

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

Founded 1832

Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO., Telegraph Building, Federal Square.

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Member American Newspaper Publishers' Association, The Audit Bureau of Circulation and Pennsylvania Associated Dailies.

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

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

FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 15

No one is useless in the world who lightens the burden of it for anyone else.—DICKENS.

PLANNING COMMISSION WORK

THE sale of the old Heister property and the announcement that this famous fruit farm is to be broken up into building lots emphasizes the importance of the City Planning Commission's recent work in the district lying between the northern city line and the Rockville mountains.

The law fortunately provides that in case the Planning Commission disapproves of any plan or part of a plan submitted for approval it may make its own plotting survey and submit it to the owners or promoters. This gives ample opportunity both to safeguard the interests of the public and to reach a satisfactory understanding on both sides.

The seventeen-year-old locust is due again next year, but the San Jose scale we have always with us.

IS AMERICA SLIPPING?

IN this day of the whirling aeroplane and the cigarette-smoking society girl, the evidence is everywhere present that "the old order changeth!" America is in a transitional period whence she will emerge in years to come for better or for worse.

A somewhat lugubrious prospect, it may be said. Perhaps so, but it is not true that there is something lacking in present-day life to that full-grown Americanism which in this age is mixed with a heavy dash of Mammonism? America is personified into the figure of the Almighty Dollar in the minds of foreign nations.

Closely allied with the outcome of the European struggle is the welfare of America, commercially and spiritually. From among the many issues quoted as having caused the war, one great fact now stands forth; the struggle is a battle for supremacy between the Democratic ideal, the rule of the people, the fostering of individualism on one side, and the Teutonic conception of the sovereignty of the State, the suppression of the individual to governmental efficiency in the hands of a few, and the uber-alles quality of the German Kultur.

The history and traditions of America bind us inseparably on the side of the former. And if the democratic ideal is worth anything, it is worth cherishing. One way to do this is to render our shores impregnable to foreign attack and to place our armed forces on an equality with those nations with whom war is possible.

Here we have a fine job for the youngest son, or the poor cousin, or the aged grandfather, or the broken-down uncle. It is a wise piece of legislation from the standpoint of the Congressman with a large number of dependents on his hands, or who is in Congress not so much for what he can put into his job as for what he can take out.

Next session, perhaps, it will be found possible to give each Congressman an automobile with a liveried attendant or a suite at the new Willard, with butler and valets thrown in. Or may be it will be discovered that on account of the high cost of living \$75 is an inadequate salary, and that it can be doubled without much protest on the part of those efficient watchdogs of the treasury who went into office on a platform of economy and efficiency, and whose policy in office

influence, it behooves us to awake from the satisfied state of security into which we have been lulled by a temporary shifting of the scales in our favor.

It is to be hoped that Congress will act wisely at its next session with a view to working out some adequate method of military training and patriotic education of our youth, maintaining the proper balance between an over-zealous tendency toward militarism and an under-courageous willingness to look the facts squarely in the face with respect to our still woeful unpreparedness.

It is suspected that the Kaiser is beginning to find that the best kind of a trench is that made by a plow.

EFFECT OF FOOD BOYCOTT

FOOD prices on the Harrisburg markets declined sharply the past week. This is remarkable because usually just before Christmas increased demand and willingness of people to buy at any figure have combined to cause advances in many lines.

The federal government has thrown up its hands and confesses its inability—rather, its unwillingness—to attempt criminal prosecutions, just as everybody familiar with the department of justice as at present organized could have forecasted from the beginning, so that the only weapon remaining at the hand of the housewife is her own decision not to buy any food that appears to be higher than conditions justify.

How well the local boycott works when applied in that manner is shown by the fact that turkeys will be cheaper at Christmas than at Thanksgiving, because hundreds of Harrisburgers who ordinarily dined on a holiday dish of roast turkey declined to be held up by dealers intent upon wresting the last penny from their patrons.

Just so long as sellers of foodstuffs—and this includes producers, jobbers, wholesalers and retailers—think the public will stand for top-notch prices; just so long will top-notch prices prevail. It is only natural, perhaps, to sell at the highest possible market figure. But when the food merchants find demand falling off and their patrons refusing to buy, just as naturally there is a readjustment of prices, of course within the limits of the law of natural supply and demand, which, by the way, has very little to do with recent efforts to make the consumer pay unreasonable profits.

FARMER AND CONSUMER

THE Grangers in session in Philadelphia this week discussed at length plans to eliminate the middle man by bringing the farmer and the consumer into direct contact. Produce direct from the farm to the household unquestionably would tend to improve the quality and lessen the cost, while yielding higher profits to the farmer.

Salesmanship and deliveries, which make city business on its present scale possible, are largely unknown to the farmer. The getting of fruits, vegetables, meats and dairy products from the farm to the city is the big factor in price regulation. Thousands of barrels of orchard and garden crops go to waste every year in districts isolated from the railroads that would bring fair prices in town. The great problem is how to get them there.

Perhaps good roads, motor trucks and trolley lines may some day bring about the desired result. But until some such developments come about and the farmer learns how to sell direct, there is little chance that the middle man will be displaced, even by the parcel post.

Where's that scoundrel who has been complaining that there are no longer any "old-fashioned winters?"

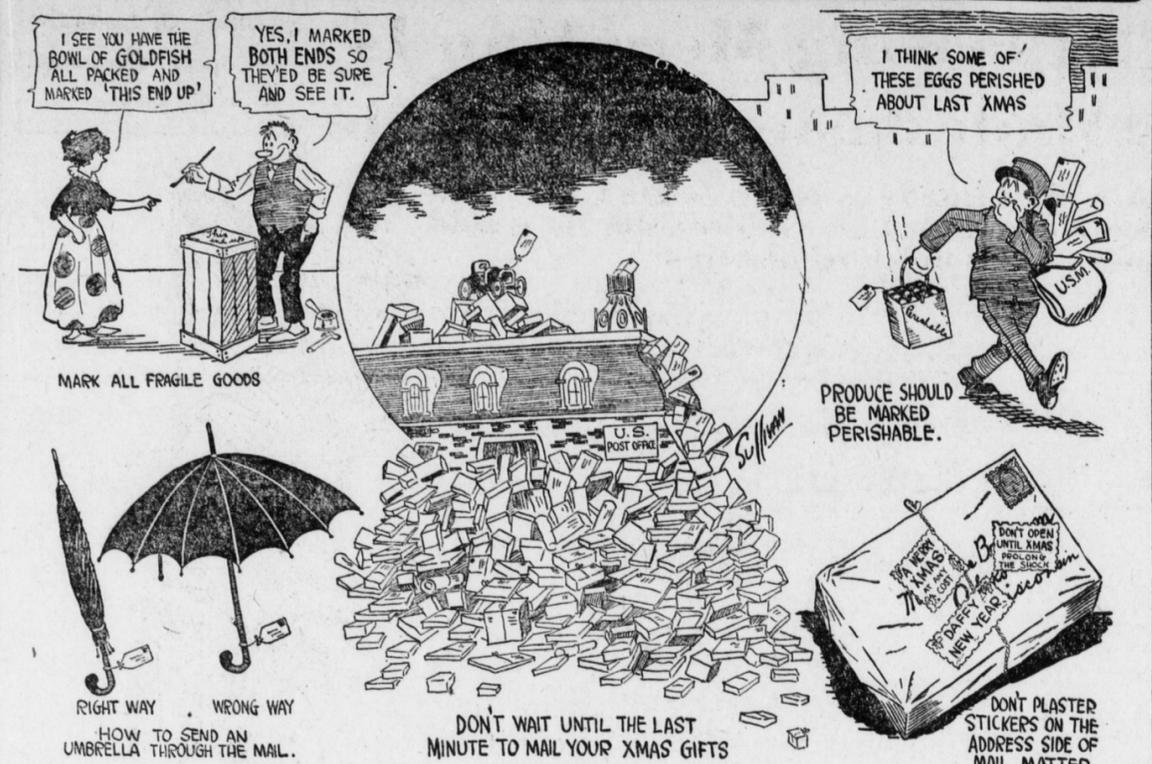
TRUE DEMOCRACY

TRUE Jeffersonian Democracy, of the Wilsonian strain, put over another one at Washington this week that will make voters wonder how many more salaries are to be tacked on to the already over-burdened governmental expenses. Each Congressman, it is proposed, shall have an employe at a wage of \$75 a month—in addition to the regular secretary.

Here we have a fine job for the youngest son, or the poor cousin, or the aged grandfather, or the broken-down uncle. It is a wise piece of legislation from the standpoint of the Congressman with a large number of dependents on his hands, or who is in Congress not so much for what he can put into his job as for what he can take out.

Next session, perhaps, it will be found possible to give each Congressman an automobile with a liveried attendant or a suite at the new Willard, with butler and valets thrown in. Or may be it will be discovered that on account of the high cost of living \$75 is an inadequate salary, and that it can be doubled without much protest on the part of those efficient watchdogs of the treasury who went into office on a platform of economy and efficiency, and whose policy in office

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS MAILING EARLY!



I SEE YOU HAVE THE BOWL OF GOLDFISH ALL PACKED AND MARKED 'THIS END UP'

YES, I MARKED BOTH ENDS SO THEY'LL BE SURE AND SEE IT.

I THINK SOME OF THESE EGGS PERISHED ABOUT LAST XMAS

MARK ALL FRAGILE GOODS

RIGHT WAY WRONG WAY HOW TO SEND AN UMBRELLA THROUGH THE MAIL.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAIL YOUR XMAS GIFTS

PRODUCE SHOULD BE MARKED PERISHABLE.

DON'T PLASTER STICKERS ON THE ADDRESS SIDE OF MAIL MATTER

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

appears to be founded on the theory that money is made to spend and that, being the root of all evil, it should be spent as quickly as possible.

How mild the Pankhurst riots of a few years back must seem to London.

Unbelievable as it may seem to some of the nations at war, America would welcome a permanent peace at any material cost to herself.

Governor Brumbaugh's adoption of a drastic policy to further the selection of Representative Edwin R. Cox as the Republican candidate for speaker of the House, as evidenced by his request for the resignation of A. Nevin Pomeroy, superintendent of public printing and binding, has attracted no end of attention all over the State, and it is generally believed that the Governor will go further to show that he was in earnest when he said he had "rolled up his sleeves" to help the South Philadelphia.

Opinion appears to differ whether the Governor and his friends will be able to get control of the organization of the House which is vital to them because the Senate is generally classed as anti-Administration. The Governor yesterday expressed the greatest confidence in his ability to get the members necessary to win, but it was not until he took the axe in hand yesterday that some of his principle supporters believed he had a fighting chance. On the other hand friends of Richard J. Baldwin assert that he has over 100 members and declare that the Governor has not made any "converts" through his conversational methods.

It is declared that there is no politics in the request for resignation of James McKirdy, assistant director of the State Legislative Reference Bureau. It was denied at the bureau that McKirdy had been asked to resign, but he had nevertheless, while some people were denying it, McKirdy has been the alleged cause of friction. He is a man of unusual ability in his line and has done valuable work. W. H. Wacker, who is in the law office of Compensation Chairman Harry A. Mackey in Philadelphia, was picked out by some of the industrialists to be Auditor General-elect. McKirdy, who says sentimentally that he has no favors to ask, but many to give, appears to think that John H. Ferrig, of Pottsville, the comptroller of the bureau and one of its legal lights, should have the place. Hence Mr. Wacker will have to possess his soul in patience as the Administration is not going to be falling out with the potential Snyder.

The Baldwin people stood fast to a claim of \$15 million to buy and said that the failure of the Administration to give figures or names when the Cox men were claiming everything was rather significant. The Cox people dealt in some additional claims of generous nature to-day.

Much depends upon the attitude of Mayor Smith of Philadelphia. The Mayor is "sore" on the proposed deletion of the Administration's claim that if he espouses the Cox cause the Penrose people may make it warm for him. The Administration is claiming something like \$1 of the 41 members in Philadelphia. But the claim like the claim of 15 in Allegheny for Cox may be subject to revision when January 1, rolls around. The delay in the Philadelphia caucus is at the instance of the Mayor.

The fact that Representative H. M. Showalter, of Union, is disposed to be for Williams is causing concern at the Capitol. Williams has developed more votes than given credit for, and this may account for the scheme to trot out Charles Walter, of Franklin, for some time. Walter has a lot of friends and might draw from Williams without hurting Cox.

mick's plan for taking title to the Democratic legislature and evidence that he proposes to get all he can in the way of party prestige out of the Republican fuss. McCormick evidently sees a great chance to do something and if he can get the Democratic legislators to take orders there may be doings. The dinner will be "dry," naturally. It might be added that local opinion will not be a popular theme. Democrats have doubts about it when they get among themselves.

The start of real warfare by the Governor called forth tart comment from McNichol men. The Philadelphia Ledger says: "At the same time, the Penrose-McNichol leadership, it was learned, will complete official duty to show from their point of view the 'small amount of actual constructive work done in the last eighteen months by Governor Brumbaugh and Attorney General Brown.' The results of this investigation will shortly be announced, and it was hinted, may be preliminary to a formal legislative inquiry into the anti-Brumbaugh activities of McNichol leaders have not decided definitely as to the advisability of impeachment proceedings, based on the Oliver check, they realize it was admitted, was a violation of the Governor's activities may precipitate that issue into the forthcoming State Legislature. For example, Representative Isadore Stern, one of the McNichol floor leaders, is ready as he has announced, to press for impeachment.

Representative Cox who spent most of the afternoon with Attorney General Brown and Congressman Scott, left for Lancaster last night after issuing a statement expressing the utmost confidence. Mr. Scott added a few more words and both were in good humor over the day's developments. "There is no doubt of my election," said Mr. Cox. "Last week I found conditions in Allegheny county strong in my favor. I have known all along that I would have two-thirds of the members from Philadelphia county. After my visit to Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, I feel more than ever certain. As an example of the promises of support I am receiving from all over the State, I do not hesitate to tell what I have been able to do in Luzerne and Luzerne counties. Neither I nor any one else having knowledge of the feelings of the members in those two counties doubt but that I will receive a majority in the assembly of those counties. The support I am promised there is most cordial. It is based principally upon my record and the record of my principle opponent, Mr. Baldwin, in the last session of the Legislature. The labor legislation of the last session, principally the Workmen's Compensation Law, has almost revolutionized the industrial conditions in the hard coal region. Besides giving my very active support to that measure, the people of those counties are aware of the fact that I was sponsor of the Child Labor Bill. They know also that my opponent attempted to emasculate that bill by the introduction of the Baldwin amendment, which he supported on the floor of the House with several strong speeches."

Our Library Table

The Book of Truth and Facts, by Fritz von Frantzius. In the midst of peace discussions and in the light of the situation of the countries at war, it might be interesting to ascertain through the thoughts of a zealous German partisan just what his opinion is of the position of affairs not only in Germany, but in the United States and England also. To acquaint the American people with German ideals, which are so grossly misunderstood in this country, is the author's explanation of his writing. With the coloring removed, the book is an instructive compilation of facts about Germany.

The Great Corrector, by Percival W. Wells. (Bartlett Pub. Co. \$1.30). "The descent to Avernus (Hades) is easy," said an old Latin writer, but to make it easy that it requires but a short use of the eyes in reading Mr. Wells' recent book is unprecedented in the annals of the watch-dog Carbenes. If you desire to visit the regions of his Satan's Majesty under the ruler's personal guidance there is no quicker method of emulating Dante than by reading "The Great Corrector." The trip is described in satirical vein, the sinners and criminals of all sorts are classified and the punishments derived are sufficient to distort the imagination of the most hardened. The book is not remarkable.

The Career of Katherine Bush, by Elinor Glyn. (D. Appleton and Co.). Katherine Bush begins her business career in the office of a money-lender. Many and varied are the types of the human beings that swing in, and retire through the great green doors. She makes up her mind to learn things, to grow and to progress, no matter what the sacrifice. The author pictures vividly the happenings in the financial and social world of this young girl, and shows very clearly that it rests with each woman within herself to master her own destiny.

SCHEDULE OF A MARRIED MAN'S PRE-CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

- Friday, December 1—Peruse a "Do Your Christmas Shopping Early" plea, and agree with the sentiments.
Saturday, December 2—Start a shopping list and stop after writing the word "book" opposite the name of the brother-in-law who usually gives you a book.
Sunday, December 3—Express unbounded loathing and contempt for the persons who wait until the last minute before doing their Christmas shopping.
Monday, December 4—Wonder what you can give your pretty cousin who has everything she needs.
Tuesday, December 5—Figure up how much you can afford to spend on your wife's present.
Wednesday, December 6—Go over figures on wife's present and deduct ten dollars.
Thursday, December 7—Kick yourself for being penurious, and add twenty dollars to figure on wife's present.
Friday, December 8—Look in two stores for wife's gift, but get nothing except three feet, a lame back and a groch.
Saturday, December 9—Reckon up the number of shopping days remaining before Christmas, and find with some relief that there are twelve. Determine to do your Christmas shopping early.
Sunday, December 10—Read newspaper articles about the overworked shopgirl, and curse the brutes who wait until the last minute.
Monday, December 11—Visit stores, determined to buy eighteen or twenty presents, including one for your wife. Come home with a very bad case of nerves and one two-dollar necktie for your wife's father.
Tuesday, December 12—Deliver several heated lectures to acquaintances on the folly of giving Christmas presents.
Wednesday, December 13—Give wife a cheque with which to purchase gifts for twenty-two of your relatives.
Thursday, December 14—Discuss with your wife the amount of largess to be given to the postman, janitor, maid, cook, washwoman, elevator boy and office boy.
Friday, December 15—Get a cottony feeling in your mouth trying to decide whether or not your wife will like the

present you are thinking of buying her. Decide that you'd better give her something else.
Saturday, December 16—Enter a jewelry store with the idea of asking a salesman's advice on what your wife would like, and get in the way of eighty customers, who walk on your feet.
Sunday, December 17—Swear because the stores aren't open on Sunday.
Monday, December 18—Decide not to do any shopping on Monday because of the large Monday crowds.
Tuesday, December 19—Remember that you have no presents for anyone except your wife's father and, panicky, rush to town to buy presents. Fail to find anything that anyone would like, except a working for your favorite niece.
Wednesday, December 20—On learning from your wife that your favorite niece has three workbags, declare in disgust that you won't give anything but Christmas cards, and that there's plenty of time left in which to buy presents, anyway. Make a list, showing how much money you are willing to spend on each person.
Thursday, December 21—Buy fifty Christmas cards, and then discover that you can think of only twenty-eight people to send them to. Do up presents with your wife.
Friday, December 22—Rush to town to do your Christmas shopping early, before the Saturday rush sets in. Buy fourteen presents that you don't want to buy, paying fifty per cent. more for each than you said you'd pay. Go home on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Do up presents.
Saturday, December 23—Remember seventeen people for whom you should have bought presents. Make a final despairing effort to think what to buy your wife. Fall miserably. Give your wife a cheque with which to buy your seventeen presents. Write a cheque as a present for your wife. Do up presents.
Sunday, December 24—Tear up cheque for wife and write a large one. Figure up your expenditures, and wonder whether you will be able to pay your Christmas bills by July. Do up presents and go to bed at two a. m. with a sick headache and a stern determination that next year shall be different.—K. L. Roberts in Life.



Bits of the Out o' Doors by "Suskie"

Why Don't Yuh Wipe Yer Shoes? I hope some folks is satisfied What's always got the blues 'Cause winters now aint like they was—

Why don't yuh wipe yer shoes? I tell yuh when WAS winters! Yuh've heard such folks enthuse? But say, Old Buck, what's wrong with this! Why don't yuh wipe yer shoes? "December's jest half under way," So states the Annville News— "But snobs have fell three days this week!" Why don't yuh wipe yer shoes? I've got to use the kitchen door— A wife's an' mother's views Seem frequently to coincide— Why don't yuh wipe yer shoes?

I hope it's summer when I mount The stairs o' golden hues Fer Old St. Peter jest MIGHT snap "Why don't yuh wipe yer shoes?"

Business Briefs Knit goods traders are all breaking records for sales and production. S. D. Bausher, textile manufacturer of Hamburg, operating a chain of factories in upper Dauphin and Berks counties, has been re-elected president of the Hamburg Savings Bank. Seventeen thousand cars of freight were handled through Reading last Sunday.

The United States Expansion Bolt Company, of New York, has bought the plant of the Columbia Malleable Iron and Steel Company, at Columbia. The United States Government will be in the market shortly for \$15,000,000 of army supplies.

A Meteorological Motto [From the Christian Herald.] The Lord sends the sunshine and the rain, but the farmer must do his own ploughing.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

IT PAYS TO BELIEVE. Do your children still believe in Santa Claus? Well, if they don't they are diplomatic enough to pretend they do.

Did you get an imported hat for the lining. No, I only got a foreign label for the lining.

Why is Santa Claus so popular? Because he gives everything but advice.

Well, Peleg, how do you find the encyclopedia the feller left on approval? Seems to be all right. Ain't no errors in it so far as I kin see.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Flatbush—Do you consider the sparrow the most troublesome bird? Benson says, "Why, no. You never see a sparrow on a woman's hat at the theater."—Yonker's Statesman.

Evening Chat

Some of the men who will sit in the next Legislature have commenced to object to the high cost of living in Harrisburg as they forecast it from rates charged as a matter of fact, as one Harrisburg hotel has pointed out, the hotel and accommodation rates in Harrisburg are no worse than those in Altoona and a dozen other cities and the contrast in some respects, notably the smaller hotels, is said to be in favor of Harrisburg. The legislative session with its sudden demands for accommodation of hundreds of people over night or for two or three days creates emergencies which are not easy to foresee and which would put other cities to makeshifts. Yet Harrisburg has often taken care of hundreds who came here lately expecting to remain more than half a day. Then, too, during the legislative session there are numerous meetings held here by organizations which swell the number of transients.

Superintendent Rambo is losing no time getting ready to take the Oldley paintings in the Senate chamber and while the House chamber is torn up for the usual renovation and for the placing of new globes in the giant chandeliers in the rotunda, the chamber of the upper house is filled with scaffolding. As soon as the paintings have they will be placed and the Senators will review in allegorical art with a decided peace slant when they meet.

The New Haven firm which bought the old Bay Shore factory building used as a part of the Capitol after the fire is losing no time. It bought the old building along with a dozen others on Saturday. Dr. Joseph Klobas says that the Bay building a third demolished. The roof is off and part of the sides is down. Other buildings are going rapidly and the latest purchases are furnishing an immense amount of building material which is sold before it is taken out of the buildings so keen is the demand for second-hand stuff.

Some one doubted a statement made in the Telegraph the other day that 250 bears killed in this State was a larger number than killed in some Western States. Dr. Joseph Klobas says that it is more than in all Colorado. Another man says that Montana killed only 100 bears last year.

Although the hunting season is over, the good stories of unusual hunting incidents are just beginning to be told in the barber shops and meeting places of the erstwhile hunters. A local man recently confided to a friend and of course the friend confided in the "bunch." "While hunting in the vicinity of Lesh's Run as the day drew to a close," said he, "I noticed that the road was strange to him and that undoubtedly he was lost. Plodding along the road a little further he came to a barn built close to the roadside, with a sign about ten feet from the ground that evidently pointed the way, but in the gathering darkness he could not distinguish the words. Just then a noise appeared along, from whom he anxiously inquired the way to Harrisburg, but evidently it was a strange name in that vicinity for the question elicited no reply. Then he pointed to the sign asking its significance, but the taciturnity that characterizes the natives in those parts prevented him from obtaining any information. Becoming desperate and believing the noise to be a dog, he then dragged a heavy post for some distance, stood it against the barn and then attempted to increase his height by standing on the post and then on top of it. He noticed the barn sticky but he thought perhaps the dew was unusually heavy that night. After much effort he at last struck a match in whose flickering glare he read in bold letters, "Fresh paint. DON'T drive close."

It is hard to beat the kids in getting up excuses. The other day a youngster appeared at the Public Library and registered his name as Henry Somethingvich. The attendant in charge, who has had much experience in handling the children's book service and who has been doing some notable work in that line, promptly called attention to the fact that the day before the name had been registered by another boy as Harry Somethingvich. "Another boy registered that name," said she. "Yes." "Well, who was he?" "My brudder." "But you have the same name." "Oh, he writes left hand."

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Ex-Governor Edwin S. Stuart has been re-elected chairman of the Board of City Trusts in Philadelphia. —Ex-Auditor General Sisson says he will resign the political passing show from Erie. —Dr. Leo S. Rowe, the University professor, who is active in the Mexican commission matters, is an authority on Latin America. —C. J. Jaeger, Pittsburgh publisher, has been made a Knight of St. Gregory.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg's output of steel this year was the maximum in the history of the city? HISTORIC HARRISBURG This town's census headquarters for this section when the first census was taken.

A Psalm of Life 1916 Model. Ask me not in mournful numbers What's the price of gaudiness; For mine income it encumbers, And my peace of mind serene.

Cars are real, cars are earnest, And first cost is the real worry; But this flitting yug and hither With its tipping, booze and grub

Not enjoyment and not sorrow Is my destined end or way; But to drive that each to-morrow Finds more bills for me to pay.

Art is long and time is fleeting, And my car, though stout and brave, Still, like all flesh, will decay; And my good resolves to beating Down my good resolves to leave.

Cost is with me at the garage, Cost is with me along the way; But like all dumb, human cattle I must drive, so I must pay.

I trust no lane, how'er pleasant, Some roadhouse will be ahead; And my wife must have a dinner, Though it means next day no bread.

Cars of great men all remind me I should have a car sublime; For I'm a pauper, please to observe, Fordprints on the sands of time. Fordprints that perhaps another, Driving o'er our bumpy main, A forlorn and bankrupt wretch, Seeing, wished he'd bought the same— Let me then be up and driving, With a heart for any fate, Like all good men, with a conviving How the dog-gone bills can wait! Ralph Irving Deihl, Paxtang, Pa.