

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 12

Sing me, O singer, a song of life! Cried an eager youth to me: And I sang of a life without alloy. Beyond our years,—till the heart of the boy Caught the golden beauty, and love and joy. Of the great eternity. —Edward Rowland Sill.

POSTAL SERVICE IMPAIRED

PEOPLE in the rural districts who are exasperated because of the inefficient postal service under Postmaster General Burleson will be interested to know that urban inhabitants are likewise afflicted. Complaint of the poor service in Washington, D. C., is quite prevalent, while in Philadelphia a committee was organized, known as the Bourse Committee, consisting of ten members of the various commercial exchanges, which called on Mr. Burleson and made complaint. The committee has announced its intention to carry the matter to President Wilson, if Burleson does not make some move toward the betterment of the service.

Of course, this demoralization of the postal service, resulting in inefficiency and postal deficits, is but the logical outcome of appointing men like Burleson and his first assistant, Daniel C. Roper, to such positions of responsibility. Neither of them had practical knowledge of postal affairs prior to his appointment to his present position. The Post Office Department ought to be the most business-like department of the Government, and if the letter carriers, rural deliveries and star routes could be let alone the public would be better served.

During the last year of the Republican administration the postal service had finally been adjusted to general satisfaction and for the first time in the history of the department a surplus of nearly \$4,000,000 was recorded. Immediately on taking over the office Mr. Burleson issued a statement denying that such a surplus existed, and having circulated that denial throughout the country, some months later the Democrats sneaked this surplus into the Treasury, under the head of "miscellaneous receipts," with a foot note in very small letters, reading, "Including \$3,800,000 surplus of postal revenues for the fiscal year, 1913."

The Post Office Department will not be restored to efficiency until it is re-located to a business basis. It will not be put on a business basis until a business man is placed at the head of it, and not a couple of professional politicians. And the personnel of the present administration and of the National Legislature creates the firm conviction that businessmen in the Democratic party are doing their best to keep out of public office.

Elihu Root continues to grow in favor among thoughtful Americans everywhere. Ex-President Taft believes Root is "the one man who answers the requirements of the times." It is growing more and more evident that the Wilson policies will be repudiated next year.

REFORM THE REFORMERS

THE New Republic comments in dejected mood over the results of the recent elections. In no instance, its editor believes, has high thought triumphed. Nowhere have the proposals that stood for better government been approved. Tammany is in the saddle in New York, Pennsylvania has been disappointing to the New Republic and even Massachusetts is blamed for expressing a preference in party objectionable to the publication mentioned. Says the Republic: The people don't know what they want to vote for, so they vote according to interest, habit, prejudice or vague apprehension. The election reveals chiefly a temporary anarchy and inertia of public opinion. The Republic does not go deep enough. The people are not voting under the banners of "reform" this year, because the reformers whom they have but recently elevated to author-

ity have disappointed them; have been responsible for evils far worse than those they proposed to correct. Take the Wilson administration at Washington, for instance. The Democrats were elected on a platform of the three chief planks of which were economy in office, the curbing of trusts and reduction in the cost of living. Yet we find the President and his colleagues spending more money by many millions than did the Republicans before them, at the same time levying taxes on the people which, under Republican administration, they were not required to pay. Not a trust has been curbed and not a penny has been taken from the high cost of living. Instead, prices are now higher than ever before. Indeed, the people do know what they are voting for. They are voting for practical men and practical measures. They are through with the buncombe of untried, high-sounding theory. They have had their lesson and until the New Republic can truly reform the reformers the people will be apt to ignore much of the "high thought" for which the Republic pleads.

There would be less profanity on the street and in public places if Alderman Herbert's example should be generally followed.

GOOD MUSIC

THAT Harrisburg does like good music and that it will attend concerts when they are properly advertised and when the people are assured that they will receive just what has been promised them is evident from the crowd present last night when the New York Symphony Orchestra, under Walter Damrosch, and Mischa Elman, the great Russian violinist, appeared here.

Music that lifts one out of the world of common things; that wafts the spirit to unaccustomed heights; that makes one oblivious of his surroundings, and causes one to see visions and dream dreams; that is so perfect that one may cease to be the critic and forget everything but the wonderful flood of harmony and melody itself—that is music worth while. It was that kind we had last night. The size of the audience ought to be a guarantee to other stars who may be considering a visit to Harrisburg.

Warren Worth Bailey will fight with Bryan and Kitchin against any armed defense program. He favors gas and hot air.

TRUE TOWN SPIRIT

IT isn't every town that boasts of a spirit that will take its men and women down into a ditch to dig without pay the cellar for a new town hall, and its boys to harness themselves as horses to drag away excavated earth. But that's the way they do things at Wormleysburg when money is lacking and the desire is strong for public improvements. A short time ago West Fairview celebrated its centennial, and raised money with which to pay for a new firehouse in a manner that won for it the admiration of all who heard about it, and Wormleysburg, not to be distanced by its neighbor, has resolved to have its long-needed town hall even if the people have to build it with their own hands.

Little wonder that the West Shore is growing like the proverbial green bay tree. Little wonder that there are those on the West Shore who are looking to our City Planning Commission to lay out additional roads and provide for the time when the whole "cross river district adjacent to Harrisburg will be one big city.

Governor Brumbaugh, with ever-increasing appreciation of the State and its proud history, may be trusted to see to it that the interesting collection of paintings and picture films, and other features that have made Pennsylvania famous at the San Francisco exposition, are brought back to Harrisburg and placed in the Capitol. That's where they belong and the Governor has already given the necessary instructions. It's "Pennsylvania First" always with "M. G."

CAMP HILL'S FLIGHT

BURGESS JAMES H. MILHOUSE has felt it his duty to veto the recently passed ordinance whereby Camp Hill council proposed to spend \$2,500 for the repair of its main street. The burgess gives as his reason that the borough has authorized a bond issue for the expenditure of a large sum for the paving of the thoroughfare in question and that an expenditure of \$2,500 at this time would be inadvisable.

It is too bad that the State does not find it possible to provide money for the assistance of Camp Hill in its paving project, as the borough authorities were led to believe would be the case if the loan were approved. The stretch of road through Camp Hill is one of the most traveled thoroughfares in this section, and one of the worst. Improvements are badly needed there, but Burgess Milhouse apparently has some reason on his side when he disapproves of the expenditure of so large a sum for repairs that could be regarded at best as only temporary.

Town meeting at Allentown has adopted a resolution demanding that the city assessment be reduced to the former basis. This year the valuation was jumped from \$50,000,000 to \$80,000,000, which was going some, but the fair grounds have been increased from \$100,000 to \$226,000. Judging from some of the figures presented by the indignant taxpayers the assessment was made in the dark.

Should Auditor General Powell be successful in forcing the coal barons to make restitution to the consumers who were mulcted for a State tax which was never paid and which has just been declared unconstitutional, he will earn the everlasting gratitude of the thousands who gave up twenty-five cents a ton when the Legislature imposed the tax. If the readjustment cannot be made as proposed, then the operators can at least make a reduction of twenty-five cents a ton on the prices of two years ago.

Philander C. Knox will appeal to the voters of Pennsylvania as few other men in his fitness for the chair in the

United States Senate which will be vacant on the voluntary retirement of Senator Oliver, himself the most modest and among the most useful men in that distinguished body. Mr. Knox has been tried and not found wanting. His quality as a statesman is the quality of Root and Taft and Fairbanks and the other leaders of constructive force and experience who have upheld American ideals.

Frank R. Robertson has been delighting hundreds of Harrisburgers in his wonderful invectives under the auspices of the Telegraph. To-night and to-morrow night will close the series.

Politics in Pennsylvania By the Ex-Committeeman

The visits being paid to this city and other communities in Pennsylvania this week by James I. Blaklee, assistant postmaster general, are understood to be for a twofold purpose. Blaklee as one of the cogs in the Democrats' machinery in Pennsylvania, is interested in finding out for the satisfaction of himself and the big bosses at Washington the extent of the damage done to the much advertised organization of Pennsylvania for the election of Wilson although it did not give him Pennsylvania. The reorganization gangsters are getting ready to proclaim themselves as Wilson's only friends in Pennsylvania, and Blaklee wants to size up the remnant. In addition the time is rolling around for filling 103 jobs as postmaster in Pennsylvania, appointments having been held up because of local squabbles and the fear of the bosses that selections might only make matters more troublesome. Now, as things cannot be any worse for the Democrats, it is the plan to make appointments, and Blaklee will be chief headman for Republicans in office.

It is now believed that Blaklee, for which J. H. Bowman is slated, the Wilkes-Barre job, one of the most troublesome, is also due. This is the title of a column in a New York newspaper. Can't these fashion writers let even the helpless blue print alone? Imagine trying to eat an oyster with flare skirts and fur trimmings.

There is something droll in talking about Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Penn as the "Big Four" in the football world. What some of the college elevens need is not an athletic coach, but a baby coach.

Sighs a poet in an exchange—"Oh, the winds are growing chill." Yes, and we might add, "The coal man's sent his bill."

EDITORIAL COMMENT

London in six weeks spent sixty-seven thousand dollars on a dancing address. No wonder England has to come here to borrow money.—Philadelphia Press.

Who said the cost of living was going up? Radium is reduced \$84,000 a gram, and a young cap now is bought for about \$13,438,000.—New York Sun.

The old-fashioned highwayman used a lead pipe, but cast iron pipe is now known to be just as good for the purpose.—Kansas City Star.

The State From Day to Day

Whether actually dead or not, Reuben P. Rinkenbach, who failed to return to his home in Ontelaunee township after leaving it more than half a century ago to fight in the Civil war, will be declared legally dead by the Berks county court and his property will be divided. If Reuben is alive, 'twere the part of wisdom for him to come home anon.

In a seed-guessing contest to ascertain the number of seeds in a certain pumpkin in or near Tarentum, the winner guessed 195, while the actual number was 196, and the other answers ranged from a measly 20 to the tongue-rolling number of 2,000.

Seumas MacManus, the famous Irish poet, writer and lecturer, who has delighted audiences in the past in this city with his folk-songs, recently entertained Sharon with a brilliant lecture.

An "upper lip" club has been formed in Farrell, is the news that strikes our glistening eyes as we rove from page to page in search of inspiration. And it occurred to us that perhaps the club might do well to incorporate a little stiffness into their membership by adding that adjective to the name of their club. Surely the object of the club would then be more worthy than the mere commonplace one of disguising the face.

Sunday afternoon, December 5, Lodge No. 175, Benevolent and Protected Order of Elks, will honor those of its members who died since the last memorial services were held in December, 1914.

PANAMA SLIDE WHICH IS HOLDING UP SHIPPING



DIGGING OUT SLIDE IN CULEBRA CUT. INTERNATIONAL FILM SERVICE. This is one of the first pictures to reach this country showing the recent slide in the Culebra Cut, which is holding up shipping in the Panama Canal. The earth has descended from the famous Cucuracha (Cockroach) ledge and almost completely filled the waterway. Dredges, shown in the picture, are at work digging out the mass of earth.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Jess Willard wants \$20,000 to fight, win or lose. That's all right. When you're the best in the world in any class you can always get your price.

—A fresh trouble has arisen to beset our already harassed President. He doesn't know where to put his wedding presents.

—"New ways to dress oysters," is the title of a column in a New York newspaper. Can't these fashion writers let even the helpless blue print alone? Imagine trying to eat an oyster with flare skirts and fur trimmings.

—There is something droll in talking about Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Penn as the "Big Four" in the football world.

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VISITING THE WAR BRIDES

IX.—Bridgeport By Frederic J. Haskin

HOME of Simon Lake, submarine inventor, and of his Torpedobelt Company, site of some of the largest small arms and ammunition factories in the world, and of innumerable smaller shops and foundries, Bridgeport is well prepared for a share of the war business, and she is getting it.

From a condition of industrial inertia, with many of her factories working part time, and some of them closed, she has been suddenly boosted into overflowing prosperity. Fifteen thousand people have been added to her population within a year, and at least thirty thousand more are sure to come. Rents are jumping and houses are busting everywhere. Bridgeport has got to provide homes for 10,000 families, and she has neither the men nor the means to build them. Eight hundred men are said to have come here and turned back, because they could not find a place to live. Bridgeport is doing her best, however, and bidding for New York capital to help her, while some of the factories are building towns of their own.

New stores are opening here almost every day. A brand new newspaper made its bow to the public day before yesterday and a chamber of commerce came into being. Wages are going up and hours of labor

[Continued on Page 13.]

Our Library Table

A FEW MINUTES WITH THE LATEST BOOKS & MAGAZINES

"As good almost kill a man as kill a good book; who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book kills reason itself."—Milton, in Arcopagita.

God's Man, by George Bronson Howard.

Three young men, clean-cut, eager, full of the joy of life, yet with wholly different personalities, plunge into the whirlpool of passion, greed, wealth, poverty, pleasure, and despair that the world calls New York's Great White Way. Mr. Howard's new novel is impressive and powerful, throwing a ray of light on the falseness of the life that is lived by those who set themselves up as superior to their fellows merely because they are recognized by a certain social set, with the consequent suppression of their natural selves and the good that is in them. (Bobbs-Merrill Co., \$1.40).

The story of Arnold L'Hommedieu, literally "God's Man," who through loyalty to his friend, and in an effort to save the family name of the hypocritical, unfortunately too-frequent type of politician who was his friend's father, lost his job on a city newspaper and was accelerated along the road down into the social depths, the recital of which descent is a live picture of phases of the great city which cannot strike the eye of the casual visitor. Some such sacrifice as the hero makes is needed to check the city into mending its ways. The New Yorker does not know his city till he reads Mr. Howard's new novel, and the stranger to New York will have his eyes opened to new things after digesting these pages.

WHERE SAFETY LIES

"I see when a man runs for office he has to put himself in the hands of his friends." "Yes, my dear." "If a woman ran would she have to put herself in the hands of her women friends?" "I suppose so." "Well, I don't imagine many women will run.—Think of taking such chances!"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Real Man, by Francis Lynde.

Mr. Lynde's new novel is in the vein which he has made his own of late years, and combines romantic interest at white heat with a momentous spiritual struggle in the soul of the hero. The scene is laid in a small town of the Middle West, where the young bank cashier, who is the important character and the one who proves himself to be the author's "real man," finds himself suddenly confronted with a situation of the most tragic sort. Having the reputation of being a mere provincial social butterfly, the shock is doubly great when he is charged with murder, apparently irrefutable. Although innocent, he flees as a "hobo" to the Far West, a transformed man with the primitive instincts henceforth taking the place of the former conventional ones. Necessity calls forth all his latent energy and opportunity develops all his powers. He becomes the master spirit in a big enterprise and is finally saved from his wild and disordered life by the love of a charming western girl. Thrills galore fill the book from start to finish. (Charles Scribner's Sons, \$1.35).

Suspicious

Friend—"So this is one of your jokes, is it? Ha! ha! ha!" Humorist (testily)—"Well, what are you laughing at, anyhow? Isn't it a good one?"—Passing Show.

Evening Chat

Announcement that the State Board of Public Grounds and Buildings will have brought to this city paintings executed for the State building at the San Francisco exposition will result in two big additions being made to the art works in the State Capitol in the coming year. Miss Violet Oakley, the Philadelphia artist, who executed the notable series in the Governor's reception room, is about completing the series for the Senate chamber. The San Francisco paintings are of an allegorical type.

Miss Oakley is also to paint the mural decorations for the Supreme Court chamber which are to be completed in about three years and which will be submitted in outline or sketch form to the board next year.

Since the death of John W. Alexander it is probable that arrangements will be made to have some noted Pennsylvania artist paint a series of sixteen lunettes for the north corridor. No appropriation is now available, but probably negotiations will be undertaken soon.

L. E. McGinnis, superintendent of the Steelton public schools, introduced Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, at a joint meeting of the teachers and directors of schools in Dauphin county, told of a double coincidence which happened several years ago. Dr. J. George Becht, secretary of the State Board of Education, had just finished speaking, and the coincidences related to Dr. Becht and Dr. Claxton. Superintendent McGinnis said that several years ago he stepped into a barber shop in town, and what he remarked about the fine normal school at that place. He also commented on the superintendent and the barber immediately said, "He's a crackjack and a joint meeting of the teachers and directors of schools in Dauphin county, told of a double coincidence which happened several years ago. Dr. J. George Becht, secretary of the State Board of Education, had just finished speaking, and the coincidences related to Dr. Becht and Dr. Claxton. 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