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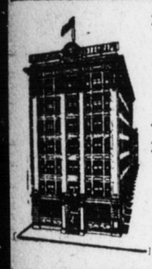

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1919

Not what has happened to myself to-day, but what has happened to others through me—that should be my thought. — FREDERICK DEERING BLAKE.

COLLECTING TAXES

ALTOONA has made an arrangement whereby all city, school and county taxes in that city will be collected by the new city treasurer. Under the law the treasurer is required to collect the city and school taxes, but in Altoona the county commissioners will share in the payment of a salary of $6,000, the treasurer agreeing to turn his fees back to the city, school and county treasurers. Ordinarily the fees of the joint offices would run $17,000 a year, out of which he would be required to meet all of his expenses.

This is precisely the situation which was contemplated in the Beidleman bill, providing for a receiver of taxes for Harrisburg and other cities, but which measure was crushed by the opposition of near-sighted political leaders in other counties.

The time must come when the convenience of the taxpayer will be considered as against the patronage represented in the appointment of county tax collectors in every ward in the city and township in the county.

Not only would such an arrangement be more economical, but essentially efficient and convenient for thousands of people. It is conceivable that even now Harrisburg could make such an arrangement until such time as the Legislature provides for a general receiver who would be empowered to collect all taxes. In these days of high administration cost, every step should be taken to save public expenditures and reduce the pressure upon those who must pay the freight in the shape of taxes.

High prices of hats have not prevented a large number being cast into the Presidential ring.

BIG BROTHER DINNER

THAT was a fine thing the Rotary Club did yesterday, in entertaining unfortunate little folks of Harrisburg, to the number of nearly 500, at a holiday dinner. Not only fine because of the spirit that prompted it and the worthiness of its object, but because the members of the organization laid down their own work for the day, and they are all busy men, to act as waiters, entertain the little folks, distribute gifts, operate automobiles and make themselves generally useful. And that applies as well to the good women who helped them.

It is good for any of us to get out of our narrow ways of life, to see how other people live, to extend the blessings that we enjoy to some less fortunate than ourselves and to render service to our neighbors. It may be a selfish way of looking at it, but we judge the Rotarians got quite as much enjoyment and just as much good out of the Big Brother dinner as did the little folks they entertained, and that is saying much.

WHY NOT HARRISBURG?

THIS city has not given the attention to a zoning system which such a system deserves in a growing community like ours. The zoning movement is extending to all progressive cities and Harrisburg has not been without sufficient warning as to the necessity for some such plan to prevent hodge-podge building here. The whole purpose of zoning, as recently stated by an authority on the question, is to encourage the erection of the right building in the right place? It protects the man who develops his property along proper lines against the man who develops his property along improper lines. Rightly understood, zoning means the substitution of an economic, scientific, efficient community program of city building for wasteful, inefficient, haphazard growth."

We learn from a recent bulletin of the Civic Club of Allegheny county, that in six months St. Louis proved the value of the zoning law, since it prevented the erection of a commercial building in one of the best residential districts; a dog hospital in an exclusive residential section; a small iron foundry in a district occupied exclusively by workingmen's homes; a junk yard and crematory in a residential district; a factory at an important point on one of the main boulevards of the city.

Every year this city and other progressive communities are compelled to engage in controversies over building operations which ought to be unnecessary if Harrisburg had a proper zoning ordinance. It will be utterly impossible to create attractive residential sections so long as the individual can erect alongside a fine home or church or other similar building a factory or industrial plant or other enterprise out of harmony with its surroundings. Chicago has provided regulations, through a State law, to prevent serious encroachment upon residence districts.

Here in Harrisburg we have in the City Planning Commission adequate authority for inaugurating proper zoning restrictions, and before any further controversies arise on the threshold of a great building era, it may be suggested that our commission of far-seeing and practical men should take steps to prevent any invasion of the residential districts by purely manufacturing or industrial plants. This is not an esthetic matter at all. It is a necessity which will be recognized by all sensible people and ought to be easily inaugurated for the benefit of the entire community.

Town planning has become a most important factor in the development of the State, and its Bureau of Municipalities has proved, through careful investigation, the imperative need of proper control of building in all growing communities.

Increasing population and a wider development of our industries will compel some official action looking to the prevention of those mistakes which have so frequently resulted in the impairment of property values and the comfort and contentment of the people. Now is the time to take such action as may be necessary to avoid serious interruption of the cohesive and wide-awake activities of Harrisburg with respect to its public improvement projects and the expansion of its residential sections.

It by no means follows that a zoning plan is an interference with the manufacturing or industrial life of the city. Indeed, those who comprise the great industrial forces of any community—the workers—are entitled to such safeguarding of their homes as is involved in the prevention of manufacturing activities in the heart of residential districts. More and more the great employers of labor are realizing that they must have contentment among their employes if they are to have efficient service. The humble home must have the same protection as the more pretentious mansion and when the owner of the modest dwelling locates his home where he has a right to expect comfortable surroundings he ought not to be threatened with the destruction of his roof-tree by the erection of an industrial establishment.

There is ample room in Harrisburg for home sections as well as manufacturing districts. All that remains is that there should be proper zones established for both.

"One of the problems of statesmanship of this country," said a recent writer, "is to provide that in the future our great cities will grow in such a way as not to impair the health and mentality of those who are producing the wealth of the country."

No proper appeal to the City Planning Commission ever goes unheeded and the people of Harrisburg can with confidence look to that unselfish body to establish, in co-operation with the City Council, such a zoning arrangement as will make a more healthful and attractive and modern city. It ought to be obvious to the average citizen how utterly futile it would be to encourage the development of fine residential districts and then permit those same districts to be ruined by the construction of manufacturing plants which would destroy the harmony of the surroundings and the comfort of the home-builders.

As we come to the close of the year and begin to think out the problems of 1920, we beg to submit that the building and zoning questions deserve careful thought, with a view to some sensible and prompt solution.

Major Frank R. Leib has left upon this community the impress of a useful and unselfish life. We can't think of him in the passing as an old man. He was one of those who refuse to bow under the weight of years. His erect, soldierly bearing, vigorous mind and active interest in the affairs of his later home of New Cumberland gave no hint of the approach of the end, but really caused his friends to think of him as the same vigorous, forceful and public-spirited citizen whom they had known for years. So the announcement of his death was a distinct shock.

Again taps will sound over the resting place of another brave comrade of the great Army of the Blue, as he responds to the call to the colors on the other side.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

From what men who have been at Washington and in various places in the southern and western states have to say, there is more to the William Jennings Bryan boom for the presidency than ordinarily realized. The Nebraskan is said to have left the matter in the hands of his friends and to have adroitly consolidated some of the chief opponents of the Wilson policy. Owing to the candidacy of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer, it is not regarded as likely that the Bryan boomers will pay much attention to the Keystone State, which has been known to play a minor role in other conventions where the Nebraskan was a headliner.

The man the Bryan men are said to be shy of is William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, and said to be making headway in the eastern states. Similarly the Palmer men, who are counting on some aid for the Attorney General from nearby states, are also watching what McAdoo, who organized the first Wilson campaign, has under way.

—The Scranton Times, which represents up-State Democracy, is out with a strong Palmer declaration. It says: "It is becoming more and more apparent that the Hon. A. Mitchell Palmer stands out above all his competitors as the logical candidate of the Democratic party for President next year. He has not yet formally declared his candidacy and has done nothing personality to forward his chances for the nomination, but the people all over the country are talking about him. He has been the right hand of President Wilson since he has become ill and needed a strong man beside him. He is being impressed more and more upon the minds of the people every day. Mr. Palmer is our next door neighbor, coming from Monroe county. He has never failed when called upon by the people of Scranton to render any service. I believe the Democrats of Lackawanna county to be solid for him. The men in Washington who are closest to Mr. Palmer desire that Lackawanna county should be represented at the National convention by true and tried friends of Mr. Palmer."

—Auditor General Charles A. Snyder, who has been having his own troubles making up the list of appointments of mercantile appraisers for the first time under the law empowering the chief fiscal officer to select such officers, expects to complete his work before nightfall. The Auditor General said to-day that he was waiting for two or three suggestions from counties.

—The new appraisers will be commissioned at once and the Auditor General is of the opinion that the work cannot only be greatly expedited, but the collections considerably increased.

—Among the appointments which Governor William C. Sproul is expected to make during this week, in addition to a magistrate for Philadelphia, will be an orphans court judge for Westmoreland for which James S. Beacom, former State Treasurer and legislator, is mentioned, and a county judge for Allegheny. Two water supply commissioners are also to be named.

—Several changes in the Department of Labor and Industry force are rumored and some additional appointments in new bureaus are probable early next month. There will also be a selection of an assistant manager of the State Insurance Fund.

—Officials of third-class cities throughout Pennsylvania are waiting with considerable interest developments in the latest move at Altoona, a city where they have a habit of doing things in municipal affairs that make the rest of the State sit up and take notice. This time the Mountain City has decided to have all its taxes collected by the city treasurer. This is something which other cities have been trying to do for a long time.

—The postmaster of Ridley Park wants to quit. He is tired of a Federal job which does not pay and which has many annoyances. But although he resigned some time ago no one has been named in his place.

—The Pittsburgh Post says that both parties are arranging planks in their 1920 platform to entice the women voters.

—Mayor A. H. Swing, of Coatesville, has declined to take an increase in salary. Incidentally, Coatesville is going to have an advance in the tax rate.

—The Philadelphia Press' Washington letter has this to say about Senator Boies Penrose: "Senator Penrose has ordered a new automobile, with which to make the trip to the Chicago convention. His present machine, especially built for him, large enough to accommodate a bath tub in the tonneau, has not held up under the strain of trips to and from Washington and to other parts of the country. Mr. Penrose has used five of the cars of this make, but at last has bought another style, called the "G. O. P. 1920." It is building for him and will be delivered in February. * * * According to late reports here, Mr. Penrose is not recovering as rapidly as his physicians desired and there are manifestations of a condition which may prevent his being very active in the coming Presidential campaign. His plans at present are to go South next month and return to Washington about February 1."

—Schuylkill county's Controller-elect, Captain John E. Schlottman of Pottsville, announces the following appointments: First deputy, Charles T. Straughn, of Shenandoah; second deputy, Fank Kantner, of Lofty; clerks, William Becker, of Mahanoy City, and William Watson, of Shenandoah. E. D Smith, of Pottsville, has been appointed solicitor. Although Register Frank Ball has made no announcements as yet, it is known that John Reese, of St. Clair, will be appointed assistant clerk of the Orphans' Court and Thomas Herb, of Pottsville, will be appointed first deputy.

Silenced.

[From the Boston Transcript.]

A young fellow who married a rich man's daughter was in the habit of troubling his father-in-law with complaints about his wife's behavior.

"Really this is too bad!" cried the irascible old gentleman one day after son-in-law had told of new domestic difficulties. "If I hear of any more complaints I will disinherit her."

There was no more.

Jobs For Soldiers

[From the Salt Lake Citizen]

The Reds are out to supply jobs for soldiers.

OH, MAN! By BRIGGS

It's All a Matter of Choice

[From Kansas City Star]

People who go about complaining of high prices while struggling frantically to beat somebody else to the counter to pay them might just as profitably employ their minds upon the problem of why water runs down hill.

We go up and down the street shedding money at every pore, and then howl like a wolf because somebody picks it up.

"How much is this?" we ask. "Eighteen dollars," says the salesman; "used to be $6." "Wrap up two of 'em," we say, "you robber."

Prices are high, but no higher than we like to pay. When we roar that we had to pay $15 for a hat we are really boasting of it. Those of us who are really ashamed of it keep mighty still. It's the ones who are proud of having the $15 to throw away that tell about it, and it is those same ones who are responsible for the rest of us having to pay $7 for a hat that ought perhaps to sell for $4.

It is possible in all times to buy high priced things, but it is only in these times that everybody has tried to do it. Nothing but the best for us, by which we mean the most expensive. When only the staggering rich smoked 10-cent cigars—and that wasn't so many years ago—lots of people found a nickel smoke all they needed; but because Prince Fortunatus, who butted into an oil well, now buys only 50-centers, the rest of us can find no solace in anything less than two for a quarter.

Oh, but we're the little spenders! We're setting 'em up to the house. Everybody step up and have a dime out of our dollar. Producer, manufacturer, carrier, wholesaler, retailer, delivery man—here, catch! Take it, our good man, and spend it as you will. And as for our little purchase, go to as much expense as possible with it. Put it in a fancy box, tie it with a couple yards of ribbon and send it to our address in an $8,000 delivery truck. We cannot carry it ourselves because our hands are helpless in $12 gloves.

Thus we go about with a hole in every pocket leaving a trail of coin which we seem to think will follow us home. We toss out a quarter tip for a penny service, and the recipient runs after us to remind us we've forgotten the war tax.

We go to a store where more conveniences are provided for us than we enjoyed at hotels when we went on our wedding journey, and wonder why dollar bills are no longer legal tender.

Wherever we go some attentive person opens the door for us, another takes our hat, and a whole bodyguard in resplendent attire conducts us to a seat. When we get out we are very sarcastic about water, free in the river, being ten cents a glass on a table. But if we didn't get that service we'd cut that place and go where it was to be had—and to be paid for.

Prices are up, there is no question about that. But they are not nearly so high at home as they are elsewhere. Some old-fashioned people (pikers, of course) who have clung to the old custom of eating at home say it is much cheaper that way. Eight dollar shoes are cheaper than $18 dollar shoes, too. And the same with everything. Pay the highest prices if you want to, but shut up. Be a sport if you want to, but pay. If you can't pay be something else. Lots of people are something else by choice and find it not at all bad.

T. R.'s Successor

[From the New York World.]

Letters to Santa Claus were written by the children of the little Cove school at Oyster Bay, and only the older ones know that this year there will be a new St. Nicholas.

The late Col. Theodore Roosevelt played the part for many years, and this year it will be enacted by his eldest son, Lieut. Col. Theodore Roosevelt. About twenty-five years ago the former President went to the teachers from whom his children received their first schooling. He requested that the pupils write notes to Santa, and that they be turned over to him. When he received them he and Mrs. Roosevelt purchased the gifts. He also bought bags of candy of the kind he liked when a boy.

This Christmas Lieutenant Colonel Theodore has the letters and will buy the presents and candy.

The Lowly and the Rich

Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted; but the rich in that he is made low; because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.—James i, 7 and 8.

DR. CARREL, AMERICAN SURGEON, IN PEACE AND WAR

(From The Literary Digest)

IT was the often-exaggerated reports of his research and experimental work in surgery that appeared in the newspapers that made Dr. Alexis Carrel's name familiar to the average reader in this country. But if he was thought of, somewhat vaguely, as a theorist, or a doctor who did some remarkable surgical "stunts" in the way of transferring parts of one anatomy to another, it is now known that his work in France in applying the results of his laboratory work at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has saved the lives and alleviated the sufferings of thousands of wounded soldiers. A writer in La France tells us that—

His laboratory hospital was located at Compiegne. Driven out of that town by the German advance early in 1918, Dr. Carrel transferred his operations elsewhere and was again actively at work when the armistice came.

Nobody knows how many thousands of hours of suffering were saved by the Carrel-Dakin method of cleaning and draining wounds. There will always be more or less discussion of everything of this kind in the medical profession, but the wounded man and the layman who saw anything of war-hospitals in France cannot be made to believe that the Carrel-Dakin method is not a huge success. What Dr. Carrel accomplished in fighting wound-infection, which was almost universal in the early days of the war, is an achievement no doubt shared by others, but probably no one did more than Dr. Carrel to reduce wound-sepsis to a minimum.

One of Dr. Carrel's associates at the War Demonstration Hospital gives the following impression of him:

Amazing vitality is the overpowering impression of one meeting Alexis Carrel for the first time. Of less than medium height, compactly built, erect, and graceful, the great surgeon gives a suggestion of youthfulness, strength, and power. His mobile, clean-shaven face is accentuated by the baldness of his head. Thin, firm lips, tightly shut, would be almost stern were it not for an ever-lurking smile that illumines his countenance even in serious conversation. Behind the eye-glasses, there gleam two remarkable eyes, one a violet blue in color, the other of softest dark brown. The thin straight nose shows the keenness of the scientist.

Reviewing Dr. Carrel's career, and also that of Madame Carrel, the writer proceeds:

Dr. Carrel is still young and looks younger. He was born at Sainte Foy-les Lyon on the 28th of June, 1873, and obtained his first degree from the University of Lyons in 1891. From 1896 to 1900, he was interne at the Hospital of Lyons and, from 1900 to 1902, a professor of the faculty of medicine of the University of Lyons. Fortunately for the United States and for the world, Dr. Carrel came to New York in 1905 and soon became identified with the Rockefeller Institute for Medicial Research. With the resources and freedom obtained in the Institute, he has been able to accomplish those wonders which secured for him, among other honors, the Nobel prize in 1912 for his work in suturing blood-vessels and transplanting of organs.

Madame Carrel is herself a trained investigator and a surgeon of no mean ability. As Anne de la Motte she was a laboratory student of the distinguished French surgeon Tuffier, when she married the Marquis de la Marie. Soon after she was widowed she resumed her laboratory work in a Paris hospital. There she met Dr. Carrel and became his laboratory assistant at his hospital at Lyons. They were married in 1913. Madame Carrel accompanied Dr. Carrel to France in 1914, and the outbreak of the war found them there. He at once entered the French Army Medical Service as a major and soon established the Compiegne Hospital, Madame Carrel continuing to assist him.

Changed

In distant fields they lie,
Young lads whom you and I
Have teased and played with sunny afternoons,
Have kissed or flouted under gentle moons—
In distant fields they lie,
Beneath the blood-bought soil of Picardy,
Their names forever set
Among the great whom Time may not forget—
In distant fields they lie
So clothed upon with majesty,
So far—so far—
We can but view their shining as a star
That thrones its deathless fire
Above the puny reach of our desire—
Or love—or grief.
It seems beyond belief
That we have ever known
These lads to hero-stature grown;
That these have ever been to us the gay
Light-hearted comrades of a summer day.

—By Ida Judith Johnson.

Wives Are Breadwinners

[From the Louisville Courier-Journal.]

The work of the housekeeping wife is not listed among gainful occupations, yet nowadays the woman, who will not have a maid, because maids can be had at fancy prices only, is no mean figure as a breadwinner.

A writer upon domestic economy asserts that a fair estimate of the cost of a kitchen servant is arrived at by multiplying the salary by two, to include board, lodging, fuel, light, breakage and uneconomical methods. If the estimate is approximately correct a $10-a-week maid costs the householder $20 a week, or $1,040 a year.

In such circumstances the housekeeper in the establishment which boasted two maids before the war and now has but one, or the housekeeper who had one maid before the war and now has none, is occupied gainfully—painfully as well—in that the family budget may be $1,040 less, for the same scale of living, than it must be if a maid at $10 a week is added to expense.

Paris Needs Traffic Rules

[Boyd Cable in the London Observer.]

It is bad enough to be held up when you're trying to hurry in a taxi in London and a brewer's dray checks a long line of motors and forces them all to drop to a two-mile-an-hour crawl. But it is not nearly so unpleasant as to go in mortal terror of your life as you do in Paris every time you make a street crossing, to have to stand for minutes with a crowd of foot passengers whenever you want to cross any main and most side streets, waiting until a moment's break comes in the whirling stream of motors.

If you're off the main traffic streams and want to cross an apparently quiet road, you must look carefully up and down, draw a deep breath, and make a leap for it; and then you're lucky if just when you reach the middle a furious taxi driving Jehu doesn't swirl around the corner, raise your hair with a savage yelp on his horn, and just miss running over your toes.

Every kind of vehicle appears to try to outvie the next in the loudness and unpleasantness of the noise it can make. The motor cars have hooters that wouldn't shame a full sized factory, sirens that wail like a lost soul in torment, horns that scream, groan or hoot in every tone and key and note of savagery. The street cars have bells with a head-piercing clang and clamor; even the pushbikes carry some sort of howling motor horn.

Everything moves at a most disconcerting rate of speed, and why there are not umpteen accidents a minute at every busy corner I don't know. Perhaps there are, and I'd like to learn the average of street casualties in Paris.

The Foundling

[From Harvey's Weekly.]

In the words of Justice Brandels, which we have quoted elsewhere, "by the Constitution a treaty is only a proposal until approved by the senate." The proposal was submitted; the conditions on which it would be approved were attached to the smothering mass of garments in which the treaty was wrapped up, and the pestiferous infant deposited on the President's door-step.

But now the President himself, it seems, has shut the door on his offspring.

The School Problem

[From Pennsylvania Farmer.]

It is to be regretted that the Legislative Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange felt it its duty to disapprove of the centralized school idea. For a generation there has been increasing complaint that the rural schools were not meeting the needs of the rural children, and this complaint is well founded. When the cause of their deficiency is sifted down it is found to be largely because of: 1.—Insufficient equipment; 2.—Unprepared and inexperienced teachers; 3.—Too many grades for 1 teacher; 4.—Text books and curriculum not adapted to the environment and needs of the child; 5.—Either over-crowded conditions or too few pupils to incite healthy rivalry and interest.

Where consolidation of schools has been intelligently carried out the public opinion is almost undivided in its favor. The opposition which existed at first has almost invariably died out because the results have justified the move. The fundamental principle of co-operation which the grange has preached for years applies in the matter of conducting educational work. In spite of the prejudice which some farmers still have against education, time emphasizes more and more the necessity of proper intellectual training if the young men and women are to be able to meet the competition of the twentieth century. The average rural school of to-day furnishes little beyond a meaningless eighth grade, hence the country boy and girl is unable to enter any higher institution of learning without first spending three to four years at a preparatory school. With proper grading of school in the home districts all this could be changed, besides making it possible to have such a school as would provide a more or less finished education within the shadow of home.

To have such schools it is necessary to have something along the line of the centralized plan. Perfection may not yet be reached in their development, but the leaders of agricultural matters have not discharged their duty when they have simply made a protest against a proposition without suggesting a better one.

Home Owners in the State

[From Scranton Republican.]

The people of Pennsylvania are home-builders. The fact is made evident by a report recently issued by Banking Commissioner Fisher, which shows that there are 709,000 shareholders in the 2,123 building and loan associations in the Commonwealth.

At the close of 1918 these associations had assets exceeding $353,000,000, and they had been factors in the acquirement of more than 30,000 homes.

Inasmuch as there is every indication of an early resumption of building, owing to the urgent need of structures of all kinds, the report for 1919 and for next year is certain to show gratifying increases in the number of homes occupied by those owning them.

Commissioner Fisher is evidently pleased with the work done by the building and loan associations but desires additional legislation which will bring them more fully under the control of his department. His purpose seems to be not only to make the organizations of greater usefulness in helping workers to purchase their own homes, but to throw additional safeguards about those investing their savings in building and loan associations.

Montana Night

Montana night. The velvet of the sky
Is powdered thick with silver dust; below,
A realm of half-lights, where black shadows flow
To Stygian lakes, that spread and multiply.
Far to the east the Moccasins rise high
In jagged silhouette. Now, faint and low,
A night bird sounds his call. Soft breezes blow
Cool with the dampness of a stream hard by.
Dim, ghostly shapes of cattle grazing near
Drift steadily across the ray of light
From a lone cabin, and I think I hear
The barking of a dog. All things unite
To lull the senses of the eye and ear
In one sweet sense of rest; Montana night.

—By Elliott C. Lincoln.

Evening Chat

Memory of Frank R. Leib, who died Sunday evening at his home near the Yellow Breeches, will be cherished by many a Harrisburger, and yesterday and to-day there were not a few groups of men who talked over the major's interesting personality, his firm friendships and his splendid devotion to Harrisburg. Coming here soon after the Civil War, in which he enlisted with the very first and won a remarkable record, Frank Leib, as everyone knew him, soon became prominent in every movement for bringing Harrisburg to the front. The strategic position of this city in that struggle made it much talked of and thanks to men like Major Leib its people were able to hold not only advantages that were won, but to move onward. There were quite a few men active in that somewhat trying time for Harrisburg, some of whom have gone and some of whom still live, and Major Leib was one of the real citizen type. Not only was he in the forefront of various movements, but for a time there was hardly a parade or a demonstration but what Frank Leib was chief marshal. In fact, as one man who knew him well said yesterday, he was the official chief marshal for a time, the man to whom men turned to start things. Another interesting fact was that he was for quite a few years the marshal on ceremonial occasions of Robert Burns lodge.

* * *

One of the city's oldest newspaper men said yesterday: "Frank Leib was always a strong booster for Harrisburg. He was one of the committee representing the old Board of Trade that was instrumental in getting the Lalance-Grosjean tin plate mill to locate in this city and he was one of the organizers of the East Harrisburg Passenger Railway Company, a big factor in the People's Bridge Company and other local enterprises." The first meeting for the organization of that railway company, by the way, was held in the office of Mr. Leib on Third street. Among those who met with Mr. Leib were the late Harry M. Kelley, the late Amos Dunkle, the late Joseph B. Ewing, and A. M. Rudy, this city; Robert M. Sturgeon, now of York, and John Robertson, of Mechanicsburg. The first visit the committee made was to officials of the City Passenger Railway, where the new projectors were informed that a new railway line could not be undertaken at once. However, the necessary funds were raised and the line was built, running to Eighteenth and Derry streets in East Harrisburg, and to Front and Locust street, Steelton. Mules were used to draw the cars. This was in 1888 and following the opening of the new line, the developing of the Allison Hill district started. Two years later the line was electrified putting Harrisburg two years ahead of Philadelphia in this improvement.

* * *

Baseball was a favorite sport of Mr. Leib. He was an enthusiastic fan and at one time was a stockholder in the Harrisburg Baseball Association when games were played on the grounds now occupied by the Cameron school building. Mr. Leib, Joseph Montgomery and the late Colonel William Rodermel, were big boosters for the National game. Harrisburg then had a baseball team equal to any in the big leagues. Teams from New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Providence, Pittsburgh and Chicago played here. Mr. Leib was one of the stockholders that backed the team during the year Chicago played here with Billy Sunday in the line-up. Later he dropped out of the game as a stockholder, but was always ready to do his bit in buying season tickets or helping with a financial contribution.

* * *

Referring again to Prof. Nevin W. Moyer's story of the oldest house in Dauphin county, it may be said that his monograph has received quite a favorable mention from the Philadelphia Press. Girard speaks of it as a valuable contribution and rather wishes for more like it. Prof. Moyer has been highly complimented for his work and the fidelity with which he carried out his task.

* * *

One of the interesting facts he brings out is that Dauphin county was the scene of an early battle between colonials and Indians. It is known that Indians fought over Duncan's Island and that possession of the Gap and the ford which made Harris Ferry were bones of contention among redskins, but there is little known of the battle of 1757 when a platoon of the Augusta regiment marched from Fort Halifax to reinforce Fort Hunter and fought what we may call the battle of Peter's Mountain.

* * *

It appears that there has been some mix-up over the alleged action of the American Legion headquarters in ruling against the use of all military titles in addressing members. No such thing has happened, according to the statement of an officer in New York. He declared that the only thing that had been voted upon and made a part of the constitution was a ruling that all military ranks and titles be dropped in any formal meetings or gatherings of the American Legion. And that it applied to meetings and conventions only; that there was some reason for such a ruling being formulated inasmuch as every effort was being made to put the Legion on the most democratic platform possible, where an ex-private would not feel that he was inferior to a captain who was on the same committee with him; that there was the danger of such a feeling existing when the army titles were retained, irrespective of the wishes or inclinations of the men." So Colonel this, or Major that, &c. would seem to be entirely permissible save in formal sessions.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—C. P. Wood, who made trade investigations in France, has been assigned to the Philadelphia district.

—Joseph Pennell, the artist, will give a talk in Philadelphia on the interesting places in that city.

—District Attorney C. Rothermel, of Berks county, who retires next week, will go to Florida for a rest.

—W. C. Rehm, Lancaster county's new district attorney, was a major in the army and will command one of the new National Guard units.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg products are used in many branches of Government service.

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

—The first coal yards in Harrisburg were along the river front near Market street and the coal was brought down the river in arks.