

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME
Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO.

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By carriers, ten cents a week; by mail, \$5.00 a year in advance.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1918

Apologies only account for what they do not alter.—EARL OF BEACONSFIELD.

THE NEW WATER RATES

COUNCIL is wise in deciding to study the proposed new water rates before final approval, although first reading of them gives the impression that they were framed in a spirit of fair play to all classes of consumers and with the revenue needs of the water department in view.

There can be no objection to the big industries of the city receiving their water from the city supply, but they should not enjoy a rate that places the bulk of upkeep and operation upon the shoulders of the householder, whom the department is primarily designed to serve.

To be sure, all the schedules now under consideration are higher than those in force, but it must be remembered that Harrisburg water rates for the past three or four years have been too low.

The department must have more revenue and the way to get it is to revise the schedules upward. The only question to be asked then concerning the proposed advances is, are they adequate and equitable?

The latest ship seizure order would indicate that the Kaiser is "in Dutch" again.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT

MAKE no mistake about it, this war is going to be decided on the Western Front. One hears an occasional warning of what Germany means to do in the East, and the suspicion is that Germany would be not averse to an allied effort in that direction in order to counter-balance the talked of German activity in that theater of war.

The allies, however, show no signs of being misled. They can win it in any place, and there are strong indications that the issue will be decided there and that American pressure will prove the deciding factor. If Germany can be smashed up in the West, all her gains in the East will count for naught.

If she is brought to her knees along the Rhine or beyond it, the allies can compel the Kaiser to get out of Russia, Armenia, Serbia and every other piece of overrun territory. And that must be done and it will be done. Cast your eye about you, read any newspaper and you will see signs everywhere of the overwhelming weight of military force the United States is preparing to throw against the staggering legions of autocracy; and who can doubt that it shall prevail?

Look over your library and have a few good books ready for the Boy Scouts, who will call for them tomorrow. Give the soldiers in the camps opportunity for beneficial and enjoyable relaxation.

BANK AID NEEDED

THE banks will have to bear a big share of the burden of the third Liberty Loan. The banks carried more of the first two loans than most people realize and in addition to making large purchases from their own funds made it possible for small investors to buy bonds from their savings by means of the installment plan.

able for small investors to buy bonds from their savings by means of the installment plan. Now, in addition to the government request that all banks and trust companies set aside one per cent. of their resources each week for the purchase of certificates of indebtedness to be issued in preparation for the third loan, they are asked to subscribe more heavily than ever to the Liberty Bonds about to be floated.

That they are responding in a highly patriotic manner is indicated by the telegrams being received at the Treasury Department, some of which have been made public. One bank president wired: "You can have everything in our bank, except the fixtures." Another telegraphed: "Our resources are at your command; they will be of no use to us if Germany wins."

The banks of the United States constitute a tower of strength. The banking power of the United States, represented by capital, surplus, profits, circulation and deposits of national banks and other reporting banks and trust companies, including also the paid-in capital and deposits of the twelve Federal Reserve banks, is estimated under date of January 31, 1918, at \$37,529,000,000, having increased by \$14,348,000,000 during the past five years.

The banking power of the world in 1890 was estimated at \$15,568,000,000, so that the banking power of the United States is to-day two and one-half times as great as the banking power of the entire world was in 1890.

At that time the banking power of the United States was just one-seventh of what it is to-day. There is a giant well able to cope with the financial needs of the country if its strength is properly harnessed.

The banks of the very large cities and most of those of the smaller cities and towns have done their full part and more in the previous loans, but there are a few country banks which have not measured up. These must be brought to a full understanding of their duty.

ENTIRELY POSSIBLE

LITTLE wonder that President Wilson is inclined to disbelieve the report that Germany may shortly launch another peace move, offering to retire in the West if given a free hand in the East.

After all that has been said concerning American war aims and our decision to fight until the safety of democracy has been established, it would seem that Berlin would be chary about offering a peace of the kind proposed. The Berlin government, however, has been so successful in its recent propaganda in Russia and elsewhere that anything may be expected. But its honeyed phrases will fall on deaf ears this time.

The fate of Russia has been a warning to the allies, if any warning were needed. They are unitedly opposed to an inconclusive peace. The Kaiser may make his play, but he will find England, France and America adamant. Why quit now? We of the United States have not begun to fight.

The Germans are beginning to find that there is more than "American bluff" concealed in some of the trenches they are now facing in France.

A GOOD EXAMPLE

THE Chester Times, a strong Republican newspaper published by Senator Sprout, ought to be on the desk of any Pennsylvania editor who may be hesitating about espousing the cause of "dry" candidates for the next Legislature. The Times is committed to the support of men in Delaware county pledged to voted for the prohibition amendment, if elected. In a recent editorial on the subject the Times said:

"We believe that the overwhelming sentiment of the people of the State is in favor of its ratification by the next Legislature. The question of the election of the House and Senate are required to pass the amendment. In most, if not all, active effort being made to secure the election of men who will vote favorably upon this question. Even in the big cities, the movement is gaining great force and in Philadelphia probably a majority of the members of the House and Senate will be found upon the prohibition side."

"We believe that the sentiment of the people of Delaware county is in accord with the rest of the State upon this question and the local political organizations of both parties will undoubtedly select men pledged to this program. There can be no question but that the representatives of the prohibition side upon which they were elected and the question in the city even at the present time will be a close one. The Times believes the entire delegation from Delaware county should vote for the ratification of the amendment upon grounds of patriotism, economy and loyalty to the country, and will give such assistance as it can to accomplish this end."

If every newspaper in the State takes as strong a position as that in favor of electing "dry" members to the next Legislature, the amendment will cease to be an issue, after the primaries, for few "wet" candidates will be nominated by any party.

"Secretary Baker takes to wine cellar." One cannot but wonder what Secretary Daniels would have done in like circumstances.

"Americans," says a dispatch, "are held up in Finland," but even at that they have nothing on many of us at home.

Why not lure the Germans over to England and lose them in a London fog? No, gentle reader, Uncle Sam doesn't want habitual drinkers for the tank regiment.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

According to what Robert S. Bright, Philadelphia reorganization Democratic leader, has told the Democratic Club of Philadelphia, Vance C. McCormick will not change his mind and become a candidate for governor under any circumstances.

Bright was one of those who thought that McCormick should lead the reorganization, but after he had been at Washington he is said to have changed his mind. The Democratic bosses do not seem to be any closer to a decision in regard to who to run for governor now than they were six weeks ago and another conference may be held, although before it meets the half dozen men who framed the slate four years ago on the banks of the Potomac will meet there again and arrange things in the interest of the plain people. Then they will go to the conference with open ears and speak their piece when the time comes. The trouble is that the Democrats are split up the back over the liquor issue and especially since William C. Sprout and J. Denny O'Neill have both declared for prohibition the Democrats can't get together.

The old liquor element is strong and being composed of practical politicians, the reorganizers do not want to antagonize them and break up the machine. The machine element would like to run Acting State Chairman Joseph G. Guffey; the "dry" element is bent on McCormick or United States District Attorney E. Lowry Humes, who is being trotted in and out so often that he must be dizzy, while some of the bosses are flirting with the name of William H. Berry.

—Warren county going "dry" makes fourteen "dry" counties in Pennsylvania and at almost every other license court there has been a reduction in the number of licenses granted. There were thirty-two saloons put out of business by Judge Hinckley's order.

—The interchange of fire between Governor Gribbs and Senator Sprout has created much comment throughout the state and Philadelphia newspapers are printing a great deal of it. However, there does not seem to be much being accomplished by the bombardments.

—Guy B. Flyte, a former member of the House and prominent in the P. O. S. A. and the "dry" element's Protective Association, is being strongly boomed by Luzerne countians for one of the Republican nominations. Jacob F. Huester, Fred Ehrhardt's old rival in Scranton, will run against him again.

—The borough of Lewisville will have a contest late this month on the question whether to join Pittsburgh. The question is being hotly debated.

—The Scranton Republican says that O'Neill petitions have arrived at state offices in that city.

—George H. Rowley, of Greenville, former district attorney of Mercer county, was yesterday appointed collector of customs for the western district of Pennsylvania, succeeding P. O. S. A. of Allegheny county, who died last December. He is friendly to Joseph F. Guffey, acting state chairman.

—The Democratic nomination for governor, Mr. Guffey is in Washington and the appointment is considered a result of his efforts there. The Democratic applications for the place and a stiff contest to keep the appointment within Allegheny county. So there will be the usual Democratic aftermath.

—Entrance of Prof. C. A. Bowman, one of the well known Lebanon county educators, into the legislative contest for the next Legislature, is out on a "dry" platform and says he intends to make a campaign.

—Sam Audson, editor of the Philadelphia "Golf" playground, says that Pitt Pinchot, who was shunted out of the gubernatorial race, is in Florida to recover from his defeat. Pinchot will likely return in time to take part in the campaign, he predicts.

—Sam Audson is a veteran legislative correspondent, and has a notable history and men who have made and are making it. He still maintains that style which is all his own.

—Frank B. Black, former State Highway Commissioner, may become a candidate for congress at large, although he disclaims such ambitions.

—Captain A. Quigley, commander of the Lock Haven unit of the Reserve militia, is a candidate for Republican legislative honors in Chester county, a brother of Judge Harry C. Quigley, of Center county.

—People here will be much interested in the announcement that Captain A. A. Whitaker, member of the House from Chester county for the last three sessions and one of the sensible, level-headed, respected members, will run for Republican re-election. The captain is at Camp Hancock in command of the famous Phoenixville battery and has confided his candidacy to his representative in the Legislature.

—The captain will run on a "dry" platform such as that he has been elected upon in years gone by. His declaration, sent from the camp, is a strong endorsement of prohibition, and he would be expected to make a campaign for the Legislature.

—Elmer E. Eschenhour, of this city, who vacates his job as a painter in the Public Grounds and Buildings Department to-day, is getting famous. The anti-O'Neill men call him the "first of the martyrs" referring to the generally accepted report that he lost his job because he was not in sympathy with the administration's campaign for the Highway Commissioner.

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES

BY BRIGGS



Soldier Songs

MY OWN UNITED STATES
I love every inch of her prairie land,
Each stone on her mountain side;
I love ev'ry drop of her water clear,
That flows in her rivers wide;
I love ev'ry tree; ev'ry blade of grass,
Within Columbia's gates,
The queen of the earth is the land
Of my birth, my home, my state.

YOUR WINTER WOOD
To the Editor of the Telegraph:
Nearly every one who was put to inconvenience or made to suffer on account of the coal shortage this winter made a calamity howl, and resolved most emphatically that he will not be found short next winter.

Let us observe, thoughtful person view the landscape over, take in hillside and valleys, creeks and river banks and he will be amazed at the vast store of useful fuel that is going to rot.

All this wood is as so much gold and silver, or so much anthracite and bituminous coal.

Now is the time for some organizations in authority or for some organizations to devise some plan and inaugurate some movement toward laying in store a large stock of wood fuel for the time of need.

The committees need to know where wood is plentiful, how to secure it, how to bring it to where it is needed and for its distribution, etc.

Now is the accepted time, now before under brush and forests are hidden by the dense foliage that will soon appear. Now we can find dead trees, fallen timber, drift wood, railroad ties, old fences, wrecked buildings, etc. Now before the farmers and gardeners are busily engaged in planting and sowing their seeds.

Now while the sun shines we need to make wood for time of desperate need.

How shall we escape so fierce a winter if we now neglect so great an opportunity to lay in store a big supply of wood?

Housekeepers should be vigilant and laid to lay in an ample stock of wood.

Who will heed this warning appeal? REV. C. D. RISHEL, South Enola, Pa.

THE STATE PRESS

"A drama of uncurbed impulses," "most thrilling spectacle ever shown on a moving picture screen," "a story of primitive passion and the freedom of natural instincts," "the most sensational picture ever produced," "a photoplay showing man as God made him," "a production in which red blood and brute strength make their own laws."

Isn't such stuff getting sickening? Haven't we enough of all that in the actual life of the world to-day without emphasizing it on the screen? For mercy's sake, give us something that at least hints of justice, order and happiness!—Lebanon Daily News.

Old man Von Hindenburg is still delirious with spring drive. Perhaps he has at last decided that a spring drive is not a joy ride.—Altoona Mirror.

NIGHT CAPS RETURNING

Night caps—of the material kind—seem to be coming into vogue again. The boys in camp have proved their value and given them a good start in popularity. Colds in the head have almost ceased to trouble the M. O. since the night caps have been in use in the Army. A medical man was emphatic the other day in declaring that their general use would prevent the majority of influenza colds. During these abnormal times, when so many heads are popped out of windows and doors in the night hours, night caps should prove popular "for the duration" if not longer.

Knows a Thing or Two

The United States navy is one branch of the service that is constantly being praised. It is interesting to remember that Josephus Daniels was a newspaper editor before he became the Secretary of the Navy and there are few things that a newspaper man cannot run.

—From the Baltimore Star.

THE INCOME TAX

Penalties
Should a taxpayer render a false or fraudulent return with intent to evade a proper payment of income tax—He would become liable to an additional tax of 100 per cent. and to a fine of not to exceed \$2,000, to one year's imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court, and to the costs of prosecution.

Meeting Chat



Over the Top in Penna.

A Pennsylvania boy with the Rainbow Division has this to say about French barbers: "The greatest little institution of torture yet devised is a French barber shop. The chairs are flimsy and straight backed, resembling an ordinary office chair. After placing you at his mercy, the barber bends your head back over the sharp edge of the chair and begins to shave in much the same manner that we whittle shaving. When this operation is finished he soaks an old sponge and washes your face, which goes against the grain of the average American who is used to the sanitary shops of the United States. But one thing makes up for it all—the French girls are pretty."

There are some loyal, fine, honest Germans in this country who do not hesitate on which side to be in the crisis. For example, there is Lewis Stecker, of Lancaster, who, though a native of Germany, has sent his sons to fight for Uncle Sam.

"What are these?" "War biscuits. What about 'em?" "Sherman said it. That's all."

Oh, boy, wouldn't you like to have been there! George Stoudt, of Fleetwood, Berks county, had a public sale the other day and 665 guests sat down at the dinner table. Mother Stoudt is said to be the best cook in the county and she had two dozen women, all with records, to help her. If they'd ever serve that meal in Germany the war would be over.

It is running don reports about ground glass being discovered in some canned fish oil in this state Dairy and Food chemists have made a sale of the ground glass. They found what was called ground glass. It was hard powdered glass. It was hard powdered glass. It was hard powdered glass.

The Public Safety Commission was yesterday asked over a distance telephone if a water main fixed in Hazleton. The citizens of that flourishing anthracite community will be glad to hear that the water was running over the street and no effort was being made to check it. The commission promptly got into action and the anthracite water company, which replied that its men had been engaged in repair work for an hour and that the water was running over the street and no effort was being made to check it. The commission promptly got into action and the anthracite water company, which replied that its men had been engaged in repair work for an hour and that the water was running over the street and no effort was being made to check it.

Hubby: The lady conductor fainted and stalled all the trains.

OUR DAILY LAUGH

A DIPLOMAT.
My wife and I never argue, so we get along beautifully.
How do you manage it?
When anything goes wrong I always figure that it was my fault and she never disagrees with me.

Wife: What on earth made you so late getting home?
Hubby: The lady conductor fainted and stalled all the trains.

There were 2,695 fatalities in our coal mines last year.
Sacramento (Cal.) sign writers ask 50c a day increase.
Canada will not import coolie labor at present.

Galt (Canada) schoolteachers were granted a war bonus.
Halifax (New Brunswick) carpenters were increased to 45c an hour.
St Thomas (Canada) schoolteachers demand an increase of \$200 a year.

New York's municipal charwomen have had their pay raised \$2 a week.
One man was killed in industry in Massachusetts every six hours last year.

Conscription of wealth will be one of the main planks in the British Labor party platform.
Canadian Pacific trainmen have received an increase in wages amounting to about 25 per cent.

The Consumers' League of New York is demanding a minimum wage law for women.
Colorado Springs (Col.) Typographical Union has raised wages \$3 a week, one-third to be paid immediately, two-thirds in six months and the last dollar in one year.

Two of a kind.
There seems to be no end to the cold weather this winter.
Yes, it's like the war.

WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE
—Ex-Representative F. C. Reese, of Potsville is heading a movement to have waterways stored to the anthracite region.
—Ex-Judge W. E. Rice, of Warren county, has invited visitors here during the week.
—Daily and Good Commissioner James Foust celebrated a birthday yesterday by working usual.
—Judge L. H. Bark of the Carbon county courts, has returned from a trip to the seashore for his health.
—Edward Ryan formerly of Scranton and in various dangerous places in the war zone, has been wounded again. This time he broke arms in Germany.
—Ex-Judge Dimme Beber, of Philadelphia, has been delivering a series of lectures on war work in schools in counties adjacent to Philadelphia.
—J. F. Seldomridge, lectured president of the Association of County Fost in active in its Lancaster county fair.

DO YOU KNOW
—That Harrisburg has been shipping many socks and shoes for the army?
—Historic Harrisburg One of the first community buildings in old Harrisburg was a bath hall.
—Even Dame Nature It must irritate even oldplaid person as Dame Nature to have the celestial fireworks mistake for a Zepplin.—From the New York Sun.

ought to be.
Is her husband tender?
He ought to be.
Huh? She keeps him in hot water.