

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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THURSDAY EVENING, NOV. 23

Let me put myself wholly at God's service, whatever I may be; greatness is not called for, but "meekness" for the Master's use.—W. L. WATKINSON.

WHAT NEXT? THE fate of the Adamson law in the Supreme Court of the United States in all probability is forecasted by the decision of the district court declaring it to be unconstitutional.

The opinion was widely expressed at the time the bill was framed that it would not stand in court, for the reason it favored one set of employees over another, and, therefore, was class legislation.

With the eight-hour day there can be no quarrel. The printing trades, for example, have had it for years, and many other trades organizations with them.

The dignity and indeed the very stability of the government were put in jeopardy by the political expedient of an administration with an eye only to its immediate advantage.

When the Supreme Court shall have thrown out the Adamson act, what next? To what new humiliation will the President submit?

TERRAPIN TALK THE Baltimore American sheds tears of anguish over the price of diamondback terrapin—\$120 a dozen—and urges Eastern Shore fishermen to take up seriously artificial propagation of this fast disappearing type of turtle.

The American is talking twenty miles over the head of Mr. Average Consumer. If the editor wants company in his misery, let him weep over the price of eggs and flour, or bacon and potatoes—or, if he must talk in terms of luxuries, let him sob over the soaring cost of Thanksgiving turkey.

But, grow heartbroken over \$10 terrapin when baked beans have risen to a proud place on the menu of millionaires, and with eggs so high that John D., Jr., boasts if he has had two for breakfast? No, siree! We have no quarrel with terrapin as such, but if ever we get hold of a pair or two we'll take 'em right down town and trade 'em off for a quart of cornmeal, or a pound of pork pudding, or something filling.

WON'T it be fine to be able to go down to the Penn-Harris for "that little dinner?"

BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE CHICAGO is trying the experiment of 8-cent meals. The idea is to prove that the cost of living can be reduced, if there exists the will to sacrifice the good things of the table for the substantial.

Perhaps 8-cent meals are possible. It is to be suspected that they are. But the Chicago authorities are approaching the problem from the wrong angle.

AMERICANS no doubt do need some lessons in the gentle art of paring the grocery bill, but when governmental authorities endeavor to teach the con-

sumer to live off the dregs, while the better portions are either sent to Europe or held here for exorbitant prices, they are barking up the wrong tree. What the people want is cheaper groceries, not inferior qualities at prices formerly charged for first-class goods.

A good many families are on the point of deciding that "chicken is just as good as turkey, anyhow."

HOME! THERE was found among the effects of a young German soldier, killed when an English tank bestrode the trench he defended in Picardy a few weeks ago, an envelope written over and over, until not a space remained on which another letter could find place.

"Home!" "Home!" How many German lads, far from the scenes of their childhood, have reenacted the scenes depicted in that classic of school day recitations—"Bingen on the Rhine?"

"Oh for the purple harvests Of the days when I was young! Of the merry grape-stained maidens And the pleasant songs they sung! Oh for the breath of vineyards, Of apples and nuts and wine; For an oar to row and a breeze to blow Down the grand old River Rhine."

When it comes to potatoes, or any other kind of farm produce, Cumberland county can be relied upon to do its part.

FAVOR A SHORT SESSION THERE has been widespread popular approval of the suggestion that the forthcoming session of the Legislature shall be short and to the point.

For several years the industrial, commercial and manufacturing interests throughout the Commonwealth have been almost constantly demoralized as a result of the ceaseless attempts to regulate business by legislation.

While no disturbing bills are in sight, it has been the common experience of the important interests which have been so seriously affected in the past that every session produces a new avalanche of statutory "reforms" of one kind or another.

Under the Constitution the Legislature convenes the first week in January and it has been the rule for years to fritter away week after week in the killing of time.

There is nothing to gain politically or otherwise in a long-drawn-out session of the Legislature. We don't wonder the business men have decided to take a hand in forcing an early adjournment.

BRUNNER AND MANNING NO time has been lost by the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings in getting Arnold W. Brunner and Warren H. Manning busy on their study of the proposed permanent treatment of the Capitol Park zone.

In fact, it wasn't necessary to even urge an immediate study of the problem upon these distinguished planners; they had already made a preliminary inspection of the property, and it is certain that some comprehensive suggestions will come from their collaboration.

The topographical surveys of the old and new sections of the Capitol Park, which were completed by the young engineers of the State College some time ago, and all other data in the hands of Superintendent Rambo were forwarded to Mr. Brunner immediately after the conference a few days ago, and it is expected Governor Brumbaugh will submit the drawings and recommendations of the landscape architects to the Legislature early in the session.

It is indeed fortunate that the three officials comprising the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings—Governor Brumbaugh, State Treasurer Young and Auditor General Powell—are so greatly interested in the working out of this problem, which means so much to the future of the Capitol environment.

FACTS CONTROVERT CLAIMS SAYS a leading Democratic editor on the Pacific coast: In the past three and one-half years, every act by the American Government has been a move to make prosperity.

Prosperity for whom? At the time the Wilson administration came into power, we were selling other nations more goods than we were buying from them.

The acts that made for prosperity in this country were not the acts of this government, but the acts of the governments that went into war.

THOSE NEW POLICE RULES



Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

One hundred and twelve of the men who sat in the last House of Representatives have been re-elected, according to the reports which have been received here from counties. These reports are in advance of the official returns, which will commence to come in as soon as the soldier vote is all counted. The House contains 207 members, so that there is a rather large proportion of new men.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Suggestion for a 60,000-ton battleship sounds good, but not to retire the rest of the navy to supply a crew for it.—Wall Street Journal.

We fear that the Prohibition candidate will never receive a majority vote in this country until election day is shoved up to January 1.—Philadelphia North American.

We've had a "100 per cent. candidate," a "50-50" election, and now why not a 100 per cent. President?—Philadelphia North American.

Future of Shadow Lawn

The sumptuous estate at Shadow Lawn, having served as a summer White House, it is not surprising to hear that there is a feeling in that neighborhood in favor of making it so permanently. Something is said about a popular subscription to purchase it and make it a gift to the government.

Universal Peace a Dream? A contribution to one of the current magazines upon "The Dream of Universal Peace" carries in its very caption a gentle suggestion that universal peace is nothing but a dream.

She Was Shopping She had been sitting in the furniture shop for nearly two hours, inspecting the stock of linoleums. Ray, the portly perspiring assistant brought out, but still she seemed dissatisfied.

Time to Avoid Blunders Let President Wilson take plenty of time in selecting his next Cabinet. No time is wasted that will enable him to avoid the blunders made in choosing his present Cabinet.—Kansas City Journal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE METHODIST MEETING To the Editor of the Telegraph: Pennsylvania Methodists are to be congratulated on initiating and carrying forward to completion their great convention of men which has just closed its three-day session in this city.

OUR DAILY LAUGH ONE FOR DAD. Do you know anything, pa? Yes, my son. What's the difference between a son of a gun and the pop of a pistol? Who was that girl who sang at the Bangs musical last night? That was their daughter. She was studying music in Europe but had to come home on account of the war. Gee! War is a terrible thing, isn't it?

NO WOMAN DOES. Do you believe everything your husband tells you? Yes, everything except his excuses for being late to dinner.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE —Marcus Aaron, member of the State Board of Education, is making it his business to teachers' salaries in his end of the State. —General W. G. Price, of Chester, commander of the First Brigade, looks for a call to duty and honor. —The Pittsburgh railroad man, has been touring parts of the State looking over routes for extensions to tap new coal fields. —H. M. Landis, the city treasurer of Pittsburgh, is seriously ill. —Mayor Franke, of Johnstown, is planning a municipal Christmas tree.

DO YOU KNOW That Harrisburg is an important telegraphic relay center and that thousands of wires pass through here? HISTORIC HARRISBURG Harrisburg's first public improvement was clearing dams from Faxton creek.

Evening Chat

Mention the other evening of the sad experience of some Harrisburg newspaper reporters in an effort to interview Wu Ting Fang while he was several years ago stirred the memories of a man who does not live here now but who has some recollections of newspaper work in Harrisburg years ago. They then proceeded to report the end of visits of famous men to the State Capital. Also they show that the really big men of fifty years ago were just about approachable as the statesmen of to-day.

President McKinley was the most affable president anyone would want to meet and while he would talk freely to newspapermen, he never allowed anything to be published unless it came out in typewritten form. Major McKinley used to travel a great deal on the Pennsylvania Railroad and when his train chanced enroute here he would get out and walk around. He would gather newspapermen about him and tell stories, but there is not on record any of the fine stories about his trip, including some amusing incidents in which crowned heads figured, but the general refused to let any of them be printed.

Speaking about interviews at Union station also brings to mind how two scribbled-up notes in the pocket of an English minister as he was passing through this city on his way to Canada right after the breaking out of the war in 1914. In some way they got into his private bag, probably by mistake on the train and the United States secret service men detailed to guard him and his own staff were all in the rear. They probably expected the minister would be boarded by some dreadful patriotic hothead. The minister was getting ready for bed. Indeed, he was almost ready when the newspapermen walked in. He was probably expecting to be asked for a statement, but before he could reply an adjoining berth grew a gigantic porter, a valet came in through four bobbies in arms, two fathers or mothers and chucked two under the chin and shook hands with the others.

Charles Warren Fairbanks is an example of the newspaperman in public life who is not afraid to talk. When he was president of the Associated Press he had to stop here many times to change trains and was always willing to talk, guardedly, it is true, but to talk on important matters. And he always had something worth while to say. It happens that in his younger days Mr. Fairbanks was the representative of the Associated Press in Indianapolis and Pittsburgh.

William Jennings Bryan who is the champion interviewer granter, is another former newspaper worker. He still writes but he does not do it as hard as in the days when he used to chase political stories for Omaha newspapers. Once he stopped here on some trip and was attracted by the attention and newspapermen were awaiting him with telegrams ordering them to ask the Nebraskan various things. When Mr. Bryan left his car he walked up the group and said: "Now, boys, I want to find something out." Then he asked probably half a dozen questions about what news was on the wire and what was going on at Washington and so on. Then, turning around, he said, "Now, you fellows, take your turn."

Two of Pennsylvania's most noted United States Senators had a few questions very much like those of Mr. Wu. Only, they knew about everyone in the State and they did not ask the questions to party, as did the other Celestial. They wanted to "place" their questioner. The two men noted for questions were Matthew Stanley Quay and the Honorable Charles D. Walcott. The first query was by the newspapermen who went up against them for the first time got was "Where do you live?" or "Who was your father?" And if you came from that part of Pennsylvania nine times out of ten they knew whence you sprang.

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