

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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By carrier, ten cents a week; by mail, \$3.00 a year in advance. We learn wisdom from failure much more than from success; we often discover what will do by finding out what will not do; and probably he who never made a mistake never made a discovery.—Samuel Smiles.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1919 NO NEED FOR HASTE

REPRESENTATIVE John W. Vickerman, "dry" leader in the Legislature, speaks wisely when he advises against extreme haste in voting upon the national prohibition amendment.

On the other hand there should be no undue delay. The people are in no mood to have this important piece of legislation bandied about by political interests nor made the football of factional politics, as it would do if held off until the closing days of the session.

The day is past when the liquor forces can smother bills of this nature, and it is doubtful, after their miserable showing in the Bonniwell campaign, if they will attempt any of the bulldozing methods that have marked their course in years past.

The prohibition amendment must have an absolutely square deal. It must be adopted or rejected upon its own merits and upon the convictions of members and senators, and there is much more likelihood now that it will be adopted than directly after election when the "wets" were claiming a clean sweep.

No matter how Pennsylvania votes the amendment is going to be approved by more than the necessary number of States, but it is highly desirable that this Commonwealth be on the side of decency and order in the final line-up and there are indications that a growing number of legislators feel that way about it.

Al. S. Cooper, Assistant Senate Librarian, who has just been appointed Prison Inspector, is well acquainted with local affairs, and is as well fitted as anybody in the county for the place.

THE LEGISLATURE

HARRISBURG is enjoying its biennial visitation of the Legislature. Enjoying is the proper word, for it is a real pleasure for this city to entertain its neighbors from all the various districts of the great Commonwealth.

To be the capitol of such a Commonwealth is no mean honor and Harrisburg takes just pride in its distinction and is striving to make itself fit the dignity of its position. Its new hotel, which will be a home for most of the members and senators during the session, is an evidence of its desire to provide for the comfort and well-being of the stranger within its gates.

Consideration of this Capitol Park Extension legislation, which has the endorsement of every one of the State officials associated with it, will be one of the important items of the session, but it will be one of the beauty spots of the world.

there will be no controversy and there will be no figure much in the limelight. The program has been so well formulated and the groundwork laid by such capable men that the Legislature will have little to do except approve after a careful study of the admirable plans.

The session should not be lengthy, and most probably will not be. There is perfect harmony within the Republican ranks with regard to the organization of both House and Senate and this good feeling will do much to further the business to be considered. Little time will be lost following the inauguration in getting down to work, and while a vast amount of very important legislation of a constructive nature is to be enacted, there is little chance of prolonged debate or contests on any subject that would hold up the session unreasonably.

The leaders have every opportunity to expedite business and Senator Sproul being a businessman may be expected to do his part in getting the work under way and completed in as short a time as possible.

The legislators have a big opportunity for service. The outlook of the people is broader and their interest in the welfare of their fellows is deeper than ever before. They expect the Legislature to take the same large, liberal view. The worn out theories with which legislators of other days have been hectoring must give way to common sense; but the ideals for which hundreds of thousands of our young men have fought must be fostered and encouraged.

Humanity expects to benefit from its sacrifices in the war and Pennsylvania, in many respects the greatest State of the greatest nation in the world, must stand in the forefront of social advancement along sane, practical lines. We look to the Legislature to lead the way.

"Life is not all beer and skittles," observes the Philadelphia Record. Right, Oh! skittles disappeared long ago and now beer is nearing its finish.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

IT is creditable to the Board of County Commissioners that the financial status of the county is so satisfactory at this time. Thousands of dollars worth of bonds were redeemed during the last year — \$121,000 to be exact — and at the same time the sinking fund was given full consideration.

Good housekeeping is always approved by the voters and the record of the present Board is an assurance of business efficiency in the administration.

The Uniontown postman who sold \$100,000 worth of Thrift Stamps last year missed his calling. A salesman of that caliber has no business delivering letters.

MILITARY TRAINING

THERE is to be real military training at the State College and this training will be a part of the curriculum of the institution. It is the intention of the War Department to make available for the State College a large amount of scientific and technical material.

Other institutions of Pennsylvania should immediately follow the lead of the Harrisburg Academy and preparatory and public schools in adopting military training as a part of the course of instruction. Even if we never have war again the benefit which is derived from military training and discipline is incalculable.

An agreement seems to have been arrived at between the British and Dutch governments as to the status of the former Kaiser. This will be reassuring news to the thousands throughout the world who have regarded the apparent indifference of the allied governments to the activities of the Kaiser with apprehension.

Unless and until the Hohenzollern group shall have been utterly destroyed as a further menace to the peace of the world, there will be unrest everywhere.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

When Pennsylvania's legislators assemble at the Capitol to-morrow for the opening of the general assembly it will be the 123rd of the kind since 1776. There were earlier assemblies of people's law-making representatives back in the days of the colonial government and the Pennsylvania lawmakers were not always well beloved. The first assembly of free Pennsylvania dates from the year of independence, the representation of the Keystone State meeting in Philadelphia on November 28, 1776.

Under the constitution of 1776, framed by Pennsylvanians with the British influence much to the fore, the lawmakers met in annual and some fourteen sessions, some lengthy, are recorded. These sessions were generally held in October. Under the constitution of 1790 the sessions were also held annually and began in December, which continued the rule until the constitution of one December session being fixed, only one December session being fixed. This constitution of 1838 lasted longer than any except the present, which is generally known as that of 1872. Under it the biennial session was ordered and January the earlier date for meetings. Two wars have occurred in the time of this document and no special sessions were required by the struggles. In fact while there were two special sessions of the Senate there has been but one special session, the historic reform gathering called by the late Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker for January, 1906. In all, there have been three regular sessions have been held under the constitution of 1873. They have varied in length from Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker to our domestic products. The development of our heavy-chemical industry is part of the history of the development of our strength in war.

Optical glass which used to come from England was now developed in seven months. Glass for pictures and photographic plates is being made by a machine process that will defeat foreign competition. Siphon pumps called for \$8,500,000 worth of surgical instruments and our manufacturers who had made mostly soft-metal goods responded and replaced the steel articles that Germany used to supply.

New devices and systems have increased the competitive power of our potteries. Decalcification for transferring designs to white ware 60 per cent. of which used to come from Germany and 40 per cent. from England now come to the extent of 90 per cent. from American factories. Porcelain guides which our textile mills used to buy in Germany for their looms are now American made. Chemical potteries, the manufacture of which was practically unknown in the United States has become an item in our industries.

In little more than a year the War Department called for \$8,500,000 worth of surgical instruments and our manufacturers who had made mostly soft-metal goods responded and replaced the steel articles that Germany used to supply.

—In the House ex-Speaker Richard B. Baldwin will deliver the address. The Delaware veteran sat in seven sessions but did not run this time.

—State Chairman William E. Cray, who will head the organizing committee, is now the senior Senator.

—Representative John M. Flynn, of York, is now House member with "Cray" for next. Flynn dates from 1903, while Ehrhardt came along a session later.

—Governor-elect Sproul will sit at the organization of his thirteenth cabinet when he enters office. He will resign. The Public Ledger says: "Mr. Sproul describes this business of a Governor's staff as so much 'military camouflage,' and he has already had the staff of his own. Any event until Pennsylvania's fighting men return from the battlefields. Then, if he does appoint a staff, it will be made up of real colonels whose desks entitle them to that high rank."

—The long list of Brumbaugh appointments will be sent to the Senate Committee on "executive nominations" when the subject comes up. This was done in 1915. And some will not come out again.

—Senator Penrose says there will be a new chapter in Philadelphia in the spring. Philadelphia newspapers say: "Governor-elect William C. Sproul has offered the post of First Deputy Attorney General to ex-Judge Robert S. Gavett, who will be Attorney General in 1921." "Appointments as Deputy Attorney General will be offered to Barnard J. Myers for the next year. City Solicitor of Lancaster, and W. J. Swooper of Clearfield."

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AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?

Advertisement for Liberty fuel featuring a cartoon illustration of a man and a nurse. Text includes: "WHEN ALL YOUR FAMILY HAS THE 'FLU'... AND YOU FIND THE NURSE'S THERMOMETER AND THINK YOU'D TRY YOUR TEMPERATURE JUST FOR LUCK... AND YOU READ IT—105°—!!!—YOU TRY IT THREE TIMES WITH EACH READING 105°!!... AND THEN THE NURSE RETURNS AND SAYS 'THE THERMOMETER RUNS HIGH'—DEDUCT 6° FROM SHOWING... OH-H-H-BOY! AIN'T IT A GR-R-R-RAND AND GLOR-R-R-IOUS FEELIN'?"

Some Thoughts For Germany

[From the Nation's Business] New industries that have developed in the United States since the European war began in 1914 have an important place in the Tariff Commission's annual report. In 1917 some 130 firms were manufacturing coal-tar chemicals and 81 dyeing dyes. In 1918 progress was made in remedying the earlier defect in our production of coal-tar dyes in that but small quantities of indigo and fast vat dyes were made in our plants.

What Is Secret of the Czech?

If you ask the Czech himself, he will tell you that the secret of his life is perhaps what President Wilson calls "enthusiasm." He calls it love—love of country, which lays down life without question or stint; love of beauty, without which he considers life a waste, not to be lived through with joy nor departed from with dignity. In this esthetic apprehension which we call by the thin and unsatisfactory word "taste" the Czech is like the French—surely he must be likened sooner or later to the French!—bearing the mark of a race old in living, rich in tradition, discerning in its appreciations. He is, too, a lover of love, worshiping love, a lover of life, more joyous than the Russian, less light-minded than the Gaul. A lover not of the form, but of the substance. Life is short, joy is short, it is to laugh, to work, to weep, to think to love, to be aware of that complex and ever-changing stream of consciousness. When a Czech dies, somehow one feels that thousands of him what may not be said of every man, "He is dead, but he has lived."

A BOLSHEVIK COLLEGE

[From the New Orleans Item] The former Danish minister to Petrograd is authorized for the establishment of the Bolsheviki have established a special revolutionary school at Moscow under the direction of Professor Radek, the revolutionary leader, where agitators from all parts of the world are receiving instruction and fitting themselves for missionary work.

LABOR NOTES

Cleveland fire fighters have secured an eight-hour day. Lumbermen are in keen demand in Maine forests. Sunday work has been stopped in the United States navy yards. Indiana coal mines set a record for production in October by producing 3,937,751 tons. Ten states now have women members on the executive councils of their state labor bodies. Food, drug and tobacco plants throughout the country employ 125,000 women workers. Railroad trackmen and maintenance-of-way employees in Columbus, Ind., have organized. Members of the Baltimore Stereotype Union are receiving a war bonus of \$2 a week.

A New Motor-Fuel

[From the Literary Digest] So many "false alarms" have raised vain hopes of new motor-fuels that it is refreshing to hear that official tests vouch for a substitute for gasoline which has been named "Liberty fuel," described in the American Machinist (New York, December 5). Although its exact composition and the method of production are not given, we are told that it is derived from a kerosene base by distillation, and that chemical details may be obtained from the United States Bureau of Standards, under whose auspices tests have been made at the United States Naval Academy. According to these tests the new fuel is superior to gasoline in many respects, being non-corrosive, starting easily, leaving no residue, giving greater mileage, and requiring less air for combustion. The cost of production is said to be only one-eighth that of gasoline and the quantity may be varied in manufacture to suit the requirements of different motors, not only encouraged him to enter the Army, the additional research and tests giving him the finishing touches. The result is Liberty fuel, which, according to reports of the Division of Research Development, has the following characteristics: "The fuel is practically scentless and tasteless and the products of combustion are cooler than with gasoline, which reduces the amount of lubricant necessary as well as the problems of cooling. It is also non-corrosive and has a less deleterious effect on motors than gasoline. It starts more easily than gasoline and will explode at a temperature below zero, this point being readily controlled in manufacture. It leaves no residue. The effect of the explosion is 30 per cent. greater than gasoline, but this, as well as the quality and specific gravity, can be controlled at will. It will not explode prematurely and only ignites from spark or flame. "It has been shown to give greater mileage in airplanes, automobiles, motor-cycles, motor-trucks, and tractors. It requires less air for combustion, can be made at much less cost than gasoline, and uses as a base a product (kerosin) which can be obtained in any desired quantity. It can be substituted for gasoline for any purpose. It needs no special apparatus and no special engine or carburetor. During the tests at the Naval Air Station at Anacostia, Liberty fuel was found much superior to the best gasoline, and with the motor running 1,600 revolutions per minute the water in the engine never exceeded 160 degrees Fahrenheit, and the oil in the crank-case did not go above 130 degrees. This quality of maintaining low temperature may help to solve some of the radiation problems of aviation engineers. "Those interested in the chemical details relating to the temperature of distillation can obtain them from the report of the Bureau of Standards, these tests having been made under the supervision of Dr. Dickinson, who has been in charge of the motor-development tests during the war. The fuel is obtained by distillation and the quality can be varied to suit the requirements of different industries. "There have been so many false alarms regarding the problem of fuel for internal-combustion motors that one hesitates to become a enthusiast over a question of this kind, but it seems that Major Zimmerman and Captain Weisberger have succeeded in producing a new Liberty fuel, which, in this war, is beyond question, and it is stated that arrangements have been completed for making it available in the near future."

Red Cross Work in Palestine

For relief in Palestine the amount appropriated to December 31 was \$470,000, comprising \$320,000 for industrial and social work, \$100,000 for general relief, and \$50,000 for the medical department. The scope of the commission, headed by Dr. John H. Finley, was extended late in October to cover the Near East, including Palestine, Egypt, Syria and Asia Minor. The suffering brought upon the Holy Land and shown by the fact that a third of the population of Lebanon died of hunger and disease. Epidemics of typhoid fever, cholera, and thousands of people were in dire need until relief came in the wake of the British victory. In a single month the Red Cross cared for 10,000 sick civilians and thousands of Armenian refugees. "The March of the Red Cross," in The January Red Cross Magazine.

New Era For Women

Certainly a new era for woman has dawned, when three million women in France appeal to the women of America and Great Britain to unite their social position and culture, their offices and honors, for the protection and relief of many thousand young women and girls of Belgium and France who have suffered unspeakable wrongs at the hands of German soldiers. Through more than four years these girls have dwelt in a Gethsemane. Each morning the Hun has mixed for them a bitter cup of pain and anguish. Millions of these young women are now being released to return to their homes, to bring with them half-German babes. So black is their pitiful tragedy that it appeals to the women of the whole world. Projected by three thousand miles of ocean, our women of America have been exempt from attack. Now comes the opportunity when our strong women can bear the burden of their weak and wounded sisters abroad. Men honor crippled soldiers and recognize them as heroes. Why should not the best women of every land unite in forging a shield to lift above the wounded girls of France and Belgium? Every American women's club, every woman's college, should make immediate answer to the appeal of the women of France for help in this hour, when thousands of broken-hearted girls can be held back from suicide, insanity, and helped to gain a firm foothold upon which they may stand for the working out of a life career that in the nature of the case now, must be brief and full of pain.—Newell Dwight Hillis.

A RATIONAL CONCLUSION

Not long ago I viewed with much misgiving My form once typical of manly grace, And paler grew the smile born of good living As rose my weight at an alarming pace; Now, as I draw my frugal war-time ration And view a figure once more trim and svelte, I deem the foe—quite in theleton fashion—One more has vainly struck below the belt.—Punch

CROSSES OF WAR

One of the best of American poets is Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews, who is also one of the most successful authors of 'worth-while' novels. In "Crosses of War" Mrs. Andrews has nine poems that are imbued with the military spirit, a singer's tribute to fighting heroes and to the brave souls at home. The final poem is "The Boy in France," which we give here: Steeped in hot haze of the August afternoon, The locusts drone a long, insistent tune; And the boy—the boy's in France. Down the stone steps the rose-pink phlox stand, Like delicate sculptures, through the breathless day, Brilliant yet shadowy, as the bright, white moon in the sky; And the boy—the boy's away. The dogs about the terrace listless lie, Wagging a springing step they used to know; We wait, we also—and the days crawl by; The boy—we miss him so. Green fields reach over hills to fields of gold; Far off the city glitters, gay but wan; The radiant scene breathes loneliness untold; The boy—the boy is gone. Sudden his service flag's impetuous stayer, Flashes a bugle note across the flowers; Sudden the aching loss is pride and glory; He is in France—he's ours! Lad of my heart! From all across your land One thought wings to that land of romance; One proud America stretches a longing hand To the boy—the boy in France!

Point of Foch's Strategy

The outstanding feature of Foch's generalship is that he has kept the battle going continuously for two months on an ever-widening front, which embraced eventually more than one hundred and fifty miles from Flanders to Champagne. Before Foch made his counter-stroke both Allied and German generals had after months of preparation, and by employing a great superiority of force upon a comparatively narrow battle-front, sustained an offensive for long periods, but no commander before Foch, in this war, has succeeded on the western front in waging battle with continuous and ever-growing success without greatly superior numbers and without long preparation. It is well known that before the second battle of the Marne the German forces on the western front were superior to those of the French and British. It is also well known that, although the number of American troops in France was large, those whose training for battle was completed were not prior to General Pershing's victory at St. Mihiel, very numerous. The measure of Foch's genius is shown by the fact that he has inflicted a crushing defeat upon the enemy without any great preponderance of force. The enemy's swift progress in March and in May was possible because he had great weight behind his blows; the Allied progress was more deliberate because the weight was lacking. Now that the ultimate defeat of Germany has come, we know that in Marshal Foch the Allies had a leader of the first rank. The Hindenburg Ludendorff combination has proved to be no better than that of any other German commanders who have tried their hands in the west and failed.—Maj.-Gen. Sir Frederick Maurice in Harper's Magazine for January.

WASH THE STREETS!

[From the Literary Digest.] To dry-clean a dirty street with scrapers and brooms is no more satisfactory than to dry-clean a body with dry cloth as a substitute for a bath. Washington is the true method of ridding a surface of undesirable matter, whether that surface be the pavement of a thoroughfare. An editorial writer in Engineering and Contracting (Chicago, November 28) notices the fact that water-works plants that though they do not ordinarily have charge of street-cleaning, it lies within their power to assist, both directly and indirectly, in securing cleaner streets. He goes on: "And by 'cleaner streets' we do not mean streets free only of visible dirt, but streets free of the invisible microbes that ride upon the finest grains of dust. Water, the great cleanser, should be applied daily in large quantities to all business streets, and at frequent intervals to all residential streets. The germ-laden dust should be flushed into the sewers before it can spread pneumonia, tuberculosis, grippe, or diphtheria and other diseases of the nose, throat, and lungs."

A Certain Green-Eyed Monster

[By Esther Lillian Duff] Charles gave Elizabeth a Dodo. Charles never offered one to me—The loveliest lemon-colored Dodo With the greenest eyes that you could wish to see. Now it isn't that I'm doubting if Charles loves me lacking. And I know that he would ask me out to tea. But he did give Elizabeth a Dodo, And he never even offered one to me.

Evening Chat

"The difficulty in the way of Mayor Keister's suggestion of a growing Christmas tree in one of our parks," said Dr. Thomas S. Blair, to a Telegraph man, "is this: "The evergreens, especially those forming 'needles,' do not survive for long in the atmosphere of a manufacturing city using soft coal. The leaves of an evergreen must breathe just like the leaves of a deciduous tree. The soot, gases and acids in our atmosphere are in many places more or less; but there is not time, in the growing period of a few months, to kill deciduous leaves, so they merely drop off earlier in the season. In evergreen places, with cleaner atmosphere, or many of the leaves do. Evergreens hold their leaves for so long that city gases and acids resting upon them; they cease to function, and the tree dies. "Incidentally, our impure air is just as hard on human beings; but man is a hard animal to kill."

An interesting "follow up" on the article of a week ago in this column on Conrad Weiser and his Indian friend, Shikillemy, is that the two are among the early Prohibitionists of Pennsylvania. It is about 150 years since the famous chief who used to come down the Susquehanna from Shamokin creek urged the Indians to abstain from the sale and the furnishing of whiskey and rum to the braves. He had seen the terrible effects in the villages of the Susquehanna and the tragedies in more than one settlement, predicting that liquor would be the ruin of the Indians of the country. About the same time Weiser was writing to colonial authority after authorizing the prohibition of the sale and to forbid the trading of gifts of liquor to the Red Men. Time and again Weiser was called out to exert his influence to keep Indians off the reservation, and in many cases he renewed his warnings. The result was very much what one could expect when traders' business was apt to be affected is not an ancient argument by any means. It is very appropriate that a cold water fountain dedicated to two heroic prohibition should be at least taken from its original site. It is a matter of the year when it looks as though Pennsylvania may be in the "dry" column.

In connection with the tavern of "Cooney" Knepley, one of the South Harrisburg hotels of long ago to which reference was made some days since, Eugene Snyder, the author of the "Boys in France" column, has written a story of the war many people in Harrisburg especially down town, had flocks of geese. They were particularly the "old" geese, the ones that were only furnished an occasional roast, a source of income from fowls or eggs, but likewise the feathers for those early articles of good bedding which, by the way, were not so common as they are now. The birds preferred the sidewalks for promenades and got to be such a nuisance that the borough fathers enacted an ordinance forbidding people to allow any geese at all at large. This was an infringement on Harrisburg liberties and the women folks just ignored it, while the geese in so many places were allowed to roam over downtown pavements. The newspapers contained some official announcements and fulminations and the air was many a time filled with the high, shrill, and vigorous arm of the law, was called upon to do his duty. Knepley arrested every goose. The captures were made in the morning and taken to the slaughter house. Snyder says that the geese made a great hubbub but Knepley remained firm and kept the geese locked up over night. Finally he announced that they were to be sold to the city. The next noon, every woman owning geese was duly on hand and so were all the boys, you may be sure. There was great fear among the women of the flock, but they were not to get mixed. Well, when the time came "Cooney" opened the gates and instead of a stampede of geese the ganders walked out, each one with his flock. Snyder says that the geese were not to go. The ganders knew the way home and every fowl followed. All the women and boys had to do was to watch the parade.

The United States cruiser, Columbia, which has been engaged in war work in the vicinity of New York has been under command of Captain Pershing. The crew of this ship. When the war broke out the captain, who is a son of C. I. Brinsler, of Front and Emerald streets, was stationed in Washington, but has been at sea for some time, the coming of peace disclosed.