

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26, 1917... This world has been led more by footprints than guide-boards.—H. A. PORTER.

THE FARSICAL CLARK ACT

SOME another bungler for the farsical Clark act! That pitiful attempt at municipal reform has been responsible for so many evils in the third class cities of Pennsylvania since its adoption that it might easily have been imagined it had run the full gamut of its possibilities in that direction.

It so happens that collection by contract has proved a failure here, and very expensive. Councilmen estimate that they could save money and give the people better service by collecting the ashes through the medium of a municipal bureau.

THE EXTRA CENT... THE time has not long passed in Pennsylvania when one cent meant the minimum and there are many who for a long time looked upon the nickel as the least respectable coin.

MISCHIEVOUS MYSTERY... CUTTING the interminable coils of red tape which hamper the war activities of Uncle Sam must be the inevitable result of investigations now under way at Washington.

THE RIGHT TIME... THE forethought that brought about the warning from Capitol Hill that the time to plan next summer's war gardens is right after the Christmas packages have been opened is the kind that is going to put the coal and iron State of Pennsylvania still higher up in the ranks of the food producers.

AMERICANS have been accustomed to frankness in public station and while they appreciate the importance of keeping under cover the movements of troops and the important purposes of the administration, they are restless under a censorship that too often treats them as children.

highest of these public servants is said to have declared recently that he "would like to see all the critics exported." There is a disposition also to resent any expression of opinion which runs counter to the preconceived notions of those who happen to be in power.

The American people are backing the government to the limit. They are willing to do all that is necessary to crush the menace of Prussia, but they must be treated as a free people. American lives must not pay the penalty of official procrastination and red tape.

It is reasonable criticism of palpable shortcomings that brings about an improvement then there is no reason to withhold that criticism. Colonel George Harvey, in a characteristic philippic against the Colonel House mission and the general conduct of the war, says:

General Simons, the real leader of men first found out in which direction the people were headed and then led the way. President Wilson has heard from the people and no longer insists on "peace without victory," but upon a crushing defeat of the Prussian beast. There are evidences also of his change of attitude toward these Americans who are equipped for the big tasks.

THE PHILADELPHIA RECORD TO-DAY says: "Councils will meet in special session to-morrow to pass the annual appropriation bills for the next year, then the administration financiers foresee a chance to grant a part of the increased pay schedule proposed by the Democrats."

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has a lot can tell the would-be gardener how to go about it and tell him where to get the seeds. There will be more than one store that will sell tools to a man who wants to start a garden and who lacks resources is not hard to get.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman... Presiding officers of the two branches of the Legislature have completed appointment of men to represent the General Assembly on the commissions to study the subject of health insurance and to make a report to the next Legislature and to modify the insurance laws.

Senators E. E. Zeldeman, Dauphin; James B. Weaver, Westmoreland, and Charles W. Sones, Lycoming, and Representatives John M. Flynn, Elk; William T. Ramsey, Delaware, and Isadore Stern, Philadelphia, were named on the health insurance commission, which Governor Brumbaugh named.

THE name of the Town Meeting party has been pre-empted for the Fifteenth Congressional district, comprising Tioga, Lycoming, Potter and Clinton counties. The voters of Tioga county legislative district, it has also been taken for the Clearfield-Center senatorial and Clearfield county legislative districts.

GOVERNOR Brumbaugh announced last Monday the appointment of Edmund K. Trever to Pittsburgh, to be deputy attorney general in the office of Attorney General Francis Monk Brown. Mr. Trent succeeds Emerson H. Williams.

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THE DAYS OF REAL SPORT



RODERICK, of the Department of Mines, has been sidetracked again. In this connection it is interesting to note that Representative George W. Murrell, of Allegheny, announces he is a candidate for Republican renomination and that Representative E. F. James, of Hazleton, is a candidate for town.

THE anniversary edition of the Scranton Board of Trade Journal is published in blue and gold in honor of half a century, but contains a lot of facts as to why Scranton is and how the big northwestern city is meeting to vary industries and diversify its business.

OUR DEAD IN FRANCE... Directly behind the front-line trenches there took place on November 4 the funeral of three American soldiers, the first to give their lives for the cause of right.

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Y.M.C.A. Wants 'Regular Fellows'



JOSEPH H. ODELL in the Outlook says: "In asking for volunteers this is how the Y. M. C. A. officially describes the type of men needed."

THE Y. M. C. A. needs men, preferably men who have had some broad and gruelling experience of life; men of education, yes; but above that, men capable of understanding, sympathy, and an infinite deal of hard, exacting work.

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LABOR NOTES

NEARLY 200 Topeka (Kan.) teamsters have signed a charter application to the Brotherhood of Teamsters, the largest number of charter applicants in the history of Topeka trade unionism.

THE A. F. of L. has endorsed the two-platoon system and ordered a charter issued to unions of municipal firemen, to be known as the International Union of Fire Fighters.

TRADE unionists in New York City ask municipal authorities to build modern tenements on land purchased at a cost of \$12,000,000 for a court-house. The site is now declared unsuitable.

SAN FRANCISCO Janitors' Union has started an organizing campaign among women who are being installed in this calling by employers who claim men janitors cannot be secured.

INTERNATIONAL Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' Alliance and several other unions have amalgamated the new organization to be known as the United Brick and Clay Workers of America.

THE COLOR LINE... Many persons are greatly disturbed, one way or the other, over the present status of the color line in the military forces of the United States. So many of them are so, in fact, that their demonstration has recently caused the Secretary of War to institute an investigation to find out just what are the facts.

OUTLOOK BRIGHT... William A. Thomson, director of the Bureau of Advertising, of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, returned this week from a trip to Chicago and points in the middle west.

PERFECT MAN'S COVENANT... Behold God will not cast away a perfect man, neither will he help the evil-doers.—Job, viii, 36.

BY BRIGGS



YOU GOT TO EMPTY THE ASHES AND GET COAL FOR BOTH STOVES AND SHOVEL A PATH—IT SNOWED LAST NIGHT

THE HARD COAL BURNER

OUR DAILY LAUGH... WHEN THE BILLS COME IN. Mrs. Hyfler—Now that Christmas is over, what would you say to a trip?

BIRDVILLE ETIQUETTE... Dude Sparrow—Hey you rube, don't you know enough not to wear a swallow-tail coat without a high hat?

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE... W. H. Truesdale, president of the Lackawanna, has offered the road bed of an abandoned line of the railroad to the new Lackawanna Trail Highway Association.

Evening Chat

Twenty-five years ago the bell-ringing on Christmas eve and the carolers sang before the homes of prominent citizens a voluntary consideration, on Christmas morn-

These observations show how times have changed in Pennsylvania. Twenty-five years ago we were not so busy, improved city. The customs which were part of the life of the smaller community have passed and the holiday has been New Year's or Halloween's joyous racket that used to mark the morning breaks out on the midnight of the Fourth of July at Zion churches.

THE folks from Perry and Cumberland counties, from up the Juniata valley and out toward Livingston, Hummelstown and Geysers of the north and south, and countless of "the upper and lower" have come here to make Greater Harrisburg get back to the old days of the twenty-first century.

ANCESTORS of some of the crows which flew in the sky yesterday morning in search of food denied them by the deep snow which covers the fields would have been in the city of Harrisburg in the year 1822.

DR. J. P. Gleason, Scranton High School principal, was here yesterday on an advance to Johnstown, where he will preside over the sessions of the State High School organization of the educational meeting.

DO YOU KNOW... That Harrisburg gave thousands of dollars to the Christian Sanitary Commission in the Civil War?