

The Star-Independent

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THE STAR-INDEPENDENT

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Wednesday, October 28, 1914.

OCTOBER

Calendar for October 1914 showing days of the week and dates from Sun. to Sat.

MOON'S PHASES— Full Moon, 4th; Last Quarter, 12th; New Moon, 19th; First Quarter, 25th.



WEATHER FORECASTS Harrisburg and vicinity: Generally fair to-night and Thursday. Warmer to-night with lowest temperature about 42 degrees.

Eastern Pennsylvania: Generally fair to-night and Thursday, warmer to-night. Moderate winds, mostly south-west.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG Highest, 43; lowest, 32; 8 a. m., 32; 8 p. m., 38.

REDUCTION OF U. S. STEEL DIVIDEND

Much as it is regretted that the holders of the common stock of the United States Steel Corporation—including many persons of moderate means scattered through the entire country, among them many of the gigantic corporation's employees who have been induced to buy the stock through the operation of the corporation's profit-sharing plan—are to suffer reduced incomes as the result of the action of the directors yesterday in lowering the quarterly dividend, the course of the directors in this connection can be regarded as the only safe and businesslike one that they could have pursued in view of the statement of earnings for the quarter ended September 30, last, and the fact that there is little prospect of earnings increasing in the immediate future.

The directors reduced the dividend for the quarter from 1 1/4 per cent. to one-half of 1 per cent. That is the dividend is reduced to the basis of 2 per cent. a year as compared with 5 per cent. a year, the rate that had prevailed since June, 1910. After payment of the dividend at the lower rate there will be left out of the earnings for the last quarter an insignificant surplus of \$89,479. If the dividend had been declared at the previously prevailing 5 per cent. annual rate there would have been a deficit for the quarter of something like \$6,000,000.

Although there doubtless were some stockholders who had hoped that the dividend would be paid at the old rate by utilizing accumulated surplus held over from other more profitable quarters, the decision not to draw on this surplus was the wiser one. It is a dangerous policy for a corporation to pay out in the form of dividends for a given period more than it has actually earned in that period. Such a policy reduces surplus reserve and just to that extent weakens the intrinsic value of the stock.

As Chairman Gary said, in explaining the action of the directors, the reduction of the dividend was made "necessary by the present condition of the business and the prospect for the immediate future." It is known that conditions in the steel trade are perhaps worse just now than in any other line of industry, due largely to the war in Europe. In view of this it is far better business to conserve surplus than to pay it out in the form of unearned dividends, and the Steel Corporation directors cannot justly be criticised for the stand they have taken in this matter.

The Corporation will be deserving of the most severe criticism, however, if the present investigation of its affairs being made by the Federal authorities establishes that the company is heavily overcapitalized. Criticism, and punishment too, will be well merited for the directors responsible if it is shown that the common stock has been watered to an extent which prohibits the payment now or at any other time of the same dividend that could have been paid had the capitalization been limited to the intrinsic value of the property it is supposed to represent.

FEWER GRADES IN LOCAL SCHOOLS

A committee of the Harrisburg School Board will to-morrow consider a recommendation earnestly made by Superintendent Frederick E. Downes,—not for the first time,—that the number of grades below the high schools in this city be reduced from nine to eight. Dr. Downes has made this recommendation repeatedly in his annual reports and thus far it has been unheeded. He has now urged that the matter be referred to committee and that it

receive particular attention. The School Board should adopt the recommendation without further delay, so that Harrisburg schools may no longer handicap their boys and girls by putting them through an elementary course longer by one year than that of any other city in Pennsylvania.

The United States Bureau of Education recognizes eight years as the standard length of elementary courses in the public schools of the country. The branches of study have been so arranged in almost all American cities as to allow eight years for primary and grammar school work and four years for high school training. Harrisburg's accepted ideas of education are modern enough and practical enough to include four-year high school courses,—with a splendid variety of options,—but they have not yet provided for a standard eight-year elementary course. The ninth grade has no place in a present-day system of education. It must be eliminated in this city as it has been in others.

True, there are now but eight grades below first year high school for boys and girls of the city who make high marks and care to finish their grammar school work in the lesser length of time. The exceptional pupils, whose quickness in their studies has earned them high averages, have the option of doing eighth and ninth grade work in one year. Those who decide upon the short cut to high school, however, must apply themselves diligently during the year, forced as they are to do surplus work which an improper gradation in the lower schools causes to accumulate at the closing of the grammar school course.

The great disadvantage of the present provisional arrangement is that boys and girls who are not so fortunate as to be exceptionally "bright" are compelled to spend an extra year between their elementary and high school courses, as compared with children in other cities,—a year of their lives which, in a sense, is lost never to be regained.

There is no logical reason why there should be nine grades in the schools of this city or of any other. The only possible reason for the present arrangement is the mere fact that the nine-grade plan has been in force. The primary school of three or four years was extended, grade by grade, to nine years before the high school was made part of the public school system. Conditions are now such that not a longer but a shorter course is needed. Average pupils are expected in the present day to be graduated from high schools with a total of twelve years of work to their credit. Harrisburg graduates, under the present arrangements in the elementary schools, have of necessity spent thirteen years in school rooms of the city.

Taxpayers of Harrisburg may suppose that the matter of eliminating the ninth grade from the public schools involves no financial considerations,—that a mere change in the elementary course has no economic importance. On the contrary, the amount of money at stake is far greater than that which would be required to put up the badly needed new high school building. The expense to the school district of retaining hundreds of children each year in an unnecessary ninth grade, is not a small item, and the cash value of the lost time, particularly to the boys, is immeasurable. There would certainly be no false economy in the elimination of the ninth grade, with the proper readjustment of the elementary course of studies.

It takes the constitution of a Constitutionalist leader to survive the rigors of the Mexican climate.

The effort to assassinate General Villa was merely another moderately exciting incident in the eventful career of that Mexican leader.

One would suppose from what the Colonel says that he thinks Palmer ought to retire in favor of Pinchot even at this late day. Too late, Colonel! The ballots are being printed.

When the political tumult and the shouting, as Walt Whitman would have put it, have subsided in Harrisburg on Saturday night, this city will feel that it has put in a very strenuous week.

The "safety first" movement doubtless has saved many scores of lives in the mines but the disaster in Royaltown, Ill., yesterday, proves that it has not yet developed to the point where it can banish all the perils of mine gas.

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

CHANGE IN FASHIONS Said she, "What lovely fashions, dear! They do so change from year to year!" "There's not much change that I can see in pocketbooks," responded he. "They're worn a little shorter, though, and lighter, than a year ago." —Lippincott's.

FOILED "Who's that worried man over at the third table?" "That is Bellison, the inventor of the hydraulic telephone, the wireless razor and many other marvelous scientific discoveries." "Wonder what's bothering him?" "He can't invent an excuse with which to greet his wife when he gets home." —Philadelphia Ledger.

BY THE RULES OF THE GAME Little Mary Lou was eager to get back to her new doll and didn't know there was going to be any desert. She slipped quietly from her chair, hoping she would not be observed. Out in the hall she met the cook with the ice cream, and as quietly as she had left it she slipped back to her accustomed place at the table.

"Mary Lou," said her mother reprovingly, "I thought you had finished your dinner. It isn't polite to come back." "But I didn't excuse myself, mother," the little girl said quickly.—New York Post.

HIS EXPLANATION "The worst winter I remember was when we were besieged," said the old soldier. "We only had one bite a day for two weeks, and that was horseradish." "I remember," said his tramp companion, "living for a month on one bite, and that was out of my own leg." "You old cannibal! Do you expect me to believe that?" roared the soldier.

"It's true, believe it or not," said the tramp calmly. "A dog took a bite out of my leg and the compensation kept me like a lord for four weeks."—Exchange.

Tongue-End Topics

He Burned the Corn Stalks In the language of the esteemed New Germantown correspondent, this is "corn husking time." Some persons know not the date of their birth other than it was in corn husking time, but that is neither here nor there. Industrious men who are out of work and are willing to take an odd job even temporarily have gone to the corn field. In the lower end of the county there is an old gentleman who recently was thrown out of employment and he now can't be found daily working at a corn shock. The corn stalks are bundled and tied with a piece of tar rope and it is one duty of the "corn husker" to untie and tie that string in connection with the husking operation. The old gentleman cut the string on a shock just before searching for the yellow ears. When the time arrived for rebundling the stalks he was puzzled. He pulled and tugged at the string but couldn't get it around properly to make the tie. He didn't know what to do. There was no extra string at hand and he gave the job up for a bad one. But he knew the farmer would not permit the stalks to lie around loose, so he applied a match and destroyed the shock. "Clever, wasn't it?" he remarked to his comrades, as the fire ate up the stalks.

The Evangelist's Name Half a dozen or more lawyers and laymen made up a crowd that was discussing current events—doping out the winners in the political fights burying baseball history, talking about fortune-tellers and the coming evangelistic campaign. One of those learned in the law wanted to know how to pronounce properly the name of the evangelist who will conduct the Harrisburg tabernacle meetings and he asked: "Is the evangelist's name pronounced 'Stow,' 'Stowe' or 'Stuff'?" The name is spelled "Stough" but no one would offer an answer.

Getting Out the Big Bills "Well, since you will not tell me how to pronounce the name I'll not try to pronounce it," he said. "But I just wanted to tell a story that has been given me. You know they say that the evangelist intends to 'open up' when he gets here and will have a few things to say about our citizens. They tell me that at one of his recent meetings the evangelist remarked that there was a man in the congregation who, he thought, should put a \$20 note on the collection plate when the contributions were called for. And do you know they tell me there were just twenty twenty-dollar bills on the plates that night."

Waded to the Football Game Two youths "earned" their way past Patrolman Henry Buch at the recent Central High-School football game on Island Park. While standing at the entrance to the grounds, the bluecoat saw a crowd of boys start for the water's edge to get past the gate. He intercepted them and told them they might as well go back, as he could stay there longer than they could. All of them obeyed but two venturesome youths, who peeled off shoes and stockings and, rolling their trousers up to their knees, started to wade past the policeman. When knee-deep the policeman threw stones into the water and splashed them, the transgressors retreating into the river. Further and further they went and finally, when the water was up to their armpits, one of the boys shouted: "Aw, officer, have a heart." The policeman weakened and, thinking that they deserved to get past, he permitted them to keep on wading. Other policemen were stationed inside to keep any one from beating his way onto the stands, but it is not on record that the two waders encountered another bluecoat.

Current Events Talks The first of the Current Event Talks to be given this season by Mrs. Mabel Cronise Jones at the Y. W. C. A., will be held on Tuesday, November 3. No class fee is charged; all members of the association are at liberty to attend. It is hoped that there will be a full attendance on the opening day.

TRUTHFUL REPORTS

Harrisburg Reads Them With Uncommon Interest A Harrisburg citizen tells his experience in the following statement. No better evidence than this can be had. The truthful reports of friends and neighbors is the best proof in the world. Read and be convinced.

F. Rotehorn, railroad conductor, 434 Puffer street, Harrisburg, says: "I am subject to attacks of lumbago, more so when I take cold. I have been so bad at times that when I made a quick move or attempted to bend over I got a sharp stich in my back. A few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills have always relieved me of the misery after everything else had failed to do me any good. I have taken them off and on for years and from my experience I know that they can't be beat." Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Rotehorn had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y. Adv.

Less Than a Cent

You may know a woman who has a reputation for making delicious cake, biscuits, etc.,—who seems to hit it right every time. You may also know a woman, who, no matter how painstaking, can't seem to get the knack of successful baking. Both use the same butter, same eggs, same flour and sugar. What is the difference? Very likely it's all in the baking powder. Undoubtedly the woman with the knack uses Royal Baking Powder, and the unsuccessful woman uses an alum baking powder thinking it cheaper. Yet the difference in the cost of a whole large cake is less than a cent. It is economy to use

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure No Alum

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Star-Independent does not make itself responsible for opinions expressed in this column.

WRITES ABOUT GAME LAWS

S. H. Garland Takes Issue With Dr. Kalbfus on Some Points

Dear Sir—I hold in my hand a copy of the Star-Independent of Thursday, October 22, the issue that contains an article entitled "Kalbfus Defends Wardens," in which the secretary of the Game Commission points out the purpose of the law requiring licensed hunters to wear tags, also placing the blame for the tags on the shoulders of Mr. Creasy, candidate for lieutenant governor on the Democratic ticket. A short review of the history of this bill may refreshen the secretary's memory as well as enlighten the public on this point.

In the month of January, 1911, Dr. Kalbfus visited the Hunters and Anglers' Protective Association, in their hall corner Fifth and Peffer streets. After delivering an address he handed out a number of pamphlets, in which he urged the hunters to support the license law by the 1911 Legislature was urged. This pamphlet bore the names of all members of the Game Commission, including that of the secretary.

In the Legislature of 1907 a bill similar to the one urged in the pamphlet was defeated, largely by the vote of the country members; a suggestion had been made that if the farmer was exempt from the provision of the bill he might be won over. The pamphlet endeavored to show that such a provision was unconstitutional and would destroy the very fabric on which game protection was built; namely, that wild game belongs to all the people of the State. The bill introduced in the Legislature of 1911 excluded no one from its provisions, even requiring a license to carry a gun on the highways of the State. At the public hearing before the house committee on game the latter clause was pointed out by a farmer member, who supported the argument by stating if a neighbor farmer was to assist in the annual hog killing and brought his gun along to kill the hogs, he was liable to arrest. The objectionable clause was stricken out, but the farmer could not be caught by this little bit of sweetening and the measure was defeated in the senate.

The bill was again introduced in the house in the 1913 session of the Legislature. The constituency of the country members had cautioned their representatives to move slow, and more conservative, were asked accordingly the words "ten acres" were stricken out, thus allowing any one living on and cultivating land to hunt without a license; also allowing him to hunt on his neighbors' land with his consent. This concession hundreds were exempt from the provisions of the bill. A fourth concession was made by providing one-half the revenue derived

from the measure should be used for paying bounties on obnoxious birds and animals, thus giving the farmer's boy an opportunity to earn a dollar or two during the winter. Still the bill was not satisfactory; then came the tag. The committee on game had given a public hearing. It was evident the friends of the measure had not made much headway. Mr. J. E. Sansom, of Pittsburgh, editor of a pamphlet founded by a member of the Game Commission, having in mind the tag-law, made the suggestion of a numbered tag that could be used as an identification mark. Farmer Weimer, of Lebanon, and Farmer Surface, of Harrisburg, the only farmers present, at once endorsed it, and in this form, with the assistance of the Harrisburg member on the committee, it was sent to the floor of the House. Its stormy reception and defeat on third reading by the House of Representatives; its recall to the calendar and passage under the whip of the Governor and the game warden's of history. The secretary seems to have forgotten that in 1913 he issued hundreds of tags, which men hunted the entire season.

Section 4 of this act states that upon the payment of one dollar to the county treasurer by a person qualified to be entitled to a resident hunter's license and tag. On the strength of this clause, the law of 1914, the laws of Pennsylvania permits hunting of game of one kind and another the greater part of the year. The laws of Pennsylvania migratory bird law would reduce this to three months in the year.

The same section provides for the Game Commission to furnish blanks to the county treasurer and the county treasurer to furnish blanks to the justices of the peace. If any official has been neglecting this duty he is responsible and not the hunter who has complied with the law. We have also searched this measure to find where it permits the department to delay the issuing of licenses and tags until the first of September and later. The license is marked "good for 1914." The laws of Pennsylvania permits hunting of game of one kind and another the greater part of the year. The laws of Pennsylvania migratory bird law would reduce this to three months in the year.

The local cases of violations of the license laws that have brought out this correspondence smack of too much persecution rather than game protection, and cannot be excused by a lot of generalities. Very truly, S. H. GARLAND, Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 24, 1914.

PENNSY EMPLOYE RETIRES

B. F. Pheneger in Continuous Service of Company 40 Years

B. F. Pheneger, a well-known employe of the Pennsylvania railroad here will be retired Saturday. He has worked as a machinist in the tool room of round house No. 2 for the last eight years.

Mr. Pheneger was born on October 4, 1844, in Lancaster county, serving his apprenticeship as machinist with Brua Brothers, at Gordonville, after which he worked at his trade in the round house at Columbia under Charles Gordon until 1885, when he was given charge of the round house. In 1906 he came to Harrisburg to serve as a machinist in round house No. 2, at which place he has worked up until the present time.

On Saturday Mr. Pheneger will leave for Columbia to join his wife, and it is there that he will make his home. He is a member of the Red Men's lodge of Columbia and while he was a resident here was an active member of Grace Methodist church.

21ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover Entertained Friends in Celebration of Event

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoover, 2440 Boas street, Penbrook, entertained at their home Monday evening in celebration of their twenty-first wedding anniversary. The guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. C. C. McGarvey and daughter, Jennie; Mr. and Mrs. Jacob O. Steese, Miss Ada Zimmerman, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Merry and sons, Elmer and George; Mrs. Garverick, Ada, and George; Tschoff and daughter, Mrs. and Mrs. Roy, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoover and family.

Greco to Occupy Northern Epirus London, Oct. 28.—The Greek government has announced to the Powers its intention of provisionally occupying northern Epirus, owing to the necessity of suppressing the anarchy prevailing there as the result of the breakdown of the Albanian government and the flight of Prince William of Wied.

UTAH MINES ARE ACTIVE

Washington, Oct. 28.—Utah is unique in the diversity of its metal production, particularly of precious and semiprecious metals. It does not rank first in the production of any of these metals, but it stands well among the leaders in the production of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, and vanadium minerals. It ranks second in the production of silver, third in lead, fourth in copper, sixth in gold, and seventh in zinc.

The recoverable copper content of the ores mined in Utah in 1913, according to the United States geological survey, was 161,445,962 pounds, valued at \$25,024,124, against 137,307,435 pounds, valued at \$22,655,735, in 1912. The production of silver decreased in 1913, the recoverable content of the ore mined being 13,084,833 fine ounces, valued at \$7,903,240, against 13,835,903 fine ounces, valued at \$8,509,080, in 1912. The recoverable lead content of the ores mined increased from 70,156 short tons, valued at \$6,314,001, in 1912, to 83,063 tons, valued at \$7,309,579, in 1913. The output of gold declined from 206,360 fine ounces, valued at \$4,265,851, in 1912, to 172,468 fine ounces, valued at \$3,565,229, in 1913.

The total value of the metal production of Utah in 1913, including a small amount of iron and vanadium ores, was \$44,916,348 out of a total value of all mineral production of \$56,606,520. In 1912 the metal production was valued at \$42,944,888 out of a total of \$51,004,942.

The production of coal in Utah increased from 3,016,149 short tons, valued at \$5,046,451, in 1912, to 3,254,828 tons, valued at \$5,384,127, in 1913. The manufacture of Portland cement is an industry of very recent development in Utah. In 1913 the output was 959,469 barrels, valued at \$1,233,421, against 760,668 barrels, valued at \$927,119, in 1912. The value of the clay products, exclusive of pottery, decreased slightly, from \$724,978 in 1912 to \$708,906 in 1913.

ASTOR'S SON IS WOUNDED IN THE BATTLE IN FRANCE

London, Oct. 28.—Captain John Jacob Astor, First Life Guards, son of William Waldorf Astor, 18, has been wounded in battle in France. His name appears in the list of casualties made public yesterday.

The casualty list issued last night, dated October 23, reports 16 officers killed, 35 wounded and 23 missing. Among the wounded are Brigadier General C. T. McM. Kavanagh and Lieutenant Colonel E. E. Cook, First Life Guards; Lieutenant Colonel A. F. H. Ferguson, Second Life Guards, and Lieutenant Colonel B. E. Ward, Middlesex regiment.

From One Thing to Another

"We sent Gladys Ann to cooking school to get her mind off her piano playing," said Mr. Curox. "Did the plan succeed?" "Yes. Now we're trying to persuade her to study political economy so as to get her mind off the cooking."—Washington Star.

MI-O-NA QUICKLY ENDS INDIGESTION

Eat Your Favorite Food and Never Fear After-Distress

There is a way for you to eat whatever your stomach craves. Many will say "How I wish I could but I have tried and every time it nearly kills me." The real trouble is that people who suffer the untold agony of indigestion do not realize that the stomach has a lot of work to perform in digesting the food and if crowded with extra labor it rebels and kicks up a fearful disturbance. Mi-o-na, a simple and inexpensive prescription, easily obtained from H. C. Kennedy or any drug store, will quickly and effectively stop this disturbance of money refunded. It not only increases the flow of digestive juices, but surely and safely builds up and strengthens the stomach walls so that what you eat is cared for as nature intended. It's needless for you to suffer with indigestion, heartburn, biliousness, sour, gassy or upset stomach, for Mi-o-na tablets surely give prompt and lasting relief and perfectly harmless. Adv.

Reading \$3.00 TO NEW YORK AND RETURN Sunday, Nov. 8 SPECIAL EXCURSION TRAIN From L.V.A.M. HARRISBURG, 3.35 Hummelstown, 3.50 Swatara, 3.55 Hershey, 3.57 Palmyra, 4.04 Lebanon, 4.13 Avon, 4.28 Sheridan, 4.37 Robeson, 4.47 New York, Arrive, 4.59