

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME Founded 1831

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SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 31

The ungrateful shall not prosper.—KORAN.

THE REPUBLIC THOU, too, sail on, O Ship of State!

At the risk of interminable repetition the TELEGRAPH again urges the owners of vacant lots and open spaces everywhere to plant food stuffs of every kind as soon as the weather will permit.

WILLING TO AID CITY SO long as the city is managed under the commission form of government, it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the hands of those responsible for the duties vested in the City Council.

ENCOURAGING THE BIRDS THE HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH is heartily in accord with a movement set afoot in America by the National Association of Audubon Societies to have the ministers of the country use their influence for the conversion of cemeteries into bird sanctuaries.

HELP THE HOTEL PROJECT A FINAL conference is being held by the directors of the Harrisburg Hotel company this afternoon preparatory to approving the plans of the collaborating architects and the United Hotels Company, which will manage the Penn-Harris.

THE NEWSPAPER'S PART THE TELEGRAPH is pleased to be one of the instruments chosen by Secretary Daniels to assist in procuring recruits for the Navy.

Her Faith Made Her Whole And, behold, a woman, which was diseased twenty years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment.

Local Option Defeat [Philadelphia Record.] We hear much here and elsewhere, every time a measure of the promise of this one is voted upon by the Legislature, of the lack of opportunity of the people to be honestly represented by members of the Legislature.

Co-operating With France (From the Troy Record) On sentimental grounds it would be a magnificent thing to pledge our unlimited financial support to France.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE —Dr. George Woodward has offered to give the city of Philadelphia a new firehouse site.

DO YOU KNOW —That Harrisburg has doubled the number of its motor vehicles in a few years?

enrolled among those who want to see Harrisburg placed more largely upon the map than ever before.

When the TELEGRAPH strongly advocated, two years ago, the introduction of military training in the schools of Harrisburg, especially the organization of a battalion composed of one company each from the Harrisburg Academy, the St. Patrick's Parochial schools and the two high schools, there was little interest manifested outside the Technical school.

ELISHA LEE AND THE RAILROADS THE appointment of Elisha Lee to be general manager of the Pennsylvania railroad lines east of Pittsburgh was made on merit, as most Pennsylvania promotions are.

President Willard, of the Baltimore and Ohio Company, it is understood, will appear shortly before a congressional committee to advocate the federalization of railroad control.

About the only expense entering into the life of the community that is much cheaper to-day—outside of steel products—than twenty years ago is railroad transportation, but not even the Elisha Lees of the service will be able to maintain that distinction for long under present conditions.

Real estate is about to have a boom in this city. Upon every street activity is shown and a number of important developments are said to be under consideration.

Additional facilities for giving returned soldiers technical training to fit them for new occupations in civil life have been provided in Montreal, Canada.

A scheme has been devised in Manchester, England, to indicate by a shop-window sign business which are being carried on by soldiers' wives.

The Judiciary committee of the Connecticut General Assembly favors a bill that will end the practice of importing armed guards during strike times.

Eighty per cent, of the Canadian operatives employed in the execution of new and continuation contracts for shells of all sizes from 2.75 inches to 4.5 inches are women.

A Lesson in Patriotism (New Bedford, Mass., Standard) How many times the ignorant foreigners in this country have taught us the lesson of patriotism!

It was the most natural thing in the world for the girl clerk to hand him a check in Italian flag. The man touched it devotedly with his soiled fingers.

A Predicament [From Answers, London.] It was the night of nights. Isabella had said "yes," Isabella's father had said "yes," and Isabella's "young man" was happy.

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The Days of Real Sport



EDITORIAL COMMENT

THEY'LL LEARN IN TIME Of course Russia does not yet know how to conduct popular elections so as to get the most out of them, but we dare say that after the first one some muddle will be trundling a former prince around the block in a wheelbarrow and an ex-premier will be rolling a peanut with his nose, just like Americans who have enjoyed the blessings of the franchise for 140 years.—Grand Rapids Press.

NEED STENOGRAPHERS Evacuating Noyon, the enemy carried off by force 50 girls from 15 to 25 years of age.—Official French bulletin. "Military necessity," of course.—New York World.

THEY'LL NEVER BELIEVE THIS One thing negligent and inefficient parents should remember. The Legislature will never have wisdom enough to do successfully for children at a distance what parents fail and neglect to do on the spot.—Houston Post.

Labor Notes Additional facilities for giving returned soldiers technical training to fit them for new occupations in civil life have been provided in Montreal, Canada.

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Politics in Pennsylvania By the Ex-Committeeman

A general Democratic drive against every Republican Congressman who had a close election last fall is now believed to be likely as a result of the proceedings in the United States court against Congressman O. D. Bleakley of Venango. It is understood that the Democratic national leaders and the State bosses made up their minds to test out the election of the Venango man and if successful in their effort to swing in against other men elected last fall.

The plea of Bleakley late yesterday came as a surprise to many people here, including Democrats who had been watching the developments and at the State headquarters there was considerable buzzing. It is now believed that activity against congressmen whose elections were formally contested in the winter will be started.

Political strategists in Philadelphia have about decided to allow the war developments to occupy the center of the legislative stage next week, and it is probable that there will be no strenuous efforts to push the bills making changes in the Philadelphia city government or those to curb activity of the live-stock commission.

The Philadelphia Record to-day says: The hearing on the Mandatory Budget bill before the Senate Committee on Municipal Affairs in Council's Finance Committee room in City Hall, yesterday, resolved itself into one of the liveliest and most interesting bookkeeping and politics held in this city since the days of the Catlin Commission. Seated beside Senator Edwin H. Ware, chairman of the committee, Senator James P. McNichol opposed the bill now before the Legislature, heckling speakers who favored the measure and defending the present system of financing.

The fall primary bill will be amended in the Senate according to gossip which is now being heard. The bill conflicts with the Jewish new year and the chances are that a change which will not interfere with the registration days will be effected.

Industrious efforts are being made to work up a row among third class cities over legislation. The usual malcontents are at work and the Democratic bosses in some localities are lending their support to the measure.

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IS THE PRESENT EUROPEAN WAR GREATEST IN HISTORY

It seems to be generally accepted that the present war is altogether the greatest in history; and so it is in one sense, for undoubtedly there are more men under arms than ever before.

The present war is by no means the greatest in history, proportionally; that is to say, no one of the nations engaged in the present war is throwing into the fighting line as many men, in proportion to its population, as has been the case several times in the past.

The greatest effort that the civilized world has ever seen was made on American soil. No nation, neither France nor Germany, and still less any other of the European nations, is throwing to-day into the firing line such a large proportion of its population as did the North in the American Civil War.

Undoubtedly, the greatest effort made by any people was that of our own South. When the Civil War broke out, she had a population of nine millions, but of this nine millions not less than three and one-half millions were negro slaves who could not fight.

The population of the North in 1860 was twenty-one millions. In the course of the war she put into the field three million men. This was one in seven of the total population, a number considerably greater than any

of the European nations has yet thrown into the firing line. The European war has now lasted two years and seven months. The war lasted another fourteen months (by which time the duration of the European war will equal the Civil War) a large number of additional men will be thrown upon the battle.

In order to reach the figures of one in seven Germany must place in the fighting line between 9 and 10 million men; France, approximately 6 million; Russia, 24 million; Great Britain, from her own islands, 4 1/2 million, without counting any from her colonies or from that vast empire on which the sun never sets and whose morning drum is heard round the world.

One other point in this matter of size should be considered. The battle of Waterloo was decisive of the Napoleonic struggle and the battle of Gettysburg of the American Civil War. At Waterloo there were not far from 70,000 men on each side; at Gettysburg about the same number.

In the present European war, the number of troops engaged in Europe at present, these figures seem small, but in comparison with many of the most important battles that have ever been fought, the numbers are large.

If one examines the figures given in the new Encyclopaedia Britannica of the numbers engaged in the fifteen decisive battles of the world, one finds that only two or three were fought by greater numbers than at Waterloo and Gettysburg, and several much smaller. At Hastings, William the Conqueror had, perhaps, 50,000 men; at Marathon, where European civilization was saved, the Greeks had but 10,000; and at Saratoga, where the decisive battle of the Revolution was fought, each side had less than 10,000.

The Roman armies which conquered the ancient world were not large, and the armies with which England won India could be placed in the present European fighting lines without one's knowing the difference. It will be seen, therefore, that the numbers are not of prime importance. A fight between two featherweights is just as real as, and in fact probably calls for more skill than, one between two heavyweights. Americans will be proud that the two greatest efforts made in the modern world were those of the North and the South in our Civil War.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Location of Old Hotel Harrisburg, Pa., March 31, 1917. To the Editor of the Telegraph:

Sir: I want to ask a historical question for your investigation. As I recollect the original Coverly Hotel was not on the site of the Commonwealth. It was on the corner of the avenue directly across the street from Market Square Presbyterian Church.

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OUR DAILY LAUGH



ARISTOCRATIC. Dobbs—What train do you take coming into town in the morning? Bobbs—I used to take the Pinciole Express at 7.44, but since I became a member of the firm I've been traveling on the Bridge Whist Limited, which leaves at 8.23.



WILLING TO SHARE HIS WAD. Teacher (sternly)—Willie Jones give that chewing gum to me. Willie—I'll let you have half of it. STRATEGIC NOTE The ruthless destruction wrought by Germans in French towns they left in a hurry is significant. They don't expect to return.—Toledo Blade.

Ebening Chat

An increase of over 4 million dollars a year in the valuation of the property taxable for city purposes in Harrisburg in the last decade is shown by the recently published statement of the city finances, prepared by Commissioner W. L. Gorgas. This statement is printed as an advertisement in the Evening Chat. Five years ago it was \$47,577,993. There are some who think the figures should be higher and, of course, a lot who think that they could be lowered, especially in specific instances. But leaving all of these ideas aside, it is interesting to note that in spite of the wiping out of a big piece of the Eighth ward for a big park extension and the development of properties used for religious, charitable and other purposes which are exempt, the city has gone right along adding a million every year to its valuation. The statement of such property is also interesting because it shows that the Ninth ward, which has been reaching its maximum ten or fifteen years ago, is about a quarter of a million behind the Third ward, the business part of the city in valuation. The Third ward has \$705,128 as its value. The Ninth has \$8,596,714. These figures are generally regarded as conservative. Another interesting thing is that the Tenth ward beats the wealthy Fourth by \$190,000.

Turning to another part of Mr. Gorgas' story of figures, one finds that the city in spite of its tremendous public improvements, which have attracted national attention, has demonstrated the value of the Harrisburg plan of financing its annual obligations off our coats back in 1901 to make the rest of the state watch Harrisburg grow we were warned by economists, students of business and the business man and others that we were heading for the brink of bankruptcy. The result is that the city stands at the head of a long line of cities in mileage of paved streets. The city has a control that works in the state, has made a park system that brings people here from Canada to study its general scheme. It has done some other things, including treatment of its unsightly river front in a manner that has won praise from the widely travelled and the average visitor alike. The average man probably does not know what the debt amounts to. The visitor would put it down as awful. Well, it isn't much over \$2,000,000 and that includes the cost of street grading and paving bonds that rest on the property and benefited properties for payment, the best kind of an investment. I told this to a man from one of the State's most progressive cities and he did not believe me. And when I added that the debt included some water bonds put out at three per cent, he asked for the figures. The city has a long show against this, amounting to \$3,509,075 or a surplus of resources of not far from a million and a half dollars.

Another interesting thing is that included in the debt are a lot of bonds which have been due and payable for years, just like those old securities of Father Penn the State Treasurer. Young would like to get hold of. The bonds of the city outstanding and on which the interest ceased include some due in 1898. The State Treasurer, Young would like to get hold of. The bonds of the city outstanding and on which the interest ceased include some due in 1898. The State Treasurer, Young would like to get hold of.

According to reports which are coming to the State Capitol and to business men, the wheat crop of Pennsylvania instead of enjoying a record crop of wheat which was hoped last year when an increased acreage was reported probably run short. Weather conditions are reported to have caused considerable damage to the young grain in several of the big wheat growing counties of the Susquehanna Valley. It is reported to have resulted in freezing in some of the western counties. Reports from northern counties are rather more favorable because there has been more snow than in the low country. An acreage of a pretty good sized acreage will have to be plowed down next spring. Judging from some of the reports coming here farmers have prepared for this emergency by arranging to sow corn or potatoes if the seed price is anything reasonable.

Prospects that there will be authorization given by the State Board of Public Grounds and Buildings for completing the mural decorations of the first floor of the State Capitol have gone glimmering as the Board has cut out the item of \$20,000 on the estimates for the coming two years. The plan was laid last year following the death of an Alexandria to have some noted Pennsylvania artist take up the work and the governor and other state officials made inquiries. Several times when discussed and some are said to have gone so far as to outline what themes should be employed in the decorations which were planned for the north corridor. The south corridor contains paintings showing the religious elements which entered into the making of Pennsylvania. Recently the Board decided to economize and sacrificed the art.

Speaking of municipal matters members of the Legislature have gotten the third reading of the Capitol legislation comes up of making inquiries as to how a law operated in Harrisburg. This city was so successful under the old law and has worked out its problems under the new with such credit that its ways of doing things are being watched.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Dr. George Woodward has offered to give the city of Philadelphia a new firehouse site. —Henry C. Frick is having plans made for some extensive new building operations in Erie. —Rodman Wanamaker, the Philadelphia capitalist, has tendered to the government a new aerial station, the first of the kind to be offered. —The Mayor Thomas B. Smith, of Philadelphia, personally invited mayors of Pennsylvania cities to attend the patriotic meeting in Philadelphia.

DO YOU KNOW —That Harrisburg has doubled the number of its motor vehicles in a few years? —Historic Harrisburg In 1808 there were seven stage lines out of Harrisburg.