

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO.,

Member American Newspaper Publishers' Association, The Audit Bureau of Circulation and Pennsylvania Association of Daily Editors.

Eastern office, Story, Brooks & Finley, Fifth Avenue Building, New York City.

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.

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 23

A complain o' want o' siller; name o' want o' sense.

WINDOW BOXES

It is about time to be thinking of repainting the window and porch boxes which added so much to the beauty of Harrisburg last year.

Flowers and growing things about a house add dollars to its valuation from a sales point of view and greatly improve its appearance.

MR. ITTNER'S ABILITY

Whatever arguments may be brought to bear in the school board controversy over the selection of an architect for the new buildings contemplated, the ability of William B. Ittner, the St. Louis man chosen by the special committee of the board to do the work, cannot be questioned.

HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF

History appears to be repeating in Russia. The Czar and his consort are in prison, the revolutionary government is in complete control, despite occasional rumors via Berlin to the contrary, and plans for the prosecution of the war appear to be well in hand.

This somewhat corresponds to the situation in which France found herself at the close of the eighteenth century, when the nation, in the face of an invading foe, overthrew the king, put him to death and then turned about and, under the direction of the famous Carnot, reorganized the more or less demoralized military that the army came through the trial triumphant and France was saved both from foreign aggression and royal oppression.

All that Russia needs is a Carnot and such a Committee of Safety as he had at his elbow, and there are indications that it is not lacking in either.

THE LABOR DEPARTMENT

It is to be hoped that the Appropriations Committees will not have to cut as deeply into the budget of the State Department of Labor and Industry as reports from Capitol Hill might indicate.

Another immensely useful service the department is performing is through the instrumentality of its Bureau of Employment. It has been said that the bureau's activities are limited by reason of the fact that labor is well employed at this time and, therefore, for the present no increase of appropriation is necessary in this direction.

REPAIR THE STREETS

Now that spring is upon us, may we not expect that some attention will be given to the city streets? The condition of unrepair in which practically every important thoroughfare finds itself to-day is a blot on the city and is not only an

the manly job. In this way it serves both employer and employe, both capital and labor. It may be capital's turn just now, but nobody knows when labor will need the bureau and need it badly.

These are only two of the very many lines of activity in which Commissioner Jackson and his assistants are engaged and all of them have their uses in the industrial life of today.

NEW THIRD-CLASS CITY BILL

SENATOR BEIDLEMAN'S new third-class city bill, which would place the government of Harrisburg and cities like it largely in the hands of an unpaid council of one member from each ward, repeal the present nonpartisan clause and restore the veto power to the mayor, is an interesting piece of legislation, both from the manner in which the subject is treated and from the fact that it is, in addition, a most complete codification of all laws relating to municipalities of the third class in Pennsylvania.

Whether the people are prepared to return to the old type of ward representation in Council is a question, but in any case Senator Beidleman's bill is the result of popular dissatisfaction with the Clark act and a desire for change on the part of a large majority of the taxpayers.

Undoubtedly, as the Senator has said, the salary system for councilmen has resulted in a disgraceful scramble for office on the part of those who have in view nothing more than the money they hope to get. The result has been inefficiency in government and a gradual letting down of public interest in municipal affairs.

There has been log-rolling and desperate efforts to please this or that class of voters at the expense of the city as a whole. The law's nonpartisan clause has resulted in a condition where politics play a larger part in city government than ever.

The inference to be drawn from the provisions of the Beidleman bill is that under its provisions the city departments would be run by superintendents selected by Council on the ground of their fitness for the work.

There are many features of the bill worthy of consideration and it shows much thought and careful preparation. It is gratifying to those in Harrisburg who supported him to note the interest Senator Beidleman is displaying in the important affairs of the city and that all his efforts have been in the direction of improving conditions.

TWO GOOD BILLS

A BILL has recently been introduced in the State Legislature which was prepared by the State Affairs committee of the Scranton Board of Trade, providing for a single collector of taxes in the second and third-class cities and the boroughs and incorporated townships of the Commonwealth.

In this class of legislation, also, is the Beidleman county receiver of taxes bill, which also should be reported out promptly and passed.

CONSISTENCY

SAYS Girard in his admirable column in the Philadelphia Public Ledger: California fruit growers advertise their oranges in Philadelphia magazines. No Pennsylvania farmer has anything to advertise in a San Francisco magazine.

Yet Pennsylvania is richer and more populous than California. We give generously in a hundred doubtful directions and deny State College the means of providing us with what everybody agrees is a vital need—greater efficiency in farming.

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The Days of Real Sport



Politics in Pennsylvania

According to stories which have come to the Capitol, the folks back home in certain Democratic communities are somewhat inclined to be critical of the attitude of various Democratic members in the Legislature, especially in the matter of the support of the President, and to feel that the Democrats should have been more active than they were in the House.

Labor Notes

There are now five states with women legislators.

This country has 380 piano factories in operation.

Nurses in every State hospital in California will be organized.

Of 1,732,613 people engaged in agriculture in Bulgaria 87,406 are women.

Women government workers in England number 133,000.

Sweden employs over 30,000 women in her clothing and textile industries.

Railway carmen employed on Canadian government railroads get a minimum of 40 cents an hour.

Higher pay and more food were recently demanded by 17,000 workmen at the Krupp works at Essen.

City fire fighters at Victoria, B. C., demand the inauguration of the two-platoon system.

Georgetown (Texas) carpenters have increased wages from 50 to 55 cents an hour.

A State council of carpenters, representing about 3,000 workers, has been organized in Montana. Its purposes are: To establish the State-wide eight-hour day, minimum wage scale, furnish information regarding conditions of employment, promote such legislation as is beneficial to workers.

Not Used to Luxury

It was much against his will that Wiggle went along when John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and his family moved into the new \$10,000,000 million dollar house on Kik-Uit Hill, Pocantico Hills, Tarrytown, recently. Wiggle is a small, black Scotch terrier, pet of the family.

The climax came when the massive organ in the music room began to play out music. Wiggle stood it as long as he could, made a succession of yelps which sounded like the name of the hill on which the house is situated, and darted out through the kitchen door.

The Rockefeller children bemoaned the loss of Wiggle, so their father offered a reward of \$1000 if he was returned. At the Rockefeller home no one would say whether music would be tried on the dog again.

Zionists and America

(From the Maccabean, official magazine of the Federation of American Zionists.) The Jews of America share the interests of the American people, of whom they are an integral part.

The latest Democratic move, the investigation of the election of Congressman Bleakley, has been undertaken by the United States grand jury at Erie. The ring-leader is E. Lowry Himes, United States district attorney.

Not even the German prophets who fixed the day, hour and minute when Verdun was to fall went further astray. The only other English prophecy worth putting with it is that of Winston Churchill, who saw the Gallipoli fight as good as won just when it was a hopeless failure.

Belgium's Infant Sacrifice

THE children of Belgium share in the martyrdom of their parents. They are like the young boys and girls, baptized in water and in blood, who stood with the early Christians in the arena, before the callous eyes of Rome.

Flowers

It is hard for me to understand people who have even one foot of land and who do not raise any flowers. Just as a back yard full of rubbish always seems to me to suggest a rubbishy soul, and a barren back yard a more or less desolate character, so a back yard running over with flowers seems to cry out that in this house dwell beauty and peace and content.

A Bad War For Prophets

Prophecy about the Great War for a newspaper has been hectoring enough to call into play all the mental agility usually granted to mortals. Prophecy for a magazine has been even worse. As, for instance, the Slavick expert of the redoubtable 'Nineteenth Century' has this to say in the current March number of the political situation in Russia:

LOOKS FINE

A thing of beauty is a joy. High in the roster I place the handsome soldier boy Seen on the poster.

DO YOU KNOW

That Dauphin county steel is being used for Russian railroad work?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

In every war Harrisburg has sent organizations for service on the front call.

WHAT MAY BE SAID OF GOD

(Thomas Hobbes.) For as much as God Almighty is incomprehensible, it followeth that he can have no conception or image of the Deity; and consequently all his attributes signify our inability and defect of power to conceive anything concerning his nature; and not any conception of the same, save only this: That there is a God, for the effects we acknowledge naturally do include a power of their producing before they are produced; and that power presupposeth something existent that hath such power, and the thing so existing with power to produce, if it were not eternal, must needs have been produced by something before that, till we come to the Eternal, that is to say, the first power of all powers and first cause of all causes. This is which all men conceive by the name of God, implying eternity, incomprehensibility and omnipotence.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

HIS COLLEGE EDUCATION. How's your boy getting on in college? Not well. They batted him out of the box in the third inning the other day.

ADRIFT

I hear you have a bungalow at the seashore. I did have, but there was an unusually high tide the other day, and now I've got a houseboat.

A CRIMINAL LAWYER

Crooke is a criminal lawyer, isn't he? He's a lawyer, but as to his being criminal, I think he's too careful to quite overstep the line.

NOTHING LOST

Young Husband—Darling, I have a confession to make. My salary is 30 per cent. less than I told you before we were married!

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Colonel H. C. Trexler, the cement magnate, has been the agent for army work but says he is willing to waive all that.

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Ebening Chat

The busiest people in the State in the rush of preparation that has taken hold of almost every line of activity are the commanders of various units of the National Guard who are busy checking up their men so that they will be able to turn out with full strength on their rolls in the event of a call to active service.

One of the problems that will be left for people of communities to solve in the event of war will be the "home guards." The regulars and National Guardsmen will go into the first line with reserve recruit establishments in the State to keep the Guard regiments up to strength.

A man familiar with the scheme of the Home Guard outlined it as something like this: "Take Harrisburg, for instance. You have a number of men who know the city and its activities and the kinds of people it has. Well there would be needed in Harrisburg a committee on home defense would be named and it would then proceed to form units. Men whose business and residence made them made them with a certain section of the city would be enrolled in the unit charged with duty of turning out to protect the important places in that part of the city. These men would be organized as a guard unit except when called. If there should be an outbreak of violence of any kind they would be called out to the scene. They would be armed and ready. They would be required, if things go tense, to have their arms handy. The Home Guard is an organized force against emergencies. It is to be seen in form in every city in the country."

An extremely interesting document in support of teachers' retirement legislation has been sent to the State Capitol for the edification of the members of the General Assembly. This document was prepared by a committee which has given exhaustive study to the subject. When it was distributed among the legislators there was more or less dismay. The reason was that the proof of the statement was made by algebra.

Veterans of the Civil War are having the time of their lives just now inspiring the younger generation in the crisis with Germany. Some of the veterans have been calling upon young men of their acquaintance to ask them what they are going to do about it and they recall the days of the great struggle when they marched to the mustering offices, Harrisburg was one of the big gathering points for soldiers for miles around and many a regiment was sent forward from this city.

Men who work in the Lalance and Grosjean tin plate mills assert that spring is surely coming to Harrisburg and that it will not be long until there will be signs as indubitable as the discovery of the first liverwort in Wildwood Park by Dr. John H. Fager. These men say that upon several occasions lately, along toward sundown, they have heard the bullfrogs in the marshy spots in Hoffman's woods. Local tradition is bound to be vindicated.

Harrisburg appears to have an unusual number of barbers. Each man working this year and somehow or other they have Capitol Hill on their routes. Several men with fragrant baskets of soaps and other spring tonic materials visited the Capitol yesterday and to-day.

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