

MOVEMENT FOR HOTEL IS SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

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plished. Having on my trip passed through Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and Binghamton and seeing the fine hotels in those cities I am really sad to think that we should lack in one essential and be so superior in others. Let us not permit Harrisburg to be the city that will be avoided by the traveler. A fine hotel with the Capitol building, parks and good streets, and all our other improvements will make Harrisburg what it should be—the State center from which to radiate and a good place to stop over. If my subscription of \$50,000 must be increased to make this undertaking a success, it will certainly strain a point to accomplish results.

Mr. Tracy concluded with the sentence which upon his return to Harrisburg he might learn that the new hotel was assured. He even suggested as a campaign slogan, this:

"Hotel!—hotel!—hotel! I yell!—I yell!—I yell! Harrisburg!—Harrisburg!—Harrisburg!"

Another gratifying message came from the head of Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart at Reading in this telegram:

"Put us down for new hotel for \$20,000 and we wish you big success. Mr. Wallower wired this reply:

"Splendid. Thanks for your hearty response and co-operation."

An Interesting Symposium

During the after-dinner speech-making there were congratulations for everybody who had made possible the success of the hotel proposition and throughout the talk a vein of optimism indicating still greater things to come. Mr. Wallower told how as the canvass proceeded he was more and more convinced that his goal to be reached still higher and higher and he had not been disappointed. He said there was nothing good for Harrisburg and dwell upon the possibilities of the new hotel, the automobile traffic through this section.

President Bowman said that he had never dreamed that he would have the honor of acting as president of the Chamber of Commerce in the year when the hotel would at last be an accomplished fact.

Mr. Gilbert spoke of his own constant and keen interest in the hotel movement and related some incidents of former crusades. He said his pleasure in the success of the movement was too great to be expressed in words.

Mr. Hildred related how he and his associates in the big company with which he is identified were by the great need to go in so heavily as subscribers. He declared that he and his associates wanted the city of Harrisburg to enjoy part of the prosperity which had come to their own company.

Mr. Herman, president of the Planning Commission, predicted that the Commonwealth would do the right thing in conforming the streets about the Capitol grounds and thus give the hotel a fine setting. He deprecated the way in which many "trifling" Harrisburgers invested in "blue sky" investments out of town instead of helping along the needed Harrisburg undertakings.

Ex-Senator Fox told of his experience while a member of the Legislature where there was a tendency shown to avoid Harrisburg on account of the hotel situation. While Mr. Fox was speaking the heavy electric storm doused the lights, but the enthusiasm couldn't be dampened and the congratulatory stream poured on.

Mr. Stackpole, through a series of occasions for jubilation; that Harrisburg had again manifested its public spirit and that the city would always come to the front when the right appeal was made. He suggested that the businessmen of Harrisburg had done the most admirable thing that had been achieved during recent years.

Congressman Kreider commended the personnel of the board of directors just announced and expressed the utmost confidence in their ability to successfully place a hotel. He aroused much enthusiasm by predicting that there were enough patrons of a hotel now passing Harrisburg to fill the proposed new hotel and without taking a patron from any existing hostelry. He thought the building of a new hotel would inspire the owners of the others to improve them and thus all would participate in the increased hotel business. He mentioned several specific instances of cities smaller than Harris-

burg which possessed at least two first-class hotels. He was glad he said, to be associated with his Harrisburg friends in the undertaking.

Mr. McClellan predicted that many tourists would stop over in Harrisburg upon the completion of the new hotel. He said it was the natural traffic center of Pennsylvania and in his judgment thousands of travelers would avail themselves of the ten-day stop-over privilege granted Harrisburg sometime ago.

Others spoke in similar veins and the party broke up in mutual expressions of great satisfaction over what had been done.

Bowman Delighted

President Bowman of the Chamber of Commerce, who with ex-presidents Henderson Gilbert and E. J. Stackpole were associated with Mr. Wallower in the preliminary canvass resulting in last night's final move, said to-day that he was more than delighted with the glorious conclusion of the preliminary campaign. "I believe we have taken another long step forward in the development of Harrisburg. This hotel will mean more than any of us can possibly estimate in placing the city more largely than ever upon the map."

Mr. Wallower Led Campaign

In every great movement some leader is developed who inspires those with whom he is associated by his energy, his vision and his unswerving purpose to achieve that which he has set out to do.

The new hotel campaign brought to the front one who has been identified with every important public improvement crusade in the recent history of Harrisburg. E. Z. Wallower was one of the little group of men who conceived and made possible the initial movement for a Greater Harrisburg in the winter of 1901. He was on the fighting line in every subsequent campaign for the things which transformed this city into one of the most modern of American communities. He it was also who led the forces in the construction of the new home of the Young Women's Christian Association and who labored to establish the Masonic Temple. His successful business career has been punctuated with consistent and persistent efforts to place Harrisburg squarely in its proper relation to the Commonwealth.

Under the circumstances it was natural that he should be chosen to lead in the final charge for a new hotel that would meet the requirements of a growing city and the Capital of the State. Last February he was resting in Florida when J. William Bowman, president of the Chamber of Commerce, replying to a letter from E. J. Stackpole, editor-in-chief of the Telegraph, who was at another point in Florida, suggested that the Moses who might lead the hotel boosters to success was not far away and that it was a good time to induce him to take the colors. A few days later Mr. Wallower, E. S. Herman, president of the City Planning Commission and Mr. Stackpole held a conference in Florida and the subject was thoroughly discussed. Mr. Wallower promising to give the matter his earnest consideration. He advised as a preliminary that an option be secured on several prospective locations so that no time would be lost in the matter if it was decided to go ahead.

Later in the year a committee consisting of Henderson Gilbert and E. J. Stackpole, two ex-presidents of the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. McClellan, secretary of that body went to Philadelphia and had an interview with ex-Attorney General Hampton L. Carson, counsel for the Weightman estate, owners of the old Opera House property at Walnut street.

As a result of this interview an option was secured on the property at the figure of \$230,000, and it was later agreed by the committee unanimously that this was the proper location for the hotel.

With important private interests demanding his attention Mr. Wallower was compelled to make several extended trips to the distant West, but all the time he was mulling over in his mind plans and details of the movement which has come to practical fruition. Those who have been associated with him realize what a tower of strength he has been and have found him the ideal man to head so important an enterprise. He has given his best thought to the working out of a financial scheme that has had the approval of the best business minds in the city. By reason of these facts it is little wonder that the leader of the movement and the gentleman associated with him have been the recipients of so many congratulations to-day. But "E. Z." modestly assures everybody who gives him credit that what has already been accomplished has been achieved largely through the cordial support and co-operation of those who induced him to take command of the campaign.

Mr. Wallower is still a young man in the sense that years have no effect upon his vitality, his energy or his vision. He sees clearly the Harrisburg of the future and believes that the new Harrisburg hotel is the cap sheaf of the great transformation work that has been going on in this city for the last fifteen years.

Previous Efforts

Any history of the movement which has now culminated in the organization of a hotel company that will provide a modern structure with all the up-to-date appointments must include many previous efforts to bring about what has now been practically accomplished. Some years ago the old Board of Trade appointed a special committee which gave much consideration to the question and at one time it appeared certain that a replica of the Bellevue-Stratford at Philadelphia would be erected here. This movement was the outcome of a proposition of a Philadelphia syndicate. At that time Henderson Gilbert, one of the men responsible for the present success, called a meeting of prominent citizens at the Country Club of Harrisburg where the whole situation was thoroughly discussed. At that meeting over \$100,000 was subscribed as an evidence of good faith upon the part of the Harrisburg people. Omitting the details it need only be said that the syndicate failed to convince investors of the propriety of the proposition and much to the regret of those who had given a great deal of time and effort to developing the plan it was abandoned.

At another time promoters of a combination of hotels came to Harrisburg and were much impressed with the opening here for such an enterprise. He said that he had always believed that the citizens of Harrisburg when the proposition was presented in the right way would come to the front and he had not been disappointed. He believed that with proper management, which could be practically assured, the hotel would be a signal success. It had passed beyond the stage of pro bono publico; it was now a business as well as a civic matter.

Regarding the site, Mr. Wallower suggested that the new hotel at Third and Walnut streets will command a fine view of the Capitol Park and the river and the surrounding country; that it will be in the very heart of the activities of the city, across the street from the Federal building and within a stone's throw of the railroad stations—all these considerations being important to such an enterprise.

Perhaps the most interesting statement by Mr. Wallower was that the

at his own expense, but the interest was not then sufficient to bring about a successful proposition.

Every president of the important central trade body of the city has urged the hotel matter year after year, but it was not until this summer that what looked almost like a hopeless situation was cleared through the energy and initiative of those who got behind Mr. Wallower's leadership.

Outline of the Plan

In submitting the matter to the subscribers last night Mr. Wallower said it was not necessary to discuss the details of the plan—that was self-evident; that for many years the city had been hoping that outside interests would do for us that which it is now apparent we must undertake for ourselves. He said that he had always believed that the citizens of Harrisburg when the proposition was presented in the right way would come to the front and he had not been disappointed. He believed that with proper management, which could be practically assured, the hotel would be a signal success. It had passed beyond the stage of pro bono publico; it was now a business as well as a civic matter.

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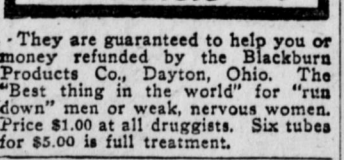
You have headaches, backaches, shattered nerves. Your ambition is gone, extremities cold or numb, heart flutters, kidneys inactive, vitality low, confidence gone, life seems hopeless. Dependancy attacks you—your friends desert you, you're not interesting, energetic, full of life and vitality.

AFTER TAKING

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