

The Star-Independent

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Thursday, March 4, 1915.

MARCH calendar grid showing days 1 through 31.

MOON'S PHASES: Full Moon, 1st, 31st; Last Quarter, 8th; New Moon, 15th; First Quarter, 23d.

WEATHER FORECASTS: Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair weather to-night. Friday increasing cloudiness and warmer.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG: Highest, 36; lowest, 21; 8 a. m., 21; 8 p. m., 31.

HELPING THE GOVERNOR ECONOMIZE: One of the surprising things about the attitude of many of the members of the Legislature in the present session is that, although they cannot have voted to recognize the absolute necessity for conserving the State's money to an extraordinary degree at this time, due to the State's greatly reduced sources of revenue, they are doing so little in the way of helping to effect the necessary economies.

Governor Tener, in his final message before resigning his office to his successor, pointed out for various reasons, bearing on the business situation, revenues for the next two years will be added to the extent of many millions of dollars as new sources of revenue are found, and it should be accepted without argument that the placing of further burdens of taxation on the corporations and individuals of the state should be resorted to only if absolutely unavoidable.

Governor Brumbaugh, too, has recognized the need for widespread economies in the use of the Commonwealth's funds and the need for "cutting the coat to fit the cloth" when it comes to making appropriations from the moneys that are available. Governor Brumbaugh, by having already wiped off almost \$100,000 from one of the first appropriation bills that have come to his notice, a deficiency bill, has proved that his insistence on economies is not mere talk.

The wonder is, therefore, that the legislators as a class have not shown more of a disposition to cooperate with the Governor in this most important matter. Few of them have shown any inclination to curtail the appropriations they are asking their home communities or to originate legislation designed to make necessary cuts in expenditures of the state funds where such curtailments are possible.

However, the attitude of Representative Joshua Swartz, of this city, stands out in marked contrast to that of most of the lawmakers in this regard. Mr. Swartz, in introducing in the House a few days ago his bill reducing the size of the Public Service Commission and placing it under control of the department of the Secretary of Internal Affairs, plainly required by the Constitution of the State, pointed out a way in which \$50,000 a year can be cut off the salaries of this commission and its employes without apparently reducing the board's efficiency.

Mr. Swartz is to be congratulated on having taken a position in this matter that distinguishes him from the rank and file of his colleagues, many of whom apparently are not only refraining from urging Governor Brumbaugh in working out legislation to reduce the fixed expenses of the State, but are even introducing measures calling for appropriations benefiting their local constituencies which are out of all proportion to the amount of money available. In brief they are leaving it up to the Appropriations Committees or to Governor Brumbaugh himself to cut the aggregate amount of money available to a figure within the amount of money the State will have available to spend.

There should be more bills—like the Swartz bill—designed to cut down expenses, and fewer designed only to bump up the total.

THE LAW AGAINST "DOPE" IN EFFECT: Reports coming from many directions during the day or two are beginning to show what are the actual consequences of the Federal anti-narcotic

law which went into operation the first of the month. The two classes of persons principally affected by the provisions of the law are, oddly enough, "dope" fiends and doctors. The former, crazed with desire for the drugs which have gained mastery over them but which are now denied them, are being taken under police protection, and given medical attention, sometimes at their own request and often without it. The doctors, forced to comply with numerous conditions before they can give habit-forming drugs to patients for medicinal purposes, are complaining that the provisions of the law are not considerate of the actual necessities of the practice of medicine.

The new law, however, must as a whole be considered a force for good. It, of course, hinders free medicinal use of narcotics, but it also restricts the abuse of them. Even if the unfortunate fiends are made to suffer miseries, perhaps to commit crimes, yet the spread of the awful drug habit will be arrested, and that accomplishment will be compensation enough for any inconveniences which the law may bring with it for the annoyance of law-abiding physicians and their patients.

It is certainly necessary that in a county which in recent years has been using ten times as large a supply of narcotics as absolutely required for medicinal purposes, a law should be put into operation which places the sale of the drugs directly under the control of the government. The strict enforcement of the law will leave little opportunity for the sale in the future of "dope" to persons who by becoming fiends become criminals.

That the "dope" peddlers fear the Federal government's detectives and are abandoning their traffic despite the immense profits which accompany the sale of heroin, cocaine and opium, is indicated by the declaration made yesterday to the Philadelphia police by a victim of the drug habit, that he has been unable since March 1 to buy narcotics at any of his old haunts, since all the dealers have disappeared as if by magic.

No law limiting legislators' labors to eight hours a day is needed in Pennsylvania.

Arresting bomb throwers before they throw them is the most effective kind of detective work that we know of.

While paying bounties on noxious animals, why not place a price on the heads of some of Dauphin county's escaped murderers?

Marriage licenses are to remain at the old price of \$1 each, thanks to a majority of sympathetic Beneditis in the Legislature.

Wilson's term as President is half over to-day, and it may be remarked that the nation is safe for at least two more years.

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

CORRECT! "What are the two sexes, Alee?" asked the teacher. "Masculine and feline," answered Alee.—Woman's Home Companion.

SOME NOISE THEN "I think your husband dresses so nicely and quietly." "Really? You should hear him when he loses a collar button!"—Judge.

WOMAN'S SKILL A man likes to boast about his mechanical ability, but it takes a woman to sharpen a lead pencil with a pair of scissors.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

SYMPATHY NEEDED "Jiggs' wife speaks ten languages." "I move we adopt resolutions of sympathy and send them to Jiggs."—Buffalo Express.

PESSIMISTIC VIEWS "This is a mighty poor world, anyhow." "Isn't it? Everything we want hangs just beyond our reach, and everything we don't want falls and hits us on the head."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

NATURE WAS GENEROUS Patience—"Nature has provided for her lavishly." Patrice—"How so?" "She has two chins."—Yonkers Statesman.

WIRES WERE CROSSED "Auntie, did you ever get a proposal?" "Once, dear. A gentleman asked me to marry him over the telephone, but he had the wrong number."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

HE NEEDED ENCOURAGEMENT Mr. Slowboy (calling on girl)—"You seem—er—rather distant this evening." The Girl—"Well, your chair isn't nailed down, is it?"—Brooklyn Eagle.

A GOOD ACTOR Mr. Bacon—"Well, I try to act like a gentleman, anyhow." Mrs. Bacon—"Oh, yes, you're a very good actor."—Yonkers Statesman.

HE WILL NEED IT Cholly—"Before I met you I thought of nothing but making money." Ethel—"Well, keep right on! Pop ain't so rich as folks think."—Dallas News.

PLAN THAT DIDN'T WORK Mother—"Why don't you yawn when he stays too long? He'll take the hint and go." Daughter—"I did, and he told me what beautiful teeth I had."—Philadelphia Ledger.

DONE IN POLITICS, TOO "Forgive your enemies," said the earnest man. "That's good religion." "Yes," replied Senator Sorghum, "and sometimes it's good politics, too."—Washington Star.

AT A SAFE DISTANCE Cop—"Come along now! I arrest you for being full." Lushman—"Well, arrest th' moon; that's full, too." Cop—"Maybe it is, but it isn't staggerin' along an' bumpin' into everybody."—Boston Transcript.

HE COLLECTED "How did the robber act?" asked the curious one of the hold-up victim. "Oh, he was calm and collected," retorted the victim, mindful of his empty pockets.—Buffalo Express.

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Tongue-End Topics

On Seeing Pennsylvania

"See Pennsylvania First" is becoming a slogan in the Keystone State, and thousands more and more each year are awakening to the beauties of the territory that first welcomed William Penn. It being considered the thing to traverse the State's highways and byways in search of the wonders within its boundaries, the automobile furnishes means of travel denied by the rail. Where one party took a pleasure trip through the State then years ago, a hundred now set out to enjoy the manifold beauties of its wealth of scenery.

The Historic Spots

But, in the seeing Pennsylvania first those who go forth should become acquainted with the historic spots so abundant and precious to the true Pennsylvanian. The Historical Commission of Pennsylvania, has just issued a report and all through the pages the work of Thomas Lynch Montgomery, State Librarian, curator of the commission, is apparent. This commission was created in July, 1913, by legislative act and its first members were Senator William C. Sprout, of Chester; George P. Donehoo, of Codorusport, an authority on State Indian matters; William H. Stevenson, of Philadelphia; the late William U. Hensel, of Lancaster, and former Attorney General Hampton L. Carson, of Philadelphia, with Thomas Lynch Montgomery as curator. The commission is charged with the duty of marking and preserving the antiquities and historical landmarks of Pennsylvania.

Hard to Make Selections

In the pursuit of its work the commission has found an embarrassment of riches. Hardly a county in Pennsylvania from the Delaware to Lake Erie or from the southern to the northern boundary but contains some historical spot which in time should be marked, and the commission has barely gotten started in its work, after much patient research. It has, however, visited a number of historic spots and it has succeeded in interesting the people in its work, and this is bound to bear good fruit in the future. The plan and scope of the great undertaking has been decided upon and it will not be many years before the most important places in the history of the State will be suitably marked so that all may know of their value to Pennsylvania.

Site of Fort McCord Marked

Thus far the commission has assisted in the marking of one historic spot, the site of Fort McCord, situated seven miles west of Chambersburg, the site of the massacre by Indians on April 1, 1756, of twenty-seven pioneer settlers—men, women and children. A monument of granite in the form of a Celtic cross, with bronze tablet at the base, marks the spot. However, steps have been taken for the marking of the following historic sites as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made: Fort Hunter, near Harrisburg; Fort Ligonier, at Ligonier; Fort Necessity, at Mount Washington, on the National Pike; the house of Governor Printz, on Tinicum Island, where the first government by white men was established in Pennsylvania, and the Sandelands house, at Chester, where was held the first law-making Assembly of the Commonwealth. That the matter of marking the State's historical spots has excited general interest is evidenced from the fact that during the year the commission has received and answered many letters from societies and individuals concerning the work and the location of historic sites.

Pennsylvania and the Nation

An excerpt from the report that will attract general attention and interest, is as follows: "In order rightly to study the influences which have been at work in the making of the American nation as it exists in fact, instead of in romantic historical poems of New England authors, one must go back to the early periods in the history of the State, with its many complex problems. The Quaker, the Scotch-Irish and the Pennsylvania German influences have been as dominant forces in the moulding of American institutions as either the Puritan of New England or the Cavalier of Virginia. The influence of the Puritan waned with the century which gave him his name, and the Cavalier of Virginia was always more of a myth than a reality. The Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania German influences, which spread out from the rugged mountains of Pennsylvania to Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and the Great West, are still dominant in American affairs. The trails of the red men to the Ohio and to the western wilderness were trodden by the feet of the Scotch-Irish and the German pioneers from the mountains of Pennsylvania, and not by the feet of the Puritan from New England. Even a large proportion of the 'First Families of Virginia,' and many of the best

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THE GLOBE "The Friendly Store"

of them, were Scotch-Irish from the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania. To read the names of the men who have won the West" confirms this statement. The Puritan of New England has played a most important part in the poetry of history, but the Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania German made a far greater part of the actual history of the Nation which now exists.

CLASSIC WAR POEMS

Selected by J. Howard Wert

No. 15. THE CONSECRATION OF PULASKI'S BANNER

BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

Poland is show so much in the public eye that this number will present one of Longfellow's earliest poems written in commemoration of one of the noblest of the Polish nation—Count Casimir Pulaski, who fell in the American attack on Savannah during our Revolutionary war, after he had shown his heroism in behalf of the struggling colonies on many fields of battle.

The banner borne at the head of the troops he commanded was of crimson silk embroidered by the Moravian nuns of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

When the dying flame of day Through the channel shot its ray, Far the glimmering tapers shed Faint light on the cowled head, And the censor burning swung, Where, before the altar, hung That proud banner, that with prayer Had been consecrated there.

"Take thy banner! But when night Closes round the ghastly fight, If the vanquish'd warrior low, Spare him! By our holy vow, By our prayers and many tears, By the mercy that endears, Spare him! he our love hath shared; Spare him! as thou wouldst be spared.

"Take thy banner! And if e'er Thou shouldst press the soldier's bier, And the muffled drum should beat To the tread of mournful feet, Then this crimson flag shall be Martial cloak and shroud for thee," And the warrior took that banner proud, And it was his martial cloak and shroud.



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