

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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Thoughts shut up, want air, and spoil like bales unopened to the sun.

—Young.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1919

PROVIDE WORK FOR ALL

PHILADELPHIA is arranging an important program of public work that has been deferred during the war.

Harrisburg is no slacker in any respect and we are proud to observe a disposition among the municipal officials and heads of departments that there will be no delay with the coming of Spring in going ahead with the various enterprises that are under consideration.

But the burden must not be left entirely to municipal corporations. Every private concern and individual should at this time consider well how large the activities of the year may be with respect to new work and the enlargement of old enterprises.

Naturally, there will be some hesitation on account of the high level of prices for material and the wage scale, but in any readjustment we must consider the new conditions and proceed with due regard for the higher levels which are inevitable in the costs of manufacture and consumption.

So far as possible it may be assumed the various heads of departments will outline the year's activities at once so that orders for needed materials can be placed and thus avoid delay with the opening of spring. Four-handiness will mean greater activity later in the year.

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

ANY points of interest are covered in Mayor Keister's comprehensive message to Council, but several stand out above the others as of extreme importance and deserving of immediate attention on the part of his fellow commissioners.

As to the need for such a housing survey as the Mayor recommends, there can be no argument. Hundreds of houses rented at high figures in Harrisburg are unfit for human habitation.

It must be evident to any thinking person that good citizenship cannot thrive in filth or in homes that might be acceptable as pig-pens, but which are unfit for human habitation.

It is the near future the Chamber of Commerce will give a reception in honor of the State officials and members of the Senate and House and the opportunity will thus be given for the further cementing of the pleasant ties which bind together the Commonwealth and this municipality.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Publication of the table of the official vote of 1918 for congressional honors in the Seventeenth, or "Shoe-string" district, as compiled by the return judges at Lewistown, affords an interesting commentary on the way the voters of the eight counties of the district regarded the war by Democratic National Chairman Vance C. McCormick, his newspapers and his partisans and the horde of federal officeholders against Congressman Ben Focht.

What are we going to do to remove this menace in Harrisburg? As to the joint city hall and courthouse—Council and the County Commissioners have the whole city back of them in that project. A new and adequate building would cost little more in the long run than the scattered offices of city and county now and the city is in a mood to make its own public offices correspond in dignity and appearance to those of the state.

One after another the leading props of the Wilson administration are removed by resignation or otherwise. It begins to look as though the absent President will be returning from his European tour. Those who have been "watchful waiting" to be summoned to the other side are probably growing impatient of delay and this may account for some of the resignations.

LONG AND SHORT OF IT

DOWN in Delaware Senator Long has just retired as president of the Senate to give place to Senator Short. Senator Long, it appears, had the short term and Senator Short is to have the long term.

MR. BEIDLEMAN'S GIFT

SENATOR Beidleman has earned the everlasting gratitude of three of the most worthy charitable institutions of the city by distributing among them \$1,500, the amount of salary due him as a member of the State Senate for the term which will expire on his assuming the office of Lieutenant-Governor next Tuesday.

GETTING UNDER WAY

THERE is universal approval in city and county of the proposition to lose no time in the erection of a joint building which will house the city and county officials and provide adequately for the conduct of the public business.

CITY AND STATE

AS Lieutenant-Governor-elect the present Senator from this district may be expected next Tuesday to say something worth while regarding the pleasant relations subsisting between city and State. His long service on Capitol Hill has given him unusual opportunities for cementing the good feeling which prevails between Harrisburg and the official life of the Commonwealth and he is in position to pledge the co-operation which will continue in the making of a delightful seat of government not only insofar as this may include the public grounds, but also as it may contemplate the environment of the Capitol.

Senator Beidleman is deeply interested with other State officials in working out the comprehensive plan of treatment for the Capitol Park area and through him those who represent the State in public position may be assured of the friendly interest of the city and its people in all that pertains to the welfare of the Commonwealth and those in official life on Capitol Hill.

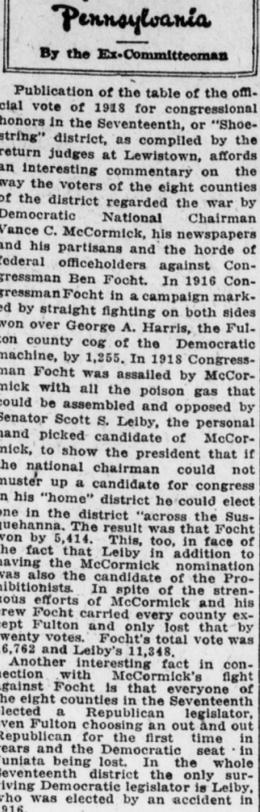
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PALESTINE DANGER POINT

When the British army entered Damascus, the French fleet sailed into Beirut Harbor. If Asiatic Turkey is to be apportioned to the victors, whatever modus vivendi may be arranged for the time being, it is certain that Palestine must fall eventually under the protectorate of the power that controls Syria or the power that controls Egypt. Which power will get Palestine? Doctor Weizmann has already given the answer of the International Zionist Commission in his memorable speech at Jerusalem in April. He stated categorically that "Zionists do not believe in the internationalization of Palestine or in any form of dual or multiple political control over Palestine, whose integrity must be protected by one just and fairly responsible guardian." In Doctor Weizmann's opinion, was already there; for, when speaking these words, he turned to Gen. Sir Edmund Allenby. The grand rabbi of France stated a few months ago that there are only a hundred thousand Zionists in the world outside of America, that the Zionists in France are of Russian or Rumanian origin, and that Jews of French birth, if interested at all in Zionism, were interested only out of sympathy with those who wanted to go to Palestine to escape persecution. Zionism is not a pious desideratum on our part. What French Jews are interested in is liberty and equality in this country for all religions. But as a Frenchman and not as a Jew, the grand rabbi and all other prominent French Jews are exceedingly anxious that Zionism be not used to deprive France of her traditional past and her legitimate future place in the Near East.

MOVIE OF A SOLDIER BACK INTO CIVILIAN CLOTHES

By BRIGGS



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Liebknecht and the War

"The Future Belongs to the People"—by Karl Liebknecht (Speeches Since the Beginning of the War). New York: The McMillan Co., \$1.25

LIEBKNECHT runs in the Liebknecht family. During the Franco-Prussian war, in the year of the birth of his son, Karl, the father, Wilhelm Liebknecht, refused to participate in the German elections and was arrested for high treason. Thirty-five years later Karl voted for the war budget, but attacked the war policy of his country so fiercely that he was sentenced to thirty months' penal servitude. Two of his speeches are notable. One criticized Germany's system of education as perverted propaganda for militarism and capitalism. The other condemned Germany's manner of starting and carrying on the war as "monstrous, even when tested by the standard of war. No allied spokesman has been more severe on these heads than this member of the Reichstag and Prussian Assembly, who was more loyal to his socialism than to his country. In truth, Liebknecht was a citizen of the world rather than of Germany, and stands for many truths demonstrated in the war and accepted by every enemy of Germany. But his loyalty to socialism is like that of other Socialists; it is not a personal conception of socialism. Wherever Socialists gather there is socialism, for hardly any two Socialists agree for long. Thus, although likely to be half as many sorts of Liebknecht belonged to that group of Socialists who are justified in their socialism by the result of the war, he is not the so-called Spartacus brand of socialism mentioned in the cables in the months following peace. The Spartacists held that the Bolsheviks are the real friends of the proletariat and enemies of militarism, and that Russia and Germany should join forces against Anglo-Saxon capitalism. But the Spartacists speedily split, in the manner of Socialists. One Spartacist faction wished to participate in the National Assembly, with intent either to mold its character or to smash it. But just after New Year's Rosa Luxemburg, second only to Liebknecht in the position above described of hostility to Germany's war policy, opposed Liebknecht regarding the assembling of the new German assembly, yet to be held. Rosa and Liebknecht, however, were prevented at all costs, and her view prevailed over Liebknecht's, 63 to 23. It is difficult to keep track of the Socialist splits, and cannot do so without understanding of the Liebknecht doctrine, as set out in his speeches.

Getting Back to Their Jobs

(From the Indianapolis News)

The vast and trying problems of industrial reconstruction involved in the transition from war to a peace basis have wrinkled the brows of our foremost political and scholastic authorities; but not the fair forehead of Miss Elizabeth Marbury, prominent New York business woman and war-relief worker. She had a something about her that makes it seem as if she were a million miles back to their old jobs, the "dilution of labor," the "economic wage" and war-relief work, etc., but such matters she passes over with a gay wave of the hand. Talking to a soldier audience recently she said: "Somebody told me some of the boys coming back were worrying about the girls having their jobs and wondering what to do to get them back. That's easy. Marry 'em, boys; marry 'em!" There was, of course, some objection to the scheme. Not a few soldiers already have wives. Laws and morality would prevent their taking another, no matter how desirable the prospect. Here, however, the matter is not so much as to whether a man should marry, but whether he should marry a woman who has already been married. Miss Marbury's scheme has merits. It will work if the right soldier and the right jobholder meet in the right way.

N. Y. World Raps Kitchin

(From the Fourth Estate)

Chairman Kitchin of the House ways and means committee, the same Kitchin that fathered the second-class postal zone law amendment to the war revenue bill, is a Democrat, but here is what the New York World says editorially, of Kitchin, under the head, "Into the Ditch with Kitchin": "There is nothing improbable in the report that Chairman Kitchin angrily threatens to hold up the new tax bill indefinitely unless the Senate agrees to the restoration of the zone system for newspaper and magazine postage. This exorbitant and burdensome device was imposed upon press and people in the first place by Mr. Kitchin, not so much for revenue as for revenge, and the further exhibition of intolerance now promised is natural and logical. "Postal rates upon intelligence increasing rapidly with the distance from offices of publication, thus discouraging if not destroying a national press, are in keeping with the parrot ideas of taxation which have governed the House under Mr. Kitchin's leadership. In his personal, political and sectional prejudices too readily accepted by his associates, he and the democratic party may find the reasons why the new Congress is to be Republican in both branches. "Obstructing the enactment of the new revenue bill to nurse a grudge upon press and people is against a press which has been too outspoken to please him will inflict hardship upon every element of the population. Mr. Kitchin's revenges, therefore, are no longer specific, and it is probable that in the fact his colleagues will find reason at last to repudiate a leadership at once bigoted and destructive. "A defeated party can hardly afford to make the people regret that they did not impose more drastic punishment upon it. Democrats may live down the memory of their Kitchin's time, but they will not shorten the period of disaster by following them into the last ditches of obstinacy."

Chevrans Show Service

(From the St. Paul Dispatch)

"You can't tell the players without a score card," the familiar cry at the baseball parks, might be applied to soldiers returning from France, according to army officers. To aid the public in determining a man's time in the war zone and the number of times wounded, the following explanation has been prepared: War Service Chevron—A "V" shaped bar of gold lace, worn on lower left sleeve of all uniform items except fatigue coats, by officers, field clerks and enlisted men who have served six months in the war zone. This chevron is worn point down. An additional chevron is allowed for each six months' service. Wound Chevron—Also a "V" shaped bar of gold lace, worn point up on the right sleeve. Not more than one wound chevron can be worn if two or more wounds are sustained at the same time. Silver Chevron—For officers, field clerks and enlisted men who served six months in the theater of operations, a silver chevron (worn the same as the gold chevron) is allowed. For each additional six months another chevron is worn. Scarlet Chevron—Soldiers honorably discharged wear a scarlet chevron, point up, on the left sleeve above the elbow. These are in addition to the usual service stripes. Service Stripes—Enlisted men who served three or more months in service stripes of the corps or department of service. The stripes are worn diagonally on both sleeves of the dress coat below the elbow. Sky Blue Chevron—Chevron of less than six months in theater of war is indicated by a sky blue cloth worn as the gold war service chevron.

And Penna., Too

What a load will be lifted from the country when national prohibition becomes a fact! A load economic, moral and political. Booze has disorganized industry, wrecked lives, demoralized politics. The states are tumbling over each other to ratify the federal amendment. Missouri must not be a laggard.—From the Kansas City Star.

Life's Question

Life is service; the only question is, "Whom will we serve?"—Faber.

A GREAT ATHLETE

(From the Journal of the American Medical Association) She was a four-flusher, particularly as to her abilities in various sports. "Do you golf?" he asked. "Oh, I love golf," she answered. "I play at least thirty-six holes twice a week."

Life's Question

"I won the woman's championship in our state." "And do you swim?" "And do you swim?" "The best I ever did was a half mile straight away," she replied. "Somewhat fatigued he changed to literature." "And how do you like Kipling?" he asked. "I kiplined an hour only yesterday," was her unblushing reply.

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