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E. J. STACKPOLE, Pres't and Editor-in-Chief F. R. OYSTER, Business Manager GUS M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor.

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MONDAY EVENING, FEB. 14.

Only Christ can influence the world; but all that the world sees of Christ is what it sees of Him in the life of His followers.—HENRY DRUMMOND.

AN INFALLIBLE SIGN

WITH the ice man slapping the coal man gleefully on the back and both in high good humor, with the wintry winds howling about the chimney, with perspiring housekeepers melting out frozen plumbings and the thermometer flirting with zero, we take our trusty typewriter in hand to compose an editorial on Spring. Do we hear you laugh sardonically? We do. Very well then, laugh, but we know whereof we speak. We place no faith in the Groundhog. We hold no brief for the Goosebone Prophet, and the Weatherman declines to prognosticate. Nevertheless, we know that under the snow the tulips and the iris are sprouting, that the blossoms of the pussywillows and the goldenbell are nearing the bursting point, that the sap is stirring in the grapevines and that Spring is just around the corner. There is no doubt of this, despite the fact that Dr. Fager has not yet found the first heptica in Wildwood Park or that Prof. J. Howard Wert has not yet discovered an onion of edible size in his famous kitchen garden. There is, nevertheless, in the air an infallible sign of approaching warm weather, even though the bluebirds and the robins may not yet have gotten the news. It is this—next week the baseball teams are going South for Spring training.

OUR SMOKE NUISANCE

TIME was when the great transportation systems and the public utilities generally didn't care a rap what the public thought about this, that or the other thing affecting their business. Now things are different. These important instrumentalities find it necessary to take the people into their confidence and manifest a little more of the human element in the transaction of their affairs.

And this changed attitude is having a good effect upon the public, which is now showing a disposition to sympathize to some extent with the problems and difficulties of the railroads and other public utilities.

For instance, the publicity department of the Pennsylvania Railroad system has just issued an interesting pamphlet on the smoke nuisance and the alleged responsibility of the railroads therefor. This pamphlet is issued in the interest of the truth about the smoke nuisance. It starts out with the statement that the strongest argument advanced in favor of the electrification of all railway terminals in Chicago was that it would do much to abolish the smoke difficulty. A commission of experts, composed largely of representatives of the city of Chicago, has made a four-year study of the whole subject of electrification and its report has just been made public.

Commenting upon this report a scientific magazine declares that two things are distinctly proven. First, that the locomotives entering the city of Chicago, remaining there and returning from thence on their destined journeys have little to do with the problem; that if these were entirely eliminated the air would be no clearer, or at least, the difference would not be visible to the naked eye. In the second place, it is pointed out that the idea of electrifying the railway terminals in Chicago is little short of an absurdity, on the score of cost, which is declared to be prohibitive. It is held that the elimination of the locomotives and the smoke from them will result in a scarcely perceptible diminution of the evil, while the burden of debt would be insupportable.

Resting upon these conclusions the point is emphasized that if the people of Chicago are determined to abolish smoke they must look elsewhere for the remedy. Then follows an assembling of the real culprits—high-pressure steam and stationary plants whence come almost 48 per cent. of the smoke; low-pressure steam and other heating plants, with nearly 20 per cent. of the trouble; furnaces for metallurgical manufacturing and other processes with nearly 18 per cent. of the smoke. This leaves about 13 per cent. of all the trouble to

be divided between the steam locomotives and the steam vessels. With these facts before us it will naturally be concluded that the railroads and their locomotives in Harrisburg may not be our real trouble here. For years it has been held that the railway locomotives were responsible for much of our annoyance in this respect, but the Chicago investigation may suggest that other sources are more responsible for the difficulty than the railroad systems. Inasmuch as William M. F. Gloss, dean of the College of Engineering in the University of Illinois, was chief engineer of the expert staff which conducted the investigation, it must be assumed that the exhaustive report is the result of a thorough probing of the whole matter, all of which makes us wonder whether the abolition of the smoke nuisance in Harrisburg is as near at hand as we once hoped through the electrification of the railroad lines.

WILSON'S VIEW OF WEBSTER

WRITING recently of the political decline of Daniel Webster, President Wilson said:

Mr. Webster had lost his hold upon his own people. They had deemed his advocacy of the compromise a base and cowardly retreat from the high place of doctrine and of statesmanship he had held so gallantly, etc. Doesn't it occur to Mr. Wilson that there are some millions of American citizens who in 1912 were "his own people" but upon whom he has now lost his hold because of retreat from the high place of doctrine and statesmanship enunciated in the Baltimore platform? Has he no recollection of his pledge to preserve the merit system in the civil service, his promise of security to American citizens wherever they have a right to be, his pledge of economy, his free canal pledge, his presidential primary pledge, and, above all, his single-term pledge? How can he draw the picture of a disappointed Webster without reading between the lines the story of his own downfall.

MAKING LAW PLAIN

MORE power to the State's Legislative Reference Bureau in its work of codifying the statutes of Pennsylvania so that an ordinary man can understand where he may go and what he may expect others to do. It is good news that the Bureau is about completing its codification of the laws relative to the powers and duties of township officers and that it is progressing in its study of the acts relative to juvenile courts, public charges and other subjects which are much before the people.

The Legislature made a good start in the Toner administration by enacting the monumental school code and by codifying the laws relative to bituminous mining and the control of public service companies, while the adoption of the borough code in the first year of the Brumbaugh administration was an immense service to hundreds of thousands of people who dwell in the smaller municipalities. Now let other codes come along and the law be simplified, made plain so that all may understand it and it will not be necessary to hire a lawyer when one wants to build a house or go fishing.

For years and years the general assembly of Pennsylvania has been piling statutes on statutes until the system of laws in this Commonwealth has become a wonderful thing. Similar and even contradictory laws have been enacted, while others nullified by new acts or the courts remain, on the books to confuse.

GAVE US A DEFINITE PLAN

IN the last decade the National Guard of Pennsylvania, admittedly in the very front rank of American militia, has undergone two "reorganizations" to make it conform to the decrees of the War Department. Its officers and men have worked hard to fit themselves for the service and have received the untiring attention of regular army officers detailed to inspect and instruct; the national treasury has furnished many thousands of dollars for equipment and the Legislature of the Keystone State has voted millions for maintenance of the Guard and the construction of armories. The people of the Commonwealth have given substantial encouragement to the Guardsmen and local pride in organizations runs high in every community in which there is a company, a troop or a battery.

When the Spanish War ended and the Pennsylvania soldiers came home, many of them went into the militia again and the Guard stood forth seasoned by service and splendidly equipped. Then the War Department promulgated a new decree and changes were made in organizations to make the Guard conform. These were no sooner completed than another scheme was evolved and it is now in progress of being worked out. Two old infantry regiments, with fine records and a devoted personnel, have been torn to shreds and there may be more. There is a demand for machine gun companies, for auxiliary troops, for more artillery, but the equipment is not even in sight.

It is to be hoped that when the congressional doctors and the War Department experts, with the assistance of a certain eminent college professor in his odd moments, get a plan worked out this year that it will be constructed to endure so that the National Guard of Pennsylvania may be expanded and encouraged, its men trained to uphold the traditions of their organization and made to feel that they are as permanent a part of the national defense as the regular army or navy and not the practice material of highly placed men who are not happy unless they are turning something upside down. Give us a definite plan for the militia men. They have the people behind them.

The Days of Real Sport



GIVING "HER" A VALENTINE

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Reports of strife among the Democrats of Pennsylvania and ill feeling against the men who are now bossing the party machine, which have appeared in this column from time to time, are amply borne out by a poll taken of the State by the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The Ledger devotes two columns this morning to a review of conditions among the Democrats of the State, showing that while they are all for Wilson, they are fighting among themselves. This is the way the Philadelphia "Spencer" summarizes it: "The public Ledger's poll of eastern Pennsylvania shows that the Democrats are all for Wilson, they are fighting among themselves. Reports of strife among the Democrats of Pennsylvania and ill feeling against the men who are now bossing the party machine, which have appeared in this column from time to time, are amply borne out by a poll taken of the State by the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The Ledger devotes two columns this morning to a review of conditions among the Democrats of the State, showing that while they are all for Wilson, they are fighting among themselves."

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Toledo limits skirts to three inches above the ankle." Atlantic City papers please copy.

—Are you married? Then don't forget that your wife still looks upon herself as your sweetheart, and this is Valentine Day.

—"So long as it is feminine gender who minds hugging a delusion?" asks Dan Carr in the Macon Times-Democrat.

—The Paris theaters are sending their actors to the trenches, perhaps on the assumption that they are more expert than others in dodging things.

—What does the Colonel mean, going away at a critical time like this? —"Measles close Lykens Schools." is the sad news from the upper end that any pupil will tell you has its bright side.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Was ever a Quaker without good fighting blood in him? There's young Tom Butler, beginning his twentieth year as representative from Pennsylvania, battling as if he were a veteran on the floor for a navy big enough to lick all creation. He's a Quaker; orthodox, too. So is his son, affectionately known in the Marine Corps as Fighting Butler.—New York Sun.

Mr. Shoott's Kind Employer [From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.] Another idea of a pretty decent thing is to have a job like Theodore F. Shoott, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, of New York, and draw \$100,000 a year salary, with bonuses of \$150,000 and "Christmas presents" of \$300,000.

Enough Trouble [From the Grand Rapids Press.] As to freeing the Philippines we always feel like lessening the white man's burden in the winter when there is so much to do in the way of cleaning the walk and shaking the furnace.

O Yes, We're Still Here [From the Chicago Herald.] Every now and then, as in the case of Great Britain's action on the latest blockade proposal, there comes a belated recognition of the fact that the neutral nations are still on the map.

HOW TO LIVE LONGER AIR-Rule 5—Breathe deeply, slowly, regularly, through the nose. Do not breathe through the mouth. If we do not occasionally breathe deeply, part of our lungs may become useless. About one-fifth of the air is "oxygen." You take in more air each time, and therefore, more "oxygen." Do not force yourself to breathe rapidly. This is harmful. Breathe slowly.

CROWNING INSULT "What on earth are you bawling so hard for, Freddie?" "Daddy whipped me." "Well, what if he did? You've been whipped before, and the occasion doesn't call for such heartrending grief."

OUR DAILY LAUGH TUFF LUCK. She: I hope you found all your friends well. He: Yes—even my rich relations.

DIFFERENT. Doctors who visit the dog. She: with her tongue belabors; But she will gossip all day long. And visit the neighbors.

MANAGING THE CITY

The Home of the New Idea By Frederic J. Haskin

DAYTON, Ohio, might be called the most original city in America without starting an argument. Bright ideas in city administration seem to sprout and grow in Dayton like crocuses in April. It was the using of vacant lots for vegetable gardens; organized the housekeepers of the city into an inspection force to see that the city is kept clean; established a free legal advice bureau, free medical service for babies, and a municipal employment bureau to take care of vagrants.

These are only a few of the innovations that are making Dayton famous. The force back of the original and vigorous policy is a city-manager plan of government. The commission holds occasional meetings to decide upon the general policies of the city administration, and the manager carries them out. The commissioners get only \$1,200 a year, and the mayor \$2,000, but the city manager, Henry N. Waite, gets \$10,000. He was a railroad builder before he became a city manager, and he conducts the business of Dayton with the same dispatch and efficiency that made him successful in his former profession.

Dayton is always ready to spend money upon municipal improvements, there is probably not a city in the United States where funds are used with more care. Expenditures each year are outlined in accordance with estimated revenues, and the town pays cash as it goes, so that it cannot run into debt. Payroll is not a heavy burden, because of a certificate showing the number of hours that each employe worked.

Each department and the newspapers are given a monthly statement showing expenditures and balance for each appropriation in the budget. All work of the accounting department is done by fewer employes than formerly. They are not overworked either. Office hours have been reduced from ten to eight without any reduction in the quality of the work of the accounting department.

In Dayton, free legal advice is given to an person who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. This bureau has handled hundreds of cases, most of which were claims for wages against employers, resulting from "loan shark" extortion. It also settled cases that might otherwise wind up in the police court—mostly fights about the payment of the expense of this bureau to the city is only \$625.

There is no joy-riding after work hours in automobiles owned by the city of Dayton. Under the commission manager municipal garage has been established. All cars are numbered and labeled and kept in the garage. When an employe needs an automobile he signs a statement, showing how long he had it and what he used it for. All repairs and adjustments of the city's motor vehicles are made at the garage, at a saving of several thousand dollars a year.

Perhaps the crowning success of Dayton's new government is the greatly reduced death rate among its babies. This is attributed to the fact that now the city has, for the first time, a health officer who gives all of his time to the service. He has repeatedly discovered threatened epidemics and stopped them. Under the supervision of the health department such baby clinics and four certified milk stations have been established. Mothers have made good use of these. Free clinics for the treatment of disorders of eye, ear, throat and nose, and free tuberculosis clinic have also been established.

Observing that a large number of people in Dayton could not afford to buy fresh vegetables and that vacant property in the city was not working, the government undertook to establish community truck gardens. In co-operation with the Dayton Playground and Gardens Association, six community gardens were created, on which seventy-five families are now raising vegetables. It also plowed and prepared twenty-two gardens for the use of children, a dozen additional of children, under the direction of an expert gardener, and turned 329 more vacant lots into gardens from which many families are now providing themselves with vegetables.

The division of parks, which has charge of this garden work, also cleaned up, graded and prepared for the use of children a dozen additional playgrounds, so that Dayton, a town of 150,000 people, now has twenty-eight playgrounds, whereas the city of Washington, with a population of 325,000, has only thirteen. When Dayton children start out for Island Park, in the Miami river, which flows through the town, they find the chances are that they will go to Island Park, in the Miami river, which flows through the town. For years and years the principal item of news in the Monday newspapers was a chronicle of the drownings at Island Park. The division of recreation of the new city government has made Island Park as safe as a river front can be. A life-saving station has been established, with a fast gasoline launch, thoroughly equipped for saving life and manned by a trained lifesaver. Live-saving stations and lifesaving equipment have also been provided along the river bank, and a lifesaving crew has been organized in the fire department.

THE STATE FROM DAY TODAY

After Harry Lauder had entertained a delightful Harrisburg audience one day last week, he journeyed in his private car to Allentown. He is an enthusiastic member of the International Rotary Club, as has been frequently said. But it was the "Rotary" Club, according to a newspaper yesterday, that entertained at luncheon for the merry Scotchman. Wonder if they had a string of pearls for a centerpiece?

The Berks Historical Society held a Lincoln anniversary banquet on Saturday afternoon in recognition of the fact that the famous emancipator's ancestors lived in Berks. John Lincoln, his direct ancestor, is said to have left that district over 159 years ago for Virginia and from there to Kentucky, where the President was born.

State police are hunting for four unidentified men who passed through Kulpport Saturday night in an automobile and ran over George Elgav, a Mt. Carmel miner, who will probably die. Discussion is rife as to whether the four men might be the same who escaped from the Lancaster county prison the same morning by cutting their way through the roof and dropping 25 feet to the ground.

Llewellyn Jones, a milkman, of Ardmore, received a shock yesterday when his wagon was overturned and he arm sprained in the melee. To add to the excitement, a young woman driving a racing car, smashed into the back of his wreck and then proceeded to "cuss" him in a manner that left no room for doubt as to the excellence of her repertoire. The milkman tried to come back with some-

thing appropriate, but surprise held him speechless. PENNSYLVANIA COAL [From the New York Journal of Commerce.] The annual production of coal in Pennsylvania increased from 175,000,000 net tons in 1903 to 269,000,000 in 1912, of which latter total 90,000,000 tons were anthracite and 179,000,000 bituminous. The value of that tonnage was about \$350,000,000 at the mines and about \$700,000,000 at points of distribution, a sum greater than the value of all baby copper, gold and silver produced annually in the United States. The number of mines in operation was 2,290, with an army of employes of fully 400,000, directly supporting a million and a half of the population of the State. That the famous emancipator's ancestors lived in Berks, John Lincoln, his direct ancestor, is said to have left that district over 159 years ago for Virginia and from there to Kentucky, where the President was born.

Manufacturers from time to time advertise their products and their products in this newspaper. Each advertisement means more business for the stores that carry these goods. It means new customers, and enlarged sales. That business will go to the retailers who co-operate with the newspaper advertising by showing the goods.

The customers interested by the newspaper advertising will see the goods in the windows and will accept them as the merchant's invitation to come in.

WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE Judge Thomas J. Baldrige, of Blair, is keenly interested in the Boy Scout movement. —Congressman Julius Kahn, of San Francisco, is to deliver several lectures in this State. —Albion B. Johnson, Philadelphia manufacturer, will address the Engineers' Society at Pittsburgh to-night. The Rev. Dr. Charles E. Shelton, prominent Stanton clergyman, has accepted a call to Pittsburgh. —Harry Kissinger, Fayette's first county controller, has been able to report that the county is free of many inspections in a year.

DO YOU KNOW That Harrisburg's plan of financing of municipal improvements has been adopted in twenty or more States? HISTORIC HARRISBURG The first church services held in Harrisburg are said to have been held under trees near Third and Chestnut streets.

Evening Chat

Numerous transfers of real estate, especially in the business section of Harrisburg, have caused many an interesting story of days gone by and of business reminiscences to be told about the city. The retirement of Harris Cohen, the removal of the Goldsmith store, the sale of the Cook property and the transfer of College Block have all brought in their train much of interest. Mr. Cohen was known as the authority on hoop skirts years and years ago and made thousands by that line of feminine apparel. Weaver & Hubley for a time had the monopoly of the cracker, while Joe Goldsmith furnished many a Harrisburg home.

Talking about the sale of College Block to William B. Schleisner the other day who of the old-timers does not remember Angelo Posseponi, better known as "The Grand King" who figured in the Fourth of July exploits and in many of the checker games, and who is now spending his declining years in Italy. What used to flow down Third street in front of the cigar factory of Ex-Mayor John C. Herman, who was the first occupant of the corner store room now occupied by the United Cigar Company. It used to be a mighty fine place for the youngsters to sail boats on. That corner store was the meeting place for many of the leading business and political leaders of the community, including the late Senator Quay, Captain William B. Hart, Major Lane S. Hart, Col. W. W. Jennings and others prominent in State activities who made this their rendezvous. It later became the center of the activities of the younger generation, when Edwin S. Herman, present head of the firm, succeeded his father. In this store room many important local movements were started, and it was likewise the natural meeting place for the practical jokers of the community.

The "Sugar Bowl" was another famous old landmark that will long be remembered. It was the predecessor of the well-known Weaver and Hubley store. The "Sugar Bowl" of the time by Samuel M. Sayford, who subsequently became a famous college evangelist. Ed. S. Weaver, the new owner of the business is a relative of the late John S. Weaver.

In 1899 Post 53, of the Grand Army of the Republic, whose present adjutant is looking over the third floor of the original building and established their headquarters there. Housed in this ancient structure there are still many interesting relics of battle grounds and war. One of the most important of which is the old Camp Curtin pump, which in the olden days stood at the entrance to the camp. It was used to pump Sixth and Maclay streets, on the present site of the Post Office station. The rooms are now used not only for the regular meetings of the post, but also as general headquarters for all the war veterans located in this section of Pennsylvania, and many are the thrilling tales retold and many the battles fought and times spent within these walls. Among the most treasured relics that are pointed to with pride are the bits of timber that have been imbedded therein for half a century and more, and which were picked up from various battlefields.

And then there was the old Board of Trade building in Strawberry street, included in the Schleisner purchase. It was for many years the headquarters of the Harrisburg "Forum" of Harrisburg. It was the place for meetings which were hardly of the kind to warrant use of the main courtroom of the Grand opera house or one of the halls. Various ambitious projects were launched at the Board of Trade and occasionally political crises and indignation meetings would hold forth. Great events of the old building's history were the monthly meetings of the board. Occasionally there were spirited discussions and at these occasions the late Henry J. Beatty and Major J. C. Smith used to delight in speeches and verbal tilts were not unknown. The Board of Trade was also known for a while as the Stock Exchange of the city. It had a big blackboard whereon the names of local securities were lettered with the par, but efforts to keep track of sales were not very successful. Members would report a sale weeks after it had occurred and often times attempts to get figures were made with the request that the transactions should not be reported.

But the richest of all the memories of the old Board building were those of political meetings. One of the all were the tumultuous sessions of the Democratic county committee. There are half a dozen newspapermen of this city who distinctly recall being bodily thrown out of these meetings and one in which the Meyers and Fritchey factions fought for the mastery lasted two noisy hours and resulted in the destruction of a great glass. The Democratic State committee also held a couple of sessions in the Board building when it could not get any other place at the time and it was the scene of numerous encounters, including a couple in which the late Senator Quay figured. It was the favorite meeting place of adherents of factions which wanted to count noses before going to the old Grand opera house for conventions and more than once men were kept in the big room to prevent some other faction from "assimilating" them.

Grand Army hall on the top floor of the College block and the Board of Trade building could furnish many mighty interesting stories of events in this part of Pennsylvania.

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