

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 1.

Do not grasp at the start, but do life's plain common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things of life.—LORD HOUGHTON.

CHOKING THE STATE

EMINENT judges who are able to see clearly do not hesitate to say in private what they think of the encroachment upon the judiciary by the legislative department of the Commonwealth. Instead of allowing these chosen interpreters of the law the latitude that common sense would suggest there has been an increasing disposition at every session of the Legislature to bind the judges hand and foot. As a result of this mistaken tendency the courts are now finding themselves checked and thwarted at every turn by acts of the Legislature which should never have been placed upon the statute books.

For instance, bureaus of the State government are now exercising judicial functions and interpreting laws in their own way, without regard to the ordinary rules of judicial practice. We seem to have run mad in recent years in accepting as wisdom the vagaries of alleged reformers who have precipitated the Commonwealth into a whirlpool of ill-digested and pernicious statutory regulations which are bound to cause increasing trouble and expense to the people.

Of course, the first thought will suggest the election and ballot "reform" laws, but aside from all this body of experimental clap-net there are other phases of the matter quite as serious. Any study of the several schemes of regulation which have been adopted by recent sessions of the General Assembly will demonstrate how prone we are to follow the pied pipers of reform to our own undoing.

There is much to do in Pennsylvania in the way of reform which should engage the attention of strong men with the ability and courage to root out the weeds that have grown up and are choking that which is best in our system of government.

COMMISSION SHORTCOMINGS

WHEN Mayor R. W. Speer retired as the head of the city administration in Denver about four years ago he never expected to return to public station. But in his case the "recall" has operated to restore him to public usefulness instead of driving him into retirement as in the case of some other public officials out of favor with the people.

When the commission form of government proved unsatisfactory in Denver the people called upon their former Mayor to prepare a charter amendment abolishing the commission system and concentrating all the administrative work of the city in the hands of the Mayor. This proposition met with the approval of the people and Mayor Speer, now back on the job, is devoting his attention to reorganizing the several departments on a business basis. He finds, as in most cities, that there are too many heads and not enough workers. Denver was \$250,000 in debt at the beginning of this year and Speer is determined to have no deficit at the close of the year. To accomplish this task, he is now cutting out unnecessary timber.

The Telegraph has frequently referred to the splendid executive qualities of Mayor Speer and his success as an administrator. We know the man and his own fellow citizens have put the seal of their approval upon his work after once permitting him—in response to the howls of his political enemies—to quit the helm.

So it is in any city where a useful public servant is rejected; the people do not long continue in their blindness to the virtues of a capable official. He may pass into eclipse for a short period under unjust attack and baseless criticism, but it is usually only a short time until those whom he has served with an eye single to their best interests discover their mistake and restore him to the place of authority.

As the commission form of government has passed in Denver and is passing in other cities, so it will pass in Harrisburg and throughout Pennsylvania. It has been tried and found wanting in many vital respects. No scheme ever devised has done so much here and elsewhere to deaden the public interest in the public's busi-

ness. Instead of the enthusiasm which should characterize the attitude of the people toward every important measure for the betterment of the community the present system of administration has had exactly the opposite effect.

Without discussing men and with no desire to reflect upon our present officials it must be manifest to the average thinking citizen that there is something radically wrong. The Telegraph is convinced that it is the system—the so-called commission scheme. We believe that almost any other plan would be an improvement.

Under the existing arrangement we have five men running the municipality. It's a big job under the best conditions and calls for the broadest and most constructive endeavor to the end that the city may grow and prosper and maintain its place as a leader in civic affairs. But, so long as we have five heads, each giving his attention to his own department and with no general vision of the city at large, just so long shall we have the unsatisfactory atmosphere which seems to cloak the new system of municipal government.

No scheme of administration that contemplates log-rolling and the I-tickle-you-you-tickle-me policy of procedure can long endure without serious injury to the community. Other cities are awaking to the fact that the strictures of the Telegraph upon the commission experiment are not without reasonable basis and it would not surprise us to see a general protest submitted to the next Legislature demanding repeal of the law or such amendment as will make its operation optional with the cities concerned.

It has been suggested that a way out of the difficulty lies in the adoption of the single-council form of administration, comprising seven or nine public-spirited men, who would constitute the legislative and administrative authority of the city and serve without compensation. This body would have power to employ the heads of departments and likewise to coordinate all the work of the city.

But the particular plan is not so important as a recognition of the fact that there must be a change without delay if we are to avoid further lack of confidence and public interest.

NOT A "PAPER ROAD"

IN Philadelphia about two months ago a western motorist was starting homeward.

"Which way are you going?" asked his companion. "Will you travel the Lincoln or the William Penn Highway?"

"The William Penn!" ejaculated the motorist. "That's only a paper road."

But that, as they say in the classics, was two months ago. The William Penn Highway is not a paper road. It is a real highway—a serviceable highway. The Telegraph has often predicted, and it predicts once more, that in an incredibly short time the William Penn will be complete in its entirety.

In a recent issue the Johnstown Leader talked knowingly of the new east-west road. It said:

Between Millerstown and Crescon there are 110 miles of permanent roads smoother than most of our city sidewalks. Excepting a stretch of four miles between Millerstown and Crescon, the rest is an unimproved portion of the route from Johnstown to Ebensburg, the William Penn Highway. It is lent from Johnstown to Harrisburg and fairly good from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. The rest is ready for the contractor and the State busy near Huntingdon. The William Penn Highway will be virtually a fact in a few months. The association can report that the road is ready in Harrisburg folks who visited Johnstown Tuesday made the run westward in 78 minutes. The route, in 480 minutes, averaging over twenty-two miles an hour, although the schedule was for twenty miles an hour and the run was not a speed contest. You can leave Johnstown at sunrise and arrive in Harrisburg without employing maniac speed. Motor trucks carrying an army and its supplies could move from Harrisburg to Johnstown between dawn and sundown. The road is ready and an optimistic disposition is our hope that by the time the William Penn is complete it will have learned to understand, first, that the army and its supplies are their exclusive use, and second that it was never designed to be a highway.

Likewise and notwithstanding, so to speak, Governor Brumbaugh is seeing to it that there is a connecting link between the William Penn and the Lincoln highways along the Raystown branch, between Huntingdon and Everett, which will eliminate the mountainous section of the Lincoln Highway between Chambersburg and Everett.

DAUPHIN PROGRESSIVES

DECISION of the Dauphin county committee of the Washington party to "continue as nearly as possible a permanent organization" under the name of the Progressive party in Dauphin county has never counted for much. Never since 1912, when an overwhelming Roosevelt sentiment enabled it to win a victory for the head of the ticket and to put into office several local candidates, has it been able to make any sort of showing.

The Washington party registration is pitifully small. In the main it will follow Colonel Roosevelt back into the Republican party, just as it followed him out of it. The Progressive generals are without an army. They may storm about a bit and make some noise and get a great deal of publicity at the hands of the Democratic press, which desires nothing more than that they act as catspaws to pull the Wilsonian chestnuts out of the fire. But few members of the Progressive party that was, and is not, will be fooled. Dauphin county Progressives are for Hughes.

CARRANZA A BLESSING?

GOD moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform and "sweeteneth the uses of adversity" are quotations which may illuminate the thought that perhaps Carranza and his defiant attitude toward Americans in Mexico are blessings in disguise. The delays and confusion in mobilizing the National Guard and the effort

The Days of Real Sport



4.30 AM. JULY 4.

LITTLE MILITARY TALKS

By Capt. Geo. F. Lumb

WOMEN IN WAR

IT is not the part of every woman to become a red cross nurse or to be in the limelight of publicity by ostentatious charitable gifts. If every mother, every sister and sweetheart could be brought to realize what a world of power they have over their men they would be spurred on to noble efforts in the cause of National Victory.

Every man is cheered and encouraged by a smile of approval or an appreciative word from one of the other sex that he knows and honors, to a far greater extent that he would care to admit.

Women with their wonderfully keen intuition often see the right thing to do before the slower reasoning of the man arrives at a conclusion. By a feminine suggestion empires have been wrecked, aye and saved, noble deeds have been wrought by men until the history of the world may well be said to have been changed by woman's approving smile.

It is said of the Japanese women that when their nation is at war they cry out their men with the injunction to "come back victorious or don't return."

The Anglo-Saxon man cannot be driven by his woman but he will serve her merest fancy, fight for a nod of approval and die for her honor. Mothers! Sisters! Wives! We need you as never before! Strike us where we are weak! Shame us in our folly! Let the devotion of Betsy Ross and Molly Pitcher illuminate your daily conduct. Help us to be MEN!

N. B.—Through a clerical error, in yesterday's article on the proper way to stand at "Attention," it was stated that the feet turned out equally, should form with each other an angle of about 60 degrees. The correct angle is 45 degrees.

General Hancock's Widow. New York, July 1.—The public fund raised by subscription in 1888 shortly after the death of Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock for the benefit of Gen. Hancock's family is the subject of a suit filed in the Supreme court yesterday by Louis D. Picot, executor under the will of Mrs. Almira R. Hancock, widow of Gen. Hancock, against the Guaranty Trust company, now custodian of the fund. The executor asks the court to determine who is entitled to hold the money, now amounting to \$47,471.

Beauty as an Asset (El Paso Herald.) It is a source of pride to make a trip over El Paso these days and view the pretty yards and lawns in the city. It is a source of pride and congratulation both, because El Pasoans are so imbued with the city spirit. It is a source of congratulation to know that they are so persevering, for this has been an unusually hard season on plants of all kinds, yet the result is the same that it always has been—green, grassy lawns bordered with beautiful trees, shrubs and flowers.

There is no better advertisement for a city than pretty yards and lawns. They indicate thrift, loyalty to city, civic pride, a love of the beautiful. Where such a spirit exists, people are prone to want to tarry. Visitors realize that is a community worthy of notice. If they are contemplating locating, they will as between a barren city and one that shows evidence of pride, select the one where beauty is given consideration.

Not only is it more pleasing to the eye, but it assures the stranger that the people are interested in the city where they live, that they are not merely "campers" for a few days, which desires nothing more than that they act as catspaws to pull the Wilsonian chestnuts out of the fire. But few members of the Progressive party that was, and is not, will be fooled. Dauphin county Progressives are for Hughes.

Editor Eats His Words (Editor and Publisher) Mrs. Henry Peace forced Elmer L. Harris, editor of the Jones County (Miss.) Times, to eat half of his newspaper, which contained an article she claimed damaged her character.

WHAT THE ROTARY CLUB LEARNED OF THE CITY (Questions submitted to members of the Harrisburg Rotary Club and their answers as presented at the organization's annual "Municipal Quiz.")

What percentage of pureness do the tests show? Daily average for the year 1915, 99.94 per cent.

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IN MEXICO 70 YEARS AGO

The Story of a War in Which Every Battle Was a Victory For the Stars and Stripes

By J. HOWARD WERT

Author of "Twas 50 Years Ago," published in the Harrisburg Telegraph, June and July, 1915, in connection with the Great Celebration of the Semicentennial of the Battle of Gettysburg.

WITH the dawn of morning, September 14, 1847 Scott's brave army entered the city of Mexico and marched into the National Plaza in the center of the city, and as the bands played "Yankee Doodle," the Stars and Stripes was unfurled from the National Palace and every public building.

As the different columns approached the center of the city, the troops were fired upon from windows, scaffolds and the tops of houses by a mob of several thousand of the city's outcasts, called Leporos, and by the criminals that Santa Anna had turned out of the jails. American artillery and riflemen were detached against them with considerable effect. Still the firing and assassination of our soldiers in the streets continued all day and near dark a gun was fired.

General Scott then notified the civil authorities that, unless they prevented any future outrages of the kind, he would blow up every house from which a gun was fired. That curt and premonitory threat did the work. In an hour's time the city was quiet and orderly.

Scott was now virtually supreme governor of Mexico, and most wisely he exercised his immense power to restore order, put the wheels of industry in operation, and repair, in this fertile land, the ravages of war. His services as a civil ruler were as judicious and far-sighted as his work in the field of battle had been courageous and glorious. With the capture of the capital Scott's military career in Mexico substantially terminated.

For a short time Santa Anna went roaming around Mexico, hither and thither, with some 4,000 troops, principally cavalry, and a few pieces of artillery, announcing that he intended soon to do some wonderful things. His troops fought several battles in the vicinity of Perote, Puebla and other adjacent points upon which I cannot dwell in detail. Suffice to say that in each one of them Santa played his accustomed role of a vanquished major.

The principal of these minor engagements were fought with General Lane who was advancing from the Gulf coast with a considerable body of additional troops. In the most important of these engagements, fought at 210 killed and 800 wounded, while General Lane had one killed and one wounded.

A previous engagement at Huamantla [continued on Page 7]

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Colonel avers he is out of politics; but we suspect he has ordered more.—Boston Herald.

Indiana, mother of Vice-Presidents, this time presents the country with twins.—Chicago Daily News.

To quiet Santo Domingo, why not try Government ownership of watermelon patches.—Minneapolis Journal.

Wall Street thinks it is promoting a Russian loan, but the real promoter is General Brusiloff.—New York World.

Senator Crane's Achievement (North American Review.)

But the kingly of the whole affair was Winthrop Murray Crane. Many months ago we directed attention to the exceptional sagacity and wide vision of this extraordinary man. Of all the conspicuous members of the so-called Old Guard, now happily shorn of power, he alone had right the signs of the times, shaped his course accordingly and emerged from a most difficult and delicate situation, masterfully by himself with consummate skill, with immensely enhanced prestige and without the loss of a friend. Since William C. Whitney successfully withstood the desperate efforts of the Hill-Gorman alliance in 1892 there has been no such exhibition of courage, determination and tact as that by Mr. Crane which in the early hours of the morning of Saturday, June 10, made sure the calling of Mr. Hughes upon the next ballot.

Cupid Is Popular There is nothing in creation that will interest us so, Or throughout the human system Radiate so warm a glow, Or to which so much attention By the world at large is paid, Or that has such approbation As the courting of a maid.

Father Adam first began it Back in Eden, it is said, And as fast as countries peopled The contagion to them spread; And to-day there is no region Where a maiden is not courted, And a maiden is not won.

Cupid has a long engagement With the hearts of human kind, And will even shoot an arrow At an animal, I find; While the birds are special victims Of his all embracing darts, And the rascal never misses In the gunning after hearts.

Not a living thing escapes him, High or low or boond or free, In the palace, in the hovel, On the ground or in the tree; And the world is only happy And contented, I have found, Found beneath the shining sun Where a dozen Cupid victims, Full of arrows, standing round, Jake H. Harrison, Springfield Republican.

The Better Way Apparently the Germans have concluded that Austrians are more effective against Russia, as prisoners who must be fed than as allies who must be financed and protected.—Florida Times-Union.

Evening Chat

By BRIGGS

Farming is a side issue with Benjamin Franklin Ueberger, well-known lawyer, former councilman and a member of the City Planning Commission, but it's the kind of a side issue that's giving him heaps and heaps of satisfaction. He finds real pleasure in telling his friends of the great potato crop he is raising and how all other farmers in and about Duncannon where his experimental trucking is going on, can hardly contain themselves for envy. The potatoes which he is growing are already beginning to push large rocks over the side of the mountain in order to make room for themselves. City Solicitor Seitz is so jealous that he goes out to his country place early every afternoon to give special treatment to his patch of potatoes. As it looks now the entire legal fraternity is likely to become demoralized before the summer is over in the effort to beat Ueberger in his potato venture.

Richard B. Watrous, who is secretary of the American Civic Association and a former resident of Harrisburg, has broken into the "Congressional Record," through an interesting article which originally appeared in the Journal of American Institute of Architects. As part of the remarks of Congressman William F. Braland, of Missouri the article was printed in full in the official organ of Congress. Its title was "Personal Observations of Some Developments in Housing in Europe," and the paper is full of interesting suggestions.

Notice the way these traffic "cop-pers" are winding perspiration, remarking quizzically about the hot weather, and crying up the calendar now that summer is here again? A few questions will soon explain the situation. Several weeks ago when the rain and cool weathers kept even the weather man awake at nights, the officers forgot all about the blue shirts and little white neckties they wore last summer, but since Old Sol is again on the job, the boys are ready to mention the scores who find in it a quiet resting place.

Around this pretty spot in one of her dark moods the Susquehanna deposited some of her big rocks, and coal that effectually blocked all efforts of canoeists from reaching the island.

That was perhaps four months ago. In the past few weeks, during the flood, the old river has changed her mind and in another of her capricious moments decided to undo all former work and, as with a scoop, dug out the entire rock, and the water level is at least four feet of water entirely surrounding the shady retreat.

But lest those who follow her her whims should argue her undisputed power, the Susquehanna has heaved up another and just as large a sand bar just this side of Independence Island.

Just a trifle under water at the present time, this obstruction has already been discovered by some scores of canoeists, to the distress of their aching arms and aching backs. When the water rises to normal there will be SOME job in store for all those enthusiasts who wish to reach the Conodoguinet creek or the other retreats of the West Shore.

The Hope of Peace

(N. Y. Sun.) The surrender by the provisional government of Mexico of the United States soldiers taken in the fight at Carrizal relieves a tense situation and war has been averted. There will be no clamor now to make Carrizal a cause for armed intervention, since it is difficult and may never be possible to fix responsibility for what happened there; but the question of the freedom of movement of General Pershing's troops in Mexico still remains. It involves their presence in the period of their withdrawal to the border. If they can move only north is the direction of the border in small as well as in large detachments they can do no effective police duty, and it is clear that the United States soldiers who are a menace to citizens on the American side of the border that our troops are in Mexico.

Mr. Wilson must either insist upon freedom of movement for American patrols in the direction of General Pershing, or his force must be withdrawn altogether. It certainly cannot be ordered back to American territory so long as Carrizal is allowed to continue their deprivations by General Carranza's garrison in Chihuahua and Coahuila.

A considerable mobilization of troops in the north by the provisional government since relations with the United States became strained proves that Mexico has the resources to police its own territory. If Mr. Wilson can make the provisional government understand that the expeditionary force will not be withdrawn unless and until a well equipped army of American soldiers on the border to deal effectually with bandits, then there will be a tangible hope of peace between the two countries; not otherwise.

The Ownership of Land

(Francis Anna Walker) "I believe," wrote Emerson, "in the spade and an acre of good ground. Who cuts a straight path to his own bread, by the help of God in the sun and rain and sowing of the grain, seems to me as universal workman. He solves the problem of life, not for one, but for all men of sound body."

In addition to this, is the political interest which attaches to the fact that as many as may be of its citizens shall be directly interested in the land. Especially with popular institutions is there a strong assurance of peace, order, dignity and liberty for those who are to make the laws, to pay the taxes, to rally to the support of the government against foreign invasion or domestic rebellion, are the proprietors of the soil.

Railroad Strike Threatened

(Literary Digest.) With the failure of "the most important conference ever held by representatives of capital and labor in tie-up of every important railroad in the United States as a possibility so ominous that the organs of public opinion implore the representatives of the railroad as to their ability to arrive at some agreement, there are however, Socialists and labor journals which would welcome the issue, as would a few "capitalistic" journals which hope to see it bring about a decisive manifestation of public opinion against the strikers, perhaps bearing fruit in a compulsory-arbitration law.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

CONSOLING THOUGHT. I thought you were going to complain about last month's bill for light.

No; I'm going to sit quiet and be thankful that I don't have to burn gasoline to see by.

TRY BACK DOOR. She: I hope we will always be able to keep the wolf from the door.

He: Well if he comes to this flat, he's sure to find the doorknob out of order.