

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1917

Moderators of opinion are often useful, but the glory or the shame belong to partisans.—HARPER.

BRITAIN'S DEPENDENCE—WHY?

WHAT you read between the lines is often more impressive than what you read in the lines themselves. A recent article in the "Annalist" bears the heading "England's War-Born Economic Freedom," and it is declared that the war has effected a revolution in Great Britain's industrial life and made her independent of German imports.

There is no England was an economic dependent of Germany, but the assertion that she has gained economic freedom and is no longer dependent upon German imports, carries with it the necessary inference that she had been dependent upon German industry. The article has no meaning or purpose unless that were the fact.

The great difference between the economic policies of Great Britain and Germany was that the latter has maintained a protective tariff policy for forty-five years, while the former has been adhering to the policy of free trade.

Germany discouraged imports from England, while England encouraged imports from Germany. Of course, German industries were developed much more rapidly than those of England. It was that industrial development that gave Germany the strength to make the wonderful fight she has against nations far greater potential strength than hers.

ONLY A BEGINNING AMERICANS were shocked to read yesterday of the death of American soldiers at the hands of German raiders. The death lists as presented by the dispatches is only a small beginning of a long and sorrowful roll of American sacrifices on the altar of democracy.

But their deaths will not have been in vain. Already there is sweeping through the trenches held by American troops, through the encampments back of the lines and the training camps of America the low mutterings of anger that presage vengeance when our turn shall come. It has been said that the nation will not fully understand that it is at war until the death lists begin to come in.

GETTING DOWN TO SYSTEM PENNSYLVANIA is said to have more water companies than any other State in the Union and the records of the Public Service Commission will probably show that with the exception of the railroads there have been more complaints filed against such companies than any class of public utilities. It is safe to say that if it were not for the fact that a number of cities operate their own water systems there would have been more.

It is estimated that there are over 800 water companies in Pennsylvania, about 100 of which are either paper concerns or parts of systems and not active for one reason or other. The rest are in business and the history of some of them is not pleasant reading and reflects upon others which are well managed.

Water companies have been getting into controversies regularly and every time a rate increase is made, whether justly or unjustly, it seems there is a fuss. Complaints have also been made that water lines have been laid without care and capitalized with much care, while the wholesomeness, quality and whatever else goes to make up what the scientific men term potability, is a trifling matter.

The Public Service Commission has spent thousands and thousands

of dollars having valuations of water systems made on which to base rates and to use a stock market phrase has "squeezed out much water." It has now worked out through its experts in the bureau of accounts, who have been sitting up at nights over the problem, a uniform system of accounting. In other words, after January 1 and after a series of public hearings water companies will have to do like railroads, keep books in a way that the rate regulating representatives of the public can tell if prices are just without having to resort to higher mathematics.

Republicans and Democrats have united in Reading to beat the Progressives. In Harrisburg a Pro-German couldn't get on any ticket.

GREAT DRIVE; GREAT OBJECT PRELIMINARIES have been completed for the joining of the forces of the great organizations devoted to the welfare of the young men and the young women—the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A.—to sweep Pennsylvania for funds to enable them to provide such forms of entertainment as will keep the soldiers fit to fight and at the same time to afford rest places at the camps for the members of the families of the soldiers who will go to visit them and who in the stern necessities of military life can not be taken even ordinary care of.

This State with its big industrial communities, its rapidly growing cities and towns and its heterogeneous population owes much to these two agencies and it should be devoutly thankful that the self-sacrificing men and women who have been directing them should be offering to bend their energies to the work of furnishing at the camps certain features which the government can not.

Our grandfathers have told us of the splendid results of the labors of the Christian Sanitary Commission, composed of noble spirited men and women in Civil War days, and our own city was one of the places gratefully remembered by soldiers who partook of its hospitality and entertainment on the way to the front. Now, when we are in the midst of a war on a far vaster scale than ever known before and when millions are being summoned to colors in enormous camps, there is a need for just such help as the Y. M. C. A. can give.

What it has done for the troops abroad is one of the brightest pages of the work auxiliary to the army. What it can do at the three dozen cantonments and camps we all know. Bluntly speaking, the young men must be kept out of mischief. They must have entertainment at their camps. They must be raised above the depression of hard work, rigorous training and absence from home, which, in spite of all, grips a man at a camp, and when the men are "over there" they must be brought up from the depths into which men sink when the battle joins.

The part of the Y. W. C. A. will be to raise funds to care at the camps for those who are giving fathers, husbands, sons, brothers, sweethearts and friends. There is nothing more pathetic than a woman wandering about a camp when the one in whom she is interested is out on a hike or drilling or maybe in a guard tent. Few of the wives and sisters who go to camps realize that it is best for them to visit but a few hours. It is most affecting to see a mother sitting about with no shelter against the weather, enduring hardships just to be near her son. Those who have been at war or mobilization camps and have helped tired mothers and their children over weary miles to a station know what a rest place would mean.

There is a place for the Y. M. C. A. "hut" and there is room close to every camp for the "rest" of the Y. W. C. A. Both have more than sustaining influences. Both deserve the fullest measure of support. The forces have joined for sound business reasons. There should be no division in giving. The cause is most appealing.

Pro-German frebubs will continue active until a few of them are stood up before a wall without waiting for the formality of sunrise.

GETTING AWAKE THERE are very distinct indications that the awakening of the people to the fact that the nation is at war, for which representatives of the government have been appealing, is at hand. One of these signs is that the country is turning to the writing of patriotic verse and ballad. Some of these are very bad, but others are very good, and out of the grist that is now flowing very steadily from the presses of the publishers there will come certain songs and poems that will live and become integral parts of national music and literature. It has been so in every war and this will be no exception.

Only when men and women are moved by some great emotion do they turn to verse for expression of their feelings, and the volume of war poems and songs now appearing and the popularity with which they are received would indicate that the nation is pretty thoroughly in harmony with the task that confronts it.

INCLUDING SURTAX Our neighbor's rooster lost nearly every feather in a dash by two playful pups yesterday and now looks like a man who has paid his war taxes.—Grand Rapids Press.

EVIDENT NEED Slacker—I won't buy any Liberty bonds for my boy. Knicker—Then buy them for your second child.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

In spite of the fact that there are no state officers to be elected in Pennsylvania to-day and no voting on constitutional amendments, the aggregate of the votes polled may run ahead of the totals in the last Presidential and gubernatorial elections in opinion of people at the State Capitol. These predictions are based upon the interest in judicial elections, including both common pleas and associate judges; the numerous county officer contests and lively Mayorality and Councilmanic battles in most of the cities. There are fifty-one judges, one Congressman and fifteen Mayors to be elected to-day.

Last year there were 1,297,292 votes polled at the Presidential election, Hughes having 708,828 of them. In 1914 there were 1,111,852 votes polled in the gubernatorial election. The soldier vote will have considerable influence upon close contests in cities. About seventy commissioners have been sent by the state to canvass for the votes of the soldiers and they will make returns to their proper counties as well as to the state authorities. Over 90,000 ballots were printed for the soldier vote.

Closing hours of the campaign in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton and Erie, where the state administration is taking a hand in local contests in order to obtain a strategic position in advance of the selection of the ticket next year were marked by intense activity, and in many instances by efforts on the part of men connected with the state government to coordinate some statements men in state service were told they could contribute to the campaign funds of candidates favored by the state administration. Instead of the Republican State Committee. Most of the Philadelphians are understood to have contributed to the Philadelphia of the city committee in Philadelphia.

The Capitol was closed tighter to-day than known on any election day in years. Except for a few visitors, no one was on duty by their chiefs, no one was on duty except in the State Police and Health Departments where emergency services are rendered. Governor Brumbaugh and every other man connected with the government was at his home to vote.

An exchange of broadsides between Mayor Smith on one hand and Senator Penrose and James Gay Gordon on the other, enlivened the close contest. The election of the year that because the Senator and the Judge were not given a free hand they determined to hunt him down. "Rocked in the Cradle of Rotan" and "The Ways of Men Are Narrow, but the Gates of Heaven Are Wide."

"When my boy was home for the last time," said Lauder. "We had many quiet chats in the evening. I asked him to tell me more of the Hun's hellishness. 'One night,' he told me, 'my regiment and the Black Watch were attacking in Flanders, when sixty of the kilties were taken prisoners. German officers forced us to strip off their uniforms and stand at attention all night, while the cold rain deluged their naked bodies. In the morning they were ordered to return to their own trenches. Stiff from exposure, the men stumbled away. They had reached a point half way across No Man's Land when a machine gunner suddenly leveled at them, and every one was mowed down.' He also told me of a prisoner who escaped from a German camp. He was soon captured and an officer advanced toward him, drew his sword and cut off his leg. 'Run, now, you swine,' he said, 'in one of the hospitals behind the lines I spoke to a fellow whose face was a mass of bandages. Here is his own story of how he recovered from his wounds.'"

"I was over the top in an attack and went into a German dugout. About thirty feet from the entrance of the dugout was a candle burning in a wooden ledge and by its light I discovered a fountain pen. Two days later I was going to write home to my mother. 'When I unbuttoned my shirt I found a note pinned to my face away.'"

"We are fighting a different fight from the Germans. We are fighting for the sake of the people. The Hun is fighting for the Kaiser. He is their God—There is one God—the God of all, and we have our faith. I want you to do more—to be shareholders in the bank of humanity."

I have mentioned good humor as one of the preservatives of our peace and tranquility. It is among the most effectual, and its effect is so well imitated and added, artificially, by politeness that this also becomes an acquisition of first rate value. In truth, politeness is artificial good humor; it covers the natural want of it, and ends by rendering habitual a substitute nearly equivalent to the real virtue. It is the practice of sacrificing to those whom we meet in society all the little conveniences and preferences which will gratify them and deprive us of nothing worth a moment's consideration; it is the giving a pleasing and flattering turn to our expressions when displeased with us as well as themselves. How cheap a price for the good will of another!—Thomas Jefferson.

THE AMERICAN CITIZEN Nobility out of the veins of the dead Belongs to the past; the present, instead, Makes manhood the measure of man again, And chooses blood that is living red To make the American Citizen.

THE WINGS OF WAR Hall to the quadrants of the sky, The giant battleplanes And speedy scouts that call the void Where primal silence reigns! And hail the pilots, iron nerved, And quick to do and dare, Who wins this war for liberty Must win it in the air.

OH, MAN!

LISTEN TOOTS— I'VE A GREAT LITTLE IDEA— LET'S BUILD A COZY FIRE IN THE FIREPLACE— IT'S KINDA CHILLY.

OH-H-H HEN-RY LOVELY

WHERE'S ALL THE COAL GONE!!? WE JUST GOT A TON A FEW DAYS AGO AND NOW THERE'S ONLY A LITTLE BIT.

I'M AFRAID IT'S GOING TO SMOKE

OH-H-NEU MIND— I'M DOING THIS

WHERE'S THAT DAMPER!!? !!!???

ALL-L-RIGHT— ALL-L-RIGHT— SUIT YOURSELF— IF YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT IT

EX-CUSE— ME— DEAR— BUT I'LL NEVER FORGET THE EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE HANNA

WHY THE BIG SMOKE— WHY'S SO FUNNY!!?

OW— PH OO PH OO

LAUDER IS SERIOUS Harry Lauder, the famous Scotch comedian, dressed in picturesque Highland costume, told of the experiences of his son, who died fighting in France, at Philadelphia recently.

How Germany Raises Loans IF German financiers had so fertile a field as the United States in which to operate, they would make short work of getting the second Liberty Loan heavily oversubscribed. In the first place they would have all the banks and trust companies take liberal amounts, on the understanding that no actual money would be required, but credited in flexible income, including the whole working class, would find their command of the necessities and comforts of life reduced. Speculators would find their incomes greatly increased. For the moral gain of a loan promptly oversubscribed we should pay by higher costs of living to those of our citizens who already had costs high. That is why our treasury is pursuing the difficult but honest method of raising loans by direct appeal to the people.—From the New Republic.

FAILURE OF SUBMARINE By far the most encouraging piece of news which has come from Europe in many months is that of the steadily decreasing success of the German submarine attacks on commerce. For the first time since last winter the losses of merchant shipping are being reduced to manageable limits. Improved methods of conveying and arming merchant vessels have been successful in rendering the important maritime communications of the Allies comparatively safe. Inasmuch as the operations of these methods will be in the winter and the spring it seems as certain as anything can be in war that the submarine offensive will be stopped within a few months.

RIFLES AND MEN Secretary Baker declared in a speech at Harrisburg, Pa., that there were five rifles now in France for every American soldier abroad. Not only that, but all the Regulars and all the members of the National Guard in this country have rifles. Furthermore, rifles are being manufactured at the rate of 100,000 a month, and soon that output will be doubled.

OUR DAILY LAUGH SLOW. Snail—My, I hope there won't be a train along this awhile. I've got to get across this track, and I can't do it in less than an hour!

HARD TIMES. It's terrible, food is getting so high they don't even bat the traps with cheese any more!

THE WAR LORD May God help farther ** and onward with God!—The Kaiser. I strike under sea, And I storm through the air; And holy to me Is the dying's despair. I'm the bringer of blight To the bloom of the day, And the world's best friend, I'm the lord of my way.

JUST WHISTLING. Boss—Johnny, I wish you wouldn't whistle at your work. Office Boy—I wasn't working, sir, only whistling.

CAUSE FOR GLOOM. What's the matter, old top? Matter's enough! Every time I try to kiss my girl, she draws her head in.

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People who have been out toward Linglestown say that the crows which were so numerous in that section during the early fall have nearly all gone. The same is said to be true in and about Perry. Large flocks have lately been seen going south over Cumberland and York counties. Local naturalists declare that the flight precedes a hard winter, that these wise birds foresee it and are starting their annual migration to a southern climate. Another sign of a hard winter is advanced by Juniata Valley hunters, who report all kinds of "wild bird food" plentiful. Wild cherry trees are sending out their weight of plentiful, and there are plenty of pigeon and wintergreen berries. All of these are favorite foods of the winterer, that such abundance of food for wild life is invariably accompanied with a severe winter.

Prof. Franklin Menges, of the State Department of Agriculture, was here yesterday with a stalk of red clover which was nineteen inches long. It grew near Middlesex and represented comparatively little work on the soil. It was just wadded. The professor thinks that with more watching of the same kind notable results may be attained.

The forethought of the state's Public Service Commission in providing a form of certificate upon which men traveling on state business could refer to railroad ticket agents or Pullman conductors certificates from their chiefs as to the errands which took them on the road, seems to have caught other departments napping. When the war tax bill was signed it seems that Chairman Ainey had pictures of the war tax bill reached an agreement with the railroads and drafted the certificate. The Commission's men were using the certificates for many months. Departments have not even provided them yet.

H. J. Heinz has opened his conservatories at Pittsburgh to kirk-scarfed flower growers.

The Rev. Dr. W. E. McCulloch, moderator of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, says in a ward report that he has sealed his lips with utter reservation.

George S. Stutzman, of Coopersdale, seems to be Cambria's oldest hunter. He hunted on his eighty-third birthday.

John Robert Jones, of the Schuylkill candidates for judge, used to be a legislator.

Dawson Light is candidate for District Attorney of Lebanon on all tickets.

Postmaster Martin Klingler, of Allentown, was the first man caught by falling to put three cents on a letter in his city.

That Harrisburg was one of the first cities in 1861 to take action to provide for soldiers' families.

HISTORIC HARRISBURG Harrisburg furnished men for Col. Boquet's road-fighting expedition and for the fighting later on.

Evening Chat

While there are a dozen Pennsylvania municipalities which are voting on loans to-day, Steelton is the only place which is determining by the ballot whether a loan voted at a previous election for a specific object may be used for another. It is the first borough or city in the state to have the chance to vote on a question in that manner and the results will be watched with much interest. There are probably a dozen places where loans have been voted for subjects which are regarded as more or less impracticable now, especially where prices have advanced so much for materials that construction could not be worked out under the original estimates. There are other places, just as in Harrisburg with its proposed Walnut street viaduct, where judgment of men in authority is against location of an improvement. In fact, the Walnut street bridge, which has been proposed to be run on the line of State street, is run more than a mere city affair. Because of its effect on the plan of the commonwealth for enhancement of the Capitol Park extension it is of state interest. The Steelton election is to divert money voted for an isolation hospital to better fire apparatus and street improvements. There are a number of boroughs which may follow suit. It is a real referendum in spite of what it may be called.

The soldiers who vote to-day in the various camps in which Pennsylvanians are quartered will vote to all the comforts of home as regards voting. There are not only lists of candidates provided by the state for every county, but in quite a number of instances friends of candidates have thoughtfully provided ballots printed with names of their favorites and thereon so that the soldiers will have a chance to vote as in the old times. Poll books are kept and there is a voters' check list, which reminds one of right here in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Major E. H. Schell, who is quartermaster at the big camp at Houston, Texas, sends an interesting account of the way the Liberty Loan was taken in that camp. There was a total of 394,000 subscribed and every unit in the whole division took bonds, some as high as \$14,000.

Speaking of Houston, the way it goes after publicity is worth watching. It has just issued its city report and it looks like a tourists' handbook. Houston is announced on a white and red cover as a number of instances friends of candidates have thoughtfully provided ballots printed with names of their favorites and thereon so that the soldiers will have a chance to vote as in the old times. Poll books are kept and there is a voters' check list, which reminds one of right here in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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People who have been out toward Linglestown say that the crows which were so numerous in that section during the early fall have nearly all gone. The same is said to be true in and about Perry. Large flocks have lately been seen going south over Cumberland and York counties. Local naturalists declare that the flight precedes a hard winter, that these wise birds foresee it and are starting their annual migration to a southern climate. Another sign of a hard winter is advanced by Juniata Valley hunters, who report all kinds of "wild bird food" plentiful. Wild cherry trees are sending out their weight of plentiful, and there are plenty of pigeon and wintergreen berries. All of these are favorite foods of the winterer, that such abundance of food for wild life is invariably accompanied with a severe winter.

Prof. Franklin Menges, of the State Department of Agriculture, was here yesterday with a stalk of red clover which was nineteen inches long. It grew near Middlesex and represented comparatively little work on the soil. It was just wadded. The professor thinks that with more watching of the same kind notable results may be attained.

The forethought of the state's Public Service Commission in providing a form of certificate upon which men traveling on state business could refer to railroad ticket agents or Pullman conductors certificates from their chiefs as to the errands which took them on the road, seems to have caught other departments napping. When the war tax bill was signed it seems that Chairman Ainey had pictures of the war tax bill reached an agreement with the railroads and drafted the certificate. The Commission's men were using the certificates for many months. Departments have not even provided them yet.

H. J. Heinz has opened his conservatories at Pittsburgh to kirk-scarfed flower growers.