and the rate has been running about a dozen miles. Up at the Capitol and on the Mulberry street bridge the wind has been especially noticeable and the folks instinctively put their hands to hats. The people who live up along the River Road say that the wind has been blowing continuously and that it is hard work to keep flower beds covered.

The St. Patrick's day dinner to be given at the Board of Education on March 16 has been a biennial feature of life in the city for more than twenty-five years. It is arranged by committees of legislators and newspaper correspondents and some of the best speakers among the public men of the State have been guests. The Governors have always been the chief speakers and some interesting stories about St. Patrick have marked the occasions.

Judge Isaac Johnson, of the Delaware county courts, who has been here for a couple of days, is one of the authorities in Pennsylvania on the sane, the dependents and the wayward. He has been long on the bench and has laid down some excellent rules and brought about good results without attracting much attention. He is one of the most useful members of the State Board of Charities.

The mobilization of the fire department for the alarm of fire in Market street yesterday afternoon attracted considerable attention from visitors to the city, including firemen from Pittsburgh. The apparatus gathered in pretty fast time and there was enough to fight a first-class fire in short order. When the outlying companies gathered there was more apparatus than could be handled on the street and it lined up in Market Square for inspection.

People who have been on the city's island the last few days say that a couple of the Capitol squirrels have established homes in trees near the "point." How the squirrels got there no one can say, and the tollgate men declare that no animals "beat" it through the gates.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Dr. J. E. Smith has succeeded Dr. A. S. Staley as president of the Allegheny County Board of Education. —Commander M. E. Reed is the new navy inspector at Pittsburgh. —W. H. Shoemaker, the new Philadelphia judge, is a native of Pittsburgh and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. —Congressman James Francis Burke, of Pittsburgh, ends ten years in Congress this week. —Dr. James K. Young, well-known Philadelphia educator, is in Virginia for a brief vacation. —A. J. Barron is head of a committee of Allegheny lawyers which will investigate Pittsburgh police.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg was one of the first cities in the country to adopt the overhead trolley?

Does the Newspaper Appeal to Women?

Once in a while a national manufacturer expresses doubts as to whether women read newspapers. He does not stop to think: —That the success of the merchant rests in his appeal to women. —That the newspaper contains the news of the schools, of societies, of the church and of current events in which women are keenly interested. —That the newspaper is a daily visitor to every home. —That it is a part of the home life itself. No manufacturer whose product appeals to the housewife can afford NOT to advertise in newspapers. Manufacturers who want proof of the influence of the daily newspaper on women are invited to address the Bureau of Advertising, American Newspaper Publishers Association, World Building, New York.

BOSSSES TRYING TO HALT INSURRECTION

State Democratic Committee's Legislative Program Idea Is Explained

CAMPAIGN DEBTS UNPAID

State Chairman Morris Trying to Raise Money to Pay 1914 Obligations

One of the reasons for the sudden activity of the Democratic bosses in endeavoring to stir up interest in the Democratic State machine and to get a legislative program under way is said to be to head off an insurrection after the General Assembly adjourns. There are mutterings of dissatisfaction against the present leadership, much like those which were adroitly used by the present bosses to ride into power in 1911, and, with the knowledge of how that revolution in the party was brought about, the chiefs of the gang are trying to fix their lines.

A couple of public statements have been made by Democrats about the supineness of the present Democratic bosses in legislation, attention being called to the contrast between the present neglect and the activity displayed last session. This year the Democrats have not amounted to anything, and as a result of the Legislature, although last Fall they were admitted to have one of the best machines in twenty years.

State Chairman Morris is trying to arouse some interest in the party and to get the debts paid, but he is not succeeding very well, and it is bluntly stated that he will be lucky if he is not asked to get out before the year ends. Morris contends that he is State chairman until 1916, but some Democrats are inclined to dispute this. Others lose no chance to say that he ought to get out any way. Dissatisfaction and resentment over the courts of National Committeeman A. Mitchell Palmer is rife in the State and he is likely to be brought sharply to task if the sentiment against Morris crystallizes. As for McCormick, not much attention is being paid to him, even to getting his favor for appointments.

The Old Guard is carefully building up its lines in Philadelphia and in Allegheny has the support of the influential party workers. The county chairman is a reorganizer, but since he got turned down for a postmastership he is a general with an army that does not follow him. In Pittsburgh the city organization is dominated by William J. Brennan, whom the gangsters turned down at a State committee meeting a few years ago and who is now supreme in the city.

Representative Fred Geiser, of Northampton, was visited yesterday by his father, George W. Geiser, ex-district attorney of Northampton county. He met a number of the members of the House and called on State officials.

An exhibition of moving pictures was given in the House last night by Chief Censor Breitinger, who gave an idea of how the censors eliminate films which are suggestive. Some fine scenes were shown, and then there was a display of the kind that are barred, not as a whole, but just parts. A big crowd was present.

The House members plan to have numerous hearings next week and committees will clear out legislation so that it will be in shape when the big bills come in.

Representative Cramer says the House has about all the legislation in sight it can handle and get away by the middle of May.

Representative James Bergy, of Juniata, fell on the marble steps in the rotunda and severely injured a leg yesterday. He was taken home.

Representatives of the State School Directors' Association legislative committee and of the Allegheny County School Directors' Progress and Defense Association conferred yesterday with Dr. George Becht, secretary of the State Board of Education regarding legislation. The State association committee is composed of Thomas G. Magee, Allegheny; M. H. Henning, Wilkes-Barre; James M. Wucher, Allentown; A. E. Burnaford, Wilkes-Barre, and J. D. Orr, Leechburg, and meeting with them were L. F. Wentz, Crafton; Robert Malone and Andrew C. Smith, Pittsburgh. Mr. Magee stated that the State board had been asked to insert definitions in the school code and that his committee planned legislation on that subject, to be introduced by the State Educational Association here last December.

J. Lee Plummer, former legislator and now Blair county Republican chairman, was on the "hill" to-day. He is prominently mentioned as a candidate for State Treasurer next year.

Senator Charles A. Snyder says his boom for Auditor General is growing every day.

Ex-Senator James L. Adams, of Allegheny, was at the Capitol in Harrisburg, as the State Board of Public Charities are here drafting legislation to be presented next week.

According to reports at the Capitol, Senator Pease may visit the city later in the Spring. He addressed the lawmakers in the last session.

A subcommittee of the House appropriations committee will visit Mercer and Washington counties.

Mr. Hess, chairman, introduced a bill to appropriate \$60,000 to the Lancaster General Hospital.

IN HARRISBURG FIFTY YEARS AGO TO-DAY

[From the Telegraph, March 3, 1865] Inauguration Prayers

A number of prominent clergymen of this country have suggested holding an inauguration prayer meeting to-morrow.

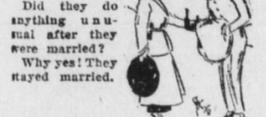
Firemen at National Capital The Good Will Fire Company left for Washington this morning.

Shipments Decrease Lumber shippers this season will be one-third less than amount of last year.

OUR DAILY LAUGH



NAILING ANOTHER LIFE. Well, you have a sensible daughter, Hiram. I saw her washing dishes in the pantry just now. But why does she need a red light? W a s h i n g dishes? She never did such a thing in her life. She's developing photographs, old chap.



NOW-A-DAYS. Did they do anything unusual after they were married? Why yes! They stayed married.



VICE VERSA. Does the hero marry the heroine at the end of all their troubles? No; at the beginning.

ALWAYS KICKING. By Wing Dingier. Gee, some folks are always kicking. Everything that's done is wrong; Always ready with objections. At the slightest tap of gong.

If a man in public office Spends a thousand dollars, say, To have work done for the city In the most effective way— Then they cry aloud, "The robbers. Public has been fleeced again. Money wasted," and a lot of Other words of the same strain.

But just let the same official Save the burg some wads of dough— Take, for instance, the new coal wharf— Then another horn they blow.

"All the coin that's saved they speak of As a few cents," and they bark "Bout the very same official. Terming him "an easy mark."

But, thank goodness, most good people Take a different view of life. And can see the good in others— Spreading peace instead of strife.

NEWS DISPATCHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

[From the Telegraph, March 3, 1865] Home For Disabled Men Washington, March 2.—Both Houses passed the bill to establish a home for disabled soldiers and sailors. The cost will be \$1,000,000.

Deserters Increase Memphis, March 2.—Rebel deserters continue to arrive here in large numbers.

Torpedo Captured Chattanooga, March 2.—A Rebel torpedo was captured on the Tennessee by seven men from this city.

STORY RITEN

By the Messenger Boy

Motorcycle nuts is a no-nonsense and should be stopped by Kernel Huchison and the Mayor or the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to the Publick. The ordinary cops dont appear to know how to take the number of a motorcycle when its goin 50 mile a hour, and they ought to have a civil service test to teach em how to read in motion.

The other day I was goin up 3rd st, as peacable as pie on my bike, and a motorcycle nut wipped past and almost blowed me into the curb, with his cut-out was wide open and everybody stopped to look at him. When I got to North st, he was comin back at the same rate, if not more so.

I ast the cop who was standin at North why he didnt get that fello on the motorcycle for speedin. He was much surprisid and said why dont you get him yourself and supposed it was none of his business to catch speeders, but thought it belonged to the "motorcycle cop" to catch em.

A man standin there said, that's a hot one aint it? The motorcycle cops ast on duty in the winter, so that means the cycle riders and automobilists wont be hindered by the ordinary policemen, but allowed to tear ahead and bust things up as they please, accordin to the ingerence of the cop I talked to.

Seems as though they ought to start a policeman skool in the seller of the police station with detectives Iback and Whittle to be teachers, (when they aint doin anything else) so as to instruct the police officers in the intricacies of the speed ordinances and other regulations that cops are supposed to know about. They ought to know plain, ordinary rithmetick, like two and two makes 4.

Cops should know the difference between black and white, and why hens cackle, also what makes the cows come home at night, and why it gets dark when the sun goes down, and the reason why the wind blows.

I am not ritin this way for the exasperashun of the Kernel and the cops, of whom I am very much afraid, because they might pinch me some dark nite; but I was rewestked to call em down a bit by a prominent sissen who rote me a letter askin me to do it. I have his letter stuck under the mattress of thed bed and can show it up if anybody wants to see it.

Advertisement for FELS-NAPHTHA soap. Avoid colds. Don't get overheated standing over steaming tubs of hotwater. Wash your clothes in lukewarm water with FELS-NAPHTHA soap. Saves hard work, fuel and bother. Makes your clothes cleaner than when washed the hard, old-fashioned, wash-boiler way.

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Advertisement for Why Take Any Risk? There is no good reason why you should run the risk of losing your important papers or valuables by fire, theft or other misfortune. For the small annual charge of \$1.50 you can rent a Safe Deposit Box in our fire and burglar proof vault and obtain absolute protection for your valuables. Call at our offices and inspect our Safe Deposit equipment. MECHANICS TRUST COMPANY HARRISBURG, PA.

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