

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

Published evenings except Sunday by THE TELEGRAPH PRINTING CO. Telephone Building, Federal Square

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Entered at the Post Office in Harrisburg, Pa., as second class matter.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1919

A fat kitchen makes a lean will. -FRANKLIN.

BRING PRICES DOWN

TO BRING down prices in Pennsylvania and the country at large, Attorney General Palmer, speaking as the guest of Governor Sproul at the State-wide conference held at the Capitol yesterday, said these things are necessary: To seek out the profiteers and hoarders. To work more and produce more. Perhaps the most important utterance of Mr. Palmer's very constructive and enlightening address was this: "If the American people will work ten per cent, more, prices will fall twenty per cent."

GREAT AUTO INVASION

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER SADDLER and his busy engineers are working out plans for 1920 which will give further impetus to the remarkable road building program of the State. While many tourists from outside Pennsylvania have been coming into our picturesque empire during the last year or two over some fine roads, the promise of a tremendous invasion of motor tourists during 1920, and in increasing numbers in 1921, justifies the activity of the construction road building forces of the Commonwealth.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

THE community service during the war under the auspices of an organization financed by those interested in welfare work for the soldiers is likely to be continued by community effort all over the country. Major General Haan declares that the service is so important that it ought to be converted into a community instead of a National organization. He believes peace-time demands are quite as important as the needs growing out of the war period.

ly increased everywhere. These will be needed during the next year or two, and just as Pennsylvania prepares to receive its guests, will their number increase and the fame of the State spread. There is no more picturesque route imaginable than the William Penn Highway skirting the Juniata river—the "Blue Juniata." It traverses the famous old turnpike constructed in the Revolutionary period and with the surfacing of this roadway permanent results are assured. Stretches of the William Penn road already have been completed under the Sproul system, but there are still links in this famous highway which must be put in shape before it can be recommended to outside visitors, who will come in large numbers next year and the year thereafter.

GREAT YEAR FOR CITY

THE overwhelming majorities which emphasized the interest of the people of Harrisburg in the several improvement loans submitted to the voters on Tuesday give impetus to the general spirit of progress which now animates the city. All the present commissions having been re-elected, they have a special commission from the people to undertake the improvements which are authorized in these loans and there can be no doubt whatever that they will at once propose the necessary plans to give force and effect to the mandate of the people.

For instance, in the matter of bathing beaches and bath houses Commissioner Gross has already been in consultation with Warren H. Manning, who made a study of the problem a few weeks ago, and it ought to be easily possible to have every last detail quickly approved in order that even this fall steps may be taken to provide for the river bathing next season. It would be unfortunate to wait for the approach of the summer of 1920 to begin the work. There is certainly much that can be done at once and the emphatic approval of the people will doubtless encourage the Department of Parks, which will have direct supervision of the bathing facilities, to get into action without delay.

As to the paving and the expansion of the sewer system, Commissioner Lynch is in hearty accord with the plan and was responsible for the submission of the items covering this work. The new paving contemplated will do much to bring about a rapid development of home-building and industry in the Allison Hill district north of Herr street. It is doubtful whether much outdoor work can be started during the present year, but the Department of Public Works will lose no time in awarding contracts and getting things in shape for the 1920 program.

As it looks now, next year is going to be one that will go down into history as a red letter year in the further progress of Harrisburg. With the construction of the great memorial viaduct at State street, the landscaping of the Capitol Park zone, the paving of large areas of streets in the hitherto unpaved sections, the starting of the university high school, the improvement of the Italian Park district, the general extension of the sewer facilities and the creation of long desired bathing places in the Susquehanna basin, not to mention the probable elimination of the Hardscrabble section, constitute a program of progress and development which is most impressive and reassuring from the standpoint of public employment for labor.

It is also entirely probable that the building movement next year will be largely accelerated by some definite housing program under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce. Harrisburg is not going to take the dust of any other city, and, providing dwellings for the people, but hundreds of houses in addition are needed.

The election returns of Tuesday, reading between the lines of masses of figures, justify the suggestion that the people are through with theories of government contrary to the well settled policies of the United States, and are going to demonstrate in their local activities as well as in their State and national programs their desire for sanity and common sense in the treatment of the big problems which have been constantly before the public during the Wilson regime.

Politics in Pennsylvania

In the election Tuesday five Pennsylvania counties joined an already large list of counties which are undertaking to bond themselves to secure money to pay their share of the cost of constructing modern highways. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is paying all of the cost of constructing the primary road system as planned by Governor Sproul and State Highway Commissioner Lewis S. Sadler. Numerous counties, during the last six months, have issued bonds for the construction of secondary highways which will comply with the State's primary system.

Bond issues approved by voters in the election Tuesday are as follows: Bradford, \$100,000; Venango county, \$1,000,000; Lawrence county, \$1,000,000; Lycoming county, \$500,000. Many townships in these five counties had bond issue propositions before the voters on Tuesday. So far as the State Highway Department has been able to learn none of these townships voted against the bond issue.

State Highway Commissioner Lewis S. Sadler was greatly pleased with the progressive spirit displayed in Bradford, Indiana, Lawrence and Lycoming counties. "It is evidence," he said, "that the several counties of Pennsylvania are determined to go with the State Highway Department in giving the Keystone State the best highway system in America."

Voters in Juniata county defeated by a small majority a proposition to bond that county for \$500,000 for road purposes. Congressman J. Hampton Moore is going into the office of mayor of Philadelphia not only with the largest majority ever given to a mayor, but with the cordial support of all the newspapers. In this respect the conditions are much like those attending the commencement of a long time, for a sensible and practical man of his duties. Among his predecessors I do not recall more than three who could be either fairly or tolerably compared to him in that respect.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, in a first page review of the results of the election, says it ends Vares' era of misgovernment in the city, placed the government in the hands of the friends of the new charter and completed the work of destruction of the Vares machine which was started in the primary campaign. With Mr. Moore was elected a majority of the new council of twenty-one members, all of whom are pledged to support the Moore administration.

A Good Suggestion [From the Pennsylvania Farmer] Doctor Finegan, Pennsylvania's Superintendent of Public Instruction, in speaking of needed improvements in rural schools, said: "School boards will find that the Grange Farm Bureau and other organizations directly interested in the question of rural conditions will cheerfully co-operate in a movement of this kind. There is no question of more concern to those who live in the rural sections than the question of health. The health authorities and the Red Cross will also cordially co-operate in this larger movement for the improvement of rural conditions. School boards may very appropriately, therefore, organize this movement and, by bringing all these various agencies into co-operation with them, render a great service not only to rural communities but to the Commonwealth as well."

Here is a good suggestion for rural school boards and one that should be acted upon in every locality. We too often find a disposition on the part of school officers to ignore the public in questions of school management. We have never observed in official position one who increased his capacity or judgment to any extent, but it does sometimes swell his head. The rural schools would be better than they are to-day if, long ago, there had been developed an educational spirit in the community. This might easily be accomplished by inviting the co-operation of parents and organizations in planning for better schools and school equipment.

Fumigate

[The American Legion Weekly] Every now and then some imported agitator is rounded up by outraged citizens of free America and compelled to kiss the flag. Only the other day we read an account of a whole batch of red agitators being thus honored at Weirton, West Virginia. The intent is splendid, but the practice is deplorable. The Stars and Stripes should be kept clean of the foul lips that preach sedition. They are unfit to kiss the ground under the flag. We recommend the immediate fumigation of that flag at Weirton.

Old Formula Reversed

[From the New York Herald] According to the Holy Scriptures to "stand before kings," used to be the height of a man's ambition. King Albert, of the Belgians, "stood before Congress" yesterday. So it is probable that the old formula has been reversed, no matter what any voter may think individually of the persons who vote for him in the House of Representatives or the Senate of the United States.

OH, MAN!



SAY! I HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO BE CHASING AROUND FOR ANYTHING I'VE GOT WORK TO DO



THANKS JERRY I'LL RUN RIGHT UP THERE



By BRIGGS



The Sword of Days

Days are a sword with which to strike; Days are a glory of hope and the chance; Days are a spear with which to pierce; The garb of life's high romance; Days are a sword, a shining blade, A silver blade of flashing light— On, with the falchion drawn and swung, In the great cause of human right! Out with the petty cark and cry Of good days these or bad days those; Days are a dream dropped from the sky; Days are a garden of the rose; Days are a highway stern and fine Up to the hills and over and on; Days are a sword of light divine, Draped with the gospel of the dawn; Days are a deed in one rapt hour Of lofty and luminous will and force; Bringing the sky-born hopes to flower, Guiding great dreams upon their upward and onward, with great hearts set firmly and forward—days are such things; As ages of ages shall not forget, Nor the high pride of dust-blown kings. Days are a gift with which to make Old fashions into burning fate; Days are a thunder with which to shake The sleeper's action at life's green gate; Days are a sword to have and swing In the great purpose and to bear; Forth to the files that fighting sing Out of the silence and the care of a great world—F. McKinsey, in Pittsburgh Dispatch.

THE SUSQUEHANNA NAVIGABLE

Report by Wm. B. Gray, Major of Engineers, United States Army. No. 4—The River

LENGTH of Susquehanna and branches to be made navigable—Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York—600 miles. Pennsylvania State records show 4200 cubic feet per minute flow, that only three times in 27 years it has fallen below, and that was for a period of three days, when it dropped to 3700. The locks on the Ohio require between 700 and 800 cubic feet of water per minute to maintain navigation. The Susquehanna has a flow of water per minute of 2800 to 3000-ton barges on the main river and north branch, and on the Juniata and west branch 600-ton barges easily. The flood stages are usually in the spring and can be controlled by impounding the headwaters in reservoirs built for that purpose, where the land is not valuable. The low stages usually occur in August and September, but it is never so low as to interfere with navigation, particularly so when the flood waters are conserved and released at the proper time. The river drains such a great area and of such length that rains are almost certain to occur daily somewhere in the drainage area. The system of shutter dams assists in controlling the water for navigation and power. Land purchased in connection with the proposed improvements would not be as valuable as that required for railroad purposes. Area drained, New York—4,000 square miles. Area drained, Pennsylvania—24,100 square miles; 53 per cent. of area of State. Area drained, Maryland—1,000 square miles. Area affected if navigable—one-third of the population and one-third of the principal industrial section of the United States. Population in its drainage area, 3,000,000. Population affected if made navigable—25,000,000 to 30,000,000. The river bottom is rocky; ledges of limestone, silica, mica, schists and sandstone form a large part of the sides, making ideal foundations for dams and locks. The channels when dredged will be easily maintained, the sides of the channel will stand up well; where soft or inclined to wash or erode, Industries of Susquehanna River, etc., Branch and Tributaries. State of Pennsylvania Only—1917. Main Susquehanna River from Northumberland to Tidewater.

Table with columns: Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Hay, Potatoes, Buckwheat. Rows include Northumberland, Snyder, Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland, Lancaster, and Totals.

Table with columns: Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Hay, Potatoes, Buckwheat. Rows include Susquehanna, Bradford, Juniata, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, and Totals.

Table with columns: Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Hay, Potatoes, Buckwheat. Rows include Cambria, Clearfield, Clinton, Lycoming, Union, and Totals.

Steel, iron, lumber, and general industries in the counties traversed by the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania and New York aggregate over one billion dollars. Coal—Pennsylvania. 1917, Anthracite, 100,000,000 tons all in Susquehanna River Valley. 1917, Bituminous, 200,000,000 tons. Seventy million tons of anthracite coal are mined each year on the banks of the Susquehanna River, so close that short rail roads run from mine to barges are necessary. Practically direct delivery from mine to boat. The other thirty million tons are mined in the district traversed by the Susquehanna River or its north branch. Fifty million tons of bituminous coal are mined annually on the banks of the West Branch and the

Evening Chat

People who attended the "fair price" conference at the State Capitol yesterday afternoon declare that it will be historic in Pennsylvania. Not in the memory of any one connected with the State government, but in the memory of the cities and the boroughs and the prosecuting officers of the law in no other matter gathered here for any great undertaking. The nearest approach being the meetings of city and county officials in the early days of the war for discussion of the methods of operating the registration and other preliminaries of the draft. The notable thing of the conference yesterday was the unanimity with which the executives of the municipalities upheld the course of the Governor in insisting upon maintenance of law and order in the strike coal strikes, a feeling which found expression in every address, while there was also manifested a pretty general idea that it would not be a bad plan to hold more such meetings. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer, who presided, was a chairman who was "strong" to use the words of a couple of minutes after the meeting, most of the time, but threw in just enough jocular remarks and inter-twined so many pleasantities with his introduction of the group of men of many diverse types and ways of thinking was with him to a finish. The Governor showed a broad grasp of the problem, the cities of the State and a knowledge of what was being done, while his restoration of the balance of the meeting after some particularly vigorous remarks by speakers was watered down. He did not approve of some of the criticisms of farmers, but he also gently "kicked" the master of the State Grand Jury, Edward Martin, for remarking "I guess we had all better eat cornmeal mush and get fat while we are fooling the profiteers." Even so, the Governor's references to a return of the old-time habits of industry and thrift.

The fact that four of the speakers yesterday were Quakers and all decidedly positive, even belligerent, was another feature of a notable meeting. The Quakers were represented by General A. Mitchell Palmer and Joseph R. Grundy, he was militant and his comments upon the National administration's attitude toward the coal strikes were very pleasing to the Keystone State partisans who filled the hall.

Mayor Daniel L. Klester, who attracted considerable attention by his vigorous remarks in regard to rent profiteering, was quoted by the State Health Commissioner, indicating that he had taken some ideas from army training which he would apply to the bread and stature of the youth of the State. As for Joseph R. Grundy, he was militant and his comments upon the National administration's attitude toward the coal strikes were very pleasing to the Keystone State partisans who filled the hall.

Some of the Red Cross workers have run across some funny things in their canvass of the city and it illustrates the peculiar ideas people have in regard to the "milk of mercy." A Tenth ward man indignantly refused to make a subscription and, when asked why, said, "Well, I had influenza last year and no one came near me." He said he had never contributed and would not do so now when the committee came into a street whose houses had open backyards the word went along the row. Verily, there was nobody home.

The first meeting of the Wednesday Club the other afternoon was the most delightful social gathering since the change to afternoon hours was greatly appreciated by the members. However, when some one sang with fine effect the "Red Cross" song, there was a uneasy result among a couple of members. What disturbed them was the exclamation of one member, in mock sorrow, "I've just bought a winter hat."

One of these days the sight is going to be presented of some Harrisburg residents taking down screens with the snow flying. There are many houses where the screens are still in place. Some of the excuses heard are: "The man who always does it is away." "Can't get anyone to do anything like that nowadays and I have not had time." "The football on Saturdays now. The flies are apt to be still bad until real frost comes."

Some odd ideas about the conference of here yesterday for discussion of means to combat the high cost of living were abroad in the city last night. A few people got the idea that some price fixing was being established and others that a body which had extra legislative powers was in session. There was general curiosity manifested at the Capitol in regard to the fair price suggestion mystified many persons until they found that it was always within the ability of people by refraining from the habit of buying excess of foodstuffs down with a bang.

Watering Wages

[From the Altoona Mirror] There seems to be a general misconception of what the coal miners want. It does not appear that the miners are demanding a six-hour day, five days a week, the miners are bent upon working only thirty hours a week. Even coal mining, arduous and disagreeable as it is, is endurable to the ordinary worker for a longer period than five or six hours a day. What the miners want is more pay—a great deal more. The six-hour day or thirty-hour week is meant only as the basis for estimating wages. It is said that the miners expect to put in a good deal of overtime. Starting with a sixty per cent. wage increase for a day's work, shortening that day to six hours, and then making an extra hour or two a day and several hours on Saturday, it is easy enough to see that the miners could easily more than double their earnings. This is what a New York paper calls "watering wages." There is no more excuse for watering wages than for watering stock. The miners should have whatever they desire, but they should not try to get it on false pretenses.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg rollers are used in school houses in the Middle West? —The Lochie Harrisburg corner has been accused by a howl for over three-quarters of a century.