

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 13

If only myself could talk to myself As I knew him a year ago, I could tell him a lot That would save him a lot Of things he ought to know.

—KIPING.

COAL PRICES

COAL prices, the government tells us, must be advanced more than 10 cents a ton September 1.

In other words, the virtuous federal authorities are now going to let the bold, bad coal barons rob the poor public of more than a dime in addition to the extortionate prices now being charged. For these small things, we suppose, we should be humbly grateful. But we are not.

What we want in the way of coal prices is 10 cents more a ton, but 10 cents or 50 cents, for that matter, less.

Strange to say, the present high retail prices are not attributable to the coal trust nor to the small dealers so much as to the so-called "independent" operators, men who boast they are "not in the combine."

When the big operators ran short of coal, due to increased demand and decreased production caused by lack of labor, the "independents" stepped into the breach with accumulations of coal which were knocked down to the highest bidder instead of being distributed pro rata at a fixed price, as is the custom of the trust.

So it is to the independents that the government must look for relief now. However, putting up the price "only 10 cents" a ton won't remedy conditions.

REPUBLICAN?

FRANK WILBUR SMITH, a member of the Philadelphia force of postal inspectors, has resigned from the government service.

Several weeks ago Smith was appointed by the War Department post office inspector in charge of the United States mails for the American army in France. He went to Washington and planned a postal system that would expedite the delivery of mails to American soldiers abroad.

He was ready to go to France, with the rank of major, to take charge, being attached to the staff of General Pershing, when Secretary of War Baker informed him that Postmaster General Burleson refused to sanction the appointment.

Smith was given no reason except that Burleson wanted the place for somebody else.

We don't know Smith and we have absolutely no knowledge as to his politics, but it's a safe wager he is a Republican.

MOTORING AND GASOLINE

AUTOMOBILISTS who use their cars for pleasure will find a title of comfort in the issue raised by Alfred Reeves, general manager of the Automobile Chamber of Commerce, with the statement of President Bedford, of the Standard Oil Company, that all pleasure riding must be discontinued if a famine of gasoline is to be prevented and a plentiful supply left for military and commercial purposes. Mr. Reeves does not believe that pleasure riding need be seriously curtailed if economies be observed by pleasure riders and owners of commercial cars as well.

But while he takes exception to the unqualified demands of Mr. Bedford for the elimination of all pleasure driving, Mr. Reeves gives this bit of pertinent advice:

Everything considered, there is no cause for alarm among automobile makers and users over the fuel situation, but it is both wise and patriotic to encourage the conservation of gasoline by avoiding waste and by careful carburetor adjustments and handling of cars so as to get the greatest possible mileage from every gallon of fuel used.

Doubtless President Bedford realized when he posted his conservation bulletin that all he might say would not have the effect of cutting off entirely the use of the automobile for pleasure and recreation, and Mr. Reeves very properly takes exception to his unqualified statements. But the public will agree with the Standard Oil executive that much joy-riding could be eliminated without injury to public health or pleasure and very much to the advantage of everybody and everything, the gasoline supply included.

Nobody begrudges the hard-working man whose only extravagance is his car an hour or two in the country with his family these hot evenings, or even a whole day in the

open. The automobile is no longer the luxury of the idle rich. It is the proud possession of many a working man who never hopes to be wealthy, and the producers of automobiles and gasoline ought to be attempting to cheapen their products and increase the supply.

Notwithstanding the present market conditions of petrol the future is not so dark as might be imagined. It is known that the Mexican oil fields have been scarcely touched and new fields are being discovered yearly in many parts of the world. The war condition is abnormal and may be corrected by peace at any time. But the automobile is growing in popularity and one of two things must happen—either the quantity and the price of gasoline must reach satisfactory levels or somebody will produce a carburetor that will burn some other fuel satisfactorily. There never was a grave necessity like the threatened shortage of gasoline that didn't of its very self produce a remedy.

GOOD ADVICE

THE TELEGRAPH is in receipt of the following letter relative to an editorial appearing in these columns Saturday under the caption "A Call to the Colors," pointing out the necessity of good men coming forward as candidates for the three vacancies on the School Board to be filled in November:

To the Editor of the Telegraph: I read your Sunday school class of men today what the TELEGRAPH had to say about it being the duty of all good citizens to see that first-class men are elected to the School Board. Every man in this city ought to read it. It ought to be posted on all the billboards. One of my young men said, "O, what's the use. They'd call us grafters if we didn't do politically what they wanted." Now, this is all too true. But you are right. Good men should not fear criticism if their hearts are right. I say with all my heart, come out, men and join the Harrisburg colors. We who have right here in America the same kind of good government our boys are going abroad to insure for all of the world.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER.

The importance of filling the vacancies on the board of school control with men well qualified in every way for the great trust imposed in that body is proper subject for the discussion of any Sunday school class, or any other assemblage of Harrisburg men, or women, at this time. The Harrisburg School Board was wrested from political control after the hardest kind of a fight, only to fall into the hands of directors a majority of whom have displayed no aptitude whatever for the duties devolving upon them and no sense of the importance of their work to the future welfare of the community.

There is text for an hour's sermon in the concluding sentiment of the TELEGRAPH'S correspondent. "We who stay at home must see to it that we have right here in America the same kind of good government our boys are going abroad to insure for all the world." At this period of all others in our history as a nation it is important that we do have good government "right here in America."

We have set for ourselves the task of making the world safe for democracy, but what boots it that we should achieve world-democracy if democracy at home is not productive of honest, efficient administration of our public affairs?

Then, too, there is the necessity of making every dollar buy a full dollar's worth—the conservation of money, materials and effort. This is no time to entrust to men who have proved their lack of fitness for the responsibility of supervising the expenditure of more than a million dollars. Waste has no place in the economy of the nation at war. Taxes are high and going higher. The taxpayer cannot afford to have his money frittered away.

A fine place to begin this good government program is the School Board. Who will volunteer?

THE APPROACH OF FALL

THERE is something in the air the past few days that was not there before. There is a chill in the early morning and haze across the landscape. Fields that were bright and glorious green are turning brown. There is a new note in the song of the birds and the katydid has begun to voice its complaints in a manner that can mean but one thing—summer is nearing its end and fall is approaching. Weeks before the calendar records the wane of the warm season nature tells the tale and paints the picture for those who listen and look.

Have you noticed that you do not have indigestion after a Pullman car dinner? That, however, is not because the cooking or the food has improved.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Governor Brumbaugh's request for the resignation of Highway Commissioner Black and the letter of the Somerset countian in severing his connection with the state government has superseded gubernatorial talk and even interest in the Democratic row in Philadelphia over Federal patronage. "The Governor and his old-time friend and personal selection for the state highway chief should break with sharp words and surprise for the people."

The newspapers of the state gave much attention to the retirement of Mr. Black yesterday, but there is much more to be said upon it to-day. The Philadelphia Public Ledger sharply criticizes the Governor's action, declaring that he seems determined to crush state interests and his own good name "to the purpose of partisan politics," and saying that the Governor has "blindly surrendered to one high in administration councils has enthused over the Sproul boom and the Scarlet boom has not evoked any hurraing call to them to work on the shoring up of the building."

—The Governor's office and the administration have declined to make any statement about the resignation and the Governor's office did not give out the letter in which the Governor asked Mr. Black to resign. Mr. Black has refused to make any further comments.

—The belief is that the drastic action taken by the Governor is to be a greater factor in the selection of the next state ticket than has been believed. No one high in administration councils has enthused over the Sproul boom and the Scarlet boom has not evoked any hurraing call to them to work on the shoring up of the building.

—Judge Harry Alvan Hall, of Elk, in a statement issued Saturday says that ill health is the reason he decided not to run again.

—When Frank E. Black retired from the State Highway Department on Wednesday the direction of affairs will devolve upon Joseph W. Hunter, First Deputy Commissioner, who was formerly Commissioner himself, and who has twice acted as Commissioner since. Mr. Hunter took charge when E. M. Bizelew retired and when Robert J. Jennings died. Mr. Black is expected here late to-day, although at his office it was stated that no one knew just when he would be here, as he had cleared up affairs before leaving Friday.

—Things were going on as usual in the department to-day and Chief Engineer Charles E. Reppert was reported as likely to resign, laughed about it.

—Capitol Hill is looking for appointment of a successor to Mr. Black to be made very soon and Inspector Commissioner J. Denny O'Neil, of McKeesport, is mentioned as the likely successor.

—General Willis J. Hulings, of Oil City, who wants to be a candidate for Wednesday's department ticket in the Twenty-eighth district, will not have his papers filed unless the courts order it. The Secretary of the department has declined to receive papers presented Saturday by the general, who contends that he was misled by a printed notice which stated that the act of 1917 shortening the time for filing. The first paper filed contained only 78 names. Two hundred were needed.

—E. V. Babcock has formally announced his candidacy for mayor. There are three candidates who have declined to receive papers presented Saturday by the general, who contends that he was misled by a printed notice which stated that the act of 1917 shortening the time for filing. The first paper filed contained only 78 names. Two hundred were needed.

—An Altoona special says: The proposition for a trial of the city of Altoona for the purpose of determining whether it is possible that a committee of fifty-eight citizens, two of them from each precinct in the city will recommend the present city government, they will consist as is now heard of two prominent merchants standing for the business interests and two workmen, representing the wage earners. The impression prevails that it will make a strong combination to be backed by a platform assuring citizens in city government.

On the other hand many residents are said to be not willing to adopt such a plan of conducting municipal affairs. The present commissioners, it is understood, may seek re-election and appeal to the conservative element to not make a change at this time, advancing as their other reasons, that it is proving too expensive elsewhere and to await developments to see if such form of government is successful, and that being used before adopting it here.

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?

AFTER "FRIEND WIFE ASKS YOU TO MEET HER TO PICK UP THE HAT YOU PROMISED TO BUY FOR HER

-AND YOU DRAW YOUR WEEK'S SALARY IN ADVANCE

AND THE WIFE TRIES ON A HAT MARKED \$24.50 REDUCED FROM \$25.00



AND IS UNDECIDED WHICH TO PURCHASE, THE ONE MARKED \$24.50 OR ONE FOR \$18.00

WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN SHE ESPIES A DARLING HAT AND DECIDES TO TAKE IT (NO PRICE MARKED)

AND THE SALES-LADY TELLS YOU IT COST \$1.98

—The Governor's office and the administration have declined to make any statement about the resignation and the Governor's office did not give out the letter in which the Governor asked Mr. Black to resign. Mr. Black has refused to make any further comments.

Russia's Amazons

The femala of the Russian species becomes daily more deadly than the male, if we can believe what we read. One turns from news of the rout in Galicia to the epic of the Legion of Death with a lifting of spirits almost dizzying. When the Russian morale is restored we shall have Kerensky to thank, but also these Slavic Amazons, these Lenas and Sonias, who climb over the top into hell with a dash wholly invincible. They carry each a ration of cyanide of potassium against their capture by the Germans. This is the latest news, and a dramatic commentary on their heroism and the extra hazards which everywhere dog their sex.

One of these sisters of the sword, we are told, lies in a Petrograd hospital, suffering from shell shock, but with a German helmet on the bed beside her, to bring her the same joy and consolation which come to little girls with the messes from boys cuddled up close. This helmet belonged to a man whom she despised on her bayonet.

Another girl, in the company, described as its most popular member (in the language of a high school commencement), ran into a shell on the western front, and was blown to fragments before the eyes of her undismayed comrades. Still another, a musician, was riddled with machine gun bullets. Such are a few of the incidents of their baptism of fire, in the course of which these amazing girls made many prisoners.

Give the latter a few of their own sex, they say—five peasant girls, embryos of that type of patient docile German hausfrau whom in another era we have associated with the milk of human kindness—indistinguishable in uniform, equipment or deportment from the men. Women vs. women, tearing each other to pieces, no longer with gossip or finger nails, but with shrapnel! What are we coming to on this planeting planet!—New York Tribune.

Cheated of Victory

Herr Loringhoven, speaking in Reichstag, laments that the soldiers of Germany "have been really cheated out of the fruits of their victories" because the evergrowing number of nations allied against the Fatherland has made it possible for "our enemies" to continue the war far beyond the period of German calculation. What was to have been a short campaign, lasting only six weeks and then on to Russia—has dragged on into the fourth year, and now the armies that set out for conquest are still in the field.

It is well for themselves that the German people are asking—why? The next step in their questioning is to wonder why they have been really just where lies the responsibility for the miscalculation that turned expected victory into certain defeat. In time the questions will get at the heart of things, and they will understand that the reason for Germany's plight is to be found in their own blind worship of a State that can do no wrong, dominated by an emperor who clings to the archaic idea that kings rule by Divine right. They then will realize that such a state belongs to the Dark Ages, not to the civilized world of to-day, and that leaders who rely upon doctrines of the Dark Ages cannot know how free peoples think.

WHO COUNSELS PEACE?

Who counsels peace at this moment? When God hath given deliverance to the oppressed And to the injured power? Who counsels peace when vengeance like a flood Rolls on, no longer now to be repressed?—When innocent blood From the four corners of the world cries out For justice upon one accused head? Woe, woe to all, both woe and endless shame If this heroic land, False to her feelings and unspotted fame, Holds out the olive to the tyrant's hand. Down with the tyrant; with the murderer down! —By Robert Southey.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Thanks Carpenters

I desire through your columns to express my thanks and appreciation to the members of Carpenters Union 287 who so nobly responded to my call to them to work on the shoring up of the building. I am glad to see that the building is now safe and that the workmen have been given their tools and have returned to work. I am glad to see that the building is now safe and that the workmen have been given their tools and have returned to work.

Training of Dogs

As a matter of information to your readers who may be interested in the subject, I hope you will give the following a prominent place in your columns. Under the provisions of section 26 of the Act of June 7, 1917, the new game law of this State, dogs, when accompanied by and under control of their masters, may be taken into any of the living wild game or birds of this State, excepting elk and deer and fawn or wild turkeys, from the first day of September to the first day of March next following. Sundays excepted, so long as no injury is inflicted upon said animals or birds.

Took High Bid

Would you be interested in a news item for the benefit of the public, proving that the purchasing department of the Harrisburg schools paid \$100 per gallon for the people's money for the same material that was offered to them for 50 cents? Give the latter a few of their own sex, they say—five peasant girls, embryos of that type of patient docile German hausfrau whom in another era we have associated with the milk of human kindness—indistinguishable in uniform, equipment or deportment from the men.

Our Resources

"When Li Hung Chang visited this country several years ago he went back to China the report that the vast resources of America were unknown to our own people," remarked Stephen Denison, a stockman of Wyoming. "Wu Ting Fang also was impressed by the great possibilities of the country. Lord Roberts likewise has remarked upon the wonderful riches of the United States. Here at home, however, we do not appear to realize how great our resources are and how limitless its resources."

Hope For Russia

Elithu's Root's expression of confidence in new Russia is welcome testimony in view of the pessimistic tone of many of the news dispatches. Mr. Root is not a man who would be easily duped by theorists or misled by dreamers in matters of government. His belief, therefore, that order and discipline are triumphing in Russia, dispenses of much of the superficial discouragement over the Russian situation.

Our Resources

"I can remember when 15,000 cattle on the Chicago market was a record. That was along in 1885. To-day 40,000 cattle in a single day on the Chicago market does not even cause passing notice. In the leading cattle markets—Kansas City, Chicago, St. Paul, Sioux City, Omaha, Denver and Fort Worth—there are daily sent to the markets more than 250,000 head of cattle. We are producing more beef cattle to-day than ever, of course, and the relatively increased production is not very far behind the increase in population. True, prices have gone along with the increase in production. Twenty years ago 6-month-old Polled-Angus steers would bring from \$17 to \$20 a head; to-day this same class of cattle are commanding from \$60 to \$70.

Feeble-Mindedness

The addresses by prominent osteopaths at various churches in town last Sunday, and reported in The State Journal yesterday, were all interesting and uplifting. Dr. Drew spoke of the mental defectives and the danger they were to the future welfare of the nation. He spoke decidedly against the increase of feeble-mindedness through ill-sorted marriages, and his position was well taken. There is another view in this matter that should engage the scientists' attention. The mind, so much talked of, is not a definite and independent faculty. It comes from a contact of the spirit with the environment, so the way to strengthen and purify the thought is to provide it with a wholesome environment.

Now society, the street, the sports, the funny pages, the shows, the talk, the empty leisure do not constitute an environment that will strengthen the mind and elevate the thinking. They are the influences that contribute to feeble-mindedness, the kind that Dr. Drew spoke of. They make the morons that crowd society and the streets. They are the influences that lower the citizenship. We have been engaged in an effort to dispense these influences, and introduce those that would give tone and character to the mind. The usual pharmacopeia with its salves and lotions does not reach the spot.

The true doctrine is the Bible doctrine—"as a man thinking in his heart, so is he." So the idea is to fill his heart with good things to think about. These are nature, good will, faith and the graces of the spirit. This is our prescription for defective minds. The doctor is all right in his matrimonial strictures, but he needs the tonic we have suggested.—Ohio State Journal.

OUR DAILY LAUGH



PARDONABLE CRIME.

"If I should kiss you, would you have me arrested?" "What would be the use? Any judge would acquit you."

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—W. A. Garrett, Philadelphia transportation expert, is home from France, where he went to look into the railroad situation. —M. P. Quinn, of Overbrook, has been selected by Archbishop Prendergast to have charge of the food conservation in archdiocesan matters. —Ernest T. Trigg, president of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, has started after gas rates in that city. —Representative James H. Maurer, of Reading, will visit the Minneapolis harbor conference this month. —The Rev. Henry Finn, Johnstown clergyman, may be named a chaplain in the army. —City Controller, E. S. Morrow, of Pittsburgh, has celebrated his seventy-eighth birthday.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg has several men in the aviation training camps? HISTORIC HARRISBURG John Harris' store was located along the river front from Mulberry to Vine street and was the first fortified place on the Susquehanna.

Evening Chat

It is a pity that Harrisburg does not have more military ceremonies such as that which took place at the island on Saturday night when three of the Eighth Regiment companies participated in evening parade with Lieutenant Colonel Frank E. Ziegler in command. It was the first time since the war was mobilized last month that the people of this city had a chance to see them assembled and the favorable comment was many. The policy of scattering men at home stations worked against such gatherings at first, but in other cities the commanding officers, realizing the stimulus it gives to interest in things military, have taken advantage of the War Department's permission to have parades. It would give great pleasure to the city and the surrounding towns which have given their young men to see all of the national guard units here assembled in a parade before they leave their home stations for the southern training camp.

The camp of the regulars at Gettysburg, which is rapidly assuming large proportions and which without much advertisement is becoming noted throughout the eastern states for the thoroughness with which the young soldiers are being drilled, causing the battlefield tour to be a point of attraction for Sunday excursion on the railroads and for automobile pilgrimages for miles around. The battlefield with its wonderful collection of monuments has long been a place of tremendous interest to every American and the visitors to it are in the thousands every summer. Last year the camp for the training of regulars has drawn many more people and the railroads are hauling thousands every Sunday. The devotion of the soldiers for war and the visits by mothers, sisters and children around Gettysburg should inspire every Pennsylvanian for the tests which are to come.

Frank Payne, who was named by the State Committee of Public Safety as in charge of organization of the home defense police for this county, has been assured of the cooperation of the Harrisburg Regiment, which have been undergoing training at the island for a week for the last eight or nine weeks. This organization will furnish a nucleus for the Harrisburg unit and the rest of the county will be organized gradually.

Frank R. Black, who laid down the position of chief of the Highway Department on Saturday was one of the wealthiest men connected with the State government. Mr. Black and his family are identified with Somerset county, which has turned from an agricultural district to one teeming with mining and manufacturing, and although his personal taste for scientific farming the former commissioner naturally fell into line with the development of the mines. Some of the ventures have been extremely profitable.

General Peyton C. March, chief of the artillery of the American forces in France, is a Pennsylvanian and a member of what most college men know as the "March" family. Their ancestor was Dr. F. March, identified with the Lafayette College, General March, like his brothers, was a Pennsylvanian and a hard student. He is a brother of Professor Thomas S. March, state high school inspector and author of one of the best histories of Pennsylvania for ready reference, and of Alden March, a man who is rehabilitating the Philadelphia Press.

About one of the best examples of heading advice to aliens to keep quiet is furnished by a native-born American who has lived most of his life in Austria and who has turned in a business establishment here. He was born in Pennsylvania and when he was two he was brought to Austria, where his parents returned to some years ago and is a model workman. The "war arguments" are grow heated and his patrons are roasted because of the atrocities of the Prussian military caste he does not "jaw back." He walks to the window and looks out.

The recent number of In the Open, the publication of the Wild Life League, contains the last word on forestry written by the late S. B. Elliott, of Reynoldsville, for years a member of the State Forestry Commission, and a leader in the conservation movement in Pennsylvania. It is entitled "Forest Lands and Tax Problems" and reviews in a thoughtful manner one of the big things in systematic reforestation.

Whether it is because the outbreak of war has called many young men to the colors or forced them to more work in the industrial and business operations, or because of increased pressure on the part of Harrisburg in the national defense, the fact remains that there is not so much interest in river sports. This has been explained by some men on military and industrial grounds and by others by reference to the vagaries of the weather and its effect upon the Susquehanna. The city turned to its own playground last year with such interest that the contrast now appears striking. Perhaps the Kipona will revive it.

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