

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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E. J. STACKPOLE, Pres't and Editor-in-Chief

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FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 30

None could tell me where my soul might be;

I searched for God, but God eluded me; I sought my brother out, and found all three.

—ERNEST CROSBY.

GERARD'S COMING

The Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce has done a good stroke in procuring the services of former Ambassador Gerard to address the great patriotic meeting planned for this city next week.

Mr. Gerard's coming is well timed. He will speak here, in all likelihood, immediately following the declaration of Congress that a state of war exists between this country and Germany.

In Germany "Russian Reds" may become known as "Prussian Blues," if the spread of the democratic idea in Europe continues.

CONSERVE AND PRESERVE

Patton has his way this will be the banner canning year in the history of Pennsylvania. His proclamation, issued yesterday to the farmers and the housewives of the State, following the suggestions of State Health Commissioner Dixon, and President Sparks, of State College, calls attention to the rapidly dwindling supply of canned goods and the necessity not only for raising vast amounts of greenstuffs the coming summer but of canning the surplus for use during the winter to follow.

This is good advice. Most Harrisburg housekeepers make some pretense of canning their own supplies of fruits and vegetables, but where one carries out the example of her mother in this a dozen do not. The corner grocery is so convenient and the work of "canning" so distasteful to many women who look to summer largely as a period of rest and recreation that the reserve pantry of many a home is shamefully neglected. But if we are to live next winter as well as we are accustomed and at prices within the reach of the average purse, things must change. The coming summer must be a season both for conserving and preserving.

The Germans are holding Whitlock "in quarantine," and we suppose he will be ready for fumigation after they let him go.

THE RUMMAGE SALE

The annual Rummage Sale for the benefit of the Harrisburg Hospital is on and will continue until to-morrow evening. The Rummage Sale is a general clearing house for articles which, while they are merely so much excess baggage in the households from which they come, meet useful purposes in the homes to which they go. Thus everybody is pleased, the hospital profits and, incidentally, the average woman's penchant for bargain-hunting is satisfied, for there are really many rare bargains at the sale.

Thanks, Mr. Hollweg, for permission to live.

MOVIES FOR THE ALMHOUSE

Moving pictures for the county almshouse will be an entirely commendable innovation and quite in line with modern administration of public charities. Poor directors Snively, Lauderbach and Manning have added to their already excellent record by adopting promptly the recommendation of the grand jury that an occasional "movie" show be given to brighten the drab lot of the unfortunate who must look to the county for their keep.

Inmates of the home are made up very largely of the aged, the infirm and little ones cast upon the bounty of public charity through no fault of their own. The county admits that it owes them a living, and "a living" ought to mean more than a roof, a cot

and a bite to eat. In any case, they are not the wards of the people of their own choice. Misfortune has marked them for their own. They have nothing whatsoever in prospect except the grave. From day to day they do the small chores required of them, sit idly about, eat when it is meal time and sleep when night falls. Their's is a dreary round of dull days. Anything that will bring a little sunshine into their clouded lives is well worth while.

The poor directors intend to have moving pictures one evening every two weeks. After a while, we hope, they will be able to make it once every week.

Motto for Germany: "You're all wrong, Steve, a-a-l w-r-o-n-g."

CAMP CURTIN MEMORIAL

Governor Brumbaugh's comprehensive message to the Legislature at the beginning of the present session he called attention to the importance of providing in some suitable manner a permanent marker for the site of Camp Curtin in this city. On this subject he said:

During the Civil War our Pennsylvania troops were all trained and mustered into the national service at Camp Curtin, a site now within the limits of Harrisburg and rapidly developing into an important residential district. A small area yet remains unimproved and for an unimportant sum this land may now be acquired, set aside as Camp Curtin Park, and made a memorial to the citizen soldiery of Pennsylvania. I earnestly urge your favorable consideration of this patriotic service.

Almost three months have now elapsed since the opening of the session and Senator Beidleman's bill to carry into effect this important recommendation of the Governor still rests in committee. When it is recalled that thousands of men were mobilized, drilled and sent to the front at Camp Curtin, the suggestion of the Governor for a permanent memorial on the site comes with peculiar force at this time when the men and resources of Pennsylvania are again to be mobilized in a national crisis. It is probable that this matter has been overlooked in the pressure of other matters on Capitol Hill, but it is known that both the Governor and Senator Beidleman are quite earnestly in favor of some such memorial as has been suggested.

About a year ago prominent citizens of the western section of Harrisburg called upon the Governor and urged him to make the recommendation which was submitted to the Legislature, but which has not been acted upon to the present time. Senator Beidleman has a plan, as outlined by the Telegraph, whereby the expense of such a memorial can be held to a minimum and this should be an argument in favor of the passage of this bill.

We cannot be too careful in the matter of proper recognition of the patriotism and sacrifice of those who go forth to war in defense of their country and the liberties of our people. If we show no interest whatever in the things which stand as reminders of another grave period in the development of the country we can hardly expect the men of the present generation to become overly enthusiastic in the crisis of to-day.

Let us hope that prompt action will be taken to the end that Camp Curtin may be permanently marked as one of the great camp grounds of the Civil War.

Wild geese are reported flying North, but hunters should remember that Federal laws forbid their going in spring-time on "wild goose chases."

NO HALF-WAY MEASURES

There isn't any doubt about the real attitude of the people of the United States with respect to our difficulties with Germany. It is evident to all that this country has been forced into a state of war against every effort of the administration at Washington to keep peace. All differences of opinion aside as to the manner of conducting negotiations, it is now manifestly the conviction of all patriotic citizens that we should join forces with the allies in doing everything to bring to a close the intolerable conditions which have upset the world.

If we are to make war, and this seems inevitable, then there should be no half-way measures. We should stand shoulder to shoulder with those who have been battling against the aggression of oppressors in Europe and any effort to prosecute a kind of detached warfare will be against the judgment of the average American.

Rear Admiral Bowman of the Great-Harrisburg Navy, is giving consideration to his budget for the current year and plans which he has in mind are comprehensive and interesting from the standpoint of the development of the Susquehanna basin. He is also looking ahead to a Klipona celebration of unusual interest.

A BUILDING BOOM

There are indications everywhere throughout the city of a building boom of large proportions this year. Many more houses are needed than have been provided owing to the high cost of building materials and everything that goes into the construction of dwellings, but without regard to these unusual conditions the time has come when there must be more homes, and the builders of Harrisburg are going right ahead. It is also certain that there will be a general remodeling of many business places and the erection of many more in addition to the construction of the big Penn-Harris Hotel.

Something ought to be done looking toward an adequate armory for the Harrisburg companies of the National Guard. This is to be a military headquarters of importance and definite steps ought to be taken for procuring a site for a suitable building. Some one has suggested a location on the edge of Wildwood park and that would seem to be a desirable place, owing to the available railroad facilities.

KELLY—THE COME-BACK



By BRIGGS

Rhymes From the Nursery

The Sugar-Butter-Cream-Tart-Pie There's one thing which my mother makes I never can forget If I live to be a hundred years And fifty more I'll bet That though I may get old and blind And lame and have no teeth, A sugar-butter-cream-tart-pie Will smile around me wreath.

German-Americans

Except the most fanatical partisans of the entente allies, no one expects Americans of German blood and tradition to volunteer for active operations in Europe against the central armies. We know from experience that German-Americans will fight devotedly for their adopted country, and if we were threatened with invasion even by Germany there would be no doubt the German-Americans would help expel the invaders.

But it is neither necessary nor practical to use German-Americans in any force our policy or the exigency of this war compels us to send abroad. The Tribune believes that for the sake of the national morale as well as of our political advantage an American army, when ready, should be sent to Europe. But whether that is a volunteer army—we hope it will not be—or an army organized under universal service, provision should be made for the assignment of men of German, Austrian and Hungarian blood to the forces we shall have to maintain at home. The German-American should not be asked to drive a bayonet into the breast of his blood brother unless that brother is leading the country, as he might be from Mexico, or from the border at our peace here within the confines of our own country. But German-Americans may well be asked to defend the borders and our home ports, and they can be depended upon to do that service loyally and well.

Military efficiency, as well as considerations of human feeling, dictates this concession. German-Americans could not be expected to fight against Germany with the spirit they would show against another enemy or even against Germany in a war whose issues appealed to them.

We have a duty also to civilian German-Americans, a duty which is not merely governmental but belongs to all. If we are not unreasonable we must realize that the German-Americans who are loyal to this country are passing through an experience of real anguish. The common figure of speech which calls Germany their mother and America their wife is not exaggerated. These, our fellow citizens, our neighbors and worthy co-workers in upbuilding of America, are torn between two sincere and honorable devotions. They are following the Biblical saying, they are leaving father and mother and cleaving to the wife. But the necessity of choice is a bitter one.

It is a part of good citizenship and of common human feeling to try to help the German-Americans in this trial, to avoid ending their susceptibilities, now naturally exaggerated, to try to make them feel that we do not doubt their loyalty while recognizing their sympathies.—Chicago Daily Tribune.

Noah's Ark

Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And this is the fashion thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. A window shalt thou make in the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second and third stories shalt thou make it.—Genesis vi, 14 to 16.

Or Did Both

(From the Syracuse Post-Standard) President May Add Two to Cabinet.—Headline. "Would be better if he subtracted a couple of ciphers."

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Factionalism stands a chance of receiving a real good hard clout along the side of the head next week in the event that things become strenuous in national affairs. Leaders of the Republican party, including men high in the State administration and in the faction which controls the Legislature, have been sounding sentiment among legislators the last few days and have found that even the men from the two big cities are tired of the constant discussion of Philadelphia city politics in the Legislature and that there is a disposition to insist upon adoption of a policy of action.

In the event that war comes, immediate attention will be given to the revenue situation and a plan adopted whereby if the State is called upon to furnish money acts can be rushed through. While this is being done the appropriation bills will be gotten out of the way. The general appropriation bill will go in early next week and much time will be lost in framing up departmental items.

Meanwhile a list will be made up of bills to pass and it is understood to be the desire that every bill which may be sponsored by the dominant faction to hamper the administration and every piece of circus legislation which may be put up by the State administration shall be put out of the way.

Senator Sprull's suggestion that the Legislature work to close up in May and then recess if the Governor does not send in his appointments is taking well.

A resolution calling upon Governor Brumbaugh to send to the State Senate his appointments to State offices made since the adjournment of the 1915 session is understood to be under consideration among Senate leaders as a means of bringing to the point the long delay in getting the selections before the Senate under constitutional requirements. It is said that drafts have been made of such a resolution and that the names of men named a year ago have never been considered and that places made vacant by dismissals or death have not been filled.

One of the matters which will be referred to will be the vacancy in the State Banking Department. A bill to place a direct tax of 2 mills on all direct inheritances is being considered here. This would be a producer of revenue running from five to six millions of dollars a year. It will be taken up by the revenue committee at its next meeting.

Congressman Thomas S. Butler, who represents a district containing about as many Quakers as any in the United States, has announced that he is with the President in the White House.

The new borough of DuPont, which contains 5,000 persons, will hold its first election on May 8. It is a thriving place in Luzerne county and starts off with better arrangements than the average town.

The Birdsboro post office appointment has been settled without any heartburnings. The son of the late postmaster was named to succeed him.

The Philadelphia North American is printing some comments on the local option vote and declares that the two Crawford men went back on their words. It also calls attention to the votes of the two A. D. Millers in the House. Susquehanna voted "dry" and Westmoreland "wet." The bill having been defeated, certain men in the Anti-Saloon League in Philadelphia will now proceed to make speeches.

Congressman John R. K. Scott has emerged from the shadows where he has been since the speakership contest was settled. He says he is for western suffrage.

Just a German Trick

(From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat) We are suffering all the pains and risks of a belligerent without enjoying many of the rights. Insults are added to these continuing injuries when German-inspired suggestions of mediation are circulated. The whole course of Germany proves that they are insincere and their palpitating purpose is to impress people with warped judgment that if the United States officially declares that a state of war exists it will be acting as an aggressor.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Objects to Ittner

To the Editor of the Telegraph:

A certain Mr. Griswold, member of the Erie School Board, has written a letter to J. H. McFarland, of our city. This letter was published in various city papers. Mr. Griswold's letter lauds Mr. Ittner for the services he has rendered the Erie School Board and recommends him for the work about to be undertaken by the School Board of Harrisburg.

The Erie papers have recently contained considerable food for thought for the taxpayers of Harrisburg. I note in the Erie Dispatch of March 8 that the Erie board's total assets for building purposes, including \$1,000,000 loan authorized some time ago by the people, amounts to \$1,174,800 and contracts have already been let for buildings, etc., to the amount of \$1,046,533.37, leaving \$128,266.63 available to build one high school, one grade school, an addition to a grade school and an addition to the Central High school, all of which buildings were supposed to be covered in the \$1,000,000, which the people authorized. It appears that bids were opened several weeks ago for the high school and the grade school and the lowest bids received aggregated \$758,825, the one building running about 50 per cent. above the architect's estimate and the other about 26 per cent. above the architect's estimate. It is estimated that the additions to the two other mentioned buildings will cost at least \$200,000. In other words, the Erie board appears to have \$128,266.63 available with which to build schools to cost \$956,825, therefore, the Erie board was obliged to indefinitely postpone the buildings in question, or until such time that the people authorized another loan. Mr. Griswold in his praise of Mr. Ittner neglected to state these facts, or else Mr. McFarland has deleted them in his attempt to force Mr. Ittner upon the taxpayers of Harrisburg.

I think Harrisburgers are of one mind, that the new school should be well built and well adapted to their purpose. Taking the above into consideration, it does not seem to me to follow that our taxpayers should be inflicted with the unparalleled extravagance of Mr. Ittner's methods as

exemplified in the results at Erie. It looks to me as though the Citizens' Committee of Harrisburg hold for their motto, "Ittner at any Cost," and this should not be the case for they really only pay 13 per cent. of Harrisburg's taxes and the other 87 per cent. should be taken into consideration, also. As I see conditions, the responsibility rests upon the School Board, which is elected by the people, and as the people had not the least voice in the selection of the Citizens' Committee, I can see no reason why members of our School Board should accept such recommendations as has been suggested and which they propose to submit, for in so doing it may lead our School Board into the same plight that the Erie board found themselves in. I have suffered ever since one would want such an occurrence in Harrisburg, as we want all our money will buy and in fact it should be devalued by the taxpayers as they are the ones to pay the bill. Every member of our board who votes against Mr. Ittner as architect should receive congratulations from every taxpayer of the city and gentlemen, I enclose mine at this time for you. I am,

Yours truly,

C. GLENN FICKES.

Third Street Problem

To the Editor of the Telegraph:

I am glad to note in your paper that efforts are being made towards improvement of conditions on the North Third street line of the trolley company. I am a merchant on that street. The fact that cars pass my door only one way is a hardship. I lose money when it is too late, and no one would want such an occurrence in Harrisburg, as we want all our money will buy and in fact it should be devalued by the taxpayers as they are the ones to pay the bill. Every member of our board who votes against Mr. Ittner as architect should receive congratulations from every taxpayer of the city and gentlemen, I enclose mine at this time for you. I am,

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OUR DAILY LAUGH

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WHY BUY A CAR?

Wife: Did you buy a car? Hubby: No, but I made fourteen different appointments with as many different salesmen for trial trips. \$ for the next two weeks we'll have machine every day.

HIS GRATITUDE.

Wife: I shall speak to Mr. Smith for not having us at her reception. Bored Hubby: Yes, thank her.

TOO EXPENSIVE.

There is nothing like a brisk walk in the park before breakfast to get up an appetite. Yes. But an appetite nowadays is a thing to be shunned.

Evening Chat

People throughout the State are just commencing to realize the great significance of the meeting held Wednesday in the historic reception room of the governor's department in the State Capitol for the formation of the Pennsylvania committee on public safety and defense. There have been many meetings of wide importance to the State held in that room, but nothing ever approached the assemblage of two days ago. Some one has estimated that the enterprises and individual wealth represented by the men at the meeting alone aggregated two or three billion dollars. We are accustomed to speak lightly of millions and because of the fearful cost of the war the use of the word billion is getting to be something which is no longer employed with a sense of awe. The big railroad, coal, steel and oil industries which had men present to proffer their support comprise investments over the billion and a half mark if they do not reach two billions. It was one of the most remarkable aggregations of capital and influence ever gotten together in Pennsylvania and the idea of uniting these captains was well exemplified by the fact that a man at the head of one of the greatest utility companies in Philadelphia sat alongside a college-bred lawyer and a man of political power that is national in character discussed the common safety with citizens who owned a couple of farms.

The scope of the plan adopted by the meeting has attracted attention in other States. Chairman Pepper in his original draft covered up fifteen departments to which Governor Brumbaugh has suggested that two more be added. One of these will be agricultural conservation. It will be the first systematic effort the State has made to utilize its recognized leaders, has ever made to have the production of food on other lines of supply and demand as understood in covered up a check-off idea of Commissioner Dixon, President Sparks and others was to let the farmers and land owners know just what the State needs and to do now what England after two and a half years of war is commencing to do in the way of concentrating agriculture. Even if war should not come there is no question but that the State has learned a valuable lesson and that the next emergency will find Pennsylvania prepared to furnish information instead of making ready to get the facts. It comes as something of a shock after all these years of building up departments of the State government to find that there are but one or two which really know the way of a thing which they are required to regulate. Some day, perhaps, there will be a branch of the military end of the State government authorized to keep its hand on things like the way of doing war. Germany, officially cognizant of everything, has been conspicuously successful in that line.

Another thing which will come from the meeting will be a recognition of the part labor will play in preparedness. One of the functions of the committee was to suggest where work can be had on short notice and in considerable numbers. This is one of the problems of the day in industry. It is of infinitely more importance in time of war. There are thousands of men who would be glad to give their hands, which is all many of them have, in case of trouble if they knew where to put their hands and the way of it will be the business of the committee to reach these men and arrange to call on them.

In these momentous days when the spirit of '76 is being rekindled, the loyal citizenry of the nation rushing to the support of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy and eagerly manifesting its patriotism and devotion to the sacred emblem of freedom, a preparedness movement that has received little attention because of the stealth which has marked its progress, there are thousands of men who would be glad to give their hands, which is all many of them have, in case of trouble if they knew where to put their hands and the way of it will be the business of the committee to reach these men and arrange to call on them.

The discussion of plans for mobilization of agriculture is going far beyond what the average man thinks. The farmers have been worrying over the possibility of war for some time and the question was put up squarely by a Cumberland county farmer yesterday when he asked a man connected with the State government where he was going to get the men to farm. This man, and there are many like him, has a farm of about 150 acres. He says that he is not willing to give up the raising of food and to plant whatever crops the people in the vanguard of the preparedness movement suggest. But, he asks, where is the labor to come from? This man has only himself and family on the farm. The wife and children do some of the work but one man's hands can not go very far on 150 acres.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Chief J. L. McLaughlin, of the Philadelphia Electrical Bureau, is thinking out a plan to equip City Hall with devices to herald approach of aeroplanes.

W. J. Richards, president of the Reading coal interests, presented the flag to the returning company of Pottsville guardsmen taking advantage of their vacation.

Provost Edgar F. Smith, of the University of Pennsylvania, will make one of the patriotic addresses at Philadelphia to-morrow.

F. S. Dixon, the new head of the powder company, began his business career in the company's mills.

Mayor Armstrong, of Pittsburgh, is getting citizens together in his city to stimulate recruiting.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg can furnish enough bread for the whole State division of militia in less than half a day?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG During the Civil War men of each ward formed a relief committee and did excellent work.