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Private Branch Exchange.

CHAS. E. COOPER, President.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1914.

OCTOBER						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MOON'S PHASES—

Full Moon, 4th; Last Quarter, 12th;

New Moon, 19th; First Quarter, 25th.

WEATHER FORECASTS

Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair to-night with lowest temperature about 30 degrees. Wednesday fair, continued cool. Moderate northwest winds.

Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night with freezing temperature. Wednesday fair, continued cool. Moderate north-west winds.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG

Highest, 61; lowest, 45; 8 a. m., 48; 8 p. m., 52.

CONGRESS AND THE NATION'S TEETH

Going on the theory that Congress, when it compiles the list of articles upon which war tax is imposed, make an effort to select such articles as are not absolute necessities, it is to be presumed that the use of most of these articles will be some what diminished from now until the European conflict ends.

Economic history shows that,—even in the cases of so-called necessities,—the demand falls off to some extent if the cost is arbitrarily raised. Thus we hear of folks eating less beef,—as necessary as that article of food is generally regarded as being,—when the Trust soaks on a few cents a pound, and it is recalled that recently when the price of sugar took a big jump upward, lots of people found they could get along with a good deal less of this necessary commodity.

If people can actually cut down their consumption of what are generally recognized as necessities the logical conclusion is that they can even more easily reduce their consumption of articles that are not regarded as absolutely essential to human existence. A careful perusal, however, of the list of articles on which Congress has imposed the war tax, raises the question with regard to some of them as to how the law-makers determined that the articles are more in the luxury class than in the category of necessities.

Now there are promissory notes, for instance. They are taxed and therefore, according to the Congress theory, they are not necessities. In other words Congress classes them as luxuries. Yet it doesn't seem to us to be a very luxurious state to be in when you have to give your note to borrow money to pay your bills, and then on top of that are compelled to pay a tax just because you are that hard up.

The list of taxed articles also includes tooth washes. Going on a principle that only luxuries are taxed, Congress classes tooth washes as luxuries. Most of us, perhaps, would venture the opinion that the use of tooth wash is rather a necessity,—but then the Congressmen, of course, have their own ideas about such things.

UNCLE SAM'S FOREIGN MAIL TROUBLES

Uncle Sam, watching the course of the European war with mixed feelings of interest and disapproval, is not escaping the injuries which are usually received in a conflict by innocent bystanders. He has been suffering in many ways, and not the least of his inconvenience is that which affects his foreign mails.

The United States mail service is not often to be interfered with. In this country it demands the right of way at all times and few are the persons so rash as to insert their fingers into the cogs of the great machine. Conditions abroad have now shaken the service or at least that part of it which transmits foreign mails. While the war lasts this foreign service will be crippled for it cannot help itself.

The bulletins on mail conditions being issued at the Postoffice Department have been compared to those given out by a physician from a sickroom. They state that the situation is "rapidly on the mend, but, of course, with a possibility of complications. Mail is being dispatched and received via ocean routes as rapidly as can be expected under the circumstances, but it will be naturally a lengthy period before everything is normal again."

According to accounts from Washington, the German embassy is usually without incoming mail

from abroad, since the mail service of the Fatherland is more crippled than any other. Washington receives a great deal of mail matter from the war zone because of the presence in the capital of so many representatives of foreign countries, and it is said that nothing so forcibly brings home to persons in this country the strenuousness of conditions abroad as the battered appearance of the impressively sealed and royally stamped envelopes which pass through the postoffice of the capital.

Not nearly so much mail is coming into the United States as is going out, yet no guarantee accompanies the outgoing letters that they will reach their destinations in safety. This government's responsibility for sure delivery ends when the foreign governments take over the mail pouches, and what becomes of the matter then depends on war conditions.

"We really have the situation well in hand right now," is the statement which comes from the Division of Foreign Mails in Washington, "but, of course, it is a case of sit tight and hope more countries will not get into the scrimmage. For instance, Italy is our great consolation. Italian boats are carrying mail fairly regularly, but if Italy decides to declare war our main avenue for mail to southern Europe will be completely cut off."

The suspension of the parcel post between the United States and European countries was demanded by the foreign countries, assigned reasons being that there are not sufficient men left at home in the warring nations to handle the parcel post properly, and that troops and provisions have crowded parcel post packages from the conveyances. At any rate, the crippled parcel post service abroad is no fault of Uncle Sam. He is merely taking the part of the unfortunate bystander, dodging as gracefully as possible, but not without receiving serious injuries.

The weaknesses in the postal service abroad are expected to be felt during the coming Christmas season. If war braves the approach of winter, and certain conditions seem to show that it will pass through more winters than this one, Christmas will not be celebrated through the mails as it has been for many years past, from one end of the world to the other. Domestic mail in this country will not be affected, but every citizen of the land does not have all his friends and relatives within the limits of the nation's domestic postal service, and the impossibility of exchanging gifts and good wishes between the United States and Europe at Christmastime will sadden many hearts.

Have your tickets ready! The Colonel is on the boards for Thursday.

They are selling mule meat for beef in Louisville and don't even have a war as an excuse for it.

Kane, Pa., was snowed under yesterday but that is nothing to what is bound to happen to some of our candidates on November 3.

The Russians are said to be luring the Germans into their territory just as the making of vodka has been prohibited by the Tsar. That's no way to show hospitality.

This is going to be a big week for star spell-binders in Dauphin county. Former State Treasurer Berry and Jim Blakeslee, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, will be here to-night. To-morrow night Senator Penrose and Charlemagne Tower, former Minister to Germany, will hold the boards. On Thursday Colonel Roosevelt and William Drape Lewis will be in the spot light in Harrisburg, and Dr. Brumbaugh will visit the faithful in Lower Dauphin. On Saturday night Congressman Palmer and Vance C. McCormick will ring the changes in this city. Hear 'em all and take your choice!

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

THE SIDESTEP

Perfection's what we long to view,
We praise it with much glee.
It would be fine, my friend, for you.
It's far too good for me." —Exchange.

SLOW OF PERCEPTION

"Ah says to mah waife dat a Virginny court says dat sometimes de wife may be de head of de house," said Rastus Johnsing, "an' she says dat sometimes de court's terribul slow in findin' out things." —Exchange.

SHE INDORSED THE CHECK

Frank A. Vanderbilt, New York banker, tells of a young lady unaccustomed to the ways of finance.

"Young she was," as I say, "and charming. She came to the window of the paying teller and handed in a check for \$100, stated that it was a birthday present from her husband, and requested payment. The teller informed her that she must first indorse it.

"I don't quite understand," she said, with a pleading look and an air of hesitation, "just what you mean."

"Why, you see," he explained, "you must write your name on the back of the check, so that when we return the check to your husband he will know we have paid you the money."

"Oh, yes, I understand," she replied, apparently much relieved.

"After a moment she returned to the window and presented the check. Looking for the indorsement, the teller read: 'Many thanks, darling boy. I've got the money all right. Your loving little wife, Dorothy.' " —Hearst's Magazine.

BETTER FOR SOMEONE ELSE

"I'm feeling verrr sick," said Sandy.

"Do you drink much whisky?" asked the doctor, "or smoke?"

"Oh," said Sandy, "maybe a glass a day and a couple of pipes."

"Well, cut out the whisky and the tobacco, and come back next week." But Sandy was at the door by this time.

"Heh," called the doctor, "my advice will cost you \$10."

"Never fear," Sandy paused to reply. "I'm no takin' it." —Harper's Weekly.

ONLY BENUMED

A young man down in Georgia—weight about 115 pounds—had been keeping company with a young woman of his neighborhood—weight about 250. One evening, after having sat on his lap constantly for three full hours, it occurred to her that her weight might be growing rather irksome to him. She turned her head and smiled down at him tremulously:

"Aren't you gettin' tiabid, honey?"

"No," he murmured rapturously. "I was about an hour ago, but I'm gettin' sorta numb now." —Louisville Times.

Tongue-End Topics

Vogel's Tribute to "Billy" Welsh

That was a graceful tribute from the heart when John W. Vogel, the old minstrel manager, when his company was here last week, went to the cemetery and placed a floral tribute on the grave of "Billy" Welsh, Harrisburg's most famous minstrel man, who died in New York several years ago and was buried here. The bond of friendship and loving remembrance is ever strong among the members of the minstrel profession, and, unlike the regular theatrical profession, there are few jealousies among them. To this day the memory of "Billy" Welsh is revered among the old-time minstrels who are still before the public, but they are very few. Once in a great while one of the minstrels who was a member of one of the companies of black-faced performers that flourished from 1870 to 1890, comes along and makes reference to "Billy" Welsh, for they all knew him, either as song and dance artist, comedy sketch artist or manager, and they all delighted to do him honor. The little act of Manager Vogel in laying a posy on the grave of his old minstrel companion may not have been much as we judge things in everyday life, but it showed the love of one man for another long dead.

How Welsh Got a Star

"Billy" Welsh was a little Irish boy in the early 60's working in a brickyard in the lower end of this city, where he lived with his parents. He was what was then known in brickyards as an "off-bearer," carrying the bricks from the maker to the kiln to be burned. Like many boys in the early war period he was attracted by the minstrels shows, and he was a constant patron of Sanford's opera house, a building that stood on the site of the present Star-Independent office building. The opera house had been an old stable belonging to Judge William F. Murray, but remodeled by the late S. S. Sanford and made into a minstrel hall, wherein appeared the most famous minstrel stars of the day. "Billy" Welsh was a patron of minstrels, and he was quick to pick up the jigs steps he saw on the stage. In time he was a clever dancer and was the envy of all the other boys. All he wanted was an opening to show what he could do on the stage, and that came when the late "Jake" Budd, one of the funniest comedians on the stage, whom Sousa referred to as the comedian with the staccato laugh, gave him a chance to give a blackface song and dance on the stage. Canterbury Hall, an amusement hall in the old Exchange building, where the postoffice building now stands. The young minstrel was so clever that Budd, when he closed his Canterbury hall took "Billy" with him to Boston where he had an engagement with the famous Buckley's Sorenders, a minstrel organization famed the country over. In Boston "Billy" Welsh made a great hit and soon established himself among the Bostonians as a prime favorite. At the completion of his engagement Budd returned to Harrisburg with his partner, Dan Howard, banjo player, and Welsh came home with them. That was Welsh's first out of town engagement.

Partner of "Johnny" Rice

In Harrisburg at the time was another little Irish lad, "Johnny" Rice by name, a bootedblonde, blonde, soft-voiced, quick and a good dancer, and he, too, had succeeded in securing a chance to see what he could do as a danger on the minstrel stage. Welsh and Rice met, they were suited for each other, both could sing and dance and both were very quick to learn, so they formed a partnership, one that lasted until "Johnny" Rice died years afterward in a hospital in Chicago. Welsh and Rice, as team, first appeared in Boston and made an instantaneous hit, so that their future was assured. Welsh was a sketch producer and had ideas which he had others put into writing and dress up to fit the stage and when he produced them they were invariably successful.

Made Hit in Philadelphia

About this time Carnes & Dixey, the minstrel managers in Philadelphia, had secured the services of a pair of juvenile song and dance artists named Cheever and Kennedy, who were billed as the "Buffalo Boys." They were a novelty in Philadelphia and of course made a hit. Simmons & Slocum, a new minstrel firm, opened a minstrel show on Arch street, Philadelphia, as rivals to Carnes & Dixey. Simmons was the late "Lew" Simmons, who appeared at the Orpheum here a couple of years ago as a banjoist, and who was killed by an automobile in Reading about a year ago. The new firm wanted a pair of juvenile performers to rival the "Buffalo Boys," and their choice fell upon Welsh and Rice, who were then in Boston. An engagement was made and Welsh and Rice were billed as the "Empire Boys," and their acting simply captured Philadelphia. In a short time Welsh was writing the big sketches for the entire company, and he and Rice were drawing down big money at the box office every salary day.

Made Trip to 'Frisco

When the Simmons & Slocum company made their across-the-continent trip to San Francisco, the first ever attempted, it being by overland stage route, Indians beset them and it was told in the east that both Welsh and Rice had been scalped. That was a press agent story; however, for neither of the boys were harmed in the least. When the Simmons & Slocum place on Arch street closed, Welsh and Rice took an engagement with Haverty's minstrels, and for quite a while were members of "Jack" Haverty's famous "Forty—count 'em—forty," one of

the best minstrel companies that ever traveled. For a long time they were located in Chicago where "Johnny" Rice was taken down with tuberculosis and died in a hospital. He was buried in Chicago.

Took Negroes to Europe

Haverly, finding Welsh a rare good business manager, placed in his care the taking of the famous Callendar's Georgia Minstrels on a tour of Europe. This company was composed of genuine negroes, including the famous "Billy" Kersands, "Dick" Little and other colored fun-makers. Their appearance in England created a furor as when, years afterward, "Buffalo Bill" took his cowboys and Indians to the British Isles. The Georgia minstrels, under Mr. Welsh's management, played in London and all the principal cities of England, then went to Scotland and Ireland, meeting with wonderful success everywhere. In some cities they played return engagements, and in London the Prince of Wales was pleased to attend the performance, on which occasion special programs printed on pink satin were prepared for the royal box. Mr. Welsh took his cowboys and Indians to the British Isles. The Georgia minstrels, under Mr. Welsh's management, played in London and all the principal cities of England, then went to Scotland and Ireland, meeting with wonderful success everywhere. In some cities they played return engagements, and in London the Prince of Wales was pleased to attend the performance, on which occasion special programs printed on pink satin were prepared for the royal box. Mr. Welsh took his cowboys and Indians to the British Isles. The Georgia minstrels, under Mr. Welsh's management, played in London and all the principal cities of England, then went to Scotland and Ireland, meeting with wonderful success everywhere. In some cities they played return engagements, and in London the Prince of Wales was pleased to attend the performance, on which occasion special programs printed on pink satin were prepared for the royal box. Mr. Welsh took his cowboys and Indians to the British Isles. The Georgia minstrels, under Mr. Welsh's management, played in London and all the principal cities of England, then went to Scotland and Ireland, meeting with wonderful success everywhere. In some cities they played return engagements, and in London the Prince of Wales was pleased to attend the performance, on which occasion special programs printed on pink satin were prepared for the royal box. Mr. Welsh took his cowboys and Indians to the British Isles. The Georgia minstrels, under Mr. Welsh's management, played in London and all the principal cities of England, then went to Scotland and Ireland, meeting with wonderful success everywhere. In some cities they played return engagements, and in London the Prince of Wales was pleased to attend the performance, on which occasion special programs printed on pink satin were prepared for the royal box. Mr. Welsh took his cowboys and Indians to the