

The Star-Independent

Star-Independent information including establishment date, publishers, and contact details.

"The School for Scandal," among others of her former successes. The producers may not have the moral in mind, only the continued popularity of the comedy, yet the presentation of "The School for Scandal" by a good company ought to have its beneficial results.

Mr. Garrick's query in the prologue of the play: "A School for Scandal, tell me, I beseech you, needs there a school this modish art to teach you?" may be answered in the negative. The play teaches, rather than the art of scandal, the blessedness of avoiding it.

Men, it has been repeatedly declared, gossip as much as do women. One will occasionally be found, to be sure, whose conversation like that of Sir Benjamin Backbite in the play, "is a perpetual libel on all his acquaintance."

COMPENSATION BUT FEW SAFEGUARDS

The Layland mine disaster in which more than a hundred men lost their lives on March 2, was caused, according to the coroner's jury, by "an explosion of dust." Nobody is held responsible.

It seems that there are no laws in West Virginia requiring necessary precautions to be taken in the mines to prevent such explosions, that for many years lives have been sacrificed in the mines of the state and no steps taken to protect the men who take the place of the dead ones, and that to-morrow another catastrophe like the one of March 2 could occur in an unsafe West Virginia mine and the blame could not legally be placed anywhere.

The federal government, through the Department of Mines, has shown that when gas explosions occur, as the primary causes of great mine disasters, they are given force by the dust in the mines and the effects are felt as far as the dust penetrates. Although in all mines slight explosions are at times unavoidable, and the accumulation of dust is inevitable, it has been found that if the dust is kept damp it is harmless and that if an explosion then occurs the shock will be confined to one small section of the mine.

If the government investigators are right about the prevention of the so-called dust explosions, there should be no repetitions of the Layland catastrophe. Expenses involved in the taking of needed precautions in the West Virginia or any other mines ought to be regarded as insignificant in comparison with risks involved in a lack of safeguards.

West Virginia seems to be rather inconsistent. Directly following the Layland disaster accounts told how fortunate were the many widows of the mangled miners to receive the benefits of the state's Workmen's Compensation law, which went into effect in 1913. Now the report of the coroner's jury points out that there are no laws in the state under which the responsibility can be fixed for carelessness in making possible the dust explosion through which the lives were lost.

Philadelphia's new transit system may be rapid when it gets here but it is slow enough in coming.

One hundred thousand tons of war supplies left New York in seven steamships in one day. While we pray for peace we help 'em fight each other.

The German aviator who came near blowing up an American merchant vessel with a bomb would better be careful where he drops those things.

The Kansas City man who promises to produce gasoline at three cents a gallon must want to deprive automobile owners of the satisfaction of making their carless neighbors believe they are rich.

They have been taking contraband copper across the Swiss border into Germany in coffins. Since it has been found out the Swiss authorities doubtless will remove the copper but Germany will continue to use the coffins.

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

SAFE SAILING - What with mines, submarines and cruisers, mariners on the Great Lakes will this season be very well satisfied with fresh water.—Springfield Republican.

THE GALLANT VOLUNTEERS - First Territorial—"Well, what do you think of our manoeuvres, Bill?" Second Territorial (hitherto unacquainted with field days)—"Thank 'evin we've got a nivy."—London PUNCH.

MUST BE ROUND - "How do you know the world is round?" asked the teacher. "Because," replied the boy, "father says it ain't on the square and uncle says it ain't on the level."—Washington Star.

DUE TO THE WAR - Yet another change of name is announced. We learn from a German source that Joan of Arc has now become Johanna von Aachen.—London PUNCH.

THE ANTI'S VIEW - "Now, wouldn't you like to walk with your husband to the polls and cast in your vote with his?" asked the city lady of Mrs. Bean. Mrs. Bean shook her head, as she said, wearily: "For the land sakes! If there's anything a man can do by himself, let him do it."—Puck.

NOT THE FINISH - Every new dreadnought launched is "the last word" in battleships, but that word is not yet "fnis."—Springfield Union.

CATARH LEADS TO CONSUMPTION

Catarrh is as much a blood disease as scrofula or rheumatism. It may be relieved, but it cannot be removed by simply local treatment. It breaks down the general health, weakens the lung tissues, and leads to consumption.

Tongue-End Topics

Wallace C. Wise, Former Harrisburger - In the dispatches sent from San Francisco on the day the Pennsylvania building was dedicated last week mention was made that among the speakers on that occasion was Wallace C. Wise, president of the Pennsylvania Association in California, the membership being composed of former Pennsylvanians.

O'Neill, Friend of Kiddies

J. Denny O'Neill, of McKeesport, who is prominently mentioned as likely to be made State Commissioner of Highways to succeed Commissioner Bigelow, is a Commissioner of Allegheny county and one of the most popular men in the county.

Original Goethe Manuscript Found

An autograph copy of Goethe's comedy, "The Accomplices," written in his youth, has been found among the effects of an aged woman who recently died in Dresden. The manuscript was in a packet that had not been opened for forty years.

Mine Kills News Distributor

Brussels' supply of English newspapers, which have to be smuggled across the border on account of the German prohibition against their importation, has been curtailed by the violent death of a daring Belgian, who had for many weeks brought in 200 copies a day.

Get Rid of Lingering Colds, Coughs and La Grippe

Spring finds many afflicted with lingering, hacking coughs that weaken the system. Slush and wet cause more colds than zero weather. Croup, bronchitis and pneumonia are prevalent. Every family should have a safe and reliable cough medicine ready for use.

Gets Government Appointment

George W. Dress, a resident of Steelton, who for a number of years has been a chemist for the Pennsylvania Steel Company, was appointed an inspector of drugs in the local internal revenue district by Collector Kirkendall.

Some Valuable Pearls

Of all the articles of luxury known to the Romans pearls were most valued. They were worn by all classes. The famous pearl earrings which belonged to Cleopatra are said to have been worth \$800,000.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

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

DISCORDANT POLITICS

Editor of the Star-Independent: Dear Sir—That there should be marked lines of demarcation between political parties opposed to each other on grave questions of public policy is not at all an unreasonable assumption. On the contrary, such a hostile array of the adherents of a political party against those of its adversary, it must be admitted, is entirely normal and salutary.

Judge Bonniwell is a leading Democrat in the city of Philadelphia, and has had opportunity to observe the operations of State Chairman Morris at close range. To an independent mind his view might seem somewhat prejudiced. Indeed, Mr. Morris' fault as a party manager consists chiefly in his reliance upon the use of patronage of the Administration at Washington placed at his disposal and that of his factional confederates.

By the way, the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, the founder of the "Democratic Republican party" (that was the name the Sage of Monticello gave his party) the 13th of April, is near at hand and organization that profess to believe in the principles enunciated by Mr. Jefferson propose to celebrate that occasion in windy enthusiasm to be provoked by oratory from those who have notoriously repudiated the example set by the first Democratic President. On February 2, 1801, after his election to the Presidency by the House of Representatives had become a certainty, he wrote: "One thing I will say, that as to the future, interference with elections, whether of the State or General Government, by officers of the latter, should be deemed cause for removal; because the constitutional remedy by the elective principle becomes nothing, if it may be smothered by the enormous patronage of the Federal Government."

THE GLOBE THE GLOBE

Was You One Of the Crowd To Meet— The "Rochester-Special"?

The Unusual in Young Men's Clothes AT \$15

Our announcement of the arrival of this new line of "Snappy Clothes" to sell at this popular price met with an enthusiastic reception.

The many buyers, most of whom know good clothes, were loud in their praises of the new, distinctive features contained in the smartest clothes that have ever been shown at \$15.



There's a model for every man.

Black and White Stripes Are "Right"

It's the most popular pattern in shirts this season—these are made of silky crepe—with French cuffs—some have soft collars—stripes in every width—worth \$1.50, special at \$1.00

Are Your Hose Holeproof?

We are the Harrisburg home of these guaranteed hose. 8 pairs of mercerized lisle hose are guaranteed for six months, are... \$1.50 3 pairs of silk hose are guaranteed for three months, are... \$2.00

"Touchwood" For Luck—

Almost every person knows the meaning of "touch wood"—in this case it's the lucky, wooden jewelry novelty and quite popular already—cuff links, scarf pins, watch charms and watch fobs—smiling faces with bright shiny eyes—the price is trifling, only 25¢ and 50¢.

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lamation? This for consideration till we meet." Pray, how do the people in office at Washington, both in the legislative and executive departments of the Federal Government, observe these Jeffersonian requirements? Until they set the example for their party of a return to the principles of Jefferson, it will not be believed by the mass of the voters of the country that they are sincere in their profession of the Democratic faith.

Large advertisement for FINK'S BOCK BEER, featuring the brand name in large letters and promotional text about the beer's quality and origin.