

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO.

E. J. STACKPOLE, President and Editor-in-Chief

Member American Newspaper Publishers' Association



Entered at the Post Office in Harrisburg, Pa., as second class matter.

By carrier, six cents a week; by mail, \$3.00 a year in advance.

Sworn daily average circulation for the three months ending April 30, 1916.

22,341

These figures are net. All returned unsold and damaged copies deducted.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 25.

Prune thou thy words, thy thoughts control

That o'er the swell and throng;

Thy will condense within thy soul,

And change to purpose strong.

—JOHN HENRY NEWMAN.

COMMISSION SHORTCOMINGS

Among the third class cities of the State, including Harrisburg, there is increasing dissatisfaction with the commission form of government.

After a brief trial of the new-fangled scheme of municipal administration most of the cities have come to the conclusion that they jumped out of the frying pan into the fire, so to speak, when they changed to the present form of five commissioners.

This alleged reform was the result of a demand for a more centralized and responsive kind of administration, a system which would place responsibility upon the individual and that would disclose discrepancies when they occurred without waste of time or effort.

Admitting some little improvement in this direction, the evils which have grown out of the new system are infinitely greater than its benefits. First of all, public interest has waned, and that is the most serious phase of the matter.

It is quite probable that the next Legislature will be asked to make important changes in the law. Many weak spots already have been revealed in working out the experiment and cities which were the most hopeful of satisfactory results are now among the most vigorous objectors to the new scheme.

Such an arrangement would overcome the loss sustained in the abolition of the Board of Public Works, the Park Commission and other bodies which previously served without pay, but which rendered Harrisburg and other cities operating under the old system invaluable service.

Governor Brumbaugh is known to be making a study of the municipalities of the State and doubtless will be in position to submit such recommendations to the Legislature as will form some basis of action in applying remedies for existing shortcomings of the commission government.

WEST SHORE ACTIVITIES

The citizens of Washington Heights are considering the matter of incorporating themselves into a borough or of annexing themselves to Camp Hill.

This is extending the thought of city planning to the rural districts, a matter that is just now commanding the attention of municipal experts everywhere.

are harmonious and commensurate with the ultimate importance of this district as a residential locality.

As indicating how closely in accord these West Shore people are with the best thought of the period on rural planning may be quoted the following from an address of Professor Frank A. Waugh, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., before the last annual convention of the American Civic Association at Washington:

City planning has arrived. The need of it and the possibilities of it have already worked themselves into the public mind. A number of well-trained, capable men are in the field at work and substantial results are at hand.

Washington Heights is moving in the right direction. It is to be hoped that other communities on the West Shore will join with them in a way that will help materially in the rapid and harmonious development of the whole territory occupying the west side of the river as Harrisburg does the east side.

PUNISH THE VANDALS

WALTERS is to be heartily commended for his prompt effort to arrest the vandals who last evening tore up flower boxes on South Front street. It is to be hoped District Attorney Stroup will prosecute this case vigorously and promptly, as it deserves, and that the court will impose the extreme penalty upon the prisoners.

The men not only showed no regard for the rights of residents, but murderously assailed the officers who endeavored to put them under arrest. Long terms at hard labor where they could have ample time to think over the folly of law-breaking might do them some good.

Vandalism is all too common in Harrisburg and the tearing up of flower beds at a time when the whole city is making a serious effort to beautify itself during the summer months ought to be punished to the full extent of the law.

APPEAL OF THE VETERANS

The appeal of E. B. Hoffman, patriotic instructor of Post 55, G. A. R., for men and women of the younger generation to assist in the patriotic exercises incident to Memorial Day to be held in the public schools Friday afternoon ought to meet with a generous response.

As Mr. Hoffman says, the veterans of the Civil War, who for forty years or more have been teaching children to love the flag, are growing old and the time will soon come when this duty must fall to others or the Memorial Day custom be abandoned.

A CENSORIOUS CRITIC

A CENSORIOUS newspaper critic out in Arkansas raises an editorial storm over the announcement from Washington that President Wilson attended a circus not long since.

Very likely this same editorial writer, armed with a handful of passes, ducked his office duties many a time on circus day, bundled his wife and children into his Ford—all Arkansas editors are popularly supposed to have gasoline buggies—and hid away to the showgrounds.

The Telegraph has been casting about for, lo, these many months to find some particularly praiseworthy thing for which to commend the President, just to prove that even in the heat of a partisan campaign it is not biased in its opinions.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

The Brumbaugh headquarters today declined to make any statement regarding Governor Brumbaugh's contest for head of the Republican delegation to Chicago aside from saying that quite a few replies had been received to the requests for support sent out by the Governor yesterday.

This request of the Governor for the delegation chairmanship in the State-wide factional contest means that the primary election, in the minds of the respective leaders, did not settle the questions of party supremacy and leadership. Therefore, it is planned to settle it by lining up a majority of the delegates either for the Governor or for the Senator.

Senator Penrose said last night he had not the slightest doubt he would be chosen. The Governor's friends likewise were optimistic. Penrose leaders asserted that the lines of the seventy-six delegates would favor the Senator.

Senator Penrose said last night he had not the slightest doubt he would be chosen. The Governor's friends likewise were optimistic. Penrose leaders asserted that the lines of the seventy-six delegates would favor the Senator.

A touch of the dramatic was lent to the Governor's telegraphic campaign by the fact that his messages were sent by the State telegraph at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. Senator Penrose followed shortly afterward. There was much speculation over the simultaneous efforts to win the seat.

Military Training

The arguments against military training in the public schools of this city is pronounced and widespread as demonstrated by the interest shown at the hearing given before the committee of the Board of Education the other day.

Colonel Roosevelt's entire interest in the present campaign is to make sure that in the White House we shall have Americanism instead of "Humanity." Preparedness instead of Pacifism, vigor and resolution instead of watchful waiting.

Schoolmaster at School

The first defect of the Democratic party Mr. Root found to be the temperament and training of the President.

It is, doubtless, to this first defect that we owe the appointment of Mr. Daniels. He was the choice of the gentleman who rejected the candidate of the Chevy Chase Club in making him an honorary member; a gentleman whose mind seemed very much affected at that time by impatience of polite life and a yearning to get back to the plain people.

WHAT THE ROTARY CLUB LEARNED OF THE CITY

How many miles of paving has been constructed in the city? What mileage of each kind? Shear asphalt, 79,655; vitrified brick, 2,955; asphalt block, 2,92; bituminous macadam, 149; second block, 139; bituminous concrete, 551.

Only a "Ring Off"

"Auntie, did you ever have a proposal?" "Once, dear. A gentleman asked me to marry him over the telephone, but he had the wrong number."—Harper's Magazine.

TELEGRAPH PERISCOPE

The U. S. Bureau of Education says that Newark pupils like to go to school twelve months a year, but it is safe to say that this conclusion was not reached by a popular vote.

The only thing certain about the Chicago convention is that its results are very uncertain.

This, it would seem, is a very good time for the Germans to conclude the French were not bluffing about the impenetrability of Verdun.

Now that benzol promises some relief from the high cost of gasoline, we suppose John D. will start right in and buy up all the coke ovens.

Our idea of recklessness is to go into a restaurant overheated and eat a softshell crab under an electric fan.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The less we have of this kind of a May the better. As we look at it, it is merely May-be.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Johnston has too much of the spirit of "Let George do it." There is too little willingness to take hold and co-operate personally in attempts at civic improvement.

Our idea of a trusting soul is the old-fashioned Republican who thinks the matter can be settled satisfactorily to Colonel Roosevelt by having the national convention give him everything he wants except the nomination.

Co-operation and Clean-up

But it will not do for the citizen who would have a spotless town to sit back or stand aside, relying upon some impersonal power to come by magic and clean up the town for him. Men with sweeping machinery and "muds with mops" might busy themselves profitably, and an army of thoughtless householders could mullify the streets, who put the paper there? If ashes and garbage are spilled right and left, it is always the careless fault of the collector? Some people seem to get the idea that they can travel in their train and obliterate the rubbish that they make on picnics and excursions.

A Jury Properly Chosen

No recent criminal case has been more discussed than that of Waite, who was put on trial accused of murder yesterday. The jury that was returned, the large sums of money at stake, the circumstances of the young man's life aroused the greatest interest.

The Incredible Thing

Colonel Roosevelt's entire interest in the present campaign is to make sure that in the White House we shall have Americanism instead of "Humanity." Preparedness instead of Pacifism, vigor and resolution instead of watchful waiting.

Living On \$5 a Week

Mr. Farquhar, vice-president of the National Chamber of Commerce, has been trying to see if he could live on \$5 a week and he succeeded without difficulty.

THE STATE FROM DAY TO DAY

Some of the leading citizens of the State enjoyed exercise to-day that was as beneficial as any they have taken in years. The manipulation of a shovel was new to the majority, and few there were who did not discover new muscles that hadn't heretofore existed.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

NO PARADOX. The pretty girl—eh, bless her eyes! Does not pretend to advertise. Her modest gaze, here a speck meek. The public eye seem not to seek.

AN OLD-FASHIONED MAN.

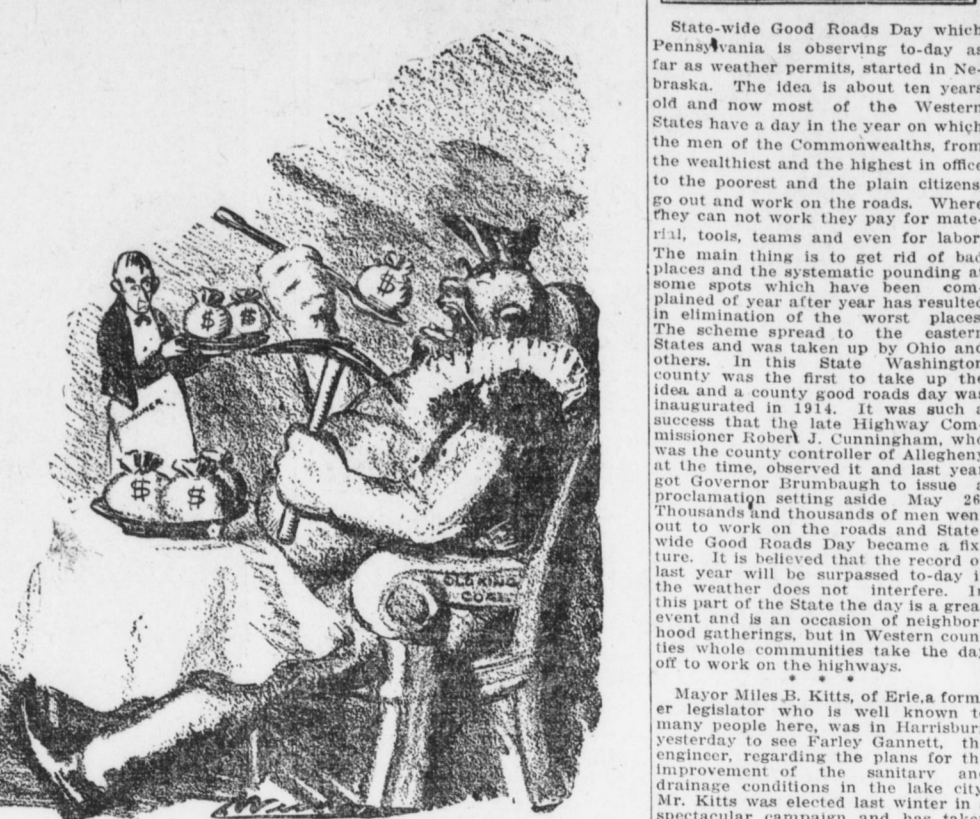
He: Your father said he would never consent to our marriage until I went to work! She (sadly): Father is so practical.

DO YOU KNOW

That the Pennsylvania railroad hauls more cars through Harrisburg than through any point on its system other than Philadelphia?

THE CARTOON OF THE DAY

HE'S A GREEDY OLD SOUL!



—From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

THE ANTHRACITE COUNTRY

By Frederic J. Haskin

THE miners and operators seem to have adjusted the differences at the time this is written, and the work of the great anthracite mines is going forward as usual. The threatened strike has called attention for a moment to one of the most remarkable sections of American industrial life.

A hundred and forty years ago no one knew of the existence of anthracite coal. But long before that time eastern Pennsylvania was comparatively populous and sturdy farmers above all else the farmers of Schuylkill and the Wyoming. The farm lands were not of the best and there were many outpourings of a hard, black rock that interfered with their plowing.

It was just before the Revolution that a hunter was lost one night on a chilly mountain-side near the Schuylkill. He built a fire beneath a stump and dozed off. When he awoke the morning he found that the stump had burned away, but, to his surprise, the broken ledge of black rock just above when the farmers of Schuylkill discovered that the black rock would burn, and which has grown great with the nation.

It was less than a century ago that these pioneers in the anthracite region built a grate that made it possible to get sufficient draft beneath this hard coal to make it burn.

It is a remarkable community that has been built up about these breakers. The descendants of the families who lived here as modest farmer folk before the coal days, have mostly grown wealthy by selling to the mine.

DO YOU KNOW

That the Pennsylvania railroad hauls more cars through Harrisburg than through any point on its system other than Philadelphia?

MARKETS OR TERRITORY?

Some national advertisers seek to cover territory, others hunt for markets, and when they find them, they are not only reach consumers, but they entice retailers to an extent not possible in any other way.

DO YOU KNOW

That the Pennsylvania railroad hauls more cars through Harrisburg than through any point on its system other than Philadelphia?