

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

Founded 1837

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.

Eastern office, Story, Brooks & Finley, Fifth Avenue Building, New York City; Western office, Story, Brooks & Finley, People's Gas Building, Chicago, Ill.

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

By carriers, ten cents a week; by mail, \$5.00 a year in advance.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 14

We all dread a bodily paralysis and would make use of every contrivance to avoid it, but none of us is troubled about a paralysis of the soul.

—EPICETUS.

MOVING SLOWLY

WASHINGTON is moving with commendable deliberation in the German crisis. Always it is for Germany to make the first move. The President has put himself in the position of defending the rights and honor of the nation. There is no surface indication pointing to any undue preparations for the extension of the break in relations to an actual declaration of war. But it is to be imagined that the War and Navy Departments are losing no time in preparing quietly and without ostentation for the hostilities which appear to be inevitable.

Dispatches from Washington to-day indicate that the United States would not join with the Allies in case of war with Germany; would not send troops to Europe; would not agree not to make a separate peace, and would confine activities to a campaign on the seas and to conveying foodstuffs and munitions to England, Russia, and France. This would be a sensible course. Our fight is not that of the Allies. Thousands of Americans do not sympathize with them, although it is probable that an overwhelming majority does. Their aims and ours, in case of war, would be similar only in our mutual desire to defeat Germany. Aside from that our objects would have little in common.

We do not want to get into the war at all if it can be helped. People generally are pleased that the President is moving slowly, but they also want to believe that he is moving very rapidly, if secretly, in preparations against the time when hostilities may be suddenly thrust upon us.

THE SUNSHINE SOCIETY

WHAT a lesson there is for all of us in the Roberta Drowsby-Lloyd Sunshine Society, the members of which have pledged themselves each to take personal supervision of some crippled child, to ascertain its needs and how the society can best be of service to it!

Named for a young woman of beautiful character and good deeds, the Sunshine Society is living constantly up to its best traditions. Its motto is "Pass it on"—meaning the smile or the good deed that can only be appreciated as it is bestowed upon another. Good intentions become glowing realities in the hands of the Sunshiners.

How many of us could qualify for membership on that score? How many of us get much farther than "THINKING our good deeds?"

DR. RAUNICK'S REPORT

TOO close attention to the recommendations included in the annual report of Dr. J. M. J. Raunick, city health officer, cannot be given by City Council.

Special consideration of the suggestions relative to ash and garbage collection and milk and food inspection should be in order because of the disgraceful typhoid epidemic of last summer and the deplorable failure of the Pennsylvania Reduction Company to maintain its schedules of ash and garbage collection this winter.

Municipal garbage collection is urged by Dr. Raunick in no uncertain language, and in view of the fact that this recommendation has already been endorsed by Labor's Open Forum, the City Labor Union—and by several experts in city management, it would seem more than advisable to give this matter early action.

No time should be lost in making a comprehensive survey of the whole problem in order to see what it will cost, how the work should be carried on and what the possibilities for revenue from a garbage disposal plant may be. Officials of the Pennsylvania Reduction Company declare they have lost thousands of dollars on their contract during the last several years because of the rapid growth of the city. We have but little doubt that their statement is true. If so, any plan made for municipal collections should include provisions for the steady growth of the community.

Dr. Raunick is certainly justified in asking for more sanitary officers. "For more than twenty years the city has had but two sanitary inspectors and to-day with our phenomenal extension and increased population we cannot

be expected to render this additional health service requirement without additional inspectors," he points out. To expect the city to be safeguarded against disease epidemics with a force no larger than that of twenty years ago would be amusing were it not for the seriousness of the matter. Little wonder that Harrisburg was swept with the greatest typhoid epidemic in its history when the number of men employed to guard against such epidemics is the same as when the city was but little more than half its present size.

Dr. Raunick's suggestion that the city police be enlisted in the enforcing of health ordinances is well worthy of thought.

Auto transportation for health officers, a contagious disease hospital, rigid inspection of the city milk supply sources, the need for social and child welfare workers, the adoption of a modern housing code, vaccination against typhoid of all persons handling milk, ice cream and other milk products, drastic legislation against misbranding and other misrepresentation of foodstuffs, and the extension of the food division—other recommendations made in his report—are certainly not mere vagaries. Sound common sense lies back of every one of them, and if Council refuses to put them into effect, they, and not the city health officer, must be blamed if epidemics recur.

THE NEW I. W. W.

IN New York City has been organized the new "I. W. W." which might well be emulated by the people of Harrisburg.

"I. W. W." stands for "I Walk to Work." The purpose of the organization is to get men and women to use their legs instead of their nickels in getting to their daily grind, so they may get at least some exercise every day.

The great bane of the American people, the life insurance companies tell us, is their failure to get proper exercise. Many, because of enforced indoor work, are seemingly unable to find time for eighteen holes, a rapid-fire set at tennis, a plunge in the river, or any of the dozen possible means of outdoor recreation. Now along comes the "I. W. W." with the suggestion that indoor workers get up fifteen minutes to half an hour early and hustle down town of a morning via "Shank's Mare." The idea has been heartily endorsed by physicians and physical culturists.

Why not try out membership in the new organization yourself. It doesn't cost you a cent. After filling your inner man with fannel cakes and syrup, "puddin' and mush" or any of those other delightful concoctions of the culinary art, don't jump into a street car or a jitney, but hit out at a good brisk pace for shop, office or factory. If it's cold, bundle up in your warmest clothes; if it's wet, keep your feet dry and your umbrella up; if it's warm and balmy, all the better.

Try it for a week and see with how much more vigor you get down to the day's work.

Carrying the idea a bit further, walk home after the day's toil is over and note the keenness of your appetite for dinner.

And give your nickels to the Belgian or the Polish funds.

WHO CARES?

EDITORS are constantly worrying about the fashions. Perhaps it is because they are mostly a poor lot and know their wives will want to follow the styles. Anyway, after every dressmakers' convention the newspapers are burdened by columns of sarcastic comment and bitter tirades on the folly of modern dress. In recent years men's tailors have come under the ban also and even the "hand-me-down" makers have been hooted at and harangued. But all to no purpose! Politicians and money kings may dread the newspapers, but not so the style creators—male or female. They dote on publicity—the greater the crime the prouder they are.

For example, down in Philadelphia yesterday the National Association of Merchant Tailors decided that there will be "a return to the old braided cutaway coat for morning wear and the discarding of white vest edging." It's not likely, however, that there will be any outburst of rage on the part of editors over this. In the first place an editor who possessed a morning coat wouldn't be an editor long—let's have money enough to quit—and in the second place no editor is going to get excited over white vest edging being discarded, because anyway, most of 'em have long been accustomed to clip the fringe off every time the laundryman brings home that poor old crippled waistcoat. The tailors will have to try again if they want to get a rise out of us.

HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

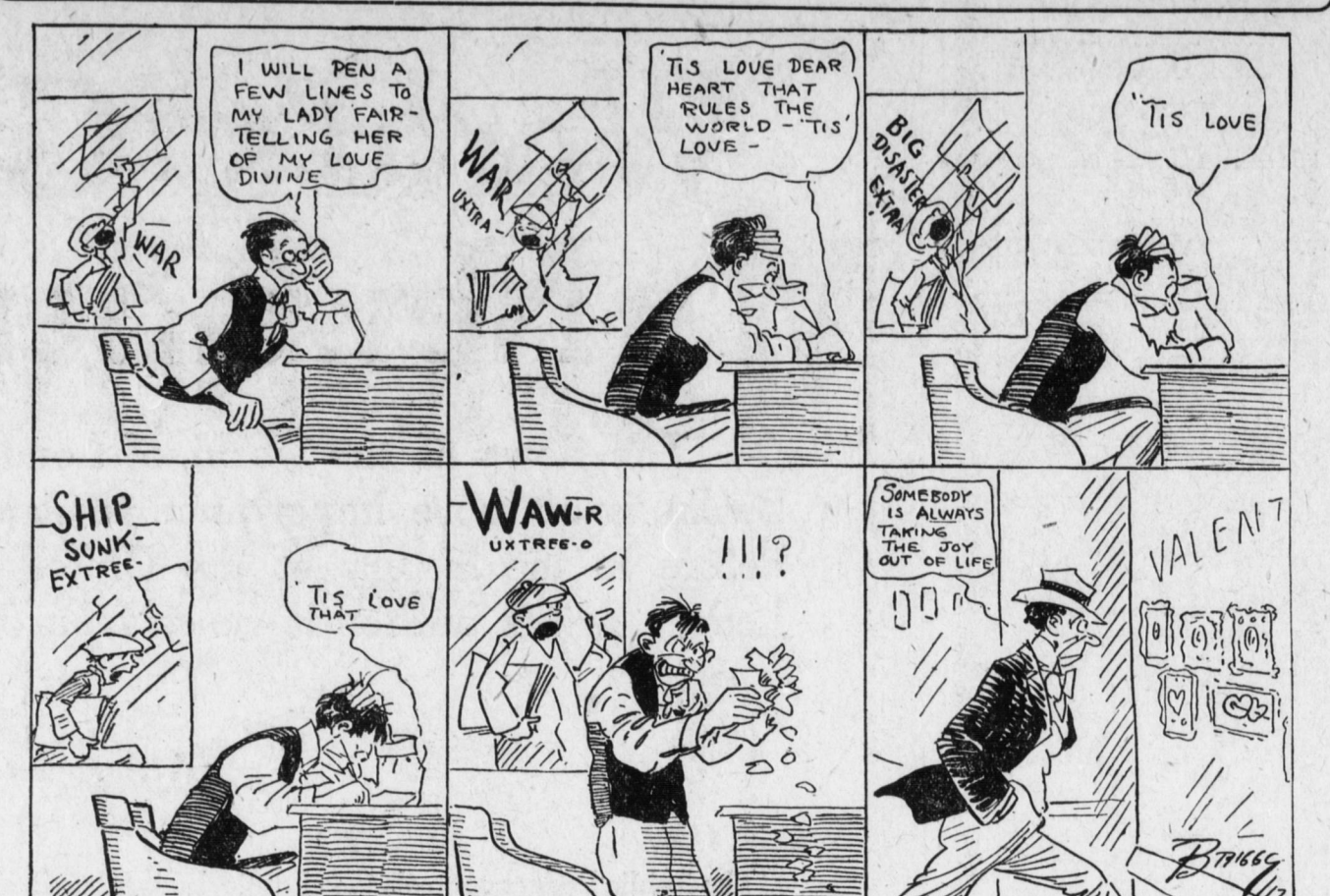
THE Telegraph appears to have been some fifteen years ahead of the times when it was instrumental in organizing a military company in the high school. This company led a precarious existence for a time and finally passed out for lack of interest. Now comes the Technical High School, volunteering its entire student body for military training. Schoolboys are no more warlike to-day than then. There is no more of the militaristic spirit in the land now than then. Only, boys realize now the need for preparedness as they did not when the company was first formed.

PROBING

NO wonder the public is tired of probes and inquiries! Take the pure food investigation, for example. It has been going on under federal direction for months, the while prices have been climbing higher and higher, until finally President Wilson, exasperated, has demanded that it produce some tangible results. And now comes the Pennsylvania Coal Commission, after a painfully long interval, to tell us that the anthracite operator is a ministering angel, that

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE

By BRIGGS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Not, Indeed

To the Editor of the Telegraph: They tell me they are at a loss for a name for their new newspaper. Let me offer a suggestion. Why not call it the AD-VANCE? U. R. S. TRULY.

Ashes Again

To the Editor of the Telegraph: I have seen much in your paper lately about the ashes. After all the promises that have been made by our \$2,400 a year council, yet some of my neighbors have been compelled to take advantage of the vacant lot here at Seventeenth and State streets. It looks something like a public dump. Council had better get on the job and have some results instead of promises. I have paid twenty cents a week to have my ashes hauled and I don't quite make \$200 per month. Can't something be done? HILL MAN.

Trolley Service

To the Editor of the Telegraph: We have read so many complaints already about the way the Harrisburg Railways Company is handling their patrons but this case is too good to hold so I will let her rip. Not long ago, one Saturday evening, I boarded a Third Street car and when we got to the Kelker street markethouse the motorman stopped the car and both he and the conductor alighted and went into the restaurant across the street while a Capitol street car was right behind waiting to move on. After holding a conversation in the restaurant for several minutes they came out, got on the car, and the motorman presented the conductor with a sandwich taken from a bag under his arm, and he himself took a sandwich, put it in his mouth, put the bag under his arm and went on his way. Everytime he had to make a stop he had to either put the sandwich in his mouth or lay down the bag so as to get the free use of his hands to manipulate the levers to open the door.

We do not deny any conductor or motorman to eat his meals but a traction company that allows such doings is not fulfilling its duties to the public. UP-TOWNER.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Governor Brumbaugh is generally believed about the Capitol to be growing somewhat restive over the legislative situation. It is an open secret that the Governor does not like the grimly silent manner of the Senate committee on executive nominations in dealing with his nominations to offices and some of the senators have been asked what is the plan. The Governor sends nominations to the Senate and they go to the committee and stay there, nothing being said as to the why or wherefore or vouchsafed as to what may happen. The senators manifest a polite interest as to when they may expect the list of the ad interim appointments and some say that the Governor is as noncommittal about those matters as the committee on executive nominations is on the fate of those in hand.

The appointment of D. Edward Long, of Franklin county, to be Superintendent of Public Printing and Binding seems to be the point of irritation. The Senate committee silently swallowed it up and proceeded to present legislation to have the chief clerk of the department exercise the powers and to delegate the authority of a chief to the chief of the printing departments when a vacancy occurs. The Governor is reported to have asked for information and to have learned some senatorial viewpoints which he may or may not have relished.

It is also currently reported that the Governor does not like the way he has been assailed during the consideration of the Sproul resolution and to feel that some legislators went out of their way to whack him, as they undoubtedly did. But it was predicted two years ago that the session of 1917 would be as prolific in attacks on the Governor as was the session of 1913 on the executive of the House. Experienced observers of legislative sessions have been forecasting such assaults as were made yesterday for some time. Some say there will be more.

The results of the Governor are said to have determined to call a halt upon the abuse which has been poured out on him and even men with whom he differed last year and in the speaker ship contest have begun to deprecate the manhandling to which the Governor has been subjected. Few Democratic Governors have been as virtually attacked as was the Governor yesterday at the hands of Republicans and warnings that the course is only making capital for Democrats and that the Governor may have a few rods in plenty are being heeded.

The striking thing about the discussion yesterday was the general expression of disgust on the part of the members of the House and the Pennsylvania Philadelphia row into the legislative session.

The debate yesterday brought to the attention of the House the talents of Representative F. W. Stites, of Montgomery county. He falls from the district represented by ex-Speaker Charles A. Ambler and used to explain the University of Pennsylvania baseball team. He showed yesterday that he was still good in throwing to first. Stites was not a success as a humorist, but his speech will be read with interest and his sentiments cordially endorsed by many people, who will incidentally discuss it when the fireworks of Representative Isadore Stern are forgotten.

Defense of any administration is a hard task at any time and it is rather difficult this year, but sentiment against the present administration is growing and the Governor may have more defenders than he anticipates before the sunflowers bloom in Harrisburg yards.

From all that can be learned, the members of the Legislature will be soured out in the next few days on a proposition to adjourn for the first dozen days of March. Some of the senators want to go to Florida. Senator Vore is reported as going to Hot Springs in a day or so. The South Philadelphia leader has not been in his usual chipper spirits and is reported as wanting a rest at a place where he will not have to think about governors, adverse majorities, bills and contracts. Senator McNichol, who has been landing contracts in Philadelphia, is also said to be seeking respite from legislative investigation plans and sessions of strategy boards. The legislative leaders want to have a breathing spell and are talking over adjourning February 28 until March 12. This will give the Democrats a chance to go to the inauguration festivities and enable country members

THE BOROUGH MANAGER PLAN IN EDGEWORTH, PA.

By Edward A. Beck, Borough Manager, Edgeworth, in The American City

DURING a trial of nearly three years the borough manager plan has worked well in the borough of Edgeworth, one of Pittsburgh's suburbs, and present indications are that the old system of municipal management is gone forever. The experiment was begun on February 2, 1914, when the present incumbent took office. The borough manager and budget committee outlined its plans, which, in general, had been in operation since that time, as follows:

"We understand the purpose of establishing the office of manager is to bring the borough government under one operating head, thus replacing the cumbersome, unsatisfactory and expensive operation of municipal government through council committees, and with a view to having the business of the borough conducted on the same general principles as a well-organized corporation.

"To this end we believe that the manager should assume all administrative functions of the borough and have direct control of all departments and employees of the borough. He should prepare contracts for labor and supplies, subject to approval of council. He should act as engineer and prepare plans, make surveys and supervise all construction work, investigate and present recommendations to council as to repairs, improvements, etc. He should keep records of the financial and all expenditures which will enable him to report at any time as to the condition of funds and how they are being expended, and he should prepare data for the annual budget. To supervise the work, he should perform all administrative work of the borough, only the general principles of which need be determined by council. The manager will be responsible to council, who in turn will be responsible for his acts, as well as their own, to the people of Edgeworth.

"The results of this plan council would act in capacity similar to that of a board of directors, and would adopt ordinances, fix the rate of taxation, formulate the general policy, direct the expenditures of the borough's revenues, and in general administer the financial and auditing functions by law invested in them. (Signed) E. A. BECK, Chairman.

"LAWRENCE C. WOODS, Borough Managing and Budget Committee."

The results have been so satisfactory that when the borough held its election last fall the entire council which instituted the reform was re-elected without opposition. Edgeworth was incorporated in 1904 and contains approximately one square mile with a valuation of \$4,100,000. The salary of the borough manager is \$2,400.

Approximately 3 1/2 miles of streets were improved the first two seasons with modern hard-surface pavements of concrete, a concrete foundation being used for all new work. (During the ten years preceding 1914 less than 1 1/2 miles of streets were improved, although some paving had been done prior to the incorporation of the borough.) Street improvements in Edgeworth are made

to attend to home affairs. The legislators would be asked to speed up work for the next two weeks and to clear decks for appropriations, local option and other big things to be taken up after the recess.

Under the terms of the bills presented yesterday by Representative Lex N. Mitchell, of Jefferson, one of the Progressives, there would be no more of the advantages enjoyed by candidates whose names happened to begin with the letter A. This has been estimated to be worth thousands of votes in a state contest and hundreds in others. By the Mitchell plan the names would be rotated so that Mr. A. would be the head of the list in Harrisburg, for instance, and at the tail in Steelton, working his way up so that he would be in the middle of the list on Lykens ballots. Mr. Bee would be affected the same way. In a long list of candidates, such as Harrisburg will probably have for Council next fall, this act would destroy any chance of a man with a name beginning with A or B getting the advantage. It simply goes to show that the practical working out of some such heralded legislation does not always bear out the claims.

The legislative committees in charge of municipal legislation will probably be about the busiest of any in the Legislature. There is more legislation than usual of that kind and

some of it calls for very careful consideration. The remarks of Representative Beyer that it would be better for the legislators to sit long and do their work on laws well than to adjourn early. Half-baked municipal regulations in view of the approaching municipal contests all over the state, will create no end of annoyance.

Senator Sproul's proposed tax on gasoline and the proposition discussed among members to raise the minimum fee for automobile licenses from \$5 to \$12 have caused a flood of protests to come into legislative post office boxes.

The difference between the notice of the Democratic national chairman "give and receive" and the investigation and the vote of the Democratic member from Harrisburg on the probe was commented upon freely to-day. Disinclination to take orders in one's young and so promising is distressing.

It would seem that all of the candidates get on the ballot for Coatesville's primary for its mayor.

A Prospect

"I don't like the self-reliant, self-supporting type of woman. I prefer the clinging vine type."

"You won't, sonny, when you find how persistently that type can cling to all of your weekly salary and what you can raise on your credit."

Evening Chat

Foreigners in this part of the State seem to be having a pretty expensive time about becoming citizens, according to some things which have been heard of lately. It seems that recently the office of getting work of the United States clerk, but when the city was subjected to one of those periodical shake-ups which took a job away from a man who had been filling it for some time and who was thoroughly and they come from various sources. For a long time the foreigners wishing to become citizens had to go to the United States clerk, but when the change was made the prothonotary of the county court was given certain duties in connection with this work. It also seems that Uncle Sam was a little slow about sending papers here for the court official of Dauphin county and the foreigners have been forced to make trips to Sunbury to have their papers attended to. Some of them, however, are complaining that to become a citizen, which is urged upon them as the goal of life, is expensive. They have to go to another town and to take along the men who are getting papers for them. The upshot of this is that whereas it used to cost \$2 to become a citizen, it now takes the regular fee and the extra for the prospective citizen and his sponsors. Inasmuch as Americanization is being urged strongly by many men it would seem that something should be done to make the final steps easier, as the men probably will not be coming down to busy making money as farmers. The State gives them money for schools and pays to keep up the roads in the reservation.

The complainer Indians appear to be getting their usual share of attention from Father Penn. These Indians are the only ones in Pennsylvania to be getting such attention and they are given good treatment biennially. Years ago this tribe, which has extensive lands of its own in Warren county, but which has been here, and lately they have been too busy making money as farmers. The State gives them money for schools and pays to keep up the roads in the reservation.

The State League of Boroughs, which is holding its sixth annual meeting here, has decided to return to the men interested in the minor municipalities of the State, although some of them are larger than certain cities. The men are to be given a good deal of money, and they are to be given the borough men together, and D. L. Starr, of Bellevue. Mr. Christwaite has done an immense amount of work for the boroughs.

The joys of living in a suburban town are pleasant, especially in the winter. When the north-west winds blowing at a 45 mile gale, the average out-of-town citizen rolls out of bed about 3:30 o'clock in the morning to find his fire out and his water pipes frozen. After wasting considerable time in thawing out the pipes, the suburbanite sets out for his city office. When he gets to the corner of the street to wait for the trolley car, he learns that the car is only fifteen minutes late, and he must weather the gale in order to get to his office. Upon arriving at his place of business, he makes a resolution that he will move back to the city, as soon as the weather is favorable. Upon the arrival of spring he forgets his resolution, and he remains in his suburban town, which, he says is the garden spot of the world, etc.

Two municipalities of the State have "called" the legislative committee on centennial affairs which gave out some time ago that it would like to hear from some place which was about 100 years old on the 4th of July. These two enterprising communities are Butler, which recently voted to become a city, and which is 100 years old this spring, and Pottsville, which has absorbed some nearby boroughs now styles itself Greater Pottsville in official communications. The Indian name of "Pussy" was "Gee-ah-ah" and it has been on the map since 1817 and growing ever since.

A teacher in one of the Steelton schools who has a flock of youngsters representing a majority of the nationalities of Europe, especially those in the southeastern section, says that it is surprising to see the way the youngsters have developed a feeling of reverence for Lincoln and Washington. They know all about them and from what the teacher says can give events with which the nation is connected. "For instance," he said, "the teacher, one youngster firmly believes that Lincoln was the man who made the railroad great and that Washington founded the school system."

One thing about this winter which appeals to the farmers is the fact that there is plenty of snow to cover the grain. Almost every year there have been accompanied by some snow and the wheat fields have been pretty well covered up. Fields in exposed places have been covered up. A very examination of the stalks falls to show that there will be much damage done. The acreage to be ploughed for corn next year is going to be less than that of the farmers attending the Verbeke street market say.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—R. T. Huges, postmaster of Jeanette, is the president of the Western Pennsylvania Postmaster's Association, who will hold their annual convention at McKees Rocks this month.

—Colonel Hamilton D. Turner, commander of the Second Artillery, which has just returned from the border, is one of the veteran officers of the Guard.

—Senator H. W. Schantz, of Lehigh, who is a Republican, used to be district attorney of that Democratic stronghold.

—A. A. Hammerschlag, director of the United States Customs at Pottsville here, was hurt in an automobile accident.

—Congressman H. W. Temple, of Washington, does not think the President needs laws to enable him to get use of munitions plants.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg has a big capacity in machinery that could be used for national defense?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

In old days Market Square was the place where the farmers and city sidemen were as numerous as at present fairs.