

HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1919

Yes, every sin is a mistake, and the epitaph for the sinner is, "Thou fool."—ALEXANDER MACLAUREN.

REVISION

SYSTEMATIC study of the constitution of Pennsylvania, to which amendments have been proposed by the dozen in the last decade, will be inaugurated tomorrow at the State Capitol by the Constitutional Revision Commission.

Six times the constitution has been amended and a dozen times unsuccessful attempts have been made to change it.

Wisely, Governor Sproul determined to have the constitution studied and in response the Legislature provided for a commission to prepare for its consideration in 1921 amendments deemed essential for the welfare of the Commonwealth.

Few bodies have been given a more splendid opportunity to be of service to the Commonwealth and the recommendations when they come next year will represent best in effort.

Skirts are to be shorter next year, the dressmakers say. Why not trim the waists with a ruffe and be done with it?

THE WHY OF IT

THERE is a reason for the victorious field, track and football teams turned out by the Technical High School the past few years, and it lies primarily in the recreational facilities offered by the park department of the city to Harrisburg boys and girls.

Back of the splendid physiques, unusual strength, agility and endurance of the Technical High School students are years of activity and careful training in the parks and playgrounds of the city.

This means that Harrisburg boys and girls who have had like chance to improve their bodies, even though they do not rank as athletes, are bigger and better able to fight life's battles because of their training on the playgrounds. The money spent has been well worth while.

for park and playground purposes. For such as these the foregoing facts should be interesting and helpful.

Do you remember the good old days when we used to have an egg every morning for breakfast and complain if the cook didn't prepare two?

WE MUST SOLVE IT

THE City Club of Philadelphia wrestled a whole afternoon with the high cost of living problem not long since and while many interesting lights were cast on the situation the whole thing finally resolved itself down to the individual.

There can be no doubt that the general plenitude of money has been in a way responsible for present high living costs. Instead of saving our increases in pay, most of us have put the additional money into expensive clothes and costly dishes for the table.

This has caused prices to go higher than otherwise they would, even with the war and the resulting scarcity of food and clothing. The City Club is right. If prices are to go down the remedy must come from us.

"BREEDING BOLSHEVISTS"

UNDER the caption, "Breeding Bolshevists," the current issue of the magazine, "In The Open," official organ of the Wild Life League, protests against the closing of streams and wild land to the fisherman and the hunter.

The land owner who, for his own private pleasure or that of his friends, thus confiscates the rights of the public to the open, is as dangerous an enemy to these United States as the Bolshevist, who preaches the doctrine that the workingmen should control the industries to the exclusion of the owner.

The constitution of the State of Pennsylvania says that the fish and game belong to the people, and that being so they should have every opportunity to hunt and fish.

In Pennsylvania we have much wild land and many streams that are fit only to provide a day's sport for the lover of trout fishing.

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HE WROTE IT

THE Scranton Times, defender of the Democratic faith in its section of Pennsylvania, begins a long editorial designed to prove that President Wilson really wrote the latest message to Congress with this paragraph:

That testy old dame, Gossyp slender, in her own way, now she asks, chiefly through Grand Old Party organs, whether Wilson wrote her message or whether somebody did it for him.

whole message was made up of glittering generalities, couched in terms to win public approval, but without any well thought out plan to solve the problem of State and society now confronting the government.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Municipal politics is back in its playground after something like a month's vacation, and judging from what has been written in the newspapers of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton and Reading considerably more thought is being given to local affairs.

Defeat of the Babcock-Leslie combination by the election of Augustus K. Oliver to the vacancy in the Pittsburgh council may have a far-reaching effect. It was noticeable that M. M. Garland, who seconded the Barbour nomination favored by the Pittsburgh mayor, was careful to say that he considered both Messrs. Oliver and Barbour good men and furthermore the councilmen made it unanimous.

Mayor-elect J. Hampton Moore went to the center of the political stage on Saturday night at Philadelphia when he made a special address to the newspapers style a reply to the "defiance" of Senator Edwin H. Vore, holding that the Moore referendum intention did things for Philadelphia and determination to hit "and hit hard" if attempts were made to block him meant that he would not tolerate a fight on his aspirational leadership of his city for four years.

The candidates for sheriff scarcely spent \$50 between them. The Sproul victory in the Chester school board was followed by men who were on the fence declaring that they will support the Republican League. The Governor's brother, Everett Sproul, is the leader of the League.

Further publications of the Penn Publication Company's juveniles are: "Don Hale With the Flying Squadron," by W. Crispin Sheppard, being the third volume in the experiences of that intrepid young American. This deals with the late war.

"The Story of Porcelain," by Sara Ware Bassett, is another in the series, which, when complete, will tell young folks about all of the principal industries. These books are written by experts, but in simple fashion and are as instructive as they are entertaining.

Publications by Lithrop, Lee and Sheppard Company are: "The Boy With the U. S. Trappers," by Francis Rolt-Wheeler, which is an exciting account of the hunting and game under the auspices. This lad goes with members of the Government Biological Survey, who are out to destroy wild animals, but to help them grow in numbers.

Her Son

Is there shop where he comes not to buy? Or any book he stoops not down to read? Or some one sits not on a golden weed?

—Col. E. M. Young, the Allentown banker, will be a candidate for Republican National delegate in the Lehigh-Berk district. He was a delegate to the Chicago convention in 1916 and is likely to stand as an unopposed candidate.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND

By BRIGGS



LITTLE BOYS—WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SANTA CLAUS BRING YOU MOST OF ANYTHING IN THE WORLD?

gee! I wonder if she wants to make me a present - or is she just askin' a question!?

SEES PANIC UNLESS BUYING ORGIE ENDS

By BRIGGS



IT is predicted by William A. Day, president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, that unless the American people check their present habits of extravagance and substitute therefor reasonable thrift and economy, some such catastrophe as the panic which followed the Civil War is certain to overtake them.

Mr. Day issued his warning at the annual convention of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents at the Hotel Astor. His address was devoted principally to a discussion of the significance of the increasing volume of life insurance, but while he explained that prosperity as a result of the war has increased the amount of life insurance to \$7,712,400,000, or \$3,010,000,000 more in 1919 than was written in 1918, he said "the other side of the shield" showed that general extravagance is out of all proportion to the thrift insurance policies.

"It is true," he said, "that our National wealth has increased as measured in dollars, but this is largely due to the fact that the volume of wealth has increased at a greater rate than the wealth it represents.

"The war thrust upon us an unnatural and unbalanced prosperity and left us a legacy of inflation, speculation and improvidence. A large volume of easy money has been put into the hands of the Treasury and into the pockets of many people to whom a substantial cash surplus was a new and tempting possession. There has followed a prodigious drop behind.

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Kindness

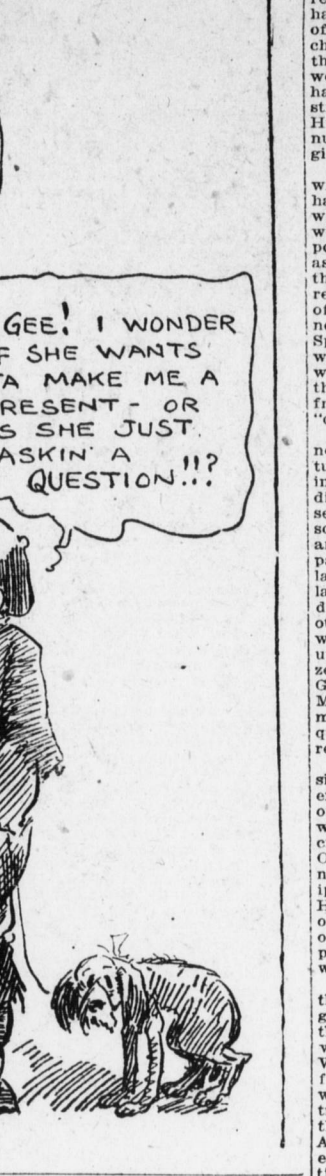
If only all of us were kind. In thought and action, we would find this world would more of joy suffice.

Month of Holidays

December, taking the world over, is a month of bank and public holidays. No less than 20 of the 31 days of the month are recognized somewhere as occasions for church fetes or cessation of business in celebration of local or national events.

President's Misfit Appointees

By BRIGGS



[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.] An esteemed contemporary, who cannot be suspected of the least inclination to be censorious where the President or his administration is concerned, plainly remarks in a recent issue that "President Wilson has been responsible for any number of misfits in his selection of men charged with the work of enforcing the law of the country."

They began almost coincidentally with his inauguration and they have uninterruptedly continued. It will hardly have been forgotten how, when he embarked on his Mexican policy of "watchful waiting," he sent as his confidential agent to Mexico the situation and advise him with regard to it, a man in the person of John Lind, ex-Governor of Minnesota, who knew nothing of the country and whose only qualifications without diplomatic experience and whose only known qualifications for the job consisted in his being a friend of Abraham J. Bryan and a "daring Democrat."

What Lind did and reported has never been disclosed, but if the nature of the advice he gave may be inferred from the fact that the President did it had been indeed, it seems to have occurred to Mr. Wilson that Lind had his limitations, and that perhaps he had better displace another man who was better qualified to handle the situation.

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Man, Not Town

[From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.] The idea that nearly all the "big" men come from the small towns has long been a popular notion. It is true, but a census of a representative group of 100 well known men in the New York financial district, reported in the National Banker and Comptroller monthly, does not bear it out. It was true that 60 per cent. came from outside New York, but taken by towns, it was found that 1,000,000 or more population as came from towns with less than 5,000 people. Fifty-one came from towns under 100,000 population, another 20 per cent. from towns of 100,000 to 500,000.

Bill White Is Suspicious

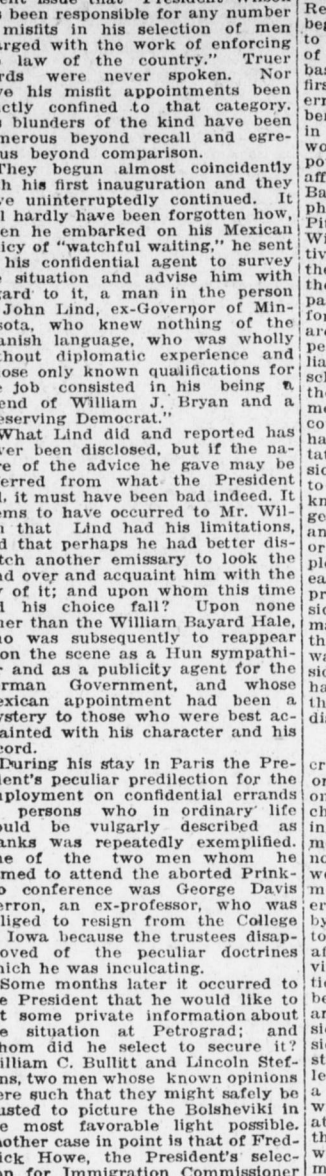
[W. A. White in the Emporia Gazette.] Henry Allen, governor of Kansas, is about to get his. In about four days or less the Democratic administration at Washington will see in the form of a formal demand for a ticket, and then the Democratic administration will suddenly wake up. To get coal? Not at all, but to spike Henry Allen. Some sort of a "red" administration will have to take the state government and the Federal Government, probably through the railroads, which will stop the distribution of coal in Kansas.

Jesus Becomes a Nazarene

When Herod the king was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared unto him, saying, Arise, and take thy young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth; that it might be fulfilled by the prophets. He shall be called a Nazarene. Matthew 2, 19 to 23.

Evening Chat

By BRIGGS



Under the provisions of the act creating the Commission, it may recommend addition to, alteration or charged with the duty of considering the document in the light of modern thought."

The recommendations of the Commission before going to the Legislature for 1924, so it is held here that there is ample time for consideration of them and that the plan of allowing years to pass between presentation of the bill and its passage is thoroughly safeguarded. The Legislature of 1919 gave, in effect, authority to this Commission to make up a report on the constitution in 1921, upon the necessity of changing the organic law. The Commission must report to the Legislature that will be elected in November of 1920, which will fall, the amendment will be elected, and when the sentiment of the people will be thoroughly manifested. Any recommendation that falls to pass the Legislature of 1921 will fall, the amendment will be elected in even-numbered years, under the provisions of the constitutional clause of 1919, concerning only county and municipal officials and questions, unless when a Judge of the appellate courts is to be chosen.

Among the first steps will be to recommend changes to accord with the Federal Constitution, including women suffrage. One of the most important subjects for consideration will be taxation, and it will be given to a committee which will likely consider the graded tax and other amendments pending in the Legislature. Local government, classification of counties and municipalities and similar topics will likely be much discussed. The Commission will meet this and next week and then adjourn over the holidays, reconvening in January and remaining at work until it completes its study and outlines a program when its members can listen to suggestions. This will have the effect of keeping the Commission undisturbed during its preliminary work and enabling persons desiring to submit ideas to appear and speak some time during the winter.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Hampton L. Carson, one of the members of the Constitutional Revision Commission, is a student of Washington and Napoleon and author of books on the Federal Constitution.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg has been having about one meeting a week of a State-wide organization lately?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

—The first constitutional convention to be held in Harrisburg met here in May, 1837.

Social Duties Neglected

[From the Boston Transcript.] A little girl had been taken to church for the first time, and she was somewhat surprised by the general style of the building, which was quite unlike anything she had previously seen.