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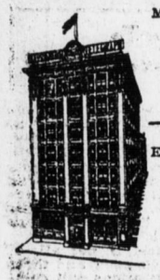

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Night brings out stars as sorrow shows us truths.—Bailey.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1919

THAT PRESIDENTIAL TRIP

So President Wilson contemplates a trip about the country after his return to "tell the facts about the peace conference."

But why wait? The people of the United States are accustomed to learn the facts of any great conclave as they develop through the columns of the daily newspapers. What is so extraordinary about the peace conference that some of the facts must be withheld?

It is to be noted that the President has appointed his own official press agent to give out the news concerning the peace conclave. Why is this necessary? Are not the trained newspapermen in Paris able to collect their own facts, or is the peace conference to discuss subjects that are to be kept from the public?

Secret diplomacy was responsible for the world war and it should have no place at Paris at this time. If the President still believes in that "pitiless publicity" of which he used to boast, the newspapers will save him from the necessity of making a fatiguing journey about the country by printing the news while it is still fresh.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Mayor Keister's review of municipal activities for the last year was somewhat in the nature of an accounting of official stewardship and it was of more than usual interest from that standpoint. Some of his recommendations should have immediate consideration, especially those having to do with parking problems and the erection of a building for the joint use of the city and county.

With respect to regulation for the parking of automobiles and other vehicles in the congested section of the city there is no room for discussion. Something must be done and without further delay. We have had municipal surveys and expert advice on this question and the time has come when there should be action with a view to relieving intolerable conditions on certain important streets. Most people will agree that the hedging of Market street and the main shopping district with empty automobiles during the afternoon and evening while their owners and occupants are spending the passing hours in moving picture shows or elsewhere is inexcusable and provincial to the last degree. In a modern city like Harrisburg this sort of thing ought not be tolerated a day longer than necessary to make other traffic rules and regulations.

It is not an easy problem, of course, and will require serious consideration of certain elements in the situation, but there ought to be and must be some solution either in forcing cars that are out of use for hours at a time into garages or upon streets that are not in constant use.

As to the joint city and county building there is no difference of opinion. There is general approval of that proposition and the Board of County Commissioners are in harmony with the business-like attitude of the City Council.

Mayor Keister will also have the unanimous assent of the public to his recommendations that the Donato statuary should be placed without further palaver. This fine group was presented to the city by a generous citizen of the county and ought to have been set up long ago. It is not creditable to the good sense or the artistic atmosphere of Harrisburg that it has so long remained in the warehouse.

An even more important recommendation of the Mayor is the urging of the employment of an expert water superintendent. This was practically agreed upon during the period of worry and loss following the breakdown at the pumping station a year ago, but for some reason the plan of obtaining an expert head for the Water Department was postponed. It is not reasonable to expect one without technical knowledge to properly safeguard this important public utility. If the pumping facilities and the filter plant are again in first class working order there is additional reason for providing one with technical ability to supervise their operation and keep them so.

Another thing which the Mayor recommends and which will make him more friends than any other of his official suggestions, is the proposition to provide bathing facilities on our water front. This has been a popular demand for several years and now that the war is over there is no occasion for further procrastinating in what is not only a provision for the pleasure of the people, but also a wholesome provision for their health and comfort. Let us hope proper bath houses—either stationary or floating—will be provided for the bathing season of 1919 and now is the time to make a real start in that direction. Commissioner Gross erred greatly when he permitted that item be stricken from the budget for the coming twelve months.

As business men and all others gather up the loose ends at the beginning of the year so should our city officials do likewise. Mayor Keister's comments and suggestions indicate that the city administration is giving thought to these matters which concern the public welfare.

PROUD TO RIDE 'EM

THE editor of the Sharon Telegraph is disturbed. Writing of next Tuesday's inaugural ceremonies in this city he says:

> Some Harrisburg citizens are worried because they're supposed to wear silk hats and ride horses in the gubernatorial parade. Why not let 'em ride their hobbies?

Good idea, neighbor! Harrisburg's hobbies are hospitality, public spirit, civic enterprise and patriotism, and we're proud to be seen riding 'em.

Many admirable things have been done by the City Planning Commission, but nothing will appeal more to the people generally than the constructive plan which has been outlined for the conversion of the swampy land immediately north of Division street into a beautiful residence section and a fine city park with a lake as the central feature.

A BIG PROBLEM

PROPER recognition of the gravity of the housing situation in Harrisburg is given by President Reinoehl in the selection of an able and experienced committee of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce to give the subject study and consideration during the coming year. Mr. Reinoehl has done for Harrisburg precisely what the Johnstown Tribune is urging for that city, where housing conditions are almost as bad as they are here. Says that newspaper in a leading editorial discussing the problem with which the city is confronted:

> One observation on the subject is the necessity of an organization, or board, of real estate dealers. Such an organization might be viewed with suspicion. It might be regarded as an organization to boost prices of real estate and building sites. It need not be, and must not be, such an organization. But, it could be developed into a body before which the major problems of housing could be discussed, and settled. Similarly, the builders of the community should have their organization. The clearing house for opinions and suggestions from these organizations would be the Housing Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. It is realized, after investigation, that plans of building and credit involved cannot be general. Such plans must fit the individual, fit his income, his prospects, and, even his temperament.
>
> We will get further and faster if there is organization and co-operation between all who are materially interested in the housing question. Is it not significant that the savings of the people of this community, deposited and in bonds, total more than $20,000,000? As much more might be regarded as local capital, seeking investment. The basis for credit is here. There must be organization and intelligent direction to make this credit available for its most useful purpose, that of building homes for the people of the community. Not every man and woman who wants a home of his or her own is a financier. Most of such very desirable persons are anxious to be advised. With sound advice what appears to be a maze of finance is a plain path or ordinary economy and the use of credit. Credit, unused, is a waste.

What is true of Johnstown is true also of Harrisburg. But the local committee of the Chamber of Commerce can go farther than merely to act as a clearing house for opinion on the housing situation. It ought to originate as well as discuss. It ought to lay the foundations this year for a general housing scheme to be enacted at the earliest possible moment, prices of materials and labor being one of the chief considerations for the reason that the return on any housing investment must necessarily be low and the investment must be made as moderate as possible with good results in order the renters and buyers may have the advantage of low costs.

It would be a great thing for Harrisburg abroad as well as at home if the new committee of the Chamber could work out a plan here that would be a model for other cities, just as our 1902 public improvement scheme became known far and wide as the "Harrisburg Plan" and was adopted by scores of communities desiring to lift themselves out of the mud. This ought not to be impossible, Mr. McFarland, chairman of the new committee, is admittedly one of the housing authorities of the country. He specialized on the subject when few people were giving it any consideration. He is well fitted by experience and ability to do a big job in a big way and he has as his fellow-workers able financiers and practical builders. The committee is a strong committee and Harrisburg will expect great things of it, for housing is our next big problem and it must be solved if the city is to grow and our people be contented and prosperous.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

The vigorous manner in which the applications for liquor licenses are being attacked in a number of the counties of Pennsylvania right in the face of the strong probability of the ratification of the Prohibition amendment is one of the most interesting conditions now observable in the state. While the proposed new charter for Philadelphia contains the germ of the disturbing elment in the legislative session which will begin in earnest in a week or so, there has always been a possibility that the liquor question would be injected into the 1919 session just as in years gone by.

It is very evident that the people who have been combating the liquor influence in politics do not intend to allow any legislative considerations to interfere with their efforts in the license courts. In Allegheny county alone remonstrances have been prepared against 200 licenseholders and in other counties similar moves are under way.

—In view of the attention being given in political circles in Pennsylvania to the make-up of the committees of the legislature just now there is much interst in a speech made in Philadelphia by ex-Representative Fletcher W. Stites, of Montgomery county. The Public Ledger quotes Mr. Stites this way: "What one is most impressed with when sitting at Harrisburg is the fact that the average intelligence of the members of the House appears to be rather lower than one would expect who knows the intellectual majesty of Pennsylvania and the wonderful opportunity for service in a body of that kind. But don't imagine the Legislature is made up entirely of 'lunkheads;' it is dominated by fifteen or twenty men whose ability would be remarked in any body of men." Mr. Stites characterized the Speaker of the House of Representatives as the "Czar" of the State.

Mr. Stites succeeded ex-Speaker Charles A. Ambler as member of the House from Montgomery and was spokesman in the session of 1917 for the faction which dominated the House in the session of 1915 when Mr. Ambler was speaker, or "czar" as he phrased it. Last year he undertook to contest the Montgomery-Bucks Republican congressional nomination with Congressman Watson instead of running again for the House as friends wanted him to and was defeated along with other state administration candidates.

—From what state newspapers say there will be an attendance of delegations from the counties at the inauguration of Governor-elect William C. Sproul far beyond anything known in years. For the first time in quite a while men up the state have been encouraged to send delegations. Four years ago there were some moves to have various counties represented in the parade, but the Philadelphia contingent wanted to make a big showing and men who had broached the subject got tired and dropped the projects. There will be more inauguration clubs here next week than known in twenty years.

—An interesting stir is under way in Carbon county because the sheriff is protesting to the county commissioners that they allow him six cents per day less for the maintenance of prisoners than the county pays the eastern penitentiary. The sheriff wants to be put an the same basis and suggested that the county should either advance the rate to him or else arrange to have more prisoners kept in the county prison.

—One of the interesting items of speculation about the Capitol now is what the State Commission of Agriculture is going to find out when it gets here next week. Governor Brumbaugh has urged that the commission be given power or abolished. The belief is that the new Governor will abolish it rather than go through the experiments of the last three years.

Roosevelt's Favorite Verse

The favorite poems of Colonel Roosevelt were those expressing vigorous action and enthusiasm. It is quite natural that he found much to admire in Browning's Saul that shows such a fine sympathy for the heroic and hatred of the base. Dr. William A. Webb of Randolph-Macon College is authority for the statement that it was one of the Colonel's favorites.

"He was," Doctor Webb says, "especially fond of these lines:

Oh, our manhood's prime vigor! No spirit feels waste,
Not a muscle is stopped in its playing nor sinew unbraced.
Oh, the wild joy of living! the leaping from rock to rock,
The strong rending of bows from the fir tree, the cool silver shock
Of the plunge in the pool's living water, the hunt of the bear,
And the sultriness showing the lion is crouched in his lair.
And the meal, the rich dates yellowed over with gold dust divine,
And the locust flesh steeped in the pitcher, the full draught of wine,
And the sleep in the dried river channel where the bullrushes tell
That the water was wont to go warbling so softly and well.
How good is man's life, the mere living! how fit to employ
All the heart and the soul and the senses forever in joy!"

Anther poem, often quoted as Colonel Roosevelt's favorite is "Opportunity," written by John J. Ingalls. It reads:

Master of human destinies am I!
Fame, love and fortune on my footsteps wait,
Cities and fields I walk; I penetrate
Deserts and seas remote and passing by
Hovel and mart and palace—soon or late
I knock unbidden once at every gate!
If sleeping, wake—if feasting, rise before
I turn away. It is the hour of fate,
And they who follow me reach every state
Mortals desire and conquer every foe
Save death; but those who doubt and hesitate
Condemned to failure, penury and woe,
See me in vain and uselessly implore,
I answer not, and I return no more!

OH, MAN! By BRIGGS

TRADE BRIFES

The American Consul at Punta Arenas, Chile, reports that there is a large local production of tallow in his district and that catalogues are desired of machinery for making candles.

The enormous coal and iron beds in Spitzbergen belonging to the British Company, the Norther Exploration Company, Ltd., have been investigated by experts, who declare that the iron ore beds are without exception the largest in Europe.

A new natural gas field, assuring a further supply of natural gas for Alberta, Canada, has been discovered about thirty miles east of the city of Lethbridge.

Estimates place the production of wine in Greece for the year just ended at 400,000 hectoliters, or 10,566,800 gallons. This is nearly double the estimated production of 1917 which was placed at 5,962,000 gallons.

One of the great drawbacks to the establishment of American banks in Portugal has been removed by a recent Government decree. Under its terms foreign banks doing business in the republic will be assessed the industrial tax on the amount of capital.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is in receipt of a letter from the Avon Park Board of Trade, Avon Park, Fla., to the effect that it desires to purchase a moving picture machine adaptable also for colored slides.

A firm in Leicester, England, which before the war was engaged in importing typewriters and se ling and repairing them, now proposes to manufacture them. Another firm in the same town which formerly made vulcanite pressings for magnetos will now make fountain pens, which were imported from the United States before the war.

Siam's budget estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1919, provides for an expenditure of $1,992,265 for further work on the construction of the Southern Railway main line and $22,200 on branch lines, while for the Northern Railway the sum $842,605 is alloted. The continued extenson of the irrigation project calls for an outlay of $1,108,335 during the year.

An import and export house in the Federated Malay states desires to receive quotations on all lines of chemicals and other supplies pertaining to the match manufacturing industry.

Chauncey D. Snow, assistant chief of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, has resigned his position temporarily to accept an appointment as special trade commissioner with the same bureau to study reconstruction and commercial problems in Europe during this year, 1919.

A WELL-POINTED JEST

[Baltimore American].

Mr. Wilson's readiness for repartee upon occasion has never found better point than in his response to the Italian Foreign Minister at Rome. The latter was arguing, Mr. Wilson said in the course of a speech delivered at Turin, for certain Austrian territory upon the ground of the Italian inhabitants. The response made by the President of the United States was:

"I am sorry we cannot give you New York, Baron."

The reply had its point in the fact brought out by the King of Italy in conversation with Mr. Wilson, that the American metropolis contains 800,000 Italians. Thus, by a jest, the man to whom the Italians look with confidence in his justice toward their claims, pointed out the absurdity of any claims based solely upon the fact of nationals being found within alien territorial limits.

Mr. Wilson will not be carried off his feet by the claim and pleas of one and another of the parties to the big redistribution of territories and the incident quoted by himself is indication of the fact that he is giving delicate notice that claims will need to be sounder than advanced by Minister Sonnini with respect to the particular Austrian territories outside of the bounds of Italy's historic and legitimate claims.

LABOR NOTES

Efforts are being made to revive the broom-making industry on the farms.

Bridgeport (Conn.) machine workers have been granted the right to organize.

Metal workers' wages increased sixty-nine per cent. in Berlin during the past year.

Olive pickers in California have been receiving from $2 to $5 per day.

Books and Magazines

Sheila Kaye-Smith, whose new novel, "The Challenge to Sirius," E. P. Dutton & Co., have for early publication, is an English woman whose several previous books have won her an important place among English authors. She wrote a few years ago a critical biography of John Galsworthy for the "Writers of Today" series and she is the author of several novels, among them "The Three Furlongers," "Sussex Gorse," and "The Isle of Thorns."

"What America Did," is to be the title of Mrs. Florence Finch Kelly's book recounting the achievements of the United States in the prosecution of the war which E. P. Dutton & Company will publish a little later in the season. It will be a compact volume condensing into brief space an account of the making ready of the fighting forces and of the organized effort of the nation to put itself powerfully and efficiently behind them. The author has been delayed in the completion of the work by the necessity of rewriting, after the signing of the armistice, of all that had been previously finished in order to make it cover the entire period of America's participation in the war.

Richardson Wright, writing in the New York Times Book Review of Siegfried Sasson, Robert Nichols and Robert Graves, calls them "the Three Musketeers of English verse" because of the friendship which exists between them. They are all young men, Sassoon, who is twenty-nine, being the oldest of the "interesting trio," all of whom have fought and been wounded in the war. "They represent," he says, "the new age in English verse; that is, they express in poetry the attitude of the young men in the war. It would be absurd," he continues, "to say that they represent a school, for, although the closest of friends, each expresses a different viewpoint." Sassoon's viewpoint and striking poetic ability are well known to American readers through his "The Old Huntsman and Other Poems," published by E. P. Dutton & Co. last year. Mr. Wright describes him as "a tall, handsome lad who is a veteran of two campaigns in France and one in Palestine, holds the War Cross and has an enviable record for valor." Masefield has called these three young poets "The morning stars of English poetry" and Richardson Wright goes on to say of them that "all three bear the marks of the new old age which is characterizing so many young Englishmen to-day. It is," he says, "a sudden maturity, a quick perception of things heretofore hidden and a willingness to laugh at, even to destroy, the traditional age which has been holding the whip-hand in England for generations."

C. L. Carlsen, who put the knowledge he had gained by several years residence in the Philippines to interesting use in his story of "The Taming of Kalinga," two years ago, has written another novel of life among the Filipinos, under the title "The Son of Pio," which E. P. Dutton & Co., are preparing for early publication.

One of the most fascinating books that the war produced was Francis Brett Young's "Marching on Tanga," in which he told in vivid language, and with much of the sensibility of the poet to beauties of nature and of the novelist to human drama, how General Smuts drove the Germans out of East Africa. Now he has written a novel scened in that same country and dealing with a tragic bit of human history bound up with the German occupation, German methods and the coming of the war. It is called "The Crescent Moon" and E. P. Dutton & Co., will publish it within a week or two.

An American edition of V. Blasco Ibanez's novel, "The Shadow of the Cathedral," is being prepared for an early publication by E. P. Dutton & Co., who brought out an edition of the book imported from England several years ago. It will have an introduction by William Dean Howells, who is a warm admirer of the Spanish novelist's work. When the novel was published in Spain it aroused the hot indignation of the aristocracy and other privileged classes because of its liberal spirit, for Ibanez shows that the two chief causes of the backwardness of Spain are its parasitic aristocracy and the dominating influence of the church. The story is rich and varied in its depiction of Spanish life.

Our Ad Writers Poets

Maria Moravsky, writing in the Bookman, propounds the original idea that our ad writers are none other than poets. After much praise of the fairness of the American newspaper, she goes on to say:

"But the best thing about them is the advertisements. They are simply magnificent! They are full of wit, even poetry; they read like fiction. We never had anything like that in Russia. 'Full moon to-night,' I read a poetical beginning of an advertisement. I thought it was the first line of a poem. But when I continued, it urged me to buy a warm plaid, because the full moon evenings of autumn are chilly.

"It is often like that with your advertisements; they begin with the most unearthly and poetical things; love and the nightingale—roses and 'the skin you love to touch.' And they end with woolen underwear and soap. I suspect all your publicity agents are recruited from the crowd of unsuccessful poets."

The exemption board, if we remember correctly, was in accord with this idea when it proposed to exempt ad writers, poets and rivetters.

THE ROOSEVELT CREED

Virtue by itself is not enough, or anything like enough. Strength must be added to it, and the determination to use that strength. The good man who is ineffective is not able to make his goodness of much account to the people as a whole. No matter how much a man hears the word, small is the credit attached to him if he fails to be a doer, also; and in serving the Lord he must remember that he needs avoid sloth in his business as well as cultivate fervency of spirit.—From an address by Theodore Roosevelt.

JOY IS COMING

Home is lookin' mighty bright—
Joy is comin'!
More of love and more of light—
Joy is comin'!
Waitin' for that holiday;
Joy to come and Joy to stay,
Home has one glad word to say:
"Joy is comin'!"
—From the Atlanta Constitution.

State Agricultural Notes

Twenty-five tractors and tractor cultivators are to be on display at the State Farm Products Show at Harrisburg, January 21 to 24.

It is estimated that 45,600 acres were devoted to tobacco culture in Pennsylvania during the past season.

Pennsylvania has regained its rank as the leading buckwheat producing state, an advantage lost to New York in 1917.

Pennsylvania ranks tenth in the value of all its crops during the 1918 season, a jump from fourteenth place in 1917.

Pennsylvania ranks eighth in the production of winter wheat, Nebraska jumping into seventh place with a bumper crop during the past season.

Only five states, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, Wisconsin and Kentucky rank ahead of Pennsylvania as tobacco producing states.

PLAY

No single item of news that has been received from Russia paints so vividly the picture of national disintegration as the announcement in a letter just received from a Y. M. C. A. worker in that country that Russian children have forgotten how to play. "These children," writes this woman, "have seen so much of sorrow that they have forgotten they are children.' The instinct of play in children, puppies, kittens and all other young creatures is so strong that it overcomes hunger and cold and misery. It is the antidote for every ill of life. It is the great and universal symbol of the survival of life itself. If the children of Russia have forgotten how to play, they have forgotten how to live. The piteous state of the children of Russia is the gravest revelation of the tensity of the crisis that has paralyzed the life of the country under the destructive regime of the Bolsheviki.—New York Mail.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PREVENT TUBERCULOSIS

To the Editor of the Telegraph:

Sir:

As such a vast number of people are dying of tuberculosis, I wish to offer a few observations, not on the cure, but on the prevention of the disease. The writer has no objection to the segregation of tubercular cases in sanatoriums, where they have the most nutritious food and pure mountain air. This is the best that can be done with the adult. It is my contention, that instead of beginning with the adult we begin with the child. It seems to be a law of nature, that in many cases the mother transmits to the child the conformation of its chest. If the child is born of a tubercular mother, and has a narrow contracted chest, it is at once predisposed to tuberculosis.

The plan I suggest, is to have all such children trained in lung inflation until the wall of the chest is forced out to a normal condition.

The bones of the chest in children, being quite soft, this expansion should be accomplished with very little trouble. Train the child to clasp its hands on the top of its head, and with its chin elevated, to breathe as deeply as possible. Years ago in advising some college girls concerning their health, I gave them the following lines in a verse:

Clasp tight your hands above your head,
Then march around with stately tread,
Lift up your chin and take deep breath,
And fortify yourself with health.

If the expansion of the chest is not effected in early life, the opportunity is lost forever, as the bones soon harden, making it impossible in after years.

In traveling over the plateaus of Arizona at an altitude of six thousand feet, I found people who had been cured of tuberculosis, but they were held there as prisoners. If they went down toward the coast their trouble returned. Their narrow chests invited the disease to return. At sea level people are said to use only about three-fourths of their lungs in respiration, but at an altitude of six thousand feet, the air is so rarefied that every air cell is called into action, and this extra and continuous exercise strengthens the lungs and causes them to throw off tuberculosis.

I saw a man from Kansas, whose chest I examined, and found his left lung had entirely disappeared.

He was living on one lung, and was strong and well, and doing the work of a carpenter every day.

Now let us apply these principles to the child. As the attenuated air of the mountains compels deep chest inspiration, so let us compel the child to breathe deeply. In this class of cases we will take nature for our teacher.

If the soft semi-cartilaginous bones or ribs of the child are slowly and carefully forced to expand until the conformation of the chest is normal, we relieve him of the distressing condition in which he was born, and make it possible and probable that he will escape the wretched death of tuberculosis.

In this state we have no six thousand feet of altitude, and with our sanatoriums at less than half elevation, I have wondered whether the tubercular patients, after having spent a term at the sanatorium, will not relapse into their former condition when they return to the lower level where they formerly lived.

DR. J. L. McKEEHAN.
Carlisle, Pa., Jan. 10, 1919.

Manners in 1855

Some people affect to think that nice table manners are of recent invention, and that our grandfathers were unacquainted with dainty conduct. To show such people how wrong they are allow us to quote from a treasured work, "Inquire Within, or 3,700 Facts for the People," published in Philadelphia in 1855.

"If possible, the knife should never be put in the mouth at all; but if it is necessary, let the edge be turned outward.

"The teeth should be picked as little as posible, and never with the fork.

"Carefully abstain from blowing the nose, rinsing the mouth or spitting while at table.

"When napkins are provided, they are to be unfolded and laid on the knees. Use the napkin to wipe the mouth or the fingers; never as a handkerchief, or to mop the brow."
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Evening Chat

Major V. G. Murdock, the State chief draft officer, who has for yea interested himself in compilation the local history of the Susqu hanna valley and has written exte sively about the history of his ow county of Northumberland wi which his forefathers were long ide tified, is urging the various loc boards to make their historic sketches of the draft as complete possible. "Members of the boar may think that their accounts what was done, of humorous a similar instances and contempora newspaper articles and photograp have no historical value, but th will," said the major in talking abo the work to-day. "Had such a co lection been made at the time of t Civil War draft imagine how inte esting they would be to us no Some of the best articles I have r ceived have been in plain, commo every day English, but they tell story that will be most interesti not only next year when the bo are home, but in years to com Chronicles written at the time w be matters of pride to the residen of the districts in the future. Son of the boards have sent me new paper clippings pasted on their le ter-heads which will furnish da for historians of the future and sho how loyally the newspapers su ported the draft service. The phot graphs and newspaper pictures w be of the utmost value. This is work in which the War Departme is greatly interested and I hope th our state will make as good a sho ing in its record of the draft as it d in furnishing men when the nati called."

* * *

The district appeal board whi met at the State Capitol, official known as district appeal board No for the middle district, was the fi district board to file its complete r port and with it was a histo which contains numerous incider and sketches in the experience of t board. This board, which handl many agricultural claims, we through some unusual experienc Robert R. Free, a former Harrisbu newspaperman, was clerk to t board and his training enabled h to get together and to write a chro icle of draft work which will be the highest value to some Cent Pennsylvania historian in years come. Major Murdock, in commen ing this board's history, said that had met the calls upon it in an e cellent manner. All told it act upon 38,025 claims. Just what t means is that in the counties Adams, Center, Columbia, Cumb land, Dauphin, Franklin, Fult Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, M flin, Montour, Northumberla Perry, Snyder, Union and Yo there were steps taken to rele from the draft a total approximati half the population of Harrisbu The board was composed of Da E. Tracy, of this city, as chairma Howard E. Butz, of Huntingdon, state fire marshal; Henry Y. Snyd of Lebanon; Dr. John A. Shower Lebanon; Thomas W. Smallwood, Paxtang; Howard M. Bingaman, this city, and Dr. H. H. Longsdo of York. Under the fourth regist tion alone this board had to act 13,555 appeals or claims, of wh 9,568 of an industrial or agric tural character were granted. T district had probably more appe because of agriculture than other in the state. Under the f registration there were over 13, for industrial or agricultural r sons, largely the latter, approxima ly 5,000 being refused. Under second and third registrations th were 2,600 of industrial or agric tural claims, over 1,000 being deni

* * *

Thus far district board No. 2 Harrisburg local boards Nos. 2 3 are the only ones to file compl histories of their work and of way the draft worked out. The w is under way in the first Harrisb and in the three Dauphin cou districts. Cumberland and Perry tricts will file their histories shor

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According to a summary of ports on draft registration in Pe sylvania the grand total of the n of the Keystone State registered the call for September 12 was 5 496. This is the net report of rections of reports and late regis tions. All of these men were tween 37 and 45. Of the regis tion, says Major Murdock, 568, were whites and 11,584 colored. average number of registrants each of the 281 local board distr of the state has been calculated 7,357. The average for Philadelp board districts is given as 8,863 for Pittsburgh 7,773.

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In connection with the history the draft Major Murdock says on the interesting accounts he recei was from Robert W. Smith, se tary of Blair county board No. 1. is an extract from a speech he m to drafted men. Part of it is follows: "Let us recall the o story of the first drafted man earth. Gideon was the comma of the Israelites. He had an a of 32,000 men at his back. sought to draft out of that a only the strongest and best warr to fight the enemy. He thereu constituted himself the first selec service board in the history of world. His first draft order that all his soldiers, who had pendents, or were slackers, or were afraid and wanted to go ho may go. Thereupon, 22,000 Isr ites deserted the colors and home, leaving 10,000 comrades hind to fight the battle. The c mander then proceeded to sepa the physically disqualified from army. So this novel test of ciency was applied. The 10,000 diers were marched down to stream and commanded to d Ninety seven hundred soldiers down on all fours to drink, the proving that they were physically fit, lacking both the agility and ility to wage successful co against the foe. But the three dred remaining soldiers were eager for the coming fray, so against any possible surprise a of the enemy, that they disdain stoop and kneel. They stood Each one scooped up the water i palms of his hands, and drank. T brisk, energetic men, swift of and steady of purpose, were the diers chosen in the selective se of the long, long ago. Better hundred picked men, than 3 doubtful fighters for Gideon's a Holy Writ tells us, that these dr men were entrusted with the s of the Lord and of Gideon, achieved a glorious victory. American nation enters the w war, for the sake of justice, r ecousness and humanity. She is ing her sons to rally around banner, as modern Gideons, freedom and equality and li may not perish from the earth