

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 6.

There is as much greatness of mind in the owning of a good turn as in the doing of it. SENeca.

ALMSHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

THE new Poor Board is to be congratulated upon the excellent work it has done in connection with making the county almshouse more habitable and more sanitary. When the purchase was turned over to the new directors on the first of the year it was in frightful condition—its floors dirty, its walls dimy and with an odor about the place that indicated the urgent need of an immediate application of soap and water in generous quantities. An inspection on Saturday showed a remarkable change for the better. The floors have been scrubbed almost daily, the idle inmates have been provided with paint and brushes and have redecorated the walls under the direction of a skilled painter, and the odor of the "great unwashed" has disappeared entirely. This is as it should be. The old almshouse is a poor makeshift at best. If those who designed and built it had expended half as much in brick foundation walls and put the amount thus saved into bay windows, sanitary drainage and proper ventilation, the county would now have a building worthy the name. As the matter stands the superintendent and the Board of Poor Directors have their hands full keeping the place at all fit for use. It is dimly and dark at best and the interior is badly arranged, so that it is only by almost superhuman efforts that the home can be kept in healthful, sanitary condition.

To the almshouse go the wrecks and the failures of humanity—but not those alone; many of the inmates are simply worn out and friendless. There is not one among them that has not earned his or her place in the sun. If by reason of poor parentage they have not been able to do their full share and to compete with healthier, stronger men and women, then society, which through its faults is responsible for their condition, owes them a living. If they are of that other class and have lived beyond their days of usefulness in the world, then they too have a right to ask the county for their keep. But not merely their keep. That is not charity. The old idea that the poorhouse should be a place where the people doled out to their poor just sufficient to keep soul and body together has given way to the higher, better conception of the duty of the public to its wards—that they should be given a healthful and pleasant home, good food and cheerful surroundings, to the end that they may be improved in condition rather than lowered in health and spirit by the thought of pauperism constantly impressed upon them by the old method of treatment.

If our poor directors are proceeding along that line, as they seem to be, the county home ought to be in a fair way to become the model charity it long ago should have been. When they took over its management it was certainly at least forty years behind the times.

A BRILLIANT NAVAL FEAT

THE escape of a German raider from a German port, its cruise of several months during which it captured fifteen enemy merchantmen and its safe return home constitute one of the most brilliant naval feats of the present war. Doubtless, the dauntless captain and crew are heroes of Germany to-day. They should be. They took their lives in their hands and were in constant danger of death or capture from the very moment they set out upon their almost hopeless journey. They accomplished the impossible.

That the raider was able to dodge through the cordon of English war vessels shows that the blockade can be run, and doubtless this is not the only steamer that has slipped through during periods of fog or rough weather. It were remarkable if it were not so. But the tightness and effectiveness of the English blockade is only emphasized by the fact that so much is being made of this one ship getting through. The brilliant feat of the Germans only serves to bring out more clearly the almost complete control of the seas by the English.

Although it has not yet struck one vital blow, the great English fleet is now more than ever the deciding factor of the war. It stands be-

tween Germany and the supplies the Kaiser's army so sorely needs. It stands between England and invasion. It stands between the allies and at most a perilous and divided control of the seas. So long as the German navy is represented by no more than a stray raider or two on the ocean, so long will the allies continue to wear down the enemy, a process that is no doubt being felt far more keenly even now than we on the outside are permitted to know.

Incidentally, there should be a lesson in this for the little navy men in Congress. If a great navy has done so much for Great Britain, why not a great navy for the United States as a right arm of defense in time of stress?

'BILL' DURST'S WIDOW

THE widow of "Bill" Durst, who until his death in January was the sole survivor of the Monitor-Merrimack fight, is alone, aged and poverty-stricken in Philadelphia. Durst helped change the fortunes of war for the Union when he and his valiant comrades boarded the "Cheesebox on a raft" shattered the hopes of the Confederacy by halting for all time the destructive career of the ironclad that was fast wiping out United States shipping and destroying our navy. Durst was a German by birth—a German-American if you please, but he fought valiantly for the country of his adoption. Yet the national government, because of some technicality, refuses his widow a pension. This is the kind of treatment that makes hyphenated Americans. Who will come forward to get "Bill" Durst's widow a pension, thus at once driving the wolf from the aged woman's door and restoring faith in the government to many a foreign-born citizen who has read her story—and doubts?

AMERICA FIRST

AMERICA FIRST must be the slogan of the House this week unless we are to run down the American flag and replace it with the banner of the German Imperial Government over the capitol at Washington.

No such half-way measures as were taken in the Senate in the armed ship crisis should be tolerated. The tabling of the Gore resolution was by no means a final disposition of the disgraceful proceeding in the upper branch. The Bryans, the Gores and their ilk should be placed where they belong by a vote that will keep them at least until the present critical situation in our foreign affairs shall have shown some improvement.

The President has made many mistakes, but he is absolutely right in his present attitude, and he should have the vote of every loyal American in Congress, regardless of party or personal leanings. This is a question vital to American liberty and American honor. There can be but one way to decide it. America must stand first. All other considerations are of secondary importance.

PRINTING POOL RUMORS

THE silliest rumor that has come out of Washington in years was that which had President Wilson at the point of handing his resignation to Congress. It was so widely circulated that the White House felt called upon to deny it, and in doing so Secretary Tammily—speaking the words of the President himself, doubtless—said: "An American newspaper that would publish a story of that kind in a situation like the one that now confronts America dishonors itself." Not only that, but it displays an ignorance of possibilities or a willful disregard for the truth that makes it unworthy the name of newspaper.

The publication of sensational rumors used to be one of the chief stocks in the trade of "yellow journalism," but no newspaper that has any respect for itself indulges in that sort of thing any more than an individual who values truth will publish broadcast a story the accuracy of which is in doubt.

ALCOHOL AND PNEUMONIA

IN view of the fact that a certain well-known insurance company advertises that pneumonia caused more deaths in the United States among its policy holders than did the guns of all the warring nations among its thousands of patrons abroad, the following bit of news from the United States Public Health Service is worth pinning in one's hat:

The United States Public Health Service brands strong drink as the most efficient ally of pneumonia. It declares that alcohol is the handmaiden of the disease which produces that fatal influenza in alcoholics. We have known for a long time that indulgence in alcoholic liquors lowers the individual vitality, and that the man who drinks in pecuniary prodigality is also in danger of pneumonia. The United States Public Health Service is a conservative body and does not engage in alarmist propaganda. In following out the line of its official duties it has brought forcibly to the general public a fact which will bear endless repetition. The liberal and contented man who indulges in alcohol will do well to heed this warning, particularly at this season of the year, when pneumonia is being doubled.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

FREDERICK C. WOLCOTT, who spent three weeks in Belgium and Northern France investigating the work of the Rockefeller foundation for the relief commission of which Herbert C. Hoover is the head, makes the following conclusions:

There would be wholesale starvation were it not for the Rockefeller foundation. The importation of food into Belgium were stopped. The percentage of indigent people is even greater than in Belgium, because there are virtually no native supplies. The clothing situation in Belgium is very serious. Unless the work of providing clothing is kept up in Belgium, there will be very serious suffering in the Fall.

The Rockefeller Foundation itself has been one of the most generous contributors. It alone has saved the lives of thousands of children and women in Belgium. And yet this is the organization that only a few years ago, when it applied to Congress for a charter, was held up before the country as a potential menace to good government, a threat against freedom and a peril to society.

KELLY—A GAME AT HOME



By BRIGGS

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

State Senator William E. Crow, chairman of the Republican State committee, is out for a united front against the Democrats in the coming campaign. The State chairman issued a statement yesterday at Pittsburgh in which he declared that the sentiment of the Republicans of the State was against getting into a row because leaders in any part of the State could not agree.

The Senator declared for representative men to go to the national convention and for the stinking of all personal and other differences in an effort to wipe the Democratic party in Pennsylvania off the map. The statement issued by the Senator is as follows:

"As chairman of the Republican Committee I am naturally in close touch with the Republican sentiment of the State, both in the great centers of population and more rural communities. I find a general desire expressed that we go into the presidential contest as a united party. Our success in the nation this Fall depends that there be party unity along the line. In the great Republican stronghold of Pennsylvania there should be nothing to mar the harmony.

"In the election of 12 national delegates-at-large and the nomination of an Auditor General and State Treasurer for a State-wide contest. The one desire that I find expressed is that we send representative men to Chicago to sit in the National Republican convention and nominate candidates for the two State offices who will command the respect and support of a solid party in the Fall. Let them be chosen in a primary free from factional feeling, but with the one thought in mind that we are preparing to meet the common enemy in November."

The new Citizens' Republican League, formed by former Independents and others in Philadelphia who believe in going back to the Republican party, got into the State political situation in Philadelphia yesterday in a blast declaring against Speaker Charles A. Ambler for Auditor General because of alleged connection with State road contracts; denouncing the Governor for his presidential ambitions and hammering "contractor rule." The Philadelphia Inquirer says that it was the first gun fired by ex-Director Porter and his people and that the statement was "sensational." The Philadelphia Record says that the pith of the statement was that Ambler's candidacy was to be fought hard and that the Governor stood in the way of harmony. The Philadelphia North American does not give much attention to the matter.

On the other hand, the Philadelphia Ledger says in part: "Charles A. Ambler's candidacy for Auditor General last night was described in a statement issued by the Citizens' Republican League as 'objectionable and dangerous.' Mr. Ambler, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, as a candidate has the personal endorsement of Mayor Smith and the support of the Governor and the Vares. But the league charged he has been engaged on important State highway contracts, and, therefore, it would be improper for him to hold an office in which he would pass upon bills rendered the Commonwealth either by himself or his friends. Mr. Ambler, replying to the charge, denied the interest in State contracts. The statement of the Citizens' Republican League, an organization of independent Republicans working for a union of Progressives and Republicans for the sake of success in the coming presidential contest, was more than an attack on Mr. Ambler's candidacy. It was a shot at the extension of the Governor's term and at the presidential boom of Governor Brumbaugh. The league's statement cleared up all doubt as to whether or not there was to be an organized fight against the Vares-Smith-Brumbaugh combination in State politics.

the state now realize that it is a fight to the finish to see who shall run the machine.

The Dauphin county Democracy shot to pieces and the leaders of the anti-machine faction whetting knives for Royal and Jones as candidates for the Democratic state committee it is only natural that Market Square should get upon the astrologer's chair and endeavor to foretell what is going to happen to some other party and how things are to be handled in years to come. It serves to detract attention from present distress.

The Newtown Enterprise, an old-established newspaper, has been bought by Oscar O. Bean, who is connected with various activities of Joseph R. Grady, the Bucks county Republican leader.

James H. Maurer, the Reading legislator, is now regarded as a sure thing for the Socialist nomination for President.

Colonel E. M. Young is out for Republican national delegate in the Berks-Lehigh district.

It is now said that Jury Commissioner Dany has gotten to the point of running for the Republican nomination for the Legislature after mature consideration.

A Media dispatch says: "No longer any doubt concerning the attitude of the Delaware county Republican organization in regard to the congressional fight this year. The choice of the leaders is Thomas S. Butler, of Chester county, although they fought Butler at the last election and supported Isaac E. Johnson, of Media. A petition to have Butler's name placed upon the ballots at the primary election is headed by Harry J. Makiver and the name of State Senator William C. Sprout appears upon it. Isaac E. Johnson has not yet made any announcement of his withdrawal as a candidate, but it is understood he will be with the organization in support of Butler."

Ex-Senator John C. Grady, of Philadelphia, one of the big legislative figures for a score of years, died yesterday in Philadelphia. He sponsored the bill for the Superior Court. For nearly thirty years Mr. Grady was a member of the State Senate, to which he was chosen in 1876. His record of twenty-six years of continuous service is said to be the longest in the history of the State. He was succeeded by State Senator James P. McNichol. Mr. Grady succeeded ex-Mayor John E. Reyburn as President of the Senate and his associations there with Mr. Reyburn resulted in a friendship of years. For the last eight years of his term in the State Senate Mr. Grady was the majority leader. He is said that no measure advocated or supported by him during that time was defeated. Among the many notable acts supported or introduced by him were the fugitive from justice act, the juvenile court bill, separating children from adult prisoners, and the Saturday half-holiday act.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Somebody ought to go tell the weatherman that the bluebirds and robins have arrived.

—The wife of a henpecked man naturally keeps him cooped up.

—Judging from his peace-at-any-price policies, he should never have been named Gore.

—After all, the difference of a few saloons more or less didn't mar the pleasure of Saturday night in Harrisburg to any great degree.

—Yes, the rumor is true: President Wilson is going to quit. The date is March 4, next.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

UNFORTUNATE IMPRESSION OF SOME [Gary Times.]

Many of our congressmen seem to be under the impression they were elected to represent districts in Germany.

GEE, BUT WE'RE PROUD! [Indiana Public News.]

Notwithstanding the monotony of war times, an event of real interest happens once in a while in England. Baron Astor has just taken his seat in the House of Lords. We in America ought to swell up with so much pride as to bust all the buttons off our vests.

MUST HAVE OUR ART [Philadelphia Public Ledger.]

Who says that Americans are not passionately devoted to art when a movie star gets \$10,000 a week?

LADIES MADE TO ORDER

By Frederic J. Haskin

IN addition to making the laws of the nation Washington has gone in for social pedagogy. There are more young ladies' seminaries and finishing schools here than in any other city in the United States. You find them crowding every section of the city, possessing an austere exterior to the inquisitive male, but overflowing with frivolous femininity from all over the country. Carefree maidens block your progress on the sidewalk, giggle in your ear at the symphony concert and occupy your favorite pew in church. Incidentally they cause the Washington retailer to go a flourishing business in blouses and neckwear and ice cream sodas.

While New England and the North-east States have been increasing and building up their women's colleges, turning out more and more lawyers, chemists and electrical engineers, the South and Middle States have encouraged institutions which teach their daughters how to shake hands and entertain in a drawingroom. In Washington, which is situated between the two sections, the seminary has found no ideal background. The government departments and buildings afford a liberal education in themselves without the tedious application of textbooks, and there are certain social advantages in the capital which are available nowhere else.

The National Museum, for example, affords a many-sided classroom, covering a wide range of subjects all the way from geology and natural history to chemistry and taxidermy. There are also the Corcoran Art Gallery, possessing tremendous advantages for the art student, and the Library of Congress, containing the third largest collection of books in the world. Most of the seminaries have special days which they devote to sight-seeing, and almost any afternoon you are apt to come across a group of girls chattering in what are supposed to be hushed tones on their way through some public building.

In the warmer weather they go to Arlington and Mount Vernon. One seminary keeps a record bearing the name of each girl and the long list of government institutions and places to be seen. As she visits each one, it is crossed off the list and the date recorded, thus enabling the teachers to keep track of each pupil. By the end of the year she is supposed to have covered everything worth seeing in the capital.

Constitutional debates are usually well attended by seminary girls. They fill the galleries with a noise and clatter illly suppressed by the chaplains. Many of the teachers are men; there is a hush and they lean over the rail with interested faces. The girl from Home never altogether loses her awe of the United States Senate. Many of the Senators afterwards meet at their wives' receptions, where they have a curiously changed and unimpressive appearance. At close range she finds that the August Presence is just like Pa

THE STATE FROM DAY TO DAY

The fable of the hare and the tortoise was repeated in South Bethlehem day before yesterday, only the principals in this case were two horses, one of them attached to a milk wagon. The race took place over the route of its master and it was too conscientious not to stop at each regular customer's, consequently the other horse won in a walk.

The Rev. William P. Nicholson stole some of Harry Lauer's thunder in his sermon on "Heresies before the Nation," delivered at the Chapin Memorial Home, Paschallville, yesterday. "Heaven is a bonnie place," said he, "a place of gold and beauty, of sunshine and glory." One of the members, who has given you best for your children, will never be tired up there."

A dispute as to the ownership of the \$30,000 estate left by the father, Charles Brenneman, of Factoryville, was the cause of a mortal pistol duel between the two sons on Saturday afternoon. Both drew revolvers slant-tamoon, and one was mortally wounded.

Scalding water proved a very able substitute for a hatpin as the defense weapon of Mrs. Maggie Ugle, of St. Clair, when an officer of the law attempted to take her into custody for not paying the costs of a lawsuit. Said cop beat a hasty retreat but the woman's manly surrender under pressure.

Evening Chat

The coldest first week in March known in many years is hardly the time to talk about the beauties of our-dorville still less of the countryside, but the fact remains that those who avoided doctors' bills and flocks walks along the city's parkways last week were well repaid by the views they had of the snow covered hills. The stream along the parkway was all surging and rushing along toward the Susquehanna because the spring water which feeds them defies such weather as we have been suffering and much of it will be this week and the snow stops at the edge of the channel. The Cameron park way abounds in bits of woodland scenery which the magic touch of winter made most picturesque. The parkway winds through the hollows toward Reservoir park has paths which take one in a few minutes from the city to the edge of a rural vale, offering promise of scarce lights when summer comes again, but none the less beautiful under the mantle of snow. But it is up in Wildwood park that the real reward is a chance to see winter as it is. The park has been pretty well covered with snow each fall this winter and much of it will be this week and in spite of the winds and the sun's noonday rays. The paths of Wildwood have been untrodden except by the rabbits and bird and animal tracks on Saturday when the park was still has its wild denizens and that in winter time they have their fun. Oak Knob, the crest of Reservoir park, offers a fine panoramic view of the city and one does not mind the winds and has ear protection. The mountains last week were covered with snow, First Mountain, Second Mountain and visible bits of the other ranges coming up, white sides broken by trees with the gaps showing distinctly against the sky. The York hills and the range along the Lebanon Valley clear down to Reading were just as wintry, although possibly because they are called the South Mountains, they began to thaw and melt on earth before the Blue Ridge spurs.

It has been cold out in the country these days, but as you are watching the winds sweep up the snow in swirls and pile it back of some tree or fence and then go hurrying off to the other side from out toward Linglestown, you get a new air from the city in a mad race about the slopes of Reservoir park. Winds make trees creak and sigh even in the morning and the rural roads lines hum the desolation of their lot. Crows from nowhere flap into town from out back of the State hospital and the other crows toward barnyards along the Susquehanna. While city folks are shivering, rabbits and red squirrels have been seen by the woodland lover sniffing about in bits of snow. The birds are out. Steelton blast furnaces are smoking up the skies and groundhogs have been seen scuttling along not far from Zhoza yards. A tramp in the country, if you are well wrapped up and have koloshes that keep out snow, has more than his compensations. It has his joys and there is a satisfaction in viewing the country in the morning, especially when the snow covers its sentinel mountains. And if you have not the time to go to the Reservoir or to Fort Washington or the other high spots, the city offers a wintry scene that is worth the effort to climb 272 feet above the city streets.

Morgan Edwards Gable, the brilliant Pittsburgh newspaperman, who died Friday night, belonged to this part of the State almost as much as to the city of his activities in Western Pennsylvania. He was born in Lancaster county and entered newspaper work in neighboring counties, being the head of a newspaper which only nineteen. He was here frequently and as conversant with affairs in Harrisburg, especially during legislative sessions, as with matters in Pittsburgh. He admired the progress of Harrisburg and commended it in his writings, referring to its spirit in the city which typifies hustle in America. In the thirty years of his newspaper work Mr. Gable won a reputation beyond the bounds of Pennsylvania. He was noted for courage, zeal and splendid devotion to newspaper work. His editorial have been read in Harrisburg for years with deep interest for they were characterized by clarity and strength of expression, argumentative, but fair as to conclusions. The form has done for Morgan Gable, but he will not soon be forgotten.

The Rev. William T. Johnson, who died the other day, was postmaster of Bristol and well-known to residents of this city. He started in life as a mechanic and prepared for the Baptist ministry. He was much interested in that church's activities and the Y. M. C. A. which brought him here. For several years he has been coming here in local optician movements and in connection with the Democratic campaign two years ago.

WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE

—Dr. N. W. Thomas the new chief of the bureau of gas of Philadelphia, formerly held that position.

—William T. Ramsey, Chester legislator and past State councillor of the P. O. S. of A. presented a flag at Eddy's school yesterday.

—The Commodore R. L. Russell, of the League Island Navy Yard is making a list of all motorboats owned along the Delaware.

—State Librarian Montgomery was congratulated on his birthday on Saturday.

—James Spear, Jr., prominent in Philadelphia, was among the seriously injured in a running accident in Florida.

—W. York Stevenson, well-known in Philadelphia club and literary circles, has gone to France to serve with the American ambulance corps.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg pipe is used in Utah mines?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG John Harris turned his trading post into a fort in 1755.

Don't Take Something Else

When you want a particular brand of pipe for your mine and don't get anything but what you want. Don't take "something just as good." It is not up-to-date stock-keeping to offer to you. You must see the quality of the pipe with your own eyes. Getting what you ask for means inferior to yourself and fair play to the manufacturer and merchant.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

LURID SCENE. Her father said she was playing too much bridge and threw her cards into the fire. What did she do? What could she do? The girl stood by the burning deck.

A BIG CONSOLATION

By Wing Ding. There's one thing 'bout this snow to-day. That has its pleasant side, it puts the Groundhog dooper out. And labels him "Just Died." And for the next few years, at least, He'll be silent, let's hope, And he'll be spared a listenin' to His threadbare shadow-dope.