

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1917.

Hope is a prophet sent from heaven, Fear is a false and croaking raven;

The dawn that buds all gray and cold Will blossom to a sky of gold.

—E. R. SILL.

LICENSE COURT

THE Dauphin County Court is about to begin its yearly wrestle with the liquor license problem.

Whisky has had a stranglehold on the Pennsylvania Legislature for many years—regardless of party.

It has been said that the big cities of the State would turn in large "wet" majorities if a popular vote were taken now in Pennsylvania on either State-wide prohibition or local option.

In Harrisburg some idea may be gained of the trend in the same direction by the fact that a few years ago the police spent every Saturday night—pay-day at the mills—gathering in from fifteen to thirty "drunks."

The time is approaching when "license session" will be stricken from the local court calendars.

MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXTENDED

THE criticism of the County Commissioners with respect to excessive costs of police hearings at the Mayor's office is justified—but it might have been extended.

It is an unnecessary drain upon the taxpayers and it should be revised.

Dispatches from Austria indicate that Vienna hopes for the best, but fears for the worst.

DON'T BUY POTATOES

POTATOES \$3.60 a bushel in Harrisburg!

The figures are preposterous. Somebody is clutching greedily for the pennies of the poor.

When food brokers put a tax on luxuries there is ground for complaint.

When they place exorbitant and prohibitive prices on the necessities of life it is time for vigorous and effective protest.

Government relief is slow and uncertain. The deeper the federal probe goes into the price problem the higher the prices mount, apparently.

Relief must come from the people themselves. Their weapon is the boycott.

Don't buy potatoes. If everybody in Harrisburg refrains from purchasing for only three days prices will be restored to something like normal.

Rice is a good potato substitute. Hominy in a pinch can be made to answer, too.

At all events three days' abstinence from potatoes won't hurt anybody, and it would be sure to bring prices down.

Potatoes are a staple diet in every household. Particularly are they valued as a winter food by persons of limited means.

The present price is outrageous. It is justified neither by short crops nor exports.

Will the consumer stand it or will he use his only weapon of protest—the boycott?

Thanks, Mr. Weatherman, for the fine sample.

BOROUGH BETTERMENTS

THE gathering of borough officials in Harrisburg last week indicated an awakened spirit of civic betterment among the boroughs of Pennsylvania.

The great trouble with many of the boroughs is that they have grown up either in haphazard fashion or have been the prey of petty politicians using the local government as an instrument to their ends.

The effort of the bureau of municipal statistics has been to discover what is wrong and to offer corrective measures subject to the approval of the boroughs themselves.

OBSTRUCTIVE LEADERSHIP

THE New York Tribune complains of the selection of Mann as Republican floorleader in the House and the Philadelphia Public Ledger expresses the belief that neither Mann, in the lower branch, nor Stone, the Democratic leader in the Senate, is big enough for the job he holds.

Neither Mann nor Stone is progressive. Both are prompted more by politics and partisanship than by good for the country or the parties they represent.

"Stand-patism" of the old rank is unpopular. The rank and file of Americans are progressive. If the Republican leaders are wise they gently but firmly will take Mr. Mann away back and give him a seat by dear old "Uncle Joe" Cannon.

The Democrats may have their Stones, and welcome. What the Republicans need in Washington and in the party councils is a leadership that shall be constructive rather than obstructive.

The Days of Real Sport

POP CORN



Universal Service in England

"One cannot even begin to estimate," says Sydney Brooks, in National Service Magazine for February, "the enormous contribution that universal service has made to the cause of British democracy."

The Governor is not going to lose any time in acting on the resolution which should reach him by to-morrow at noon.

Bound to Survive

The other day we heard two elderly men reciting the merits of their automobiles and discussing their fellows, and we knew at once what they were doing and what they had been in days gone by.

The Unforgivable Affront

Now she hates one of her oldest friends. Yesterday she was downtown with this friend, and just before noon she said to the other lady: "Well, I'm going over here to catch my car."

Bring on Your War!

"We are preparing for anything. When the necessity arises Chief Inspector Schmittberger will press a button on his desk. The rest will follow like clockwork."

Some Keep More'n Two

"We have a friend," says Conde and Finance, "who is fond of telling how his elderly mother took him aside yesterday and said: 'I'm married and advised him always to keep two bears in his home if he would be happy.'"

Stops Exports of Sugar

The government of Argentina has extended the decree prohibiting the exportation of sugar and permitting the importation, free of duty, of certain quantities of raw and refined sugar.

HELMET RESISTS RIFLE BULLETS

Allies' Head Protectors Tested With Our Army Springfield



Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeemen

Governor Brumbaugh is being advised by his friends to veto the resolution for an investigation of government in Pennsylvania.

The interest of Mr. Crossman's story lies in the fact that it has been popularly supposed that the famous trench helmets were for protection only against shrapnel.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg is one of the big telegraph centers of the State?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

In days gone by the State used to test the cannon it bought on grounds near First Mountain.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

His view. "Ever see a game of polo?" "Saw one once upon a time, but it must have been a fierce one, as I got the idea it was against the rules to hit the ball."

Serious. "Why aren't you eating, old top?" "I'm on a diet. What's a diet?" "Trouble? Been ill?" "Had an operation on my allowance."

Something gained. "Oh, gardening is sport indeed. Beneath the smiling skies; Though you may only raise a weed, You've had the exercise."

What did he mean? "She: I could die dancing! He: Reverse!"

So sudden, too. "Maude: Do you get me?" "Frank: Is that a leap year proposal?"

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Ernest T. Trig, the new president of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, has gone on a summer holiday.

J. D. Breidinger, prominent Wilkes-Barre educator, is opposed to some of the proposed training ideas and is having quite a time with some of his people.

Captain S. M. Evans, well-known Civil War veteran, has been made custodian of the Pittsburgh memorial hall.

Colonel J. Howell Cummings, one of the new trustees of the South Mountain State Hospital, has a summer home near that place.

Evening Chat

By BRIGGS

Propositions to improve the Susquehanna, Schuylkill and other streams running from the anthracite region to the large cities and tidewater so that cheaper coal may be obtained, which have been given attention by State Commissioners, the public service board and legislators lately, have been discussed in Harrisburg for the last century and more.

Away back in 1793 and 1794 the citizens of the counties in Pennsylvania and Maryland abating on the river were alive to its possibilities, according to old records, and were keen to get the rocks out of the stream.

This particular Susquehanna river improvement bill, carried \$1,000,000, that much has been taken on straight on a creek in Crawford county in recent years.

From the Juniata to Northumberland, \$3,000,000.

From Northumberland to Nanticoke Rapids, \$1,000,000.

For improvement of the Juniata to Frankstown, \$4,000,000.

For improvement of the Raystown branch of the Juniata, \$1,000,000.

For improvement of Bald Eagle creek, \$1,000,000.