

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1919

We must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work John 9:4.

CUTTING COSTS

CONGRESS should act at once on the proposal to reduce living costs by purchasing wheat from the farmers at the guaranteed price of \$2.25 and selling it in the open market at \$1.50, or less. It is right that the farmer should have the price which the Government offered to encourage the growth of a bumper crop of grain. It was right that the Government should offer this extraordinary price to induce production, for the whole world was on the verge of starvation and wheat was the basic commodity in demand.

But there are other benefits beside those apparent on the surface from the working out of the wheat proposal. Lower prices for wheat would bring at once a break in the corn market, oats would take a sharp tumble and all other grains would follow. Wheat is a basic food. All other food values to some degree depend upon it. Feed which goes into the making of cattle affects the price of meats and leathers. If feedstuffs come down meats and leathers will follow, and almost every other form of food will feel the downward pressure.

However, the wheat price reduction would have to be accompanied by radical action against the profiteers, else we would see greedy producers and dealers trying to absorb the benefits of the new price levels, leaving the consumer, who is the man to be benefited, no better off than he is at present. We must start with wheat, but we must, through Congress, go on down entirely through the list of causes that have added artificially to the inflation of food prices. Even so, we shall not get living costs down to a pre-war level unless we are to take away the wage increases that have come about through the war conditions, and nobody wants to do that. Wages must remain up. We are all agreed that, unless unexpectedly large reductions are made in living costs, in which case natural readjustments are to be expected along some lines. But the public is less concerned with wages than with high prices. Give the country relief in bread costs through the sale of wheat at reasonable prices, together with regulation of food barons and profiteers, and we shall be well on the road toward the smoothening out of much of the discontent so manifest throughout the country.

FACING THE PROBLEMS

DR. FINEGAN, as head of the school system of Pennsylvania, is going to have at his elbow in Dr. Becht one of the most practical and level-headed of the educators of the State. With two such men recognizing the grave problems which confront our people we may confidently look forward to such changes in our educational program as will overcome in large measure the serious conditions which threaten the prosperity and even the liberties of the people.

Dr. Finegan and his associates in all the school districts have not failed to realize the importance of definite and practical methods for solving the so-called race problems and seeking the Americanization needs of the alien population. School training from the very entrance of the girls and boys is necessary to overcome the false theories of Government and the tenets of rabid socialism and anarchy which are being taught in the ghettos and congested centers of our herded communities.

Surveys of the population of Pennsylvania have demonstrated that there is real need of practical education to the end that the children of the immigrant may learn the meaning of our system of Government and the American ideals. We have been too selfish in our attitude toward the men and women who

IN KENTUCKY

A STRAW in the political wind is the election of a Republican candidate to Congress in the Eighth district of Kentucky this week over his Democratic opponent by a majority of 1,500. The circumstances surrounding this special election are interesting from whatever angle they may be viewed. In the first place the incumbent was a Democrat and had been elected and re-elected for many years by majorities that averaged about 3,000 votes, notwithstanding vigorous contests against him by strong Republican candidates. The district is normally Democratic by about the same figures.

The campaign just waged, in which the Republican was elected, was devoid of personalities. Each of the nominees agreed to make his fight on strictly party lines. The Democrat came out for everything President Wilson advocates or has supported, including hearty endorsement of the proposed League of Nations and the peace treaty. The Republican candidate made no attacks on his Democratic opponent or his policies, but confined his efforts to setting himself before the voters as an ardent advocate of everything for which the Republican party stands. It was tacitly admitted on both sides that this should be a test of strength on National issues, the Democrat starting away with a handicap of about 3,000 votes.

The result, a sweeping Republican victory, can be viewed in no other light than that many Democrats throughout the country view with concern and doubt, if not actual disapproval, the attitude of the Democratic administration. President Wilson's pause for thought provides him with any regard for his party's prospects at the next National election. The verdict of the voters in this instance is strongly in favor of Republican policies and confirms the belief expressed by last Fall's Republican victories in the Congressional elections that the country is heartily tired of Democratic mismanagement and desirous of giving the Republicans an opportunity to place the combination of Socialism and autocracy at present in control of the executive branch of the Government forever on the shelf at Washington. This entails a responsibility on the Republican leadership as weighty as it is gratifying to the loyal rank and file of the party. The American people expect great things of the Republican party. They must not be disappointed.

It is too bad that the State authorities are not prepared to go ahead with the changes in the Capitol Park terrace along Walnut and Third streets at once so that the city can proceed with the widening of the two streets along the park stretches. Inasmuch as this feature of the work was discussed and agreed upon months ago it would seem that there has been unnecessary delay in beginning operations.

Indications are that reorganization of the State government will wait for the coming of September, but if Governor William C. Spruell approves when he returns from his trip to the State capital, the plan made effective without delay. One of the reasons for this change of plan which is to be put up to the Governor is the sudden resignation of officials to launch new work and reorganize certain activities. It is said that the Labor and Industry and Agricultural departments may be the first to be changed, and that plans have been worked out by their chiefs which would make material changes in personnel and if opportunity is given the Governor is in this part of the State before he leaves for the conference of the governors at Salt Lake City he will be asked to authorize the reorganizations.

The Governor intends not only to present what Pennsylvania is doing in the reorganization of the National Guard reorganizations at the conference, but also to point out its importance in agriculture and its importance in producing modern business methods into the State government.

Cardinal Gibbons, on his 85th birthday, said: "We are now afflicted with a war of races in the national capital, where much blood has been shed and lives sacrificed. Alas, it is a proof that legislative suppression of intoxicating drinks is not, as it was said it would be, a panacea against all social and moral evils. There are many other kinds of intemperance—intemperance by eating, by gluttony, intemperance in speech, by slander and defamation of character, intemperance of liberty itself, by lawless license; intemperance by our inaction in many ways. The foundations of benevolence and stiffer gentler feelings of sympathy for suffering humanity."

As He Nears Washington [From the Indianapolis News.] The British aviator who is "resting" by touring America on a motorcycle, must love the noise of battle.

A Georgia Political Note [From Greensboro Herald-Journal.] Some candidates would feel as much out of place in office as a slacker would feel at a military ball.

Politics in Pennsylvania

Contests over nominations for Judges are commencing to live up to the name of Philadelphia where things have been lagging the last week or so and bid fair to rival in interest the battles for mayorality and other election nominations now that such elections are to be held once more along party lines in third class cities. The State will elect eighteen common pleas, five orphans' court and one probate judge, together with Philadelphia and Allegheny county local courts places.

As indications are that hopes for no contests in the two big counties have gone glimmering and that there will be contests for almost every office in the rest of the State, George Henderson will have to fight for his orphan's court seat and so may Judge Joseph P. McCullen, pleader of his ministry for common pleas, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Somerset, Lehigh, Cambria and Washington have battles that will be of interest to the State. The ambition of Judge James B. Drew, of the Allegheny county court, to be a common pleas judge has upset some calculations in the western end of the State.

The thirteen counties which will elect associate judges have some of the most interesting contests of the liquor issue has disappeared from such campaigns. The old-fashioned local battles will be renewed. Huntingdon, Fulton, Bedford, Snyder, Sullivan and Mifflin are points of political attention on this score.

The time for filing petitions will close tomorrow at 4 p. m. Most of the candidates have already filed their papers.

District Attorney and County Commissioner nomination contests will add to the interest and the fact that the third class cities will have a new set of judges and a common pleas court, to be a common pleas judge has upset some calculations in the western end of the State.

People here have been much interested by the filing of papers for Congressman Arthur G. Dewalt for the eighth district. The Congressman was sent to the Senate, Horace W. Schantz, the first Republican elected to the State in a century. This place is a new one created by the last Legislature and no appointment was made. Congressman Dewalt has trounced the old reorganization of the county and there will be a beautiful contest in this year.

Appearance of Joseph G. Magee in the Philadelphia orphans' court contest in Philadelphia means a battle on behalf of Judge George Henderson, a Brumbaugh appointee. The editorial says the mayor is not the whole thing. The Press says: "Without the aid of men of character and ability in the responsible positions of the county government, the new charter will fail to accomplish all that is intended and desired. This depends upon the action of the people themselves, and depends upon their wisdom and judgment in selecting councilmen no less than upon their wisdom and judgment in the selection of a mayor."

As the train came crashing along the rails, the iron horse emitting great volumes of fire and smoke, Port Royal and Newport was passed, and the train went through and later came to a halt at the great Rockville bridge.

"Suddenly from out the mountain side appeared an apparition two hundred feet in height, with great arms hanging on a headless body, legs thirty feet in length, dressed in a robe of red, and with bare feet. "It picked up the train and carried it safely across the river. "Thunder arose and a voice shouted: "Harrisburg next stop! The engineer rubbed his eyes and looked at the fireman, exclaiming: 'Altoona, sell the best state between Chicago and New York.' "Giddap! The train is through the Narrows now and the engineer is awake." B. F. N.

Would Use Mail Tubes Again [From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.] Action has been taken by the Philadelphia Board of Trade, the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations to obtain a hearing before the House postoffice committee in pursuance of their fight to have pneumatic mail tubes again placed in operation in this city.

The Postoffice Department is said to be anxious to construct a tunnel to facilitate mail service between the central postoffice and big railroad terminals in New York. Local business men have expressed an indication that the department will listen with favor to arguments for the restoration of the tubes, which were abandoned in this city on June 29, 1918.

A HANDY MAN AROUND THE HOUSE

OH JOHN DEAR WON'T YOU PLEASE GET THAT FOLDING STEAMER CHAIR DOWN HERE AT THE PORCH FOR ME - RIGHT AWAY? FRIEND WIFE SURE

OH VI! NOTHING DOING IT'S BUSTED!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ITALY'S ECONOMICAL CONDITION To the Editor of the Telegraph: The political system allows the Italian government the power to take in its hands the matter of prices of life's necessities, Italian people looked to Orlando the last time he was in office, and he failed miserably. Failure to settle rightly that matter was the principal cause of the overthrow of Orlando's ministry at so short a distance from that day when he, quitting the Peace Conference, returned to Italy. The present cabinet, headed by Nitti, found the way to arrest opposition from political foes by handling the matter of foodstuffs.

In accord with Chambers of Labor, which are institutions similar to American Federation of Labor, the Italian government stopped at once the profiting of producers. As Italians in America, and locally Mr. Orsini, the barber of 703 North Third street, are hearing from the letters of their relatives all conditions are highly improved. Mr. Orsini's father, who lives in the Abruzzi district, writes that their conditions are regulated by the camliere (which is the word in English means government's price list); the shoe prices are reduced and the price of everything necessary for personal apparel. So that the people are gratified after so many sufferings caused by the war. It is hoped that with elimination of those who are profiteers in maintaining the misunderstandings between Italy and America, the question of the coal will be settled according to the necessities of Italy, and so the many industries will flourish again, bringing full prosperity to the Italian nation, which so long has suffered by the common cause of liberty. A READER.

AN ENGINEER'S DREAM

To the Editor of the Telegraph: The Eighteen Hour Train from Chicago was speeding through the Lewistown Narrows on the way to the great city, where life teems with every known vice and virtue; nothing unusual from many other trips, but that the engineer was so busy that he did not notice the land of nod. Although a dream is of short duration in minutes, nevertheless it covered the trip to the greatest stone arch bridge in the world, the one which suddenly ended over fifty miles of rails: "As the train came crashing along the rails, the iron horse emitting great volumes of fire and smoke, Port Royal and Newport was passed, and the train went through and later came to a halt at the great Rockville bridge. "Suddenly from out the mountain side appeared an apparition two hundred feet in height, with great arms hanging on a headless body, legs thirty feet in length, dressed in a robe of red, and with bare feet. "It picked up the train and carried it safely across the river. "Thunder arose and a voice shouted: "Harrisburg next stop! The engineer rubbed his eyes and looked at the fireman, exclaiming: 'Altoona, sell the best state between Chicago and New York.' "Giddap! The train is through the Narrows now and the engineer is awake." B. F. N.

Alabama Takes the Plunge

[From the Birmingham Age-Herald] For the first time in its history, Alabama has convicted white men who took part in a lynching. We may eventually reach the high state of civilization where murderers of that sort are hanged.

THINKING AMONG THE GUNS

A Clergyman's Conversion to Universal Military Training By The Rev. Thomas Travis, P. D. The man who carried the first American flag under fire in Flanders

No. 3 I lived to see the Canadian boy who thus flew and signalled, loud his plane with all the bombst would carry, fly back through clouds of bursting shrapnel, to do what he could, pitifully little to help the boys in that ghastly trench. Splendid young, fearless lives sacrificed, splendid young, strong bodies blown to bloody bits, because that statesman and that audience from their kind didn't know enough of military education to see the blind folly of expecting a trained and equipped army to grow up in a month, or in six months.

Had we even an inkling of military knowledge we would have laughed that statesman off the stage and out of the State. I took another look at that Front. Here an airplane attack; a flotilla of planes coming over to bomb; some speeding low, two or three hundred feet from the ground, and others at high altitudes, dropping, some soaring aloft for observation, others going back of the front lines to drop huge bombs on the villages and towns to crush helpless civilians, women and children. I watched the shrapnel puffs, and did some thinking. The sky was twenty dotted with planes; the solemn "plop" far up in the clouds the insistent bang and crash right over your head; the sinister hiss and bone-shattering detonations of the bombs going right on despite the anti aircraft fire. I watched the thousands of shells shot at these sky raiders. I suppose I have seen twenty thousand shrapnel fired at airplanes at all angles and heights and in all lights, from midnight when the sky was cross-grilled by a hundred and twenty miles an hour sweeping, swerving, dipping, curving, like a swallow; a heavy cannon manned by a crew. They must get directed, height, range accurately on that moving target by means of machinery moving a heavy cannon. They must set the clockwork on the shrapnel burst at the right moment. One second's difference in bursting time makes a difference of over fifty yards on the target even if it were stationary. And the second in the shell itself, the velocity of the shell as it sweeps up makes a difference of over five hundred yards in the place where it bursts and this complicated and more discreet than any other work with a light gun in the hands of one man, but with a cannon, handled by a crew.

Where Will the Germans Go?

[Herbert Adams Gibbins in Every-body's Magazine] The parliaments of Great Britain and the British Dominions are as keenly alive as we are to the necessity of being ready for a strong migratory current from continental Europe. London has gone farther than Washington, and seems inclined to follow a path that will lead to tremendous consequences for Europe. It is proposed at Westminster to forbid enemy aliens to enter British territory for an indefinite period and to deport Germans, Austrians and Hungarians who are settled in the British Empire.

If this proposal is carried out, other nations, notably Brazil, may follow the lead of the British. Deportation of Germans from British territory would create a forced migratory current as great as that which is already flowing out of Alsace-Lorraine into Prussia. Poland. It is unlikely that the ousted Germans will find it possible to settle in their country of origin. Where will they go, and in what direction will the migratory current from Germany flow? Will public sentiment in America bar Germans and influence of the League of Nations and American countries to adopt the same policy?

Upon the answer to these questions depends, in a very large measure, the future of the world of 1914-1918 upon Twentieth Century Europe. Nothing is more certain than that we cannot bottle up, under adverse economic conditions, the 80 million Germans of Central Europe in a German state narrowed down to its ethnographical limits. Even if we gave back to Germany her colonies, they would not support a large white population. Do we not have to choose, then, between sharing with the German race the responsibility of the world, and seeing the Germans overflow into Eastern Europe and Asia?

General Edwards' View

Sir: Against the flood of oratory let loose on the American people in the past six months about the League of Nations and "making the world safe for democracy," the following twenty-six words by General Edwards, U. S. A., are worth something. "They say the boys went over to make the world safe for democracy. I don't believe it. I went over to save my country, not democracy. General Edwards was addressing the boys and girls at the Good Will Farm, an educational school located at Hineck, Maine, and the limited circulation of the Good Will Record, in which the above quotation appeared, led me to send it to you so the readers of 'Harvey's Weekly' could see what a soldier's thought of the slush about "making the world safe for democracy." N. NEWTON PLUMMER, New York City.

No Mercy For Human Brutes

[Wilkes-Barre Record.] Evidence of amazing brutality towards American soldiers in prison camps in France is only too abundant. It brings to light acts even more disgraceful than instances of excessive severity in courts-martial. The treatment of prisoners is characterized as passing beyond the limit of ordinary cruelty—amounting in many cases to torture. The prisoners were guilty of violating discipline and some of them of crime, but the military statutes provide for nothing more than imprisonment with their work and disgrace. Any other form of punishment is the result of brutality on the part of officers in authority, and the honor of the army demands that those who ordered it and those who committed it be made to bear the consequences. The congressional sub-committee now engaged in an investigation of the reports will be expected to uncover one of the foulest of blots upon the army in connection with its service abroad.

Stifling Missouri Industries

[From the Morley Banner.] A rather prolific crop of blackberries is reported in this section which sell for 50 cents a gallon. But it looks as if most of the crop was doomed to go to waste since our able and proficient berry pickers simply refuse to venture into the fields, stock of snake bite remedy exhausted and no way to replenish it. It is now predicted, also, that farmers living along water courses will have to resort to the use of dynamite to keep the fish from overrunning their farms since fishing has about lost all its popularity.

Making It Handy

[From the Dallas News.] Another thing—why not put the divorce courts on wheels so that they could be rushed to any part of the residential district where a quarrel breaks out?

By BRIGGS

OH VI! NOTHING DOING IT'S BUSTED!



DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg will have names of its soldiers in the pylons of the Memorial Bridge?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

—Capitol Park was first enclosed 93 years ago.

Evening Chat

Pennsylvania's great Memorial Bridge to its soldier and sailor sons, upon which it is expected to start work this autumn, will stretch for half a mile from the eastern end of Capitol Park to the brow of Allison Hill, just a little to the western line of Thirteenth and State streets. The exact length of the structure, as calculated by Arnold W. Bruner and J. E. Greiner, who designed it, will be 2,687.5 feet, or a little more than half a mile from the Susquehanna River bridges between the "Boys" of Harrisburg and the city's island.

At its highest point, Cameron street, will be fifty feet. The lines of the bridge will be to the eastward of the Harrisburg Telegraph through the publication of photographs of the model at the Capitol and it will be a magnificent section of the city on the line of State street and continuing the scheme of the civic center of the Commonwealth, as Mr. Bruner styles his Capitol plans, out the 120-foot wide thoroughfare laid down more than a century and a quarter ago by the men who planned half a century ago the eastern end of the bridge. The eastern end of the bridge, some day when we are all dead, perhaps, there will be a similar bridge stretching from the western end of Allison Hill to the eastern end of the Susquehanna and the Cumberland shore. It is a part of a wonderful dream that will make the history of the city a more famous throughout the land.

Some idea of the immensity of the work involved in the designing and building of this bridge can be gained from the fact that the specifications for prospective bidders require the writing of 10,000 pages in volume as great as the specifications for the State Capitol, which has a greater circumference than St. Peter's in Rome, alone are greater than the specifications for the building projects are concerned. These specifications and plans have been checked not only by the engineers but by the State Highway Department and verified by the engineering expert of the Auditor General's Department.

The great bridge will run from about the intersection of State and Allison streets, spanning Allison street, and will be eighty feet wide. The sidewalks will be twelve feet wide. This will give a clear highway space of fifty-six feet, or eight feet more than the highway width of Market street. On either side of the driveways will be granite copings two feet wide and a total of two continuous pieces of the hardest granite that can be bought and sufficient to daunt the ambitions of the worst bridge engineer of the world should take a notion to go on the sidewalk. Two approaches are planned. One at Royal Terrace on the west side of the bridge, the other at about thirty feet high. The latter which will give access from Cameron street will go upon the upper side of the bridge along the line of the old Harrisburg cemetery. There will be a very ornate stairway from Cameron street for pedestrians and means of access to the bridge from the railroad lines while comfort stations will be established at certain places.

The memorial pylons for the bridge, which will be located at either side of the entrance to the bridge at the end of the Capitol Park and on Allison Hill, the rows of trees that will lead to the building toward the railroad lines, will tower sixty feet into the air. They will be huge structures on classic lines, rising almost as high as the Harrisburg Telegraph building. On their fronts and sides will be allegorical groups representing the great work of the nation, the Army and the Navy, and within will be chambers, twenty by twenty feet, which will contain the names of the men who served as sailor and marine in the war. These memorials will be built of enduring granite and will last as long as Harrisburg stands. A record of the gratitude of the nation to its military sons. The pylons are Mr. Bruner's idea of something distinctive, something that will arrest and hold attention something that will enshrine names of men from every county of Penn's State.

The second great project of the Capitol improvements contemplated this year is a two fold one. It is separate from the Capitol Park and includes the widening of the park with a coping with a circle of Third and Walnut streets and a formal entrance at State and Third streets, which form the third proposition. The new entrance to the building and terrace. In days to come the State will have four office buildings, one a great educational structure, one a great library building. With the present State House they will form three sides of a court dedicated to the people of Pennsylvania. The new bridge will be a granite terrace, the first section of an architectural gem. As buildings are erected this terrace will be extended and it will be topped with a building that will enshrine the glories of France. The office building will have its center on the center line of the present State Library Building and will be a grand structure. The Fourth street plant of the Harrisburg Electric Company used to stand will run toward the railroads, its center on the line of Allison Hill and used to be the corner of South and Third streets of the city. When it is finished it will be connected with the terrace of the Capitol by the terrace and Fourth street will be widened, traffic being swung over to the new highway about on the line of Aberdeen and East streets.

The bridge over the Pennsylvania Railroad which will be replaced by the Memorial was built about 1873 and consisted of the eastern end of the bridge. It took the place of a wooden bridge built many years before. The present bridge was built by P. R. initials and for years the railroad attorneys and city authorities fought over maintenance.

A story of how a French officer fired upon and destroyed his own home was recently told by an officer of the Harrisburg Army Recruiting Station with the French Army. There was a beautiful little chateau which the Boches were constantly using as a reference point when registering their artillery. The French decided that it must be destroyed, so the owner of the chateau, an artillery captain fighting at another part of the front, was sent for. He arrived and took command of the battery. After a ceremonious dinner, the officers repaired to their observation post, the gun crew took its place, and the captain gave his orders. Soon his beautiful little home was crumbling before his eyes, under the fire of his own guns. When the destruction was completed, the captain gravely asked his all round, saluted, and returned to his battery.