

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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Lord of the world! whose kind and gentle care is joy and rest, whose counsels and commands so gracious are, wisest and best.

Shine on my path, dear Lord, and lead my poor heart, forgetting, go astray.

—Henry Bateman.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, 1919

UP TO US

Governor Sproul, in a characteristically forceful and constructive speech at the Chamber of Commerce reception to himself and the Legislature last evening, put it squarely up to Harrisburg to keep pace as a city with what the State intends to do in the way of public improvements and the concentration of governmental forces in this community.

The Commonwealth during the next four years, the Governor said, will spend millions of dollars here in the improvement of the Capitol Extension zone and the erection of public buildings; it will spend other millions on arteries of travel which will center in Harrisburg, and it will bring all State officials now quartered elsewhere in Pennsylvania to Harrisburg to reside as rapidly as Harrisburg supplies suitable houses for them.

All these good things Governor Sproul and his colleagues in the State service have planned for us, and the Governor, in return, very properly asked: "What is Harrisburg going to do for itself?" And then he suggested a joint city hall and court house, intimating that legislation permitting the county and city to join forces in such an enterprise would not be difficult to procure, and promised State tenants for proper houses as rapidly as the city provides the houses.

Clearly it is up to us. Never in the history of Pennsylvania or any other State has a more generous offer been made to a capital city. We have made an enviable reputation throughout the country as a progressive municipality. We have done many worthy things in the way of public improvements. But these things are in the past, and we cannot live upon a reputation fifteen years old. Fortunately, a great majority of Harrisburg people realize the city's problems and responsibilities quite as well as does Governor Sproul, and his message comes at the moment best suited to make concrete the more or less nebulous plans that have been formulating in the minds of those upon whose

shoulders the leadership of the city rests in matters of the kind.

The municipal hall and court house question is one which has been agitating the County Commissioners and City Councilmen for some time and all of them are in favor of the project. The finances of the county are in splendid shape for such a development, thanks to the excellent housekeeping of the present board of commissioners, and the city is also in position to float bonds for its part. No time should now be lost in getting the necessary legislation prepared and under way. Meantime, it would be in good form for the Chamber of Commerce to join in the movement by the appointment of a committee to co-operate with the city and county authorities in a campaign of public education and in working out the details of the plan.

With respect to housing, the Chamber already has a committee at work. If there has been any doubt in the mind of any Harrisburg resident as to the need of an energetic housing campaign, it must have been banished by Governor Sproul's frank statement with regard to the desire of the administration to bring State employees to this city as soon as houses can be procured for them. Houses we need, and houses we must have, and the Chamber's special committee on this subject can do much to encourage the erection of the right type of residences.

We in Harrisburg may thank our good fortune that we have in the Governor's chair at this critical time a man of vision and courage, accustomed to planning big things and seeing them done, who has at his elbow a Lieutenant-Governor deeply interested in the welfare of his home city and ambitious to see it developed along modern, progressive lines. We must keep step with the administration's vigorous pace or scarcely has come to any city within the history of the Commonwealth.

It is up to us. What are we going to do about it?

BILL KILLING TIME

IT WAS a good precedent, as well as an example, that was set to the State House of Representatives last week by the committee on judiciary special when it started to negative bills. Generally, this is the time in a legislative session when bills just commence to flood the lower house of the General Assembly and in spite of the representations of Governor Sproul, Lieutenant Governor Beidleman and others with legislative experience that the State has more laws than it needs and the general recommendation from persons in authority that legislation be confined to essential things, it is apparent that the bill drafter has been at work as usual.

Bills that have been before legislatures year after year are being presented; measures sent to lawmakers by constituents are being introduced without much attention; proposed changes in local laws to serve certain local ends have shown up and there is a tendency for legislative history to repeat itself. Some of the bills in hand are in danger of being placed in that class known as "junk." There are many of little merit.

It costs the State between \$5 and \$100 to print bills and some of them never get out of committees. Some are never expected to be sent out. Some are forgotten when presented and chairmen have been known to send for sponsors to ask what they intend to do about measures. Speaker Spangler is acting for the best interests of the legislators when he urges the committees to get to work and dispose of bills. Work now will relieve things later on in the session when the weather gets hot. But killing of bills that are of no value to the people of the State will save money, time, work and annoyance. And this is the time to sort them out and put on the negative stamp. Big things are coming and the ways should be cleared.

TWO YEARS AT TROUGH

GENERAL CROWDER has suggested that the draft machinery be made use of to take the coming decennial census. This is a mighty good suggestion and exhibits the constructive mind of the man who has been ignored by Secretary Baker because of his highly efficient work in making our 4,000,000 army a possibility. But the chances are Crowder's suggestion will fail on unresponsive ears. The Democratic party has but two more years to deplete the Federal Treasury, and the prediction is confidently made that the host of census enumerators soon to be employed will be Democrats almost to a man. Spoils, not efficiency, is the order of the day under this administration.

Where Weems Got Left

Parson Weems wrote the cherry tree history of Washington. "If I live and die in this fat job," he cried.—New York Sun.

Politics in Pennsylvania By the Ex-Committeeman

Intimations from pretty high up that there will be precious few salary raisers passed by this Legislature is being interpreted by some of the men who follow politics in Pennsylvania as notice that Governor Sproul is getting ready to put his program into action. Salary raises like liquor and similar legislation, generally make for dissensions and the evident determination not to have them take up time is regarded as clearing the way.

The governor's highway bills will be taken by the governor's bill, and all probability and then other bills prepared for the executive will come along. Between those and the appropriation bills there will not be much to take up the time. The House is establishing an unusual record for industry so early in a session but the bills being acted upon are not very exciting.

The Allegheny county two judge bill went to the governor last night. The belief is that he will sign it. Senator Charles H. Kline is being strongly urged for one of the seats. Public Service Commissioner Harold M. Carey is given quite complimentary reference in the Philadelphia Inquirer. He is declared to be one of the ablest men in state service and a Republican of the first rank.

The House concurred late yesterday afternoon in the Barr resolution calling upon the Secretary of War to bring home the Keystone as soon as possible. There was not a word said about it and it now goes to the governor for action and will be transmitted by Secretary of the Commonwealth Woods to Washington.

Protest against the repeal of the "Blue Laws" are commencing to appear in the House in the form of papers from members. They are coming in such volume that it is believed a hearing will be arranged at an early date. Legislators were considerably interested in the project advanced by Councilman W. J. Burke, to divert the Allegheny river and use the bed for a boulevard and tunnels for subways.

People connected with the Legislature believe that Chairman E. M. Golder, of the House military committee, will start something when he commences his hearings on military training and hears former National Guard officers. Some of the old lawmakers are being treated accorded such men as Captain S. A. Whitaker, of Chester, a former legislator.

From indications oleo and opotone, which always be depended upon to break the monotony of a session of the Legislature will furnish some discussion 'his time. Now that liquor is fairly out of an open session, the Legislature will have an opportunity for advancement and development such as scarcely has come to any city within the history of the Commonwealth.

It is up to us. What are we going to do about it? The American public will find it difficult to believe that there is any serious intention on the part of its delegation to flout the nation whose magnificent services are everywhere recognized. Proposals to move the peace conference from Paris.

"Bourgeois" and Bolshevik [From the New York World] "I have been on street cars in Petrograd and have heard Bolshevik talk about wearing 'presentable hats,' said W. W. Welsh to the Senate committee.

Thrown into prison by the Bolsheviks, Roger E. Simmons, of our Department of Commerce "expected to find that most of the prisoners were of the nobility or rich. They were in fact, mechanics, printers, shopkeepers, peasant farmers, royal soldiers, merchants." Mr. Simmons himself saw one instance of the disrobing of women in the street that is so common in "free" Russia.

LABOR NOTES

Writers in Warsaw, Poland, are demanding fifteen per cent of the profits of hotels and restaurants, while the cooks are asking twenty-five per cent.

MOVIE OF A MAN WITH A RAISIN AND A BIT OF YEAST

PUTS RAISIN AND YEAST IN A BOTTLE OF CIDER-OR SOMETHING-FOLLOWING ADVICE OF A FRIEND



No Flouting of France!

It is incredible that there should be any split in the peace conference because France, living under the German guns, desires additional protection to that afforded by an allied experiment in a League of Nations. It is impossible that public opinion in America would sanction any such dissension.

The American barrier to the United States may be able to afford an experiment in further international organization—always provided it has an adequate fleet and that it is not put at a disadvantage in the field without undue delay. But France cannot take a chance. If she were attacked a League of Nations might come to her aid with adequate forces, but again it might not. Her only assurance of safety lies in the measures taken at the peace conference to supply her with adequate coal and iron, and to provide a neutral zone on the west bank of the Rhine, and in her own ability to defend herself.

While the American people are in sympathy with the French insistence on practical measures to assure the safety of France. It cannot too often be insisted that in all probability for another generation at least the French frontier is the American frontier—the "frontier of freedom," to use President Wilson's phrase. The interests of civilization demand its protection. The hard sense of the French people and their readiness to make the necessary sacrifices in time of peace, saved the world in the war. The world cannot afford to disregard the well considered views of France to-day.

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Gamblers, Too

Several months ago when the federal authorities made their raid in Harrisburg, it was very amusing to read Mayor Keister's excuses of not having the authority to do so. It will be remembered just a few months previous to the raid the federal attorney's office made a raid on the city and Mayor Keister was peeved. I just wonder what he will say if there happens to be a raid of the gamblers who infest the city and who have preyed on the public since the last several years and have made the gambling business very expensive to the wage-earner. No one knows better than the wage-earner who went to market during the holidays to buy his Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner and who found out that turkeys, geese, or, in fact, all poultry, was beyond his reach. There is no answer to the high prices in Harrisburg, and that is gambling. Ask the bookmaker who goes through the country and buys and produces how the gamblers went through the country and bought and sold any price. There is not a city, big or small, in Pennsylvania where gambling goes on at full swing like Harrisburg. There are a few of the gambling schemes that are played year in and year out.

Baseball pool, played in lots of small stores and in public establishments; lottery tickets sold at square deal, Globe and many others too numerous to mention; football, basketball and all sorts of gambling of the neck machine and punch boards. The gambler and his games go merrily on, and the wonder is, what will the Mayor and police officials do when the hand of the law would scoop down and some of the notorious gamblers would find themselves behind the bars. It is not too late yet to punish those who have made the turkey prices soar in Harrisburg.

Mr. Editor, when the federal authorities made their raid at Reading, Chester, Harrisburg and other places the first load that should have gone to the federal building for a hearing were the officials who, before God and man, with uplifted hand, swore that they would uphold and enforce the laws, but who have made a mockery of the same.

Mr. Editor, I certainly admired your editorials on the vice raid and

By BRIGGS

AND MIKES RIGHT OUT TO THE PANTRY TO SAMPLE IT



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Down to Brass Tacks To the Editor of the Telegraph: The letter of Mrs. Hartwell appearing in the "Telegraph" the other evening was read and appreciated very much by the writer. Coming out as it did on the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, it vividly recalled Lincoln's great Gettysburg address.

Where is the school boy who can not recite this off hand? Compare it and its sentiment with the self-complacent assertions of Woodrow Wilson and the extraordinary efforts he has made to call attention to "me and my fourteen points."

With his record for fooling the people, it would appear that he took a leaf out of P. T. Barnum's book and figured the joints swollen and distorted. This mother made a personal appeal to the writer to see if there was no chance for relief and under the name of a Congressman Kreider. He would not have there were thousands of such cases, but that he would do what he could to secure relief.

It is to be hoped that we may soon get back to the old way of doing things, wherein things are done as provided by the "Constitution," by law or authority of the courts, not by "divine inspiration" between the state and the "Bell Telephone Company. The action of Mr. Burleson in directing them as to rates and charges. It is to be regretted that more states do not have Governors like Pennsylvania, who are determined to see that the people are protected and that the sovereign rights of the state are respected. In this action it is pointed out that it is an attempt of the federal authorities to transgress on the state's rights.

Isn't it about time we "got down to brass tacks" and quit this "high brow" stuff? Ask the common people. M. G. M.

Turks Are Still Saogus

One fact stands out clearly. Turkish rule over populations of a different faith must cease forever to exist. Turkish government has been the very worst which has afflicted humanity during the last fifteen centuries. The Turks have always been what a distinguished European historian of the last generation called them—"nothing better than a band of robbers encamped in territories which they had conquered and which they have never civilized. They have never imbibed or tried to apply any of the principles on which civilized government must be conducted."

Love Finds a New Way

(From the Springfield Republican.) The "honeymoon express" is the name of an airplane on exhibition at New York. It is elaborately upholstered and has a telephone hand, so that if they would hold and enforce the laws, but who have made a mockery of the same. Mr. Editor, I certainly admired your editorials on the vice raid and

Evening Chat

Just how people living in another part of the state view the possibilities of Harrisburg as a result of the construction of the new Penn-Harris hotel which gives the state's capital accommodations it needs for visitors is shown in a letter from Joseph N. Mackrell, of the Pittsburgh newspaper man, Mr. Mackrell here for the session and has motored over twenty states. He is the potential one of the largest organizations of the Shriners in the country in talking about the city and the effect it will have on the country referred to a new hotel Mr. Mackrell says:

"The summer feature of Harrisburg's life will be considerably altered by the present and coming years because there is no doubt that this city, for many reasons, and the Penn-Harris hotel is a good one, will be the Central Pennsylvania mecca for tourists. It will surely become the country by word of mouth simply because it has new and modern hotels. It is sure to be included in the itineraries of tourists from all over the beautiful Capitol building. The wonderful drive here along the Susquehanna and the accessibility of other pleasant localities using Harrisburg as a base, and the roads leading to desirable places, will give it a hold I feel will be safe in predicting the Harrisburg's entry into the list of great cities because of real hotel accommodations. It will surely become the east-west route of the Lincoln Highway. Coming east the tourist if he has not seen Gettysburg will go on there and then take the short run up here and see the new Penn-Harris route or delve further into historic lore and take the longer route through Carlisle. If he has seen Gettysburg and the Lincoln Highway, coming east the tourist off at Chambersburg and take advantage of 51 miles of the fastest and finest road improvement in the nation, including the Walnut Bottom stretch, and through the wonderful agricultural valley. The Penn-Harris will play to capacity throughout the summer season. Its contemporaries in other cities are already telling their stories. Harrisburg has a summer I will go by the way of Harrisburg. There is a hotel there now. Naturally with other hostleries will also benefit. Dozens of tourists will benefit largely. That is a natural sequence. It means a real city boom. That cannot be stopped. Harrisburg is bright, that respect to Harrisburg is bright. The live city will take care of it in other directions. You are only a few hours from Philadelphia and there are many who are coming to Harrisburg and then rest. Harrisburg answers the call. On thing is sure, Harrisburg will be deeply into the National Pike travel. Again referring to the eastward travel, Harrisburg is a historic due east, but will break at Harrisburg. Harrisburg will come north through Chambersburg and possibly Gettysburg. Then another feeder is the Wm. Penn Highway, now under construction. Harrisburg is a natural drawing power. Harrisburg and the one here is de luxe comparatively speaking, and as we know, and for various reasons, quick to Harrisburg, has become a summer station. One thing remains—ADVERTISE. If necessary go 100 miles away on known laws of motor travel. Harrisburg's story is a brief illuminating phrase. The mileage to this city from a given point could be given and strong welcome assurances. Harrisburg is not to be fearful of sounding your own clarion call of civic pride and even a little "blowing" will help. It will bring tourists and spread the sun. Harrisburg has numerous other angles. This space will not suffice for them but it is a matter that Harrisburg's banking world, business sense, small store keepers, and their activities, and the subject, can well give some attention to and help finance. The dividends await your efforts."

Herman L. Collins, who is now writing in the Philadelphia Press under his old name of Girard, says: "One of the wisest men with a reputation in Pennsylvania is former Lieutenant Governor Frank B. McClain. He is now Chairman of the State Welfare Council.

"Nobody east or west has been compared so often to Harrisburg as Lancaster. Maybe you think the Governor's trade is politics since he has been compared so many times to Lancaster and as a city and state official. "I'm not a politician," says Mr. McClain. "I'm a driver."

And that is right too, because he is a driver in the largest cattle market in any of the dozen New England and Middle states.

That's Lancaster. That's the reason people who who will bow Rully take cars for Riverside at the rush hour when we're running special cars up Second and up Rully to Sixth to take off some of the crush. Quercus has a new pilot of a Fourteenth ward car yesterday.

"What's the trouble?" "Aw, use your eyes. Why, here we put our cars to take care of the folks that live above Rully and Second won't be so crowded. And the people who ought to take the cars with the brown signs are making trouble in getting out. And they make us late, too," concluded the pilot with considerable emphasis.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

J. J. Guenther, who is directing some of the home defense work in Philadelphia, served in "Y" work in several campaigns.

General W. M. Rose, recently decorated, is a native of Lancaster and won fame for work before the war.

E. D. Solenberger, president of the State Welfare Council, has been prominent in charity work for a dozen years or more. He lives in Philadelphia.

DO YOU KNOW

That 1918 was the banner year of the production of the iron and steel in Dauphin county history. HISTORIC HARRISBURG In 1790 Harrisburg was forwarding Lebanon iron to Pittsburgh shops.