

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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E. J. STACKPOLE, President & Editor-in-Chief; F. R. OSTYER, Business Manager; GUS M. STEINMETZ, Managing Editor.

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MONDAY MARCH 11, 1918

One, harboring ambition, goes To tasks the lazy man would shun, And if he governs men or hoes, The days are all too short; he knows No peace until his work is done, Until the goal he seeks is won. —S. E. KISER.

ONLY ONE SOLUTION

PERRY county is again entirely "dry" and there is none to object save only those who are financially interested. Prohibition by judicial decree is the "joker" in the Brooks high license law, which leaves the question of saloon or no-saloon entirely within the discretionary powers of the judiciary. But it is scarcely a fair statute that would permit a "dry" judge in a "wet" county to override popular sentiment by ruling out the liquor-selling privilege, or for a "wet" judge in a county where a preponderance of temperance sentiment exists to flaunt the barroom in the face of an opposing public.

There is only one way to correct the evil of drink, and that is by national prohibition.

ONLY A BEGINNING

CITY COMMISSIONER HASSLER is quite right in saying that the clean-up now under way is at best but a make-shift. The relief from ash accumulations will be but temporary. Not all cellars and backyards will be cleaned by the men now engaged in making the rounds of the city. So many ashes accumulated during the winter that many families could not find receptacles for them. The collectors can take only what they find ready for them. At least one more trip will be required to fully relieve the congestion. After that, as Dr. Hassler says, regular collections of one kind or another must be made.

Council has made a good beginning, but it is only a beginning. To stop now would be to repeat a condition that has been well nigh intolerable for weeks. Doubtless the councilmen are fully aware of this and will take the necessary precautions.

By and by we are going to discover that three severe slaps on the wrist must be supplemented by a noose or a bullet in dealing with pro-Germans in this country.

READY FOR A NEW SCENE

LEON TROTZKY, having acted his brief part on the stage of world events, has disappeared in the wings, much to the relief of everybody, and the likelihood is we shall hear of him no more. Trotzky essayed a role entirely unfit for him. In the topsyturvy of a nation turned upside down he suddenly found himself cast for a heroic part and he smothered eagerly at the opportunity. It was as though the spear-carrying "super" of a Shakespearean play had, without warning, attempted the part of chief tragedian.

Trotzky—his real name is Leber Braunstein—was either a foolish idealist or a tool of Germany, and it is not just now apparent which. As the former, he offered the childlike peasants of Russia anything and everything they asked, and more—all to be realized by the Bolshevist government of which he was the head, within the year. None but an ignorant man or a knave would have attempted any such program as that with which Trotzky endeavored to appease the liberty-crazed, land-hungry Russian peasantry. A school boy student of political economy could have foreseen its failure. So much for Trotzky as a patriot. If, on the other hand, he was a hireling of the Kaiser he overplayed his part, for, strange as it may seem, it was Trotzky's diplomacy which fomented the recent great strikes in the German munition factories and which revealed to the German people the truth of the allied charge that the

imperial government is fighting a war of conquest and not of self-defense.

Trotzky is gone and Kerensky is gone, but it would not be surprising if the latter appeared again, for of all the figures that have had their brief place in the Russian drama, he was the sanest and most convincing. He presented a reasonable program that could have been worked out. But he was ahead of his time. The Russian people didn't want reason just then. They desired promises. They wanted a magician with a fairy wand to wave them into the enchanted land of a Utopia where peasants wore the purple and kings milked the cows and harvested the grain. They didn't want to work out their salvation, they wanted their heaven on earth all ready-made for them, and Kerensky was no wonder worker. Then came Trotzky and his crowd and the people believed their nonsense. Now the pendulum has begun to swing back and it may be that at last reason is to have its inning at Moscow.

The price of some of the new spring hats is enough to make a silver dollar feel like a plugged dime.

SEND THEM HOME

THE farm labor proposition in Pennsylvania is simply a matter of mathematics. There are approximately 27,000 farms in the Keystone State. In the last few years a number of farms have been abandoned. To be frank about it, it was because the farmers could not make ends meet. Whether they were poor business men, badly located or got tired, does not matter. This year more farms may be given up. The reason assigned is that they are too big a job for one man. The women in the farming districts of Pennsylvania have been doing their share for years. It is not uncommon to see women working in fields, and we respect them for it, just as we welcome the women who have gone into other lines of work because of war. But the fact remains that the farmers and their families cannot do all of the work on the farms.

Reports from Washington indicate that the next call under the draft will be made for men according to occupations. That will prevent further drain upon the men on the farms, but not meet the difficulty. There are several months in the year when every hand that can be secured is needed on Pennsylvania farms, and they are needed more than ever in 1918 because of the demand for an increased food production.

In the camps this summer there will be many trained soldiers whom the Government will not be able to utilize in foreign fields or on other duty. They can be furloughed for certain periods to work in the fields. Probably much of the demand for farm hands can be met by leaves to farm-bred men. In the industries and on the railroads there are many men who can farm, who come from farm, and who like to farm. They can be given leave at harvest or such other time. These are unusual conditions, and if Uncle Sam and the manufacturers act, the farmers should meet them in the way of pay. There are some people who think that farmers have made mistakes in holding back wheat and potatoes and in not buying Liberty Bonds or Thrift Stamps.

To meet farming conditions it will be necessary to play tag with the law of supply and demand. But the main point is to get the men. The way to secure them for the farms is to send them there.

New York women object to voting in barbershops and saloons, and if they are patient a little while they will have only the barbershops to rave about.

TAX IN INSTALMENTS

GENERAL support should be given by every Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade and businessmen's organization in Pennsylvania to the bill now pending in Congress authorizing payment of the "excess profit" war tax in instalments. The average businessman is just now waking up to what the "excess profit" tax means. Before long the business world will be sitting up and yelling.

The State Chamber of Commerce, which has taken the lead in warning what the effect is going to be in banking, remarks in a circular issued a day or so ago that the burden can not be cared for without the calling of many loans under the present plan. Industrial communities such as ours will be hard hit right at the beginning of summer. In suggesting that Congress pass an act to make the tax payable in instalments in June, August, October and December, the State Chamber remarks very pertinently:

"Do you realize what it will mean if most of the money to meet these taxes be paid on one day, necessitating a disturbance of the banking business of the country and an inconvenience to the public because of the necessity of seeking accommodations at the same time, resulting in many being unable easily to secure such accommodations on or before June 15, the last day for payment of the taxes. "Realizing the impending stringency, large concerns must commence to withdraw working capital and reduce the value of their business and earnings. "The effect of the payment of excess profits taxes at one time on the banking community has been carefully estimated. A typical manufacturing city was selected. Banking deposits in this city on January 1, 1918, were \$50,000,000. The reserves on the same day were \$12,000,000. The building and loan associations were loaned up on that

date. The total estimated local tax, individual and corporate, which this city will have to pay to the Government on or before June 15, 1918, is from \$18,000,000 to \$20,000,000."

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Information coming to Harrisburg to-day is to the effect that Senator William C. Sprull will amplify the declaration in favor of the national prohibition amendment which he made Saturday before the Chester County Republican committee at West Chester and friends said that he will take a positive stand, one that cannot be questioned. The Senator's formal announcement of candidacy for the Republican gubernatorial nomination will be made within a week. It was intended to issue it to-day, but the death of the Senator's father and some engagements prevented completion of the document.

The Sprull declaration was bitterly assailed by Highway Commissioner J. Denny O'Neil, the Senator's rival for the Republican nomination for Governor, at Pittsburgh last night. Mr. O'Neil said that "challenged" Senator Sprull's sincerity, charged "false pretence," "chicanery," and other things and asserted that the Sprull candidacy was put forward to defeat the Prohibition amendment.

The Public Ledger to-day devotes about half a page to discussion of the situation assumed by the Sprull statement, one dispatch from Washington saying that national prohibition leaders saw the amendment being taken out of politics and made a matter of course.

The Sprull declaration was also printed in a series of dispatches from various cities like Wilkes-Barre, Pottsville, York and other places in which organization Republican leaders commended Sprull's stand as tending to make the amendment something for which the Republican party as a whole should stand.

A Mitchell Palmer, speaking for the Democrats against Sprull, says his stand will have to be more positive. Newspapers generally give prominence to what Senator Sprull said and the O'Neil reply, but do not comment to any extent editorially.

Congressman Arthur G. Dewalt, of Berks-Lehigh district, has challenged W. M. Croll and C. B. Spatz, to debate the issues of the campaign, but they will hardly do so, as Dewalt may say anything he likes to say and they would not sound well.

Mayor A. T. Connell, is said by Scranton papers to have telephoned the governor's office that he would resign his office as commissioner, when the governor named Ambrose Altemus, his private secretary, as commissioner in his place.

Representative W. M. Ramsey and Harry Heyburn, of Delaware county, will be candidates for reelection. Warren Van Dyke, secretary of the Democratic State Committee, is to be a candidate for the House in the Carbon county district, according to a Mauch Chunk dispatch in the Philadelphia Press yesterday.

He used to be recorder of deeds of that county, and was chief clerk to the county commissioners. Representatives Zanders, will be a candidate for Republican nomination and will give the general Van an awful fight.

Ex-Representative Mandus W. Reiser, of Sullivan, will be a candidate again. The Blair county Anti-Saloon League has endorsed Senator P. W. James, of York, for reelection. Senator James W. Enders, of York, will not run again. Senator E. F. James, of Hazleton, will not be a candidate for the State Senate, but Ex-Senator E. B. Schuykill county, which was never made public. Now the position will very likely be filled by a political schemer instead of an unpolitical philanthropist. Here was a wealthy man who killed himself in laboring for the good of mankind.—Pottsville Republican.

THE CONVALESCENT

BY BRIGGS



EDITORIAL COMMENT

A war-expert is a man who knows as little about the Russian situation as you do and admits it.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Well, anyway, we don't believe many babies were named for Trotzky.—New York Sun.

Russia gets a crimson light on peace without a victory.—Boston Herald.

Germany is willing to swallow four of the President's peace terms. The other ten will be rubbed in.—Pittsburgh Post.

A casket for the Bolsheviki in Russia may as well be ordered. It has tackled the Church question.—Arlington Weekly Globe.

After some of our blowhards have talked for an hour of the big things they would do to can the Kaiser if they were younger, it is appropriate for them to walk up to the post-office and buy a War Savings stamp.—Reading New Times.

A six-hour working day is predicted by a labor leader. Some owners of plants now work 18 hours a day and no doubt soon we either have to work the entire 24 or get a job somewhere and work for some other person.—Newcastle News.

The death of Dr. Dixon, the state health and water authority, is the greatest blow that could be given to Pennsylvania at this time. He did many great things for this state in his department, and his work was always in the interests of the people as against the labor and capitalist interference. He did many great things for Schuylkill county that were never made public. Now the position will very likely be filled by a political schemer instead of an unpolitical philanthropist. Here was a wealthy man who killed himself in laboring for the good of mankind.—Pottsville Republican.

CROWDED JAPAN

When we grasp the smallness of Japan and the size of its population it is not surprising that the land is so crowded. Japan proper is a narrow and diminutive country. Its area of roughly 150,000 square miles is somewhat smaller than California, but its population is twenty times as great.

Moreover, like Italy, Japan is chiefly a country of mountains, and things are crowded together. The amount of land under cultivation amounts to only some 25,000 square miles, a farm area less than one-half of that of the single State of Iowa. It follows that Japan is the classic land of intensive agriculture. Its dwarf farms are not really farms at all in our sense of the word, but gardens. There are no pastures, no barnyards, and merely little squares of land, now covered with water, now filled with mud drying in the sun, and now vividly green with the beautiful rice plants. These little patches of terraced and irrigated land have nothing in common with our 160-acre farms.

In Japan the average agricultural family (and there are five and a half millions of them) occupy only two and three-quarters acres each. Only one family in ten has as much as five acres (two cho) and over one-third of all rural families have farms of less than one and one-quarter acres. It is marvellous carried to a tragic absurdity.—From Asia.

FRIENDS KNEW HIM

Speaking at a political gathering, Senator Jacob C. E. Fisher, of New Hampshire, referred to the change made being in the selection of a chairman. The Commission on the subject of the "Ypres" case, Dr. F. H. Fredrick, chairman, Dr. F. Joyce and Homer E. Leslie. The Commission at its first meeting re-elected William Ball secretary and placed the responsibility for the position of the Department of Public Safety in the expert class. This latter ruling paves the way for the appointment of Daniel Winters, Jr., to that position.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

FAMINES AND FAMINES To the Editor of the Telegraph: Dear Sir—Of all the famines that we have passed through the past nine months, the worst one is yet to come and will come before this war is over. Amos 8:11-12—"Behold the days come saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land." Not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord and they shall wander from sea to sea and from the north even to the east and they shall run to and fro seeking the Word of the Lord and shall not find it. In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst." Respectfully yours, SHORTY MUMMA, A Reader.

WILHELM'S SONS AS KINGS

To the Editor of the Telegraph: This horrible war should not be, but as it is we must awaken and arise to the issue, yes the paramount issue, of winning it from our ruthless, haughty, imperial enemy. Fellow citizens, how do you like the idea of Wilhelm's sons as kings, each respectively of Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and South America, the five continents, with the father lord over all?

The thought is quite inspiring, isn't it? Well if you don't want it, you must get to work with determination and enthusiasm to prevent it. Respectfully, JO. W. MILLER.

PEOPLE ARE SAVING

Evidence is accumulating that the habit of saving among the American people, especially among the patrons of savings banks and postal savings, is outstripping the financial demands made upon them by the Government.

While no exact figures are available at present, it is known that postal savings deposits have steadily gained during the year 1917, and notably since the 1st of July of that year, which was after the first issue of the Liberty Loan.

The reports from savings banks also show a steady gain, and the same is true of co-operative building and loan associations.

Nor have the people of small means been the only savers. It is estimated that the savings of the whole people of the United States, ordinarily \$5,000,000,000 to \$6,000,000,000 annually, were increased to \$14,000,000,000 to \$15,000,000,000 in 1917.

The response of the people to the national need of economy and saving has been general and generous.

YPRES

If where an Englishman is buried on foreign soil is called "a little bit of England," then we may call the Ypres salient a mighty bit of Canada. If anyone were to inquire what is the most important city of Canada, we might answer unhesitatingly, "The City of Ypres." The hosts of our young men who have fallen in battle round that city have hallowed the name for all Canadian hearts, and rendered the place ours in the deepest sense.

Montreal, and Halifax, and Vancouver are among our lesser cities, but Ypres, where so many of our brave are buried, shall remain for us the city of everlasting possessions. In years to come, the touchstone for the Maple Leaf will not be "Queens-town Heights and Lundy's Lane," but "Ypres and Lagemark." I stood one night on a certain hill that commands the firing line in an almost boundless panorama. Beside me was an officer of the Second Canadian Division who had just come out. There that night, by its white trail of iridescent light, we could trace the course of the firing line for many miles through France and Flanders.

Just to our left the line of light jutted far out, like a lone cape into the sea. "What is that putting out place?" my friend inquired. "That," I answered, "is the Ypres salient, the bloody angle of the British line." To mention the name of Ypres is to have one's memory awakened with a veritable kaleidoscope of pictures. That trail of light that jutted out into the night looked like a cape, and an iron cape it has been through months and years of war. But the holding of that cape has been at an awful cost and there was not an inch along that trailing line of light that had not cost its trailing line of blood.—Arthur Hunt Chute in the North American Review.

Soldier Songs

TENTING TONIGHT We're tenting to-night on the old Give us a song to cheer Our weary hearts, a song of home, And friends we love so dear.

CHORUS Many are the hearts that are weary to-night, Wishing for the war to cease: Many are the hearts looking for the right, To see the dawn of peace. Tenting to-night, tenting to-night, Tenting on the old camp grounds.

We've been tenting to-night on the old camp ground, Thinking of days gone by, Of the loved ones at home that gave the hand, And the tear that said "good-by!"

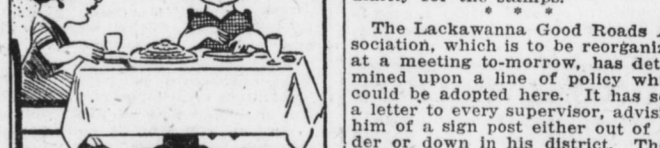
Blessing Upon Church

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the Lord.—Joel III, 18.

Hoarding in the Zoo

A careful survey of the local elephant convinces one that it is hoarding more hide than it can possibly use.—From the Chicago News.

OUR DAILY LAUGH



UNDER A WAR REGIME

The Adler bill, forcing employers to allow employees two hours at all elections, has been passed by the New York State Assembly.

A mass-meeting of Ulster farmers has been held in Belfast, Ireland, for the purpose of consolidating the agriculturists of the northern provinces.

Timothy Shea, acting president of the Brotherhood of Firemen, claims that colored members of his organization are paid less than white men.

Every village school in New York State is to have a pig-raising class with 50 porkers. This means an additional 50,000 hogs in the State.

Employees of the Edinburgh and Leith (Scotland) Commission have been refused their request for an advance in wages of 10 shillings per week.

School teachers throughout Utah are to be put through an efficiency test embracing their knowledge not only of books, but of such matters as school sanitation.

Because Scotch fishermen will not go fishing on Sundays, the choice of Tuesday as London's official meat-day is declared by London (England) fish dealers to be an official blunder.

The New York City Board of Aldermen has introduced a law giving the employees of the Street Cleaning Department the same advantage as well-organized trade unions.

The Canadian Government will not conscript men for farm labor under the military service act, but will take immediate steps to secure a registration and inventory of the man-power of the Dominion.

THE INCOME TAX

SALARY, COMMISSIONS, ALLOWANCES, ETC., MUST ALL BE REPORTED Where a person receives a cash compensation for services rendered and in addition thereto commissions, living expenses or other allowances, the aggregate amount of cash, plus the value to such person of the allowances, is to be returned. A return under Section 23 is required in each case where the cash compensation, plus the value of the allowances, equals or exceeds \$800 for the tax year.

Evening Chat

If the plans now being worked out by officials of the State Highway and Attorney General's Departments are consummated, it may be possible to ride on July 4, from Harrisburg to Lancaster for the first time in over a century without paying toll. Last year the state made possible a ride from Harrisburg to Lebanon and on to Reading without having to pay toll, the gates which had been maintained since 1816 disappearing, after an existence of a little more than 100 years. The toll gates to the north and west of Harrisburg have gone, although there are many of us who recall the story of the old river road, with its toll houses and whiskered toll takers at Division street and Flickinger's lane and the Carlisle pike with the toll house just at the western or rather southwest end of Camp Hill. New York and Lancaster are the only counties that admit us as are on our lines of travel that have the medieval gates. Highway Commissioner O'Neil says that he plans to free about four Lancaster toll roads this summer. The Westmoreland, Willow Grove and Old York turnpikes near Philadelphia are just about being freed and the last toll gates in Blair and Westmoreland have gone. The Cumberland and Juniata valleys are nearly free of them and Harrisburg, the hub of thirteen or fourteen state highway routes, will soon be accessible from any part of the sixty-seven counties without the hold-up. The plans are now to free the Lancaster, Elizabethtown and Middletown turnpike, which carries the shovels from ancient Middletown, practically speaking, to the city line of Lancaster. The price to be paid is \$68,000 and the meeting of the company shareholders will be held Saturday to end the matter. The freeing of this turnpike, whose owning corporation has been attacked before the Public Service Commission, will be hailed all over the state, for it will make clear of hold-ups what Governor Brumbaugh calls the Pennsylvania highway bill between the William Penn highway in Harrisburg and the Lincoln Highway at Lancaster.

Notwithstanding the warm rays of the sun the last week or so, and the high winds, there are still patches of snow and ice to be seen in ravines and gullies in the fields round about Harrisburg. In some of the county districts, especially the wooded valleys of creeks and runs there are still patches of snow. Just what it must have been like during the really cold weather can be imagined. There are some roads in shaded sections which are also covered with strips of snow.

Sundays appear to have become the big days for moving of freight trains, the buses and the Pennsylvania and Reading lines yesterday fairly hummed with traffic and it seemed as though the trains were as numerous as flies. As long as the movement of the two preceding Sundays when records for movement went by the boards. Members of the public utility companies are of the opinion that the movement of the last two weeks will be worth comparing with previous years.

Another matter which is attracting attention at the Capitol is the refusal of a trolleyman's union in the Mt. Carmel district to issue certificates of residence to the Pennsylvania and Reading lines yesterday fairly hummed with traffic and it seemed as though the trains were as numerous as flies. As long as the movement of the two preceding Sundays when records for movement went by the boards. Members of the public utility companies are of the opinion that the movement of the last two weeks will be worth comparing with previous years.

The manner in which the Bell Telephone Company handles the War Savings in Harrisburg should be an inspiration to other concerns. The Bell Company put up the first S. S. sign and every letter contains a circular of what to do. It has sent a letter to every supervisor, advising him of a sign post either out of order or down in his district. There was not a cross sign in Lackawanna that does not have a sign this summer, it is said.

The question of whether the weather can be "constrained" as having barred making of a payment in time to obtain advantage of a rebate has arisen in some informal complaints made at the Public Utility Commission. It seems that during the severe winter weather experienced in January and February, the mail collections were interrupted and that letters mailed in time to get advantage of the rebate were not gathered up until such time as to make their delivery a day after the period for discount and expiring. The same proposition has come from other sections, and it looks as though Old Man Fate would have to determine it.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

J. S. Cursler, Lawrence county steel manufacturer, has started a movement to buy tractors to rent for company use.

The Rev. R. W. Veach, Philadelphia Presbyterian clergyman, and D. E. Marsh, Pittsburgh Methodist minister, will go to France on religious work among the soldiers.

A. L. Salm, former mayor of Carbonade, thought his city needed some food savings signs. He put them up himself.

Fire Marshal G. Chal Port, who has gone to Florida, has not had a vacation in ten years.

Alexander F. Smith, secretary of the Reading city planning commission, was the designer of the Reading station in this city.

The Rev. T. Wilbur Chapman, moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, is making a series of addresses in Philadelphia.

W. J. Richards, one of the coal distributors, has long been vice president of the Reading coal interests in Schuylkill county.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg has become a great center for men to be especially inducted into the United States Army?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG Governor Curtin used to make recruiting speeches in this city's square early in the Civil War.