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One to-day is worth two to-morrow. BENJ. FRANKLIN.

SMITH AND HARMONY

AS the Mayor of the greatest Republican city in the United States and an official who believes his administrative policies will be best furthered through political harmony and the dominant party, Mayor Smith, now in the first month of his administration as chief executive of Philadelphia...

There is no excuse or reason for the constant bickering among Republican leaders in the metropolises of the Commonwealth, and throughout the State there is general criticism among Republicans of the never-ceasing factional strife in that city, which is an outgrowth of the clashing of personal ambitions and greed for power.

Mayor Smith is doing his utmost to maintain the political equilibrium so far as the Republican party is concerned in Philadelphia, but he probably finds it a difficult and thankless task. He has been strongly commended by the press of that city for his manifest interest in the welfare of the big community and upon his admirable grasp of the important relations of the city to the State.

THE SCHOOLHOUSE FIRES

ALL Harrisburg will await with impatience the solution of the three mysterious schoolhouse fires of to-day. The welfare and the lives of our children are in danger so long as these fires remain unexplained and the miscreant or miscreants permitted to be at large.

Fortunately all of the fires were started while the school buildings were empty, but parents will not breathe easy until the guilty person or persons are brought to justice, for nobody knows where or when the torch may be applied next.

The police should bend every effort toward apprehension and the school board would be justified in offering a substantial reward for the capture and conviction of the culprit or culprits.

MR. ROOT'S SPEECH THE speech delivered by Elihu Root Saturday night before the New York State Bar Association deserved wider publicity than it has received.

"Preparedness" means more than mere armed force, in the opinion of Mr. Root, who brought his hearers to their feet with cheers when he said: "We must be prepared to defend our individual liberty in two ways. We must be prepared to do it first by the use of arms against all external aggression."

One thing that has particularly impressed those who have watched Mayor Smith's work thus far in his administration is his keen interest in the things which make for the welfare and upbuilding of Philadelphia. He has a broad view of the importance of the city and is evidently determined to do his utmost to develop its resources and its manifold interests.

With the rapid passing of the first month of the year the heads of the several constructive departments of the city government are finding plenty to do in planning work for the open season. It is understood that one of the features of the Park Department will be the setting out of many trees, the nursery on the island having an abundant supply of elms and maples and other varieties for transplanting to the various park areas of the city.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—"Twins thrice in three years," says a Reading dispatch. No, the father has neither run away nor gone crazy.

—Kipling has sent the Russians a greeting in verse. It was not, however, "The Bear That Walks Like a Man."

—Preparedness ought to be popular in those districts where Congressmen are proposing that \$5,000,000 naval academies be established.

—The man who gets wet skating on thin ice is guilty of damp foolishness and you may pronounce it any way you like.

—St. Valentine and the Ground Hog are looming up on the high road of the immediate future and close behind them come Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, arm in arm.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

One paper speaks of Mr. Roosevelt as a "passive" candidate. Wonder what they would consider an active candidate?—Nashville Southern Lumberman.

Spain is placing \$20,000,000 munition contracts in this country. She knows something about the effectiveness of American guns.—Philadelphia North American.

By reversing all the protests that Great Britain made to the United States during the Civil War it is possible to obtain a notion of the extent of the temporary British theory of international law.—New York World.

According to the finding of a New Jersey jury, the doctor who, after having performed a surgical operation on a pair of forceps in a patient's body, was not guilty of negligence, as charged.

Democrats in Berks county are said to be favorable to letting Congressman Dewalt have another term. Dewalt will be a candidate.

Reading Democrats will take a band to the Democratic national convention. —Owing to shortage of money the new Philadelphia commissioners are having a hard time to reorganize their offices.

John Gallagher, Jr., Chester Myers, Clyde F. Stewart, Joseph Sherman and Patrick Holleran, members of the Braddock Election Board on trial, charged with conspiracy to count more ballots than were cast in the First ward, Braddock, at the September primaries, were yesterday afternoon acquitted by a jury.

The resignation of Dr. C. P. Henry as head of the local Red Cross bureau because, so he said, the department has become political, and communications from the Taxpayers' League protesting against the payment of salaries to members of the board.

The Philadelphia North American "with factional lines in the Republican organization being rapidly drawn to the breaking point, both the Vares and the Penrose wings are making charges, and the court is the battleground of the Franklin party, which was led to defeat by George D. Porter last November.

William Brumbaugh, in an editorial on the national situation, speaking as Howard E. Butz suggests, as the wee small voice in the wilderness, that the Government in the field is an available selection for President.

The Huntington Globe, the home paper of Governor Brumbaugh, in an editorial on the national situation, speaking as Howard E. Butz suggests, as the wee small voice in the wilderness, that the Government in the field is an available selection for President.

Back of any plan of "preparedness" must stand the spirit of the people, brave, up-standing and ready for any sacrifice; ready to combat foes within as well as without.

To-night is the night, and the big Chestnut Street Auditorium is the place. The big Clarity Ball will furnish an opportunity for meeting your friends and at the same time helping a most worthy cause.

Wildwood Park will come into its own, winter and summer, when it is more accessible through street railway facilities and subway entrances.

Just take a walk about the city on one of these fine winter days and see what changes for the better have taken place during the last few years in the character of our residential districts.

Politics in Pennsylvania

Lines will be drawn for the battle to determine which faction shall boss the Democratic State machine in Pennsylvania within a week.

Privatey it is intimated that Morris is afraid of the present committee and that the reason why he has avoided anything like a State committee meeting since the uproarious session in 1914 was because he feared the committee would be made to throw him out.

—Democrats in the York-Adams congressional district appear to be getting ready for another good old-fashioned scrap such as is now the rule in the country at large.

—The importance of the weather is being appreciated more and more by scientists. They are constantly exploring deeper into the underlying forces of temperature and atmosphere.

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THE CARTOON OF THE DAY



"WHEN I CAN'T EVEN AFFORD TO BUY GAS FOR MY CAR, WHAT DO YOU DO BUT WASTE IT CLEANING A DRESS! D'YA WANTA RUIN ME?"

TRAIN YOUR WEATHER EYE

How the Atmosphere Works By Frederic J. Haskin

DO you know why it is cool up in the mountains? What makes the wind blow? When you are moored in the harbor and your thermometer reports, do you know how to make a forecast for yourself? Or do you rely on the ground-hog and your rheumatism and other ancient superstitions?

OUR DAILY LAUGH

MARY had a little trump When a playing whist, you know, And if her partner played an ace That trump was sure to go.

Dr. John A. Brashears, designated as the State's most eminent man, was born a short distance from the birthplace of P. C. Knox.

Evening Chat

A. S. L. Shields, the eminent Philadelphia lawyer who died suddenly yesterday, was well known in this city as he was a frequent visitor during legislative sessions of a dozen or more years ago.

Men operating lime kilns in the vicinity of the city have had the usual number of cold weather visitors in the form of tramps who have been turned out by the city's tramping authorities.

Every now and then some practical joker tries to "put one over" on the newspaper. The other day a letter to the Telegraph Social Editor had everybody laughing.

The snapping of the crimson skating flag from the top of the Union Trust Building, during the last few days had more than ordinary significance for the people of this city.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Dr. John A. Brashears, designated as the State's most eminent man, was born a short distance from the birthplace of P. C. Knox.

The fifty-seventh annual meeting of the State Horticultural Association will be held in session for three days at Reading, Jan. 25, 26 and 27.