

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 11.

Stroke ye here an' stroke ye there,

Folk will stan' a deal o' strokin'.

A wee bit crumb that's scallowed

Gars ye do a deal o' chokin'.

ANON.

THAT SCHOOL CONTROVERSY

WITH the return to-day of President Stamm no time should be lost in taking up and finally adopting the report of the special advisory committee with respect to the choice of a high school architect.

The only argument that has attracted much attention in opposition to the selection of William B. Ittner, of St. Louis, has been that he might not be able to complete the structures as planned within the appropriation set aside.

In looking up the program furnished me under date of January 16 by Secretary Hammelbaugh, which must be the program referred to, as it is the only communication received, I can find no particular mention as to sites, or any amount out of the total set aside for their purchase, except that \$100,000 is the amount stated for the buildings in the program.

Regarding, however, of the total amount which may be necessary for the purchase of sites, it is entirely possible for me to plan with in the limits fixed by the Board, for individual buildings, and I can do so, as I have no objection to the statement that I do not plan to purchase any sites.

Mr. Ittner calls attention to his work along this line elsewhere. If this is all there is in opposition to the St. Louis man and the special committee feels the way it does about his ability and the advisability of giving him the work, then there is little more to be said.

He points out that at Dallas, Texas, he has just completed three school buildings, with \$500,000 for two high schools and a grammar school. The three buildings cost \$509,650, and were completed for \$509,170, including all extra work.

In Minneapolis, the general contract for the Central high school was \$491,166, and the building was not only let within the limit of the appropriation, but was actually completed for \$2,500 less than the contract price, on account of economies found possible during the progress of the work.

In conclusion, Mr. Ittner in his letter to the board says:

Suffice it to say, that if awarded this work, I will hold the costs within the limits fixed by the Board, and will make a careful study of all the elements involved, local or otherwise, with a view of having the buildings not only efficient, but most economical and workable.

VOTED WITH REPUBLICANS

READERS of the Congressional Record will not fail to notice that Representative Rankin, of Montana, was recorded as voting with the Republicans on all of the roll calls which were taken on the opening day of the session in connection with the election of officers of the House.

She voted for Mann for Speaker and so on down through the list to Lyons for postmaster. Miss Rankin announced before taking her seat that she had been elected on the Republican ticket and that she would follow the nominations made by the Republican caucus.

WAR FINANCES

THE proposal to finance the war wholly or chiefly by immediate taxation overlooks the fundamental of fiscal legislation—which is that the beneficiaries of expenditure shall bear the burden equitably.

The beneficiaries of the war are not wholly the men and women of this generation. They include the generations yet unborn, to whom the overthrow of Prussian autocracy and militarism and the destruction of the German menace mean infinitely more than the prevention of the shelling of New York or any other American city, or any of the more immediate

benefits of an Allied victory. And future generations will be glad to pay it. There will be sacrifices in plenty for this generation to make in connection with the war upon which we are entering. Our burdens will be heavy enough in any case. An issue of bonds to partly meet the situation will not be resented by our children.

EVERYBODY OUT

EVERYBODY interested in the big patriotic demonstration to be held here April 23 should turn out tonight. The committee will meet at the courthouse at 7.30, and all who would like to have a part in arranging for the parade and rally that is to follow are invited to be present. Whether your name has been announced formally as a member or not, you are requested to attend.

Harrisburg is loyal; loyal to the core. But that is not enough. There is nothing like the congregation of great masses of people to engender enthusiasm in any cause. Just now it is highly important that we all "show our colors." When the line of march is formed April 23 it should embrace delegations from every organization worthy the name in Harrisburg. Come out this evening and help plan for the big procession.

This applies to everybody, but particularly to those who are heads of societies or associations that ought to be in the parade.

The Colonel can see no good reason why he should not be permitted to have a part in the war. Neither can anybody else not blinded by partisan politics. Both Roosevelt and Taft would be mighty useful to President Wilson at this time.

NO NEED FOR MILITARISM ONE of the chief obstacles to the assertion and maintenance of the rights of the United States has been the fear on the part of many of our own citizens that military preparedness to defend those rights would lead to a permanent policy of militarism.

Study of our history proves that there is no probability of such a result. Following the Mexican War, the Civil War and the war with Spain, our armies were disbanded and the Commander-in-Chief found himself with no increased power over the lives and activities of the people.

During the war in which we have now engaged, unusual authority will be vested in the executive branch of the government, but Congress should take diligent care that such increased power shall be limited to actual necessity and shall continue only until the close of the conflict.

We want neither militarism nor government by bureaucracy. Democracy and centralized government are irreconcilably antagonistic.

FULL SPEED IN JAPAN

TEN years ago Japan possessed 4,000 factories using power machinery, with an aggregate of 120,000 horse-power. In July, 1907, the total net tonnage of Japan's commercial fleet was 675,000. A recent investigation shows Japan to have now 16,000 factories, employing 1,500,000 hands, and with a total horse-power of 1,125,000; the tonnage of her commercial fleet being 1,169,105. The Japanese factory hands receive about one-tenth the wage paid to American factory hands; the overhead factory charges of Japan are nothing like what they are in the United States; the cost of operating a Japanese ship nowhere approaches the cost of operating an American ship, and yet the Japanese vessels operate under government subsidy. When the war is over how long before Japanese prowess will be signaling full speed ahead for the American market, where the only bar to foreign goods is the badly sprung hphen in the Wilson-Underwood tariff law?

A CREED FOR HOME-MAKERS AS a part of a plan to make the town of Helena, Ark., one of the most attractive places in the West, the City Commission has issued a creed for home-makers, which is worthy of adoption by eastern cities and towns. It follows:

Believing in the gospel of good things, I pledge myself to beautify and keep beautiful the landscape from my upper window. The four sides of my habitation shall be without offense to the senses of my neighbor or the stranger within my sight. The way before my door, my neighbor's door, or the thoroughfare of trade, I will not abuse or put to unworthy use. In every way consistent with my station and citizenship, I will encourage tidiness by work and example; I will help make the country beautiful.

With No Thought of War

Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg says Germany has not attacked, and will not attack the United States; she does not want, and never did want war with us. In short, he strongly protests his friendly intentions toward this Nation.

Very well, then. If he feels this way about it, certainly we should be fair and meet him half way. Though not going on the same principles of international usage which permitted Germany to kill Americans on the seas, break treaties and enslave a nation, we might, nevertheless, in our case wholly in the unselfish interest of humanity and international law, adopt the German custom of making a few "rules" for the guidance of any nation interested. And since Germany was so conscientious as to warn the world of the things she was about to do, we, too, should warn the world of the things she was about to do.

For instance, we might let it be understood that no submarines sent out to destroy neutral lives or property shall be allowed to enter the Atlantic or Pacific oceans on penalty of being blown out of the water.

Then we might let it be known that, with the permission of the Belgian government, we propose to march an army from Ypres to Liege and liberate the enslaved people.

In doing these things we would not be attacking Germany. Of course, if any Germans were so "reckless" as to get in the way and interfere with these rules, they might get into trouble, but that would be their own affair, not ours.

We could solemnly assure the chance of war, we were not making war on Germany; never wanted war and had no intention of making war. Nothing, in fact, could be farther from our minds.

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?



Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

It was said on the Hill that the bills introduced yesterday to change the primary days from Tuesdays to Saturdays were not expected to get far. The experiment of holding uniform primaries on Saturdays was tried out and found not to be very satisfactory and the change was then made to Tuesday. Difficulty in making returns and the fact that an election day always interferes with business, which is heaviest in many localities on Saturdays, are among the reasons given.

Opposition to Senator Beidleman's Home Rule resolution is said to have developed among some of the corporations of the State which fear that it might not work to their advantage. On the other hand many of the cities and practically all of the boroughs are in favor of the proposed amendment to the resolution which would permit them to make their own forms of local government and members and senators who oppose the measure will have a difficult time explaining when they go back home.

Through the efforts of Senator Vare, an agreement may be reached between the Penrose leaders in the Legislature and Governor Brumbaugh as to the control of the \$2,000,000 appropriation to be made as an emergency war fund in Pennsylvania.

Senators Spruell, McNichol, Crow and Snyder, who command a majority have accepted Senator Vare's suggestion, made last week when the question first came up, that a board consisting of the Governor, Auditor General and State Treasurer should handle the money. Senator Vare also suggested that it might be wise to include Lieutenant Governor McClain on the board, as the chief financial officer of the Commonwealth and the Penrose leaders said they would agree whether the board was composed of three or four State officials. Senator Vare, acting as a mediator, has conferred with Governor Brumbaugh on the matter.

The senators have been placed in possession of all information to show that precedent ways had placed the expenditure of emergency funds of this sort in the hands of the Executive, and that in every State where the Governor was commander-in-chief of the State's armed forces, he was given like discretion.

It has been decided to report quickly to the emergency war fund and to speed it through in case the Governor makes an agreement. The amount will be kept at \$2,000,000, and should larger and additional funds be required to cover the State's share of the war burden, the money will be provided for in a separate bill, and according to the Governor's ideas, spent under the direction of a war board, because of the great responsibility and demands of the work. It is the Governor's idea that such a war board should be formed on lines in accordance with precedent in former cases in Pennsylvania.

The Slacker

I will take mine ease in mine inn, I will sprawl in mine easy chair, I will carve my meat, I will drink and eat, I will sleep—for why should I care? Outside is the tramp of feet, Where beardless boys march by, There's a banner waving— Hurrah for the slaves! For my ease they will do or die, Too old; I limp; I am sick; I'm conscientious—and war is a sin. Let my country be sold, I will hide my gold, And take mine ease in mine inn. —Nicholas Deacon in Baltimore Sun.

In Memoriam

Availing herself of her ecclesiastical privileges the clergyman's wife asked questions which, coming from anybody else, would have been thought impertinent.

"I presume you carry a memento of some kind in that locket you wear?" she said.

"Yes, ma'am," said the parishioner. "It is a lock of my husband's hair."

"But your husband is still alive," the lady exclaimed.

"Yes, ma'am, but his hair is gone." —Minneapolis Journal.

THE RISING

by Thomas Buchanan Read

OUT of the North the wild news came, Far flashing on its wings of flame, Swift as the boreal light which flies At midnight through the startled skies.

And there was tumult in the air, The life's shrill note, the drum's loud beat, And through the wild land everywhere The answering tread of hurrying feet. While the first oath of Freedom's gun Came on the blast from Lexington; And Concord, roused, no longer tame, Forgot her old baptismal name, Made bare her patriot arm of power, And swell'd the discord of the hour.

Within its shade of elm and oak The church of Berkeley Manor stood; There Sunday followed the rural folk, And some esteem'd of gentle blood, In vain their feet with loitering tread Pass'd mid the graves where rank is naught; In that republic of the dead.

The pastor rose; the prayer was strong; The psalm was Warrior David's song; And some esteem'd of gentle blood, "The Lord of hosts shall arm the right!" He spoke of wrongs too long endured, Of sacred rights to be secured; Then from his patriot tongue of flame The startling words of Freedom came.

The stirring sentences he spoke Compell'd the heart to glow or quake, And, rising on his theme's broad wing, And grasping in his nervous hand, The imaginary battle-brand, In face of death he dared to fling Defiance to a tyrant King.

Rhymes From the Nursery

I used to like to sing the Nursery Songs in our books, I liked to sing about the birds and flowers and the brooks, But NOW I only want to sing about the grand old flag "America," "Star Spangled Banner" or "The Dixie Rag."

I used to want to see the animals when they came to town, With the "Big Show" when the funny clown paraded up and down, But now I only want to see the Soldiers straight and fine, That march around to "Glory, Hallelujah," in a line.

I used to be a pacifist—I hated so to fight, But now I want to pitch in hard, and slam at left and right The fellows who say Uncle Sam and the Red, White and Blue, Ain't just the only things that ever popped up into view!

It seems to me I've undergone a change clean through and through, I'm "filled with Patriotism for the old Red, White and Blue, If I were only twenty 'stead of just a little kid, I'd march straight off into the fray, Just like "the fathers" did! EDNA GROFF DIEHL, Paxtang, Pa.

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Labor Notes

On and after May 21, 1917, journeymen sheet-metal workers in San Francisco will be paid \$4 a day. This is an increase of 50 cents.

The Waiters' Union of East St. Louis, Ill., has secured agreement with Belleville restaurants that provide for a minimum wage of \$6 a week and a 10-hour work-day.

In Texas a joint legislative board, composed of the State Federation of Labor, railroad firemen, bricklayers, carpenters and railroad telegraphers, has drawn up a long list of demands.

A farmers' department in the Hamilton (Canada) Board of Trade for the purpose of bringing these two bodies closer together was recommended at a special meeting of the Board.

The Ohio House has passed a bill making it unlawful for employers to threaten to discharge employees unless they vote for certain candidates or use other forms of coercion.

An extended effort is being made by the California State Federation of Labor to have the Workmen's Compensation law amended and to secure an anti-injunction bill during the present session of the Legislature.

Metal shoes resembling skates, which grip firmly when weight is applied to them, have been invented to enable men to climb steel frames of buildings, bridges and some types of poles.

In Germany thousands of women are now said to be mobilized not far behind the firing lines, doing much of the work of transport, digging trenches, building shelters, assembling any service likely to relieve men of fighting ability.

The formation of a British army division to be composed largely of young clergymen has been suggested, as 26,000 clergymen have received circulars asking them to accept assignments to government work.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

SLOW! Bug: Hello, Hello, when is this elevator going up?

NATURAL INFERENCE. Bees (reading) —He had a big castle on the hill overlooking a lake of limpid blue, and he robbed everybody who came his way. Fred (interrupting) — Beg pardon, but does it mention just where that summer hotel is located.

CONSERVING THE FOOD SUPPLY. Bridgroom — Are you fellows planning to bombard us with rice? Best Man — Sure! With bushels of it. — Then do me a favor. Put it up in neat packages and deliver it gently. I have two mouths to feed now and rice is nourishing.

AN UNKIND KNOCK. Said one who loved dollars and cents "These are ball games are too much expense, I shall let them go by." Cried a wag-gish friend, "Why? Have they nailed up the hole in the fence?"

Evening Chat

There seems to be little doubt that the Legislature will adopt antidrug legislation of a drastic character. The hearing held yesterday was not so much for the purpose of discussing the advisability of passing such a law as of reaching a conclusion as to the best type of bill to put through. Captain Archibald Mackrell, of the Pittsburgh Department of Safety, who spoke before the House committee at the hearing, has a bill of his own before the Legislature, but he is in favor of any drastic legislation that will meet the need. After the meeting he said he felt "very much encouraged" over the interest of the legislators and believes that a stringent law will be enacted.

"Every man, woman and child in this State of our should, and I am sure before the Legislature, but he is in favor of any drastic legislation that will meet the need. After the meeting he said he felt "very much encouraged" over the interest of the legislators and believes that a stringent law will be enacted.

"A nation's future depends upon its youth," the boys and girls who will be the men and women of the future, and it is at them that the drug habit strikes its most vicious blow. Boys and girls of tender years, many of them not over a year ago in Philadelphia, are numbered among its victims by thousands. And it is no respecter of persons for its destructive influences will be found in the home of the rich as well as in the tenement of the poor. It breeds criminals at an alarming rate and along its pathway are strewn countless broken hearts, wrecked homes, shattered careers and human derelicts to whom the mercy of death seems to be refused.

"The drug fiend's greatest punishment is that he has to live and endure the tortures of his own existence, seldom if ever actually conquered. Once in the grip of the habit the victim usually remains its slave until the end of his days. It is not one of these unfortunate who voluntarily cling to the habit. They would gladly give it up, but they no longer possess the will-power and the physical energy necessary to make the fight successfully. I have heard them beg to be cured, to be locked up so that they couldn't get more of the drug, and in the next breath they would be on their knees begging for it. I venture to say the majority of our greatest crimes have "dope" as one of their elements. A large percentage of criminals are addicted to it."

State legislation is necessary to back up the Harrison drug act. This federal act is not complete of itself. It deals with habit-forming drugs in an interstate commerce way but leaves a big gap under a court decision rendered a year ago in Philadelphia. It is now proposed to make the State law drastic enough to land behind the bars not alone those who illegally sell such drugs but all who are found with any such in their possession.

Chief Wetzel, of the Harrisburg police force who has been waging a persistent war on "dope" ever since he was appointed, is one who would agree with Mr. Mackrell in what he says concerning the awful danger that the illegal sale and use of drugs has created in this city. Despite all that he can do, under present laws, the sale of drugs continues in Harrisburg, but he will undertake to put the "dope" sellers out of business as surely if the proper laws are enacted.

Physicians, on the other hand, say that the Harrison act has greatly reduced the number of drug users. Directly after its enactment, when hundreds of those addicted were unable to get supplies from the regular sources and did not know how to locate a supply by the "underground" system used by criminals and those who since have learned the ropes, many of these people were seriously sick. Many of these people recovered and have not since gone back to the habit. Scores of others died. In nearly all cases friendly physicians and consultants were called in to give the public some name for the fatal illness other than the real cause, so that the death list from drugs never appeared so large as it really was.

Anxious to get a job, but very hopeful that he might not get one into the government, was the stand recently taken by a seeker for information at one of the public bureaus. He asked to be shown all the acts of the Legislature that might exempt a man from military duties if he had religious scruples. He said that he had passed the examination for postal clerk and that he might possibly get his commission before his conscription but was anxious to be on the safe side.

The clerk very obligingly looked up the acts that had bearing on exemption and called his attention to the act of January 1, 1917, which provides that any one having religious scruples may be exempted from active duty on the firing line but not from such noncombatant duties as the President may prescribe. It was a small loophole, but large enough to give the future government servant satisfaction. He departed very much pleased.

Baedeker's Opera

Orchestra—A place to leave your hat and coat while smoking a cigarette in the foyer.

When the orchestra starts an ill-mannered crashing to indicate the arrival of a fine, the gentlemen arise and adjust their silk topers. Then in unison they walk briskly down the aisle, tapping cigarettes on monocles and canes.

On the descent of the curtain the ladies raise their hands aloft in the attitude of prayer, simultaneously bringing the palms together sharply in quick succession. This is supposed to register pleasure that the act is over.

Family Circle—The spot where one hisses the applause and applauds the hisses.

The appearance of the conductor at any time is the signal for rounds of clapping from all those who wish to be noticed by the public. Educated to distinguish a conductor from a first violinist. With each shift of the conductor's vane he of the billowing locks and uncut hair, the soldiers, to the girl with the bobbed hair girded by a flet.

"Ah! The Swansdown motif," or, "This staccato movement heralds the entrance of Ziegfeld." After the curtain fall, if the shouts of "Bravo," "Beese" and "On Coore" are sufficiently persistent, the singers are compelled to come out in front in an attempt to quell the disturbance. This is styled a curtain call.—From Life.

Murder Then Justifiable

Murder, of course, is a crime, but we feel that it is justifiable when a group of men are discussing the serious war situation for some dreamy-eyed individual to butt in with the question: "Who is the champion ping-pong player in the United States?" —New Orleans States