

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 21

Courtesy is the eye which overlooks your friends' broken gateway, but sees the rose which blossoms in his garden.—ANON.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE NOTE

PRESIDENT WILSON'S note asking the various governments of the warring nations in Europe to state the terms upon which they are willing to make peace is a timely and statesmanlike document. It is difficult to understand how any of the powers will be able to make other than a friendly reply, whether or not they are prepared at this time to state in concrete terms the least they will take, or give, in return for the prospects of a lasting peace.

There are already indications that in some quarters the President's proposals have been regarded as prompted by German influences, but this cannot be substantiated and even though it were true nobody should object, since the note does not seek to make an immediate peace, but merely to lay a foundation upon which the conflicting interests may stand when the time comes for finally settling their differences. It is apparent that there can be no end to the fighting until each side knows precisely what the other is fighting for, and the note is no more than a polite request for information. "What is all this row about?" asks the President. "And what do you hope to get out of it?" Roughly summed up that is the substance of his note.

Beyond question, it will serve a useful purpose from the standpoint of the United States. A belief has been abroad in Germany, and in some of the allied nations, too, how widespread is not apparent, that the United States is willing that the war shall go on indefinitely; that we on this side have no other thought in mind than the trade we are getting out of it. The President's proposal should do much to convince Europe of the good intentions of this country. Peace will bring with it trials and tribulations greater for the United States, possibly, than those of the war, but for all that Americans, one and all are for peace, and more than all else, a permanent peace.

How strongly former President Taft's League to Enforce Peace idea has taken hold of the world is shown by the President's expressed hope that the war will be followed by some such alliance. He is sowing seed on fertile ground. If ever, now is the time to organize the nations of the world for the prevention of war. Every government in Europe is sick of fighting and every man in the trenches and woman at home would hail as a heaven-sent blessing, any guarantee against a repetition of such frightful slaughter as has swept the world since German armies first crossed the Belgian frontier.

"Eleven Belgians shot to death after court-martial." Another evidence of the peaceful, humanitarian methods of the Germans in Belgium. After the war Villa might go recruiting among the officers in charge there.

DANIEL S. SEITZ

THE death of Daniel S. Seitz removes from the municipal life of the State one of its most skilled legal advisors and from the bar of Dauphin county a brilliant member. Few men in Pennsylvania knew more of third-class city legislation than Mr. Seitz. His views were consulted by other city solicitors everywhere and he was in constant demand as a speaker at municipal gatherings. He served the city of Harrisburg well for many years and saved hundreds of thousands of dollars for the taxpayers in suits before the court.

Mr. Seitz was a young man and had before him great possibilities. He had the mind and the training that would have made an excellent judge of him, and had he lived it is entirely probable that in time he would have been elevated to the bench of Dauphin county. His affable disposition and his readiness to serve made for him hosts of friends both in Harrisburg and the State at large who will sincerely mourn his death.

Do you remember the time when you searched about for a bit of spruce to decorate your desk on the last day of school before Christmas?

RIVERSIDE'S WITHDRAWAL

ALL those interested in the growth and development of Harrisburg will regret that Riverside has been discouraged in its efforts to become a part of the city. To be sure, there were expenses to be met and changes to be made and perhaps some

debts to be assumed, but so there were also when the Tenth ward came in and again when the Thirteenth ward was annexed.

We must expect both to give and to take in matters of this kind, and quite a lot of giving would have been justifiable in the case of Riverside, which from a tax-producing standpoint is far superior to the Tenth ward with it was admitted or the Thirteenth ward when it became a part of Harrisburg.

Our City Planning Commission has extended its supervisory duties to Riverside and beyond. Why? Because it was assumed that at no distant day the suburb would be taken over by the city and now, when it comes knocking at our doors, having fulfilled the requirements of the municipality and being one of the most desirable residential districts in all the country roundabout, we turn our neighbor away.

Eventually Riverside will become a ward of Harrisburg. It is that now in everything but name. When it does come in the cost to the city will be far greater than at present.

One of the most notable features of Lloyd George's speech is that he has a full conception of the size of the job he has undertaken.

W. W. GILCHRIST

INTENSE application to a profession that is difficult at best unquestionably was largely responsible for the untimely death yesterday of W. W. Gilchrist, noted composer, organist and chorister, at an Easton hospital. Dr. Gilchrist was as much beloved and as widely known in Harrisburg as in Philadelphia. His long and excellent service as conductor of the Harrisburg Choral Society endeared him to all who heard the delightful concerts given under his direction.

Dr. Gilchrist was an untiring worker. How he accomplished what he did was a marvel to all who knew him. Of a sensitive, delicate constitution he placed himself on the rack of almost incessant and grilling labor, and the penalty was broken health and death at a time when many men are in their prime.

The eminent musician left his mark upon the musical history of Harrisburg. Not only was the success of the Choral Society largely due to his ability, but he taught the people of the city a greater love for good music and gave the first word of encouragement and advice to many a discouraged young musician.

President Wilson is thinking about the advisability of a protective tariff. We suppose he thinks he dug the idea out all by himself.

THE HOUSING PROTEST

THE protest of the Colored Law and Order League against housing conditions in some of the districts largely given over to the uses of the negro population is not without very good reason. It requires no more than a casual examination of conditions to show that. Nor is Dr. Crampton, as spokesman of the league in a recent newspaper interview, far afield when he says that overcrowded houses and unhealthy surroundings are responsible for much of the crime that exists in those districts. His opinions on this coincide most remarkably with an address, delivered on the same day that his views were published, by Mrs. Booker T. Washington at Plumer Memorial Institute in Greensboro, N. C., when she said:

What is said of the colored people as they live in the cities may be said of the white people in their homes in the larger cities. Those who live in well-furnished and comfortable homes are not the select few. If the authorities of the cities would take under consideration the fact that we are really a part of the body politic, and that we are a distinct race with, perhaps, some distinct traits and characteristics, we have many things in common with all other citizens of the community, and one of these is a love for family life, a desire to bring up our children in a wholesome and clean atmosphere, a growing desire to improve their own and their better homes, and to encourage their children to do the same. Colored people should not only be encouraged to build homes, but build them beautiful. The authorities of the Southern cities should take heed of the example set by the white man, as well as the white man, as cleanliness in colored homes. The white man of America is ahead of all other men in the world because his devotion to beautiful homes, wife and children ever inspire him to greater and higher life. Then if the white man would help to further elevate the colored race, let him do so by encouraging greater respect for his family and the providing of comfortable and beautiful homes in the country as well as in the cities, with cleanliness a guiding word in every step forward.

Mrs. Washington is correct in the main and errs only in that the negro is no better situated than many a white man for far larger means, in that he is, for one reason or another, in no position to build for himself the kind of home he would like to have. It remains for the cities—the big, broad men of the cities, we mean, with the time and the means at their command—to remedy this crying evil. The housing conditions of Harrisburg, for example, is a matter for public shame. It menaces the health and the contentment of the whole city. The germ trail of the slum leads everywhere. Disease bred in the quarters were families live more like beasts than men, spreads rapidly to more well-to-do sections, if you want to take a purely selfish view of it, and crime and anarchy are bred in such places. There is no bigger work before the State and the local government to-day than that of providing proper housing facilities for white and black alike.

Every man and woman has a right to his or her share of sunshine. Every boy and girl has a right to his or her share of good fresh air. What boots it if we pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to give all the people pure drinking water, and if we pay more thousands to protect their milk, and if we keep our streets free of dirt so that bacteria may not breed; what boots it if we do all this and then let

A GOLFER'S IDEA OF A REGULAR SANTA CLAUS



George W. Williams, the Tioga county "dry" member, will be made by local option friends of the Governor.

Congressman W. S. Vare last night issued a blistering statement in reply to some Penrose and McNichol fulminations against the Governor, especially the charge that the Governor is ungrateful. He charges that Penrose an "oliver brought about Hughes' defeat and says that Penrose is also an ingrate. The speech caused much comment in Philadelphia because it charged factional war to Penrose.

Newspapers in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh contain protests filed with the Governor against the removal of Commissioner Smith. It is not admitted at the Governor's office that any have been received. Senator Penrose held a conference with friends in Washington yesterday and went to Philadelphia today. He will be here next week. The Baldwin headquarters were visited by a number of legislators, among them Corbin, of Millifin; Spangler, of York, and Powell and Thomas, of Luzerne. Baldwin announced last night that he has gained one vote since Tuesday and now has 111, and he expects to run it up to 120 before the week is out.

To-day the 41 legislators elect from Philadelphia will meet in the headquarters of the Republican city committee and draw lots for their seats in the House. William E. Finley, executive director of the committee, issued the call for the meeting and William S. Leib, resident clerk of the House, will conduct the drawing. It is expected that the efforts will be made to sound out the sentiment among the legislators as to their attitude on the speakership fight. Both factions have disclaimed, however, any political significance was attached to the meeting.

Attaches of the State government who will start to go home for Christmas on the carpet yesterday and today that anything they can do to help line up their home members of the House in behalf of the Governor's speakership fight is being given quiet tips. The program will be appreciated. There is nothing unusual in this. It has been done many times before when a fight was on, and it is to the credit of a good many men in the departments that they have voluntarily offered their services. A number of men from up State counties were called on the carpet yesterday and told to get busy when at home and a special drive is being made by the Administration forces to secure at least one vote from Tioga for Cox.

Governor Brumbaugh's decision to retain Banking Commissioner William H. Smith, when it had been widely announced by his political advisers that the veteran chief would be asked to give way to a younger man, is said to have been the result of energetic protests by mail, telegraph and telephone from some of his closest friends in Philadelphia. Several of these men, who were personal friends before the Governor got into State politics, strongly urged him not to permit the Banking Department to be even mentioned in the present fuss. In addition protests came from all parts of the State in such volume and from such people that the Governor resisted the advice of political friends and did not ask the resignation as had been proclaimed he intended to do. Mr. Smith left for home yesterday afternoon. He has been ill, but every day has been in telephone touch with the department and all reports go to him. Whether he will be forced out later on is a matter of speculation. The Governor, however, is standing by him now against considerable political pressure.

Representative Edwin R. Cox, accompanied by ex-Representative Daniel J. Shern, spent yesterday in Fayette county endeavoring to get members of the House to line up for the Philadelphia. Mr. Cox said that he was well satisfied with the outlook and that his election was a certainty. He will operate in other western counties while Congress is in session. Mr. Scott works in the anthracite region, where he is lining up the labor people against Baldwin.

An attack upon the candidacy of Richard J. Baldwin for his county on local option is said to be under way among some of the Governor's friends. An attempt to offset the candidacy of

By BRIGGS



NEW MARK TWAIN STORIES

THE following new Mark Twain stories have been dug up by Albert Bigelow Paine, the famous humorist's biographer, and printed here by courtesy of Harper & Bros.

One evening a few years ago Brander Matthews and Francis Wilson were dining together at the Players' Club, of New York, when the former made the suggestion that they write a letter to Mark Twain. "But," objected Mr. Wilson, "we don't know where he is," for it was at the time when Mr. Clemens was away traveling somewhere. "Oh," said Professor Matthews, "that does not make any difference. It is sure to find him. I think he is some place in Europe, so we had better put on a 5-cent stamp." So the two sat down and composed a letter which they addressed to MARK TWAIN.

In due time they received a reply from Mr. Clemens which said briefly, "He did." Then someone sent a letter addressed, "The Devil Knows Where," which also reached him, and he answered, "He did, too."

How They Start Mark Twain wrote when he began his editorial duties with the Virginia City Enterprise was this:

"A beautiful sunset made Beranger a poet, a mother's kiss made Benjamin West an artist and \$15 a week makes us a journalist." Mark Twain Droolerics Some maxims of "Pudd'nhead Wilson," that later creation of Mark Twain's humorous fancy, deserve immortality. For quaint associations of incongruous ideas and shrewd insight into weak human nature, they are unique. For example: "The holy passion of friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a lifetime if not asked to lend money."

"Classic. A book which people praise and don't read." "The man with a new idea is a crank until the idea succeeds."

"The truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't."

"Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example."

"The truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't."

"When in doubt, tell the truth." "The Original Barber Story"

In bachelor days Mark Twain had heartily expressed the antipathy of bachelorhood for all chambermaids because of their hostile ideas of tidiness, that is?

trained under the provisions of the national defense act, which requires only seventy-five days' training in three years, should be employed in the war service it would take six months' firing line experience to make soldiers of them.

There is, of course, only one way to avoid the dangers of this kind of elevator rush in hand, to consensually defenders and that way, as General Scott points out, is to compel every American of military age and physical fitness to take a soldier's training in time of peace. He owes that service to his country, the General says, quite as much as he owes other forms of taxes which he pays in money. It is compulsory for every citizen to serve in an army of defense. It distributes the obligation equally on all shoulders.

Compulsion, which is always a reserved power of the Government, and which would be exercised in case of necessity, does not fall less heavily on civil society if Americans were prepared to perform military service than if they were hurried, untrained, into camps of war.

Perhaps it is not generally understood that the Constitution and laws of the country already provide for compulsory military service. Every citizen capable of bearing arms may be drafted. But that is not provided for is compulsory training, and there lies the fatal weakness of conscription as now provided for. Conscription without training is worse than any of the terrors of war which the pacifists have dwelt on. It means lives thrown away without serving the nation's defense.

Evening Chat

Between the speakership contest and the meeting of the State Educational Association Harrisburg will be a lively place next week, and there are many vacant rooms in any of the hotels they will be at a premium. The big new hotel would be a mighty useful thing to have next week, and there are about 2,000 teachers and men and women interested in education here next week for the educational meeting, which will have an important bearing upon legislation pertaining to school affairs, and the presence of ex-President Taft will be an event of first importance. The speakership contest will bring many men here earlier than usual for the opening of a legislative session and there will be numerous headquarters staffs and plenty of men interested in legislative affairs to see how the contest will turn out. Then, too, Harrisburg will have its usual list of holiday week functions and there will be much doing.

It's remarkable how many people are buying Christmas greens and mistletoe despite the high prices being asked. In hundreds of windows throughout the city holly wreaths tied with big red bows are to be seen hanging and on every street car can be seen from one to half a dozen men or women taking bits of green holly. Prices this year are the highest ever quoted and for a really good looking holly wreath 40 cents is not an exceptional price to be paid. Christmas trees, too, are selling at anywhere from 75 cents to several dollars, but they do not seem to be going so fast, many people evidently waiting until the last minute to buy, and after all the purchases have been made.

Not all the money received by Harrisburgians from Christmas presents this year, according to a well-known downtown banker. More than 60 per cent of the money issued in checks and cash has been placed in the bank at interest, he says, and more is expected after December 25, when folks know just how much they can afford to "save" after all the purchases have been made.

Harrisburg firemen for the second time this week had a pleasant "cold" when they were out on duty at night which they had to lay more than a thousand feet of hose in a single line to get a stream of water. On Monday morning after the fire at the Central Iron and Steel Company plant some of the water froze in the sections of hose, causing the firemen several hours' work thawing out the ice and drying the hose. The same thing occurred at Highspire when the Harrisburg boys were called there. On cold days it is almost impossible to prevent some of the water from freezing before the hose can be taken back to the engine house and dried. "Every time I do this," complained one fireman who has stopped to warm his fingers, "I wonder why in hell I'm opposed to a paid department."

The fuss over ash cans which marked last week calls to mind a story told by one of the old-time residents of this city who "reminisced" of the days before the water works was built. In those days, said he, water was furnished by means of a crane which was only filled up twenty-five years ago; from springs which have been turned into city sewers these many years and from the river which was not polluted by any of the sewage which was contaminating sulphur from the coal mines nor the destroying wastes from factories. Certain men had roved for sale of drinking water and water by the individual who used to draw water from a place on the river near the big island got the cream of the trade. He finally got more and more arbitrary on the price of water he supplied, which was supposed to come from some spring in the riverbed, he held his business. Finally he said that he would not permit any dipping from his barrels unless people did it with buckets which he offered to sell. Everyone owned a rowboat in those days and the monopoly went to smash in short order.

Dr. Clarence J. Marshall, the State veterinarian, whose humor is as joyous as that of the Librarian at the State University, has a new form of much used proverb. We have all heard that "a whistling girl and a crowing hen will come to a bad end" and the converse "A girl that whistles and a hen that crows will make their way wherever they go." But listen to this new version designed especially for farmers which the learned authority on cows, sheep and horses has to give: "Whistling girls and good fat sheep are the best property a farmer can keep."

Frederick E. Bower, of Lewisburg, who was here yesterday to secure a pardon for a client, which he did, created considerable amusement when he cracked up, in opening his speech, that the first and last time he had appeared before the board was in 1883. "I came to protest against a commutation, and I was granted. I am here this time to get a pardon," said he.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Judge A. S. Swartz, of Montgomery county courts, is ill with a heavy cold and cannot appear in court. Mr. T. Stotesbury is planning to act as Santa to a number of poor children.

N. R. Turner has been appointed United States commissioner for the Eastern district.

N. A. Whitten, senator elect, who has been ill, but who will come here anyway, was a member of the last House. He is a steel inspector in the Pittsburgh district.

David J. Davies, city solicitor of Scranton, adjutant of the Seventh Division, will be home from the border in a short time to resume his work.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg makes special steels for baby coach springs?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

The first school in Harrisburg was at Third and Cherry.

"You Always Pay"

[Kansas City Star.] "You always pay, you know," said the forger, Whiteman, who was captured last week in Cincinnati after years of liberty as a fugitive from justice.

Sure you do. Whether you violate man's law, or Nature's law, you are always liable to pay, and the full price, too. Some pay, as Whiteman did, in dodging and slinking through the world like a hunted beast, his mind worried, his face gradually taking on a furtive look, knowing always that somewhere ahead lay the steel-jawed trap all set and ready.

Some pay with broken health; others with broken hearts; some surrender friends and love; some give all in life worth living for; some cast their conscience to be gnawed by the welter of remorse; some not only pay their own share in full, but shift part of the burden to their children, and their children's children, even to the third and fourth generation; or the debt must be paid to the last farthing.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

HIS COST OF LIVING. What do you give for Christmas? I give up and give in and my wife gives out.

HIS SPECIALTY. Jones doesn't cut much ice as a skater, does he? No, but he breaks a lot of it.

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