

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 6

DEMAND FOR LOCAL OPTION

TODAY the people of Pennsylvania are making their voices heard in support of Governor Brumbaugh's local option bill. Thousands of them are in Harrisburg protesting against the arbitrary methods the liquor crowd has used in years ago to stifle the demand for this reasonable and proper legislation, and there are several lessons to be learned from the great gathering.

In the first place, it is rarely that the people of Pennsylvania lay down their work for a day to come to the Capital City in large numbers to demand the enactment of legislation. When they do it is usually for the purpose of protesting against or appealing for some particular bill affecting their business. Such a demonstration was witnessed in the recent outpouring of railroad men in support of the so-called full crew law. But today's delegation is many times larger than that has come to Harrisburg in recent years. Further than that, those who are here to-day have not come to press for the enactment of legislation from which they expect to benefit in a financial way. They have put aside their own private affairs in the interest of fair play and good government. They stand on a high moral issue, and for this reason their protest is all the stronger. And for every man who has come to Harrisburg to-day there are a thousand back home who could not come who would like to be here, standing shoulder to shoulder with these soldiers of the common good. These are the advance guards of the hosts that will vote into office next year a legislature that will be overwhelming local option, in case the bill should fall this year.

Those who are opposing local option ought to take a warning therefrom; and this is the second lesson that the big crowd teaches. To-day the local option hosts are content to accept the Governor's bill, which is a sane and sensible method of settling the liquor question locally. Deny them what they will be in the saddle and demanding what they will get, a measure that will sweep liquor from Pennsylvania as an autumn wind does chaff from the threshing floor. This is the opportunity of the liquor people. Stifle the bill in the House or kill it in the Senate and the end of liquor in Pennsylvania will have been forecasted as surely as though the axes were now being sharpened to stave in the heads of every cask in the State.

BEETS

BEETS are no longer beets; henceforth they are canned goods. And thereby hangs a tale, the plot of which as yet is shrouded by that dense mystery of ultrastatesmanship in which sit the seers of the present national administration at Washington.

Under the new Underwood tariff law beets in cans have been admitted at a duty of five per cent. ad valorem, levied upon "beets of all kinds." Canned vegetables, however, are taxed at twenty-five per cent. ad valorem. Now it develops that beets in cans are to be advanced from the five per cent. duty to the twenty-five per cent. duty.

Why? The Secretary of the United States Treasury alone can tell and he is not explaining. But we may guess. Proceeding by that favorite method of our old friend Sherlock Holmes, elimination, we come down to a choice between one of two conclusions—either the government at Washington has fallen into the clutches of the iniquitous Beet Sugar Trust or, what must be almost as horrifying to dyed-in-the-wool Democrats, the low tariff idea is not working out so well in practice as it did in theory.

HERE'S A CLUB ALL MAY JOIN

ANY organization that enjoys now a world-wide membership had its inception in humble surroundings and with no thought of its ultimate growth. In this class are religious creeds, secret societies, labor unions and whatnot. Somewhat after the manner of the composer who knows not whether his song is a failure or a "popular air" until it has been offered to the public, or the author who must await the verdict of his readers before he can assign his new novel to the long list of literary fizzes or prepare to watch it climb into the high stellar regions of the "best sellers," it is the organizer of the club or society. It may die aborning

OR LINGER ALONG FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND GO TO PIECES IN THE STORMS OF MEMBERSHIP DISSENSION OR LIE A BATTERED HULK ON THE SANDS OF INNOCUOUS DESUETUDE.

Or it may spread and prosper like the proverbial green bay tree. It all depends upon its human appeal. All this by way of introducing Philadelphia's latest organization, and commending it as possibly nursing within its youthful bosom that germ of universality destined to make it as popular as the Ananias Club, or that society's rival of long standing, the Down-and-out Club.

The new organization was formed the other day among the police of the Front and Master streets station, in Philadelphia, and it is to be officially known as the "Wota Wopper Klub." The institution was born at the suggestion of Wesley McKay, a bluecoat of twenty years' experience. The news of the proposed club spread like wildfire, and it was not many minutes before every cop on reserve duty was clamoring to be admitted to the ranks of the Woppers, according to the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

We can well believe it. Here is a club with an appeal as broad as the universe. Soon, no doubt, there will be golf, trout, bass, hunting, weather, salesmen and political branches, not to mention here and there a newspaper chapter. From what we have observed we venture the opinion that Wota Wopper button wearers will be as plentiful soon as oats midgets in mid-harvest, and just about as pestiferous.

Yet there are those who solemnly declare that a local option law would "interfere with the liberties of a majority." Majority of whom?

GARDEN PLOTS FOR POOR

THE Harrisburg Benevolent Association has acted wisely in adopting the suggestion of this newspaper that vacant land in and about the city be turned into gardens for the unemployed. Other cities are working out this plan successfully and there is no reason why it cannot be made to help out here in the present emergency. Even though labor may be fairly well employed throughout the summer, men who have been out of work during the winter will be glad to take advantage of the opportunity to cultivate this ground during their spare hours or have members of their families do so for them.

But there is more in this enterprise than the immediate assistance to needy families. The time has come when fertile ground like that which overlies most of the region of Harrisburg and vicinity must be made to work. Foodstuffs are too high in price and the supply is too short to permit such valuable soil to lie fallow. It must be made to help increase the size of the family marketbasket and to keep down the cost of living. Hundreds of tons of the most wholesome kind of provisions can be raised on the vacant lots of Harrisburg this year if they are properly planted and cared for. The Benevolent Association has undertaken a very practical and useful work. It ought to have ample support.

To-day's crowds demonstrate the correctness of the Governor's judgment that popular opinion is with him.

PRIZEFIGHTING

THE defeat of Johnson by Willard yesterday in Havana is being heralded by some thoughtless sporting writers with great glee as a "victory for the white race." It was nothing of the sort. The white race as a whole and the negro race as a whole had nothing to do with it. Johnson no more represented the black race than Willard did the white. It was simply the triumph of one big brute over another. Some day, when Willard grows older in years and stiffer in his muscles, some other big brute will do to him what he yesterday did to Johnson.

Brutal prizefighting is, beyond question, but nevertheless, there is that element in it that makes it "big news" when two acknowledged champions meet to test their prowess; something that takes even staid and decorous businessmen to the bulletin boards and keeps the telephones in the newspaper offices busy when a big fight is on. So it is that the newspapers put headlines on the results and print pictures of the contestants. As a sport it has little to commend and much to condemn, yet there is that popular appeal to it which makes even those who are loudest in their opposition turn slyly to the sporting page to "see who won."

For a time it looked as though it might be a wet day for the "drys."

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK

THE Philadelphia Evening Ledger, after a careful investigation of business conditions throughout the State and nation at large, sums up its findings thus: Business in the United States is slowly climbing back to the records made in its best years of "good times." Money is "loosening up." The huge industrial plants of the East are getting busier every day. Some are running full time and some near it, and a few have surpassed all previous records of production.

Pennsylvania is getting her share of this increased industrial activity, according to reports from nine of the most important mill and factory centers in the State, the barometers of the country. Some of this is due to the war orders directly, but by far the greater part of the orders being received are domestic, in some instances due to the cutting off of imports.

The very moderation of these claims carries with them an air of conviction as to their truth. Certainly they present a very fair picture of conditions throughout Harrisburg and vicinity, except that Harrisburg has been favored by exceptionally extensive new building and improvement work that will serve to better business conditions locally.

It is an encouraging report, all told, and ought to put heart into businessmen who have been waiting long for just such news

EVENING CHAT

In view of the big demonstration in Harrisburg to-day in behalf of the bill providing for local option with a county unit and a three-year period between elections, it is interesting to note that in 1872 the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed just such a bill. The bill remained on the statute books three years and was repealed after a historic battle, which lasted almost from the time the act was signed. The bill was approved by John F. Hartranft as Governor on March 27, 1872, and is to be found on page 49 of the acts of 1872. It is a rather short statute and provides that every three years, commencing with the March election, the people of a county should have the right to vote on the question whether there should be licenses issued in the county for the sale of liquor. The act contained a provision that local or special laws, which then abounded, should not be interfered with, and a special reference to a law governing elections in the "borough of Lebanon." The following year it was found necessary to amend the law in order to clarify it, and a tangled web of bills was the result of the cities to be separated from the counties in voting. In 1873 there was a hot debate on the bill, in which the records show that James A. Stranahan, then a member of the House from Mercer county, made a strong speech in favor of retaining local option on the books. The journal is an interesting reading for those sessions, and it indicates that the repealer was put through in 1875 by some combinations and because it was found that the original provisions were too complicated. The people who drafted the present law have doubtless profited by the difficulties of over forty years ago and will take care that there shall be no chance to upset it.

WHISKERED BILLS READ

The Democratic State machine came to life again last night in the House and had presented a series of bills wearing whiskers. Most of them were of the brand known in the sessions of 1909, 1911 and 1913 as expressive of the will of the people, the people having regularly elected men to do the opposite from what the bills provided. It is said that the Democratic machine has prepared about a dozen bills, all more or less following the same language of the bills of 1913, which are to be put in without much hand playing in the hope that the legislature will give scant attention to them and furnish the distressed wind bureau of the Democrats with something over which to prate in the coming campaign. Efforts to line up Democrats for any sort of a legislative program have failed as less than a baker's dozen pay any attention to the bosses.

Among the newspapermen here for the demonstration to-day were C. R. Michael and F. J. Byrne, Philadelphia Ledger; Harry Proctor, Philadelphia Bulletin; Gordon McKay, Philadelphia Record; Warren Doan, Philadelphia Inquirer; Joseph D. Ihmsen, Pittsburgh Gazette-Times; H. J. Still, Philadelphia Evening Ledger; and Carl Sprout, Philadelphia North American.

Among visitors to the House last night were ex-Senator David Hunter, of Pittsburgh, and Wardlaw John Francis, of the Western Penitentiary. Ex-Secretary of Agriculture John Hamilton, of Center county, was at the Capitol.

Representative Gelsler last night called his hospital bill the "puzzle hospital" measure and asked for support for it, contending that it should pass in the interest of fairness. He was backed up by Mr. Foster of Philadelphia.

The Senate will meet to-night with a big calendar. All of the Governor's vetoes were sustained in the House last night. From all accounts there is going to be a good bit of interest in the early voting on local option. The leader of the list is "Bill" Adams and right after him comes Albee. Then Alcorn. It will be interesting to see how they go.

NEWS DISPATCHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

(From the Telegraph of April 6, 1865.) Captures Announced. Washington, April 5.—Five thousand prisoners were captured and more than 6,000 prisoners were captured by Grant at Richmond on the 3d. Rebel soldiers are deserting by hundreds and going to their homes.

Expect Destruction of Lee's Army. Danville, April 6.—Grant reported that Lee's army is retreating. The retreating forces can be captured. Sheridan and Meade are co-operating with him. Jeff Davis is said to have left Richmond last Monday.

Secretary Seward Hurt. Washington, April 6.—Secretary Seward was hurt in an accident here today when a carriage wheel fell on his leg. He was unconscious when taken to his home.

IN HARRISBURG FIFTY YEARS AGO TO-DAY

(From the Telegraph of April 6, 1865.) One New Store. Kamerer & Stocksteger opened their new store to-day at Second and Pine streets.

Bury Soldier. John Bentley, of the Tenth United States Infantry, was buried here to-day with full military honors.

Appointment Celebration Committee. At the meeting last night in the Courthouse a celebration committee was appointed to complete the arrangements for the observance on April 15.

Race Street Poultryman Has Two Prize Layers

William H. Maxwell, 507 Race street, has what he believes to be two champion egg layers. While an enthusiastic poultryman, he has only a small yard, with a small coop and three chickens, two hens and a rooster. After reading several items about champion egg layers, he decided to give his hens a try-out. March 1 the brood began. The two hens missed but two days in the whole month, and presented him with 46 eggs. Sixteen days of the month both laid, and thirteen days of the month the other.

Cash in Mr. Merchant

When the national manufacturer advertises in this newspaper he is creating a demand for his goods. It is definite, tangible, and will be felt by every retailer who has them in stock.

The storekeepers who will get the greatest benefit out of this advertising are those who co-operate with the advertising and the public.

The manufacturer's newspaper advertising and their co-operation will be very promptly reflected in a wholesome increase in sales.

DEMOCRATS PUT ON ANTIQUE BILLS

Endeavoring to Make Capital Out of the General Legislative Situation Nowadays

OUR DAILY LAUGH

OR SOMEFIN'. Little George: Hold on, Pop, maybe I can prove a albi or somepin'!

THE VOICES OF THE CITY

By ELIA WHEELER WILCOX (Copyright, 1915, The Star Company) The voices of the city merged and swelled. Into a mighty dissonance of sound, and from the medley rose these broken strains, in changing time and ever-changing keys.

We are the vendors of beauty. We are the purveyors for hell! The carnal blisses of a purchased kiss. And the pleasures that blight we sell. God pity us; God pity the world!

FOOLISH FIGHT AGAINST LOCAL OPTION

(From Philadelphia Evening Ledger.) It is of paramount importance to the men who have money invested in liquor property that the local option bill be passed at Harrisburg. The measure contemplates a sane and temperate solution of the problem. It represents, it may be, a last compromise. It is defeated, the feeling against the liquor ring as the invariable foe of good government will be justified, and little consideration to this sort of vested interest, but fanatically or otherwise will seek to uproot it and drive it utterly from the Commonwealth.

Every box is deserving of the name it bears.

Huyler's FRESH EVERY HOUR. Our Sales Agents in Harrisburg are J. H. BOHER, F. J. ALTHOUSE, CUNNINGHAM'S. Huyler's Cocoa, like Huyler's Candy, is Supreme.

UNDERTAKERS

RUDOLPH K. SPICER. Funeral Director and Embalmer. 213 Walnut St. Bell Phone. Take Care of Your Eyes and They'll Take Care of You. For advice, consult Dr. Seebold.

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Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought has borne the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, and has been made under his personal supervision for over 30 years. What is CASTORIA? Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic, All Teething Troubles and Diarrhoea. It regulates the Stomach and Bowels, assimilates the Food, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

Safe Home Matches are Wonderfully Cheap. A first-class mechanic could not make, in a day, as many Safe Home matches as you can buy for five cents. Even if he could, the matches would not be of uniform size, shape, length, strength or thickness. We make Safe Home matches by machinery—millions and millions of them daily. The wood is treated and cut, the sticks grooved and compressed, and the ends paraffined and "double dipped"—all by machinery. You pay no more for Safe Home matches than for the kind you now use. The price is the same—five cents for a large box of perfect matches. Why perfect! Because non-poisonous. Because non-sparking. Because the sticks do not break when rightly used. Because the heads do not fall off. Because the flame burns evenly. Because Safe Home Matches are impregnated to prevent live charcoal when the flame is extinguished.

Safe Home Matches are Wonderfully Cheap. The Diamond Match Company. All grocers. Five cents a box.

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