

Meyersdale Commercial.

[Registered at the Postoffice at Meyersdale, Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.]

THE MEYERSDALE COMMERCIAL,
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Published Every Thursday in the Year at \$1.50 Per Year Cash
Phone No. 55. 110-112 Center Street.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1913

Getting Ready for the Future.

The elections are over and the people are given a breathing spell before they are again called upon to exercise the right of suffrage. This event will come on the third Tuesday in May, 1914, when the first state wide primary election will be held for the nomination of candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Internal Affairs and United States Senator. It is here that Senator Penrose will make the test before the people whether or not he is the choice. He has shown unusual recuperative powers in the last year, and it would not be surprising if he would be able to "come back."

Already candidates are being groomed and before many weeks there will be names advanced, men looked over and conditions considered. There are many hopeful ones in this state who will have their names mentioned for the great office as Governor. It would not be surprising to learn, if all other hope of the G. O. P. gaining the victory fails, they would call into service Ex-Gov. Stuart. In the Harrisburg scandal Stuart came out with credit to himself and the state, while Pennypacker was patronizingly pitied and many of his time became felons, suicides and maniacs.

Tener is apparently in a position to be promoted. There is much talk of making him the president of the National Baseball League. From the office of governor to the presidency of the baseball league would be quite agreeable to the sporting fraternity.

The Thaw Extradition.

Governor Felker of New Hampshire honors the requisition warrant of the state of New York for the return of Harry K. Thaw because the record is technically regular. New York wants Thaw to answer to a charge of conspiracy, and the mental condition of the defendant is a matter that does not concern New Hampshire. In this the governor believes in a strict adherence to legal form. Although the conspiracy indictment, which opened the way for easy extradition, was found in New York county, the governor directs that the defendant be delivered to the sheriff of Dutchess county, which, if carried out, would mean his return to the asylum. In that event Jerome would not press the conspiracy charge against a man whom he admits is irresponsible.

Counsel for Thaw will continue the fight in the United States district court on the writ of habeas corpus, and this will prevent his surrender pending a decision. The Federal court will be enabled to go deeper into the case and pass on the question as to whether a man who has been adjudged insane, and therefore, irresponsible for his acts, can commit the crime of conspiracy.

If the court can find a way around this point and order Thaw returned, it would be Jerome's duty to have him tried on the charge of conspiracy or reopen the sanity test. If convicted the previous record would be nullified.—Pittsburg Post.

Wages and Living.

The high cost of living has been the cry for some years. What direction the movement will take in the future time will determine, but the fact is, with the cost of living, salaries and wages should be somewhat in harmony with the decent living cost.

A religious body in western Pennsylvania recently took an action that every pastor should have a salary of not less than \$900.00 and a free parsonage. But all congregations have their liberal-hearted and fair-minded business men, and they should know as well as a religious body that their pastor needs support for a decent living.

The question was raised some weeks ago as to increasing the salary of our policemen. They must present a respectable appearance on the street, they must expose themselves to all conditions of weather, they are the guardians of the city and risk their lives for the safety of the community. The question is, are they receiving the salary sufficient for the fair living to which they are entitled?

While the matter of economy in city government is of the first concern, yet the honest man who receives good wages is always more efficient and devoted to his work than the underpaid man. We doubt the wisdom of economy when it deprives a man of a respectable living for himself and dependents.

The world owes a man a living. On the one hand there is the wail of the high cost of living, and on the other hand there is the cry that the increase in wages is not sufficient for the increase in cost of living, and yet the demands are made upon everyone, demands that were not thought of twenty-five years ago.

This call for larger pay is felt in every sphere of life. The contest between the railroads and their employees opened an interesting question of much discussion and a strung out contest, resulting in a compromise. It is the call everywhere, and the main objection is raised, not that there is an unwillingness to accede to the demands, but that business cannot afford to give more. That is the main objection. There is a market value on every man's labor, and like marketable commodities, the market value to which a man's capability and efficiency entitles him, of right belongs to him.

GOVERNOR FELKER, of New Hampshire, decided to thaw out Thaw from his state.

HUERTA is still the insolent dictator of Mexico, but the end is approaching and his downfall will be complete.

Now is the time to start the favorite son idea for governor of Pennsylvania. Who is Somerset county's favorite?

It is most considerate of the game commission to allow deer to be shot where there are no deer, and prohibit the shooting in localities where deer abound. For instance, Somerset, Fayette, Westmoreland and Cambria counties.

HOME TOWN HELPS

SOLVES SEWAGE PROBLEM

German Scientists by Chemical Treatment Convert Matter to Use for Profitable Farming.

The Germans are a remarkable people. They produce great poets and musicians, metaphysicians whose works cannot be understood by their own countrymen and great scientists. Even more fortunate are they in having men trained to adopt the theories of science and apply them with scientific skill and decided gain in the interest of the community.

Sewage, for instance, which is a source of expense in most countries—and an unpleasant problem in many—is subjected by them to chemical treatment and made so free from any suspicion of smell or harm that it can be used for profitable farming.

In this way has Berlin utilized its sewage and made good come from evil, with the result that land formerly barren and unproductive has become fertile and flourishing with fruits and vegetables.

This particular agricultural tract also feeds 12,000 cows, the milk from which is largely used in the city hospitals, and, like the fruit and vegetables raised, finds a ready market.

It is said that already handsome profits have been realized by those who have farmed on this municipal area, which, unlike most agricultural land in Europe, is irrigated.

SYSTEM IN PARK BUILDING

Few Cities Have Well-Balanced, Well-Developed System of Public Parks.

If a city is to have parks, a careful study of the problem will convince any student of municipal development that the parks should be acquired in accordance with a general system. Many cities have one or more parks in which their citizens may justly take pride, but comparatively few of these cities have what can properly be called a comprehensive, well-balanced and well-developed system of parks, a system which will compare favorably as to completeness with, for instance, the system of public schools, or the system of fire protection and other principal departments of the city government. The backwardness of municipal park systems is not so much due, to lack of public intelligence and public spirit, as to a defective development of the love of beauty, as compared with a well-developed appreciation of practical, utilitarian progress. It not infrequently happens that the sections of a city in which the population is most dense and most in need of squares, play grounds and local parks, are almost wholly devoid of these advantages because no well-balanced system has been devised and carried out while land was sufficiently cheap and comparatively unoccupied so that now the expense is prohibitory.

A City's Flower Farm.

San Diego, Cal., is the only city in the country that has a municipal flower farm started with the aim of providing floral and horticultural exhibits for the Panama-California International exposition in 1915. The city officials, who are promoting the farm, found they could save hundreds of thousands of dollars by utilizing the 1,700 acre tract in Balboa Park to grow flowers, and it is expected many millions of plants will be ready in two years.

The farm already has 1,000,000 geraniums, as many red roses, white roses and 20 acres of California golden popples. It has 100,000 palm trees. The park consequently has become the most beautiful in colors and flowers in the country and thousands of tourists who have been passing several months in the west made it a point to visit San Diego just to see the flower farm.

Expert Legal Opinion.

To illustrate the trend of the times, says the San Francisco Call: Up to the poet's corner in the Flood building yesterday they were discussing the impossibility of formulating an acceptable rhyme with "Southern Pacific." "Why not pass it up to the law department?" suggested one of the group. "They have the reputation of solving anything." So it duly was passed along with a request "for an opinion." In a little while the document came back to its author. Across its face was written: "File formal application with the interstate commerce commission for permission to rhyme the road."

Divining Rods.

Divination by means of the hazel rod, which has resulted in the discovery of iron ore, has often been ridiculed by scientists. Linnaeus, the great naturalist, once hid a purse of gold in a field so as to convince the secretary of the absurdity of the divining rod. The secretary failed to find the money, and Linnaeus, to his disgust, could not identify the spot where he had hidden it. In the end, an expert in divination was sent for, whose rod led him unerringly to where the gold was concealed, greatly to the relief of the naturalist and the amusement of his secretary.

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ALBERT S. GLESSNER

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