

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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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.

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.

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.

"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.

These statesmen at Washington who believe that the first business of the peace conference is to settle present-day difficulties, rather than solve the problems of the distant future, are properly interpreting American sentiment. It is very desirable to have an altruistic arrangement with our allies in Europe, but it is much more important to get the business in hand settled so that the world may proceed upon some definite line of development in overcoming after-war conditions.

Colonel Roosevelt has been requested to serve upon the great homecoming reception committee, which is preparing at Brooklyn a real program for the proper greeting of the returned soldiers. The resentment against service with William Randolph Hearst on Mayor Hylan's committee has become so marked that patriotic citizens have determined there shall be an independent committee to meet the soldiers who are streaming back from Europe.

There was not much fuss over the return of the American torpedoed destroyers which slipped into the port of Philadelphia on Saturday, but the record of this fleet is a shining chapter in the achievements of the American Navy during the war. The people of the United States are not going to soon forget the services of the men who put out of business the Hun submarine menace.

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 law-makers 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 of the assembly, the lawmakers of the assembly, 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 legislature. 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 one month to one year, the longest being the one of 1887, when the old Capitol burned down and until July 1. Of late there has been a tendency toward June sessions, which, judging from newspaper articles, is not much desired for a while. In fact, an April adjournment would be popular if arranged promptly.

The first session of the Legislature to be held in Harrisburg was that of 1813. It met on December 1 and adjourned on March 29 following. It was the thirty-seventh assembly and the first in a court house where other legislatures sat until January 2, 1822, when the State House was finished and occupied with ceremony.

Robert S. Spangler is the first speaker to hail from York county in many years and probably the first Republican from York to get the office. Back in the days when Pennsylvania was a Democratic State, York produced some big Democrats and there are records of speakers of either branch, but recent history gives all the honors to Spangler.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, will miss the opening of the Legislature for the first time in twenty-eight years. He is in Florida but will be here for the inauguration of Thomas M. Ryan or Samuel E. Hudson, two of the oldest correspondents, died since the last session.

The Legislature Correspondents' Association will meet in the afternoon of Inauguration Day. The organization of the Legislature will miss James P. McNichol, of Philadelphia, for whom the Senate will hold a memorial service. The Senator was known to many men.

In the House ex-Speaker Richard B. Baldwin will be the only member of the Delaware veteran sat in seven sessions but did not run this time.

State Chairman William E. Cray, will head the inauguration 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 next session opens. He will resign. The Public Ledger says: "Mr. Sproul describes this business of a Governor's staff as so much 'military camouflage,' and he is undoubtedly right. The staff is 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 on. 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. Gawthrop, who is now in Chester. It is understood Mr. Gawthrop will accept the appointment. He will take the place of William H. Keller, of Lancaster. Deputy Attorney General Emerson Collins, of Williamsport, and William M. Hargest, of Harrisburg, will be retained. "Appointments as Deputy Attorney General will be offered to Barnard J. Myers, of the City, Solicitor of Lancaster, and W. J. Swooper, of Clearfield."

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.

It would be interesting to receive a prospectus of Dr. Redek's university and an outline of its course of study. Presumably the course will be paid to bomb-throwing, the handling of explosives and the like, these being purely elementary branches. One of the subjects rather special emphasis to be laid upon the Theory and Art of Bolshevizing and Approved Methods of Dealing with the Bourgeoisie and securing the loyalty of the masses. The physical force, advanced students might take up the problems, how to collect taxes without taking money away from anybody, and the counter-revolution and how to counter it.

Billy Sunday's Kansas City friends will be glad to know that he's still hitting them up against the center-field fence. In a recent sermon Billy remarked that "the Kaiser has sunk so low he'll take an airplane to get to hell."—Kansas City Star.

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' THE NURSE IS AWAY AND YOU CONGRATULATE YOURSELF THAT YOU ARE SO WELL... AND YOU FIND THE NURSE'S THERMOMETER AND THINK YOU'D TRY YOUR TEMPERATURE JUST FOR LUCK... AND YOU PLACE THERMOMETER IN YOUR MOUTH FOR ONE MINUTE... 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 1913 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, it 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."

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 employes 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 fluid 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 less than that of gasoline and the quantity may be varied in manufacture to suit the requirements of different motors. It is to be hoped that the tests of actual daily use on the road, which will not come until the fuel is put upon the market, will bear out these somewhat rosy statements. We read in The Machinist: "Unlike the stories that we have had of new fuels may be dropping some sort of a mysterious pill into water or some other simple and inexpensive liquid, this fuel is made from kerosene as a base, as is the case with the gasoline now produced. Nor is it one of those accidents that have been reported, while a carefully studied method, the result of seven years' work by Edwin C. Weisberger, Captain of Engineers in the Division of Research and Development, Captain Weisberger, who is now placed under the command of Major O. B. Zimmerman, who, with his long experience in internal-combustion engines, not only encouraged him in the face of opposition, but aided him materially by practical suggestions from the motor end.

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 appeal 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 appeal 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. 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