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Friday, April 16, 1915.

APRIL

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	

MOON'S PHASES—
Last Quarter, 6th; New Moon, 14th;
First Quarter, 22nd; Full Moon, 29th.

WEATHER FORECASTS

Harrisburg and vicinity: Partly cloudy to-night and Saturday; not much change in temperature; lowest to-night about 40 degrees.

Eastern Pennsylvania: Partly cloudy to-night and Saturday; not much change in temperature. Light to moderate variable winds.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG
Highest, 63; lowest, 39; 8 a. m., 46; 8 p. m., 58.

LEADERS NOT CONSULTED

There seems to be no question that the so-called leaders of the Republican organization in Legislature were taken completely by surprise by the action of Governor Brumbaugh yesterday afternoon in recalling from the Senate the names of the seven Public Service Commissioners nominated between sessions by Governor Tener and which had been awaiting the confirmation of the upper branch of the General Assembly. The Governor's unexpected move has left the politicians figuratively up in the air."

At this writing the Governor has not said anything that throws definite light on his purpose in recalling the names. His foes, of course, are saying that the step was taken by him to place more patronage at his disposal to aid him in his fight for his personal local option bill, which is not certain of passage, and those who hold this belief or profess to hold it, point to the fact that the distribution of seven $10,000 jobs could be made to help a whole lot in a campaign such as the Governor is making in behalf of local option. Yet it will be hard to convince the rank and file of voters of Pennsylvania that Dr. Brumbaugh would trade off the seven very important Public Service Commission jobs to win a fight for any measure, no matter how earnestly desirous he is of putting that measure through the Legislature.

There had seemed to be an undercurrent of belief on Capitol Hill that Governor Brumbaugh desired some changes in the personnel of the Public Service Commission from the way it was constituted by Governor Tener, but no one, apparently, had any idea that he intended to recall the whole board. Indeed it is far from likely that his action of yesterday will result in all of the Tener board losing their posts. The Governor's move may have been just a step to facilitate readjustments in the board without any intention on his part of ousting the whole body.

But whatever was the Governor's purpose,—and time of course will reveal it,—Dr. Brumbaugh yesterday demonstrated more forcefully than by any other act of his administration thus far, that he meant what he said before election when he declared in effect that the old-line Republican organization has no shackles on him.

WANT A VOICE IN ARRANGING PEACE

For several years there have been under consideration plans to bring closer together the various parts of the British empire—the empire "greater than has been" and on which the sun never sets. By very reason of the fact that they are scattered over all inhabitable sections of the globe, the British dominions are not firmly enough united politically, to satisfy the statesmen of the empire.

The possibility now is that the opportunity will present itself at the close of the present war for the establishing of a more intimate relationship between England and its oversea possessions. It has been suggested that the British dominions aid the mother country in arranging the final terms of peace, thus taking a more active part in governmental affairs than they have in the past.

Canada especially has earned the privilege of having a voice in the drafting of the peace terms, according to prevailing opinion in London. Certain it is that the Canadians have been responding very patriotically to the call to the colors. They surely should have something to say about the settlement of a war which they are so largely aiding. They are now bearing a heavy war tax in addition to supplying large numbers of recruits.

If there had been no American revolution; if our forefathers had submissively tolerated George III; if we were now to be loyal subjects of George V, and if, in consequence, we were actively participating in the war,—as William Watson poetically avows we ought to be anyway,—we should certainly want to send our representatives to Holland or Switzerland or wherever the terms of peace are finally drawn up. The Canadians doubtless feel the same way about it, for with all their loyalty to a European crown they delight in representation in governmental matters.

The war will hardly bring about any territorial changes in which Canada will be directly interested, but the likelihood is that the final peace negotiations will involve transfers in which Australia and the British colonies in South Africa will be much concerned. If any of the British dominions are permitted to take part in the peace arrangements, the privilege must be granted to all, and that such privilege will be granted is not unlikely since through it the distant parts of the British empire may be more firmly united.

CANAL WILL PAY ITS OWN WAY LATER

That the Panama Canal will not pay its own way during this first year seems to be clearly indicated by figures which give the receipts and expenditures involved in the government's gigantic enterprise. Persons who estimated before the opening of the canal the vast amount of traffic that was about to pass through it may have been too optimistic, but of course they could not have foreseen the obstacles that the canal was to encounter during its first months.

Canal tolls during the first six months amounted to $2,138,442 and are averaging at present $400,000 a month, so that for the entire first year they will probably total more than $4,500,000. This amount is less than Colonel Goethal's estimate of the cost of operating the canal for one year.

The Colonel's estimate, however, although it includes the cost of civil government and sanitation in the Canal Zone, does not take in the expenditures which are being made to remove obstructions resulting from recent landslides along the course of the big ditch. The prospect therefore, is that for the first year, at any rate, the maintenance of the canal will mean financial loss to the government.

The war's interference with international trade has done much to keep down the receipts at the canal. It is to be deplored that the opening should be under such inauspicious circumstances.

Unfavorable commercial conditions will be responsible, together with the unavoidable landslides, for any losses Uncle Sam may suffer during the beginning of his undertaking, yet these losses, it is not too much to hope, will be easily offset when trading is resumed by belligerent nations and the restless land along the canal is persuaded to "stay put."

That the canal already has been the means of stimulating trade between the east and west seaboards of this country is evidenced by reports of canal traffic. Almost half of the cargo passing through Panama during the first six months was moving between points in the United States.

Even though it seems as though expenditures on the canal will exceed receipts from it for the present, the prospects for the future need not be dimmed on that account.

The Governor at least demonstrated he isn't taking orders.

"Chiefy" Lynch isn't the only official who can spring a "ripper."

General Huerta is having a nice time in New York but we haven't heard yet of his having saluted the flag.

Huerta is quoted as having said he has a plan for Mexico's salvation. Very good, general, but the other one you tried didn't work out very well!

The last time President Wilson "shook the plum tree" at the instance of the Reorganizers in Pennsylvania, a Ben Davis, of the Lancaster variety, fell, and it is claimed by mischief-making Republican newspapers that instead of a plum the Lancaster Ben Davis has proved an "apple of discord." But all the same it just depends on who will get the benefit of the effect of the appointment.

When former President Taft visited the hall of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives yesterday Lieutenant Governor McClain said: "Everybody loves a good loser." It is recalled in this connection that a corpulent bachelor who was jilted when he proposed matrimony in a play, remarked: "Nobody loves a fat man." As Mr. Taft is a good loser and, since his vigorous course in "reducing," he can no longer be classed as fat, he may run a strong race for popular approval in 1916.

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

ROOM FOR ALL

Any one can get a seat on the water wagon. It is one place where there is always plenty of room.—Philadelphia Press.

THE MOTORIST'S PLIGHT

"How fast is your car, Jimson?" asked Harkaway.

"Well," said Jimson, "it keeps about six months ahead of my income generally."—Harper's Weekly.

A CLOSE CALL

Postal Clerk—"Your letter just balances, miss; if it weighed any more you would have to put on another stamp."

Pretty Blonde—"Gracious! I'm glad I didn't sign my middle name!"—Judge.

BEING KIND TO TOMMY ATKINS

"Well, we'll bring the car to-morrow and take some of your patients for a drive. And by the by, nurse, you might look out some with bandages that show—the last party might not have been wounded at all, as far as anybody in the streets could see."—London Punch.

WHEN ONE IS RICH

"When I started in business," said Mr. Dustin Stax, "I worked 12 hours a day."

"It's different now."

"Yes. Now I have so many things to look after that I work 16 hours a day."—Washington Star.

Tongue-End Topics

Real Artists As Street Musicians

Grinders of wheezy organs, elastic cheeked cornetists and other beggars using music simply as an excuse for passing the hat are rapidly being driven out of business in London, for the war has brought a new and sperior type of street musician to the front. Professionals, who used to support themselves by teaching and orchestral work, have now been reduced to playing for pennies; but they give the public really good music for its money, and are paid to move away. Most of these artists come from Begium. Usually they push around a piano on wheels, either to be played in solo or to accompany voices or the violin. Their programs are as good as ordinarily heard in the best theatres, but they are graded according to the part of the city. In Soho, London's Latin quarter, the music is of the gayer sort; in the ordinary middle class neighborhoods the selections run to the popular and sentimental, but in the cultivated West End, to the classical. Many of the singers come from the opera and concert stage. Some times, to conceal his identity, the impoverished artist wears a domino across the face. The new type street musicians are not badly rewarded, for they are recognized as respectable people who have fallen victims to war conditions.

* * *

Gift From Crew of Destroyed Ship

The Frankfort local branch of the Red Cross has just received a donation of 5,673.50 marks from the crew of the destroyed German battleship Gneisenau of the East Asiatic squadron. The letter accompanying the gift was dated November 25, 1914, a short time before the ship was sunk. The donation has called forth widespread and favorable comment on the spirit of the men of the vessel who, threatened on all sides, still found time to think of wounded soldiers at home.

* * *

Berlin Pupils Gather Gold

So energetically have the pupils of one school in Moabit, a section of Greater Berlin, worked in collecting gold to be exchanged for paper money, that they have turned in 65,030 marks in fourteen days. The collection includes three very rare five-mark pieces and one English ten-shilling gold piece. Two classes alone have raised 10,000 marks to be stored away in the treasury against future need.

* * *

Making French Officers

The school for training officers, established by the British General Staff, is located close to the general headquarters in France, and now has more than a hundred students, all picked from the ranks. The course occupies a month and combines theory with practice, although special emphasis is naturally placed on the practical side. The school occupies a comfortable old mansion. A group of barns and sheds has been fitted up as dormitories. In the court yard is a great sand bank, where the students construct model trenches, and apply the theory of the text book to practice. There are several class rooms equipped with blackboards on which the instructors fight over again some of the early battles of the war. There are courses in mathematics, in hygiene and in other branches necessary for the equipment of a young officer. Not all the students prove to be of suitable materials for commissioned rank. Part of the business of the school is to test the students as to their mental and moral capabilities for assuming rank as an officer in the field. Every week the student goes back to the trenches for twenty-four hours in company with an instructor, to observe and apply what he has been taught during the six days at the school.

* * *

Socialists Active at the Hague

Much attention has been attracted throughout Holland by the Dutch Socialist-Democratic Congress and the series of resolutions put forward in connection with the war and its effects. Two of these resolutions favored co-operation with all other bodies working for peace. Others called for strong action by the government in the relief of distress brought about by the war; for an alteration of the system of the delivery of wheat and flour so that the price of bread shall be reduced to the level prevailing in August, since when it has risen by one-third; and finally demanding an agitation at the proper time in view of covering the burdens thrown upon the country by war by means of a levy on capital. Socialists in The Hague, as well as in other cities of Holland are calling for government action to provide for the payment of house rent and the necessities of life for the unemployed, whose numbers constantly are increasing.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

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

A PLEA FOR LOCAL OPTION

For the House of Representatives and the Senate

Editor, the Star-Independent:

Dear Sir—I do not believe with the suffragists that the world is going to ruin, and that we cannot depend on our men to set things right, unless they have the vote. I have confidence that our legislators, generally, want to protect the best interests of our State and nation in regard to local option. Do you not see that there is positively a right here that must prevail soon or late? Public opinion in favor of this movement is with the legislators. What is sometimes lost sight of is the fact that this question has rapidly outgrown the stage where special measures to deal with a temporary situation can be considered. It has become now a question of how drink can be driven out permanently. What a proud thing for all you men who now have the opportunity to cast all other interests and obligations aside and give us a solid vote for local option! All the States are watching Pennsylvania. Do not wait to fall in line when you have to.

Helen M. Kellogg.

Athens, Pa., April 15, 1915.

Referred to Political Antiquaries

Editor, the Star-Independent:

Dear Sir—The Somerset (Pa.) "Democrat" wants to know what is the status of the remains of the ancient "figment" of a republican government consisting of three co-ordinate departments, the Legislative, the Executive and the Judicial, after its demolition by several Executives of the Federal government, beginning with the clout given it by the Truculent Teddy and ending with the coup-de-grace administered by Willful Wilson, or words to that effect. The inquiry is notable because it is made by a newspaper owned by a very able and highly respected member of the judiciary, the Hon. W. H. Ruppel, President Judge of the several courts of Somerset county. The query is referred to political antiquaries.

Democrat.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 16, 1915.

Ream-Gerhart Wedding

Marietta, April 16.—Miss Matilda Gerhart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Gerhart, of Lancaster, and Chester Ream, of Pittsburgh, a former resident, were married yesterday at Pittsburgh. The Rev. Mr. Brandt officiated. The attendants were Miss Sadie Jones and William Jones. The bride is very popular and is a vocalist. The bridegroom is connected with the pipe mills there.