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Saturday, February 27, 1915.

FEBRUARY

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
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MOON'S PHASES—
 Last Quarter, 7th; New Moon, 13th;
 First Quarter, 21st.

WEATHER FORECASTS
 Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair to-night. Sunday partly cloudy, continued cold.
 Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night. Sunday partly cloudy, continued cold. Fresh northwest winds.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG
 Highest, 38; lowest, 29; 8 a. m., 30; 8 p. m., 31.

WARFARE AND WATERWAYS

The news of the demolition by fleets of the Allies of forts guarding the entrance to the Dardanelles, and of the mine dragging operations now proceeding in the straits, awakens speculation as to the importance of control of this waterway by the Allies if they are successful in their present endeavors. By their possession of it they could change Turkey's plans both for offense and defense in a dozen and one ways, gaining all the advantages which go with the control of an important water passage.

Rivers, because they are considered valuable as lines of defense and are used as such, and because they often afford ready access to strategic points, have been important considerations in warfare. Many have been the battles in the descriptions of which history says rivers ran with blood. Although engagements on river banks are not necessarily more sanguinary than other conflicts, the accounts of streams bearing away lifeless bodies and of waters stained with red, most often make them seem so.

The Euphrates will ever be remembered for its part in admitting the attacking Persians within the walls of Babylon. The Tiber performed noble services in defending Rome. Over the Rhine no foe ever passed unopposed. Our own Delaware was crossed by Washington in one of his most celebrated maneuvers. In the present war an important place is occupied by the Meuse, which, protected by the Liege forts, delayed the Germans a fortnight in their onward march and during that time bore away the bodies of many valiant soldiers.

The courses of rivers have decided plans of campaigns, and the windings of waterways have determined results of battles. The geography of a war zone has everything to do with the movements of armies, and lakes, straits and rivers all play their parts.

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE WEATHER

With a one-two-three crack of the whip the month of February, 1915, is about to be hurled into history. There is nothing left of the beautiful, balmy days but reminiscences and the prognostications of the unofficial weather sharks who talk about how severe the March weather is to be or is not to be. Sure enough the wintry breezes were here to-day, and, for that matter, they were here yesterday. Snow flurries carried by a strong wind added to the discomfort and, incidentally, brought a vivid red color to many a proboscis; but that does not necessarily indicate what the weather is going to be during the next few weeks. We all recall the saying about March coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb.

All because the groundhog did not go back into its hole to finish its winter's sleep on February 2, many are of the opinion that the weather will continue to be balmy and unseasonable—springlike. However, besides the groundhog, the woolly worm, the spring birds, the budding trees, the shooting arbutus and similar spring signs, there are other similar things to be considered. For instance, yesterday was the last Friday of the month and since some concede that the weather on that day generally governs weather conditions in the next succeeding lunar period, there are a good many persons looking for chilly blasts and a really seasonable March. There's Saint Patrick's Day not three weeks off and that has been a cold day in many of the years gone by.

In the open country, where the twitter and chirp

of the spring birds during the last fortnight was as regular, perhaps, as the break of day, all of the feathered creatures to-day seemed to have gone into hiding. They had been silenced, no doubt, by the sudden change of temperature. Now that practically all of the weather signs have proved to be little or nothing more than subjects for arguments, there is nothing left to do but to await the daily predictions of the official weather man.

GIGGLERS BANISH GLOOM

In a condemnation of the practice of giggling a clergyman in another state complained the other day that the followers of his profession are expected to preach to girls "as beautiful as angels and as silly as geese." Young women answering that description cannot help it that they are good-looking, or perhaps that they giggle. Being good-looking is no crime, although at a church service it is certainly out of place and should be controlled.

Little outbreaks of merriment in churches have been explained by psychologists as the consequences of some sort of a spontaneous resistance to seriousness which affects young persons while hymns are being sung and sermons preached and when they should, according to conventions, view things soberly. Such outbreaks must be annoying certainly, to clergymen trying to deliver discourses forcefully from their pulpits, no less than they would be to teachers and lecturers. There is a time not for fun as well as a time for it, and that distinction is what needs to be better understood by young persons inclined to giggle.

Yet giggling surely is not in itself bad. It is not as pleasant to hear, perhaps, as hearty laughter inspired by something really funny, but if it is the best that the "silly as geese" girls can do in the way of expressing merriment, it must be tolerated, perhaps even encouraged. If prolonged it may become tiresome, but in moderation girlish giggling in the proper place never hurt anybody except unpopular persons against whom it may occasionally have been directed.

Angelic gigglers banish gloom surely, and in that capacity are very useful to the human race. They may be out of place in church auditoriums, school rooms and lecture halls, but elsewhere they do more good than harm.

Gloomy girls are out of fashion and giggling girls are in. Perhaps the former never did exist in overwhelming numbers. At any rate, the latter are the more human.

We beg to suggest that they run jitney busses to Wildwood park.

"Bad nickels afloat in Herndon Borough," says the "Patriot." Perhaps they are cork imitations.

Those overworked legislators must be sufficiently rested after their ten days' session. Their energy will be manifest in the fifteen-minute recess on Monday night.

Factional differences are not recognized in the Democratic party when it comes to asking for contributions to wipe out that \$14,000 deficit of the last campaign.

Now that the Navy no longer has use for the plucking board it might be put to work by the Pennsylvania economists in plucking some of the unnecessary job holders on Capitol Hill.

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

WASTED ENERGY
 "Then you didn't enjoy seeing Congress in session?"
 "No, I did not," admitted the efficiency expert. "They made so many unnecessary motions."—Judge.

IT COST MONEY
 Harry—"What is the most expensive education that you know of?"
 Leonard—"Learning the names and past performances of a lot of race horses."—Brooklyn Citizen.

FAR-REACHING SERMON
 Flatbush—"When I came out of church on Sunday I found my horse fast asleep in the shed."
 Bensonhurst—"Why, he couldn't hear the sermon from there, could he?"—Yonkers Statesman.

NOT SO MUCH GINGER
 "I don't think your speech was as full of ginger as some of your former efforts."
 "Maybe it wasn't," replied Senator Sorghum. "The way a man has to stick to a topic in these filibustering days makes him inclined to dispense with ginger and look for glue."—Washington Star.

CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANTED IT
 Wife (complainingly)—"You never praise me up to anyone."
 Husband—"I don't, eh? You should hear me describe you at the employment office when I'm trying to hire a cook."—Boston Transcript.

AT THE FRONT
 "Yes, I say Chawlie Chippendale at the front."
 "Good old Chawlie. I suppose he was waving his sword in the sunlight and shouting 'Come on, lads, come on!'"
 "Well, no, he wasn't. He was waving a spade and yelling 'Dig, you Tommies, dig!'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

BETWEEN THE LINES
 "That man thinks I am positively ugly!"
 "Why, I did not hear him say anything that could possibly be construed that way."
 "Didn't you hear him say that I would need the very best lawyer that money could possibly employ?"—Houston Post.

PART OF THEIR PLATFORM?
 "Do you women realize what you are doing? Suppose you got to holding office—with your inexperience it would be ten years before you would be ready to pass any laws."
 "Well, ask any business man if that wouldn't be the best thing that could possibly happen to the country."—Suffrage Number of Puck.

IT WAS THE TURTLE'S FAULT
 A California youngster had been permitted to visit a boy friend on the strict condition that he was to leave there at 5 o'clock. He did not arrive home until 7 and his mother was very angry. The youngster insisted, however, that he had obeyed her orders and had not lingered unnecessarily on the way.
 "Do you expect me to believe," said his mother, "that it took you two hours to walk a quarter of a mile?" She reached for the whip. "Now, sir, will you tell me the truth?"
 "Ye'es, mamma," sobbed the boy. "Charlie Wilson gave me a mud turtle—and I was afraid—to carry it—so I led it home."—Boston Transcript.

SCROFULA AND ALL HUMORS GIVE WAY

There are many things learned from experience and observation that the older generation should impress upon the younger. Among them is the fact that scrofula, and other humors are most successfully treated with Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine is a peculiar combination of remarkably effective blood-purifying and health-giving roots, barks and herbs, and has been tested for forty years. Get it to-day. Adv.

Tongue-End Topics

Not Rest For Baker
 W. Harry Baker, secretary of the Senate, is not taking a rest in Florida, but it is through no lack of effort of his Senatorial friends to get him there. When Senators Crow, Vane and McNichol left for San Lucie last week to get away from the rigors of a Northern winter—and incidentally to fix up a few states—they invited Secretary Baker to go with them, insisting that the arduous duties of preparing for the legislative opening, and the constant service in keeping things straight since the convening of the Senate, had made him due for a rest, and he should be their guest. Baker didn't see it that way, however. He is a great stickler for work, and he thought there would be enough here to keep him busy, and he didn't like to entrust it to anybody else, even though it were of a routine character and could have been done by his assistants.

Plan to "Kidnap" Secretary
 But the Senatorial trio refused to accept his declination and decided, willfully, that the genial secretary should be compelled to take a Florida rest. So they fixed up a game on him. They got tickets for transportation and parlor and sleeping car accommodations for him without telling him anything about it, and then requested his presence at the train on the morning they started for Florida. Their intention, as Senator McNichol quietly confided to a few friends, was to kidnap Secretary Baker, get him on the train and keep him there until they got to Florida, when he would have to take an enforced rest.

Somebody Leaked
 Somehow somebody leaked, and Baker got an inkling of how he was to be kidnaped and he didn't turn up at the Philadelphia station when the train moved out, and the plot to kidnap him failed. He remained home and has been heard over cars in work ever since his Senatorial friends set out for the land of perennial bloom, and whenever he thinks of how he fooled 'em he quietly chuckles.

Germanus Living in Russia
 The proposal to oust the German population from Russia still hangs fire in Petrograd. Recommendations made before the Imperial Council and several commissions and sub-commissions appointed by the government have included the government purchases of all landed property owned by Russian citizens of German nationality and the expulsion of these subjects from Russia, but owing to the difficulty of replacing the Germans, who occupy an important position in Russia's industrial scheme, the German problem still lies before the commissions, with little probability of immediate solution. The liberally inclined members believe that, while the Germans should not continue to enjoy the special privileges which have favored German industry in Russia in the past, they should not, on the other hand, be summarily deprived of their rights in Russia, so long as they are Russian citizens. The Pan-Slavists and the extreme members of the Nationalist party favor the immediate expulsion of Germans at all costs.

Problem Not Solved
 As a practical measure, the whole question hinges on the availability of other candidates to fill the positions now occupied by Germans. This German population does not exceed three per cent of the entire population, but it occupies a conspicuous place in the administrative activity of Russia, both of a private and a governmental nature. The majority of bank and insurance company directors, property owners and managers are Germans. The same is true of university professors, lawyers, doctors, chief foresters, exporters, importers, civil engineers, printers and foremen in factories. Before the beginning of the war Russia viewed this condition indispensable in a country not yet trained to develop its own resources to their highest efficiency. The problem, therefore, which Russia has faced since the beginning of the war is a complicated one, for which no practical solution has yet been suggested. Works that prepared ammunition for war, railroads and steamship lines for the transportation of troops and munitions were directed by Germans. And most of the land fringing the Russian boundaries in Europe was owned by the Germans.

A Tragic Coincidence
 In 1865 a German predicted that he would be a victim of a war that would take place in 1866. The war occurred, but did not affect him. One day forty-two years later he was laughing at his old time prophecy and boasting of his good health. In his happy mood he bought an old cottage from a friend and straightaway went to inspect it. In the garden there was a quantity of old iron and among it a shell dating from 1866. He picked it up and was examining it when it exploded, and he was killed on the spot. The prophecy had come true.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

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

A View of the Full Crew Law

Editor, the Star-Independent.
 Dear sir: It is not a misleading statement when it is said that the extra or full crew man is not needed on railroad trains.
 In the past or at present, without a doubt the railroads have and would make their trains according to the requirements, considering the public, the employees and their property. They would not sacrifice the value of the salary of one man, if it was known to them that such service was required. No one knows a business proposition better than those who handle it every day.
 Full crew law or not, the railroad companies are not assured that they are not held responsible for transportation of passengers or freight, and the matter should be left to their judgment for the proper number of men on the crew for each and every train dispatched.

The issue appears to be one like the insurance protection of property. If an investment is made in real estate, a fire insurance policy is secured at once for the protection of the holder. The railroad trains are a heavy investment and the holders of the investment take the same care and pains for its insurance protection. It cannot be considered, by wise thinkers, that safeguards are not thrown about railroad trains, as is done by real estate property holders, yet, the full crew law was undoubtedly introduced and passed without first securing the merits of the wanted and selfish imposition.

Other legislatures, like the State of Pennsylvania, had presented such bills, which became laws, and finding them contrary to the progressive spirit of the American people, they were repealed, and the same law, at the present time, is being considered in other states for repeal.

It is hoped that the lawmakers, who hold the subject in their hands, will thoroughly search for all correct facts possible to the end that their vote may be fair and impartial along business lines.
 SHOPMAN.
 Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 27, 1915.

WESTERN PACIFIC RECEIVER

Application to Be Made When Railroad Defaults Paying Interest
 By Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 27.—Application for a receiver for the Western Pacific railway will be made after the railway will have defaulted the interest on its first mortgage bonds due March 1, according to announcement made to-day after a meeting of the directors of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway Company, which controls the Western Pacific. The proceedings, it was said, will be of a friendly nature.

This method, it was said, had been decided upon as the best course to pursue in adjusting the company's financial difficulties and its relations with the Denver and Rio Grande.

YOUNG PROPERTY SOLD

Sale of Other Real Estate Postponed for Lack of Sufficient Bid
 A plot of ground situated at Elm and Church streets, Penbrook, to-day was sold at public sale, in front of the Court House by William M. Hargest, trustee of the estate of the late Henry F. Young, to E. E. Miller for \$900.
 The sale of the houses at 506-508 Walnut street, this city, which also were a part of the Young estate, was postponed because of an insufficient bid. The assessed value of the houses is \$10,500. The highest bid was \$9,500. An adjourned sale may be held in the near future for the purpose of disposing of those houses.

ASK TO RETAIN DR. FOX

Members of Grace Church Request Bishop to Reappoint Pastor
 At the meeting of the fourth quarterly conference of Grace Methodist Episcopal church, held Thursday evening, the following resolution was passed unanimously:
 "Resolved, That a cordial invitation is hereby extended to the Rev. J. D. Fox to return to Grace church as its pastor for the ensuing conference year, and that the presiding Bishop, the Rev. William Burt, D. D., is kindly requested to reappoint Dr. Fox to our church, and that the district superintendent, the Rev. A. S. Fasick, D. D., is hereby requested to use his influence to effect the reappointment."

CHORUS TO MEET MONDAY

Singers Will Make Arrangements to Go to Lancaster Tabernacle
 Arrangements will be made finally for the excursion to the Stough tabernacle at Lancaster by the Harrisburg evangelistic chorus at its regular monthly meeting on Monday night at 7:30 o'clock in the chapel of Grace Methodist church. The excursion will be held on Tuesday evening, March 16.
 These are now over a thousand members of the chorus. The members of the orchestra, under the direction of C. A. Stouffer, will be well represented at Monday night's meeting.

TO ADDRESS PEOPLE'S FORUM

C. W. Anderson Will Speak To-morrow at A. M. E. church
 Calvin W. Anderson, of Williamsport, will address the People's Forum at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon in Wesley Union A. M. E. church, South street. Mr. Anderson will use as his theme "The Drama of Life." A musical program will precede the oration. A large attendance is anticipated.

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CLASSIC WAR POEMS

Selected by J. Howard Wert

No. 11. THE BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MOORE

BY REV. CHARLES WOLFE

Amongst the leaders of English armies during the Napoleonic wars, there was no braver nor nobler man than Sir John Moore. Yet, like many other brave commanders who faced the victorious legions of France, he was destined to go down to defeat and lose his life on the field of battle. He met his fate whilst commanding an army in the northwestern province of Spain, and his beaten troops were obliged to leave the land where he had fallen, embarking from the port of Coruna.

Many a general has fought as nobly as did Sir John Moore and died under circumstances as pathetic, yet, in a few years, has passed into oblivion. But a poor and unknown Irish clergyman wrote a few simple verses about Sir John, and the touching stanzas placed the unfortunate general forever in the gallery of fame. His name is now as immortal as the English language.

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,
 As his corse to the rampart we hurried;
 Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot
 O'er the grave where our hero we buried.

We buried him darkly at dead of night,
 The sods with our bayonets turning,
 By the struggling moonbeam's misty light,
 And the lantern dimly burning.

No useless coffin enclosed his breast,
 Not in sheet or in shroud we wound him;
 But he lay like a warrior taking his rest,
 With his martial cloak around him.

Few and short were the prayers we said,
 And we spoke not a word of sorrow;
 But we steadfastly gazed on the face that was dead,
 And we bitterly thought of the morrow.

We thought, as we hollow'd his narrow bed,
 And smooth'd down his lonely pillow,
 That the foe and the stranger would tread o'er his head,
 And we far away on the billow!

Lightly they'll talk of the spirit that's gone,
 And o'er his cold ashes upbraid him,
 But little he'll reck, if they let him sleep on
 In the grave where a Briton has laid him.

But half of our heavy task was done,
 When the clock struck the hour for retiring;
 And we heard the distant and random gun
 That the foe was sullenly firing.

Slowly and sadly we laid him down,
 From the field of his fame fresh and gory;
 We carved not a line, and we raised not a stone—
 But we left him alone with his glory!

Y. M. C. A. MEN'S MEETING
 Praise, Prayer and Testimony Service To-morrow Afternoon
 An old-fashioned praise, prayer and testimony service will be held to-morrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock under the direction of the Young Men's Christian Association, Second and Locust streets. The musical attraction will be the male quartet, a favorite company of singers with the men who attend these gatherings. They will render some new evangelistic selections to-morrow.
 The praise service will be under the direction of W. H. Kautz. Familiar hymns will be sung. The management extends a cordial invitation for all men to be present, young and old. All will be given a chance to take part in this meeting in the way of prayer and testimony. Doors will open at 3 o'clock. Strangers in the city, commercial travelers in particular, are cordially invited to meet with the association men.

See Coupon for Thurston on Page 9

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