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SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1924

EAST TRENTON LOOKING UP.

East Trenton takes a long step forward with the opening of a thoroughly equipped Day Nursery in a building specially erected for the purpose. W. J. B. Stokes has done a splendid work, which should set the pace for other needful institutions beyond the stone bridge. Who'll give to East Trenton the further inspiration which a public library branch would afford?

BAD NEWS FOR POSTAL EMPLOYES.

There is bad news from Washington for illpaid Post Office employes in President Coolidge's announcement that he is against the Kelly-Edge bills to increase salaries of clerks and carriers. The President's ground of objection is that the \$180,000,000 which would be required would disrupt the budget and necessitate higher taxes. Presidential opposition does not kill the movement but adds to the difficulties to be overcome.

SUNDAY RECREATION.

It seems that some members of the Legislature draw the line between Sunday movies and Sunday outdoor pleasure, when amendment of the Blue Laws is urged. Minority Leader Fred W. De Voe is quoted to this effect, referring to the pending bill of Assemblywoman Carty of

"I told her that if she would introduce a bill legalizing outdoor sports on Sunday, it would not only receive my support, but also my efforts to secure its passage. I am opposed, however, to a combined effort to legalize indoor amusements and outdoor sports on Sunday, and believe that the two subjects should be divided into distinct

This is a somewhat new angle of official vision. It is not a new thought, however. Much may he said for Sunday baseball that does not apply to the movies, and it will be found that many more people endorse the former than the latter. It would seem, however, that the referendum provision ought to be sufficient to protect divergent sentiment in different communities.

"HELP M'KINLEY HEAL."

Magnificent work is being done to bring the \$200,000 drive for McKinley Hospital to a triumphant finish, but much remains to be accomplished. A strong pull and a pull altogether today and tomorrow will make this worthy institution happy.

FLY IN THE OINTMENT.

Passage by the House of Representatives of the Longworth compromise schedule of income tax rates is heralded as an Administration victory, but if the published figures are accurate, the result, if endorsed by the Senate and the President, will not carry much joy to the Treas ury Department.

Under the bill passed, experts place the loss of revenue at \$450,000,000, a figure which advocates of the Mellon plan say means a Treasury deficit of approximately \$130,000,000.

TAXES IN THE TOWNSHIPS.

Some people will insist on connecting the de mand of the agricultural districts for a "dirt' farmer on the County Tax Board with the recent jacking up of assessments in the townships, notably a reassessment in Hopewell that will add over \$300,000 to its ratables. Singularly enough, it is County Tax Board President Leuckel's scalp that is likely to be taken, and he is the man who led the movement to compel the reappraisement.

SEVEN-CENT FARE UPHELD.

Mayor Donnelly has not weakened in his purpose to agitate for a five-cent trolley fare, in the face of General Manager Peartree's statement that under a zoning system many riders would pay two fares of five cents, instead of the present single eight-cent fare. It is understood that the Mayor feels the zoning plan would only hit suburbanites, for whom he holds no brief, inasmuch as he regards them as something in the nature of municipal tax-dodgers.

In this relation, it is worthy of notice that the seven-cent fare has just been upheld in Philadelphia after a determined effort and long litigation by the city to compel a return to the contract agreement between the municipality and the Rapid Transit Company for a five-cent schedule. After a fight on valuations which, it is said, cost the company \$600,000 and the city \$275,000, the Superior Court rules that the contract referred to is superseded by the orders of the Public Service Commission permitting a

The nickel fare is undoubtedly popular, but whether this is the psychological moment to little woman who did much in her day to awaken strike for it may be questioned.

GRATIFYING SHOWING.

Trenton's fire loss the past two years amounted to less than half a million dollars and on this there was insurance in the sum of \$450,000. The result reflects renewed credit upon the efficiency of the local fire department and also upon the intelligent foresight of realty owners. A vicilant body of fire fighters and proper insurance protection make a great team.

"WE POINT WITH PRIDE."

Fresh indications of the city's growth are cropping out at frequent intervals.

At the first reunion of the Mercer County Bankers' Association last Tuesday evening, over 140 persons were on hand to represent bank directors, officials and employes generally. It was a revelation to pretty much everybody, ϵ specially to those who could remember when a very small room would have accommodated a similar gathering.

family party had its annual dinner and dance, and what with reporters, editors, the business ations were made when it was taken to Centre force, and the various mechanical departments lined up, including wives and sweethearts, there was an assemblage of 150 to 160. Mayor Don-

newspaper business could make any such showing.

Yes, the town is going ahead by leaps and

THOROUGH INQUIRY DESIRABLE. The term "official investigation" has come to carry an implication of guilt somewhere, so Governor Silzer has used the more tactful term "a survey" in his expressed desire for an enquiry into the condition of New Jersey public schools. Such an examination is in response to a wide measure of doubt in the public mind as to whether our schools are too greatly occupied with non-essentials to the detriment of the substartial elements of a sound democratic education, and further, whether the enormous growth in cost with which every city is familiar, can be justified. There have been rumblings of discontent for a long while and discriminating students of the question have been wondering just how far present tendencies must progress before somebody in authority would call a halt.

From many quarters the Executive office has received reassuring comments since Monday last, endorsing the suggested survey by nine capable and unprejudiced citizens. The Republican legislators show a disposition to inject politics into the movement, but they will probably rise to a higher conception of the subject than the possible opportunity of grabbing a few clerkships or other berths for henchmen. The Governor's address to the Legislature, which has had pretty general circulation, is a dispassionate presentment of conditions and will make an excellent start for a thorough analysis of the situation.

It is quite certain that the State investigators will have the cordial co-operation of prominent New Jersey educators, for really wide awake schoolmen in their franker moments admit that a good deal of what has been set afoot by them with the best possible intentions, is still largely experimental.

"Our schools are in the milk-teeth stage of development," said a leading Cleveland school authority a few days ago.

Educators are therefore vitally interested in some satisfactory adjustment of the place which the schools should occupy in community life. Are they attempting too much, or are their efforts to any extent misdirected? The coming survey will be no summer's day excursion, but it promises, in proper hands, to shed valuable light upon a very complicated and onerous department of State government.

JUSTICE FOR THE NEGRO.

The Negro problem is coming home to Trentonians in acute form. For many years people in the North have felt competent to advise the South off-hand as to how they should treat the colored brother. At closer range the difficulty is not easily disposed of.

Fair-minded citizens will not deny that there is a measure of justice involved in the present demand of protesting Negroes. The housing situation is of first importance. Something should be done to enable the newcomers from the Southern States to abide in peace and comfort among us. It is, indeed, a good sign to witness the ambition of so many representatives of the Negro race to improve their home surroundings in the direction of modern hygienic regulation. Since the outbreak of the World War more than 1.500,000 emigrants have left the South, and the migration still continues. They are distributed over the North and, therefore, Trenton's new housing problem is the problem of many other industrial cities.

About the wisdom of interfering with the regular city school authorities in the direction of educational progress, there is room for question. It may be taken for granted that in this matter the School Board is entirely disinterested, aims only at the best results for the pupils and is better informed than any group of citizens

can be as to the qualifications of appointees. It is highly gratifying to note that the representatives of the colored race here assert a desire to avoid disagreeable controversy and wish to accomplish results by peaceful, rational exchange of views. This is as it should be and constitutes further proof that the Negro is advancing to higher levels of thought and action.

Just how far equalization may proceed between the races is still in dispute. That the Negro'should not push the matter too precipitately the best friends of the race recognize At present a sharp conflict is on, by way of illustration, over the placing of a white woman and a Negro in opposite roles in a New York play. It is questionable whether Trenton's newer settlers will not gain more by a complaisant attitude in attempting to alter longestablished conditions than by arousing white resentment.

RESTORING HISTORIC LANDMARKS.

So many historical blunders have been made in the past that perhaps there is excuse for the unusually critical spirit with which the progress of the Douglass House movement has been followed. The promoters of this particular project however, are thoroughly equipped to satisfy all questions. The chain of evidence as to the authenticity of the building, it is claimed is complete. Sarah Smith Stafford, the indomitable popular interest in the famous Council of Washington and his Generals the night before the Battle of Princeton, took the wise precaution before the Pouglass House was removed to Contre Street, nearly fifty years ago, to have it photographed with the endorsement of a number of venerable citizens to the effect that it had been long identified in local history and tradition as the dwelling in which the momentous conference in question was held. This valuable picture with its endorsements is still in existence. Again the transfer of the house to Centre Street has been satisfactorily established.

Beyond question the modest little structure now being removed to Mahlon Stacy Park is the same which stood on the present Lutheran Church property from the revolutionary period until sold to make room for a church extension in 1876.

A correspondent of the Trenton Times last week expressed doubt in the matter because he , tions do with their big profits, a current item finds that some of the frame work is of modern date. Nobody has attempted to stamp the pres-Again, Wednesday night, the Trenton Times, ent building as unchanged in every detail from the Douglass House of 1776. Quite a few alter-Street and, of course, the weather-boarding, that lays the eggs.-Forbes Magazine. among other things has been renewed. Few, if any, of the revolutionary landmarks here or nelly expressed astonishment that the local elsewhere are exactly as they originally stood. In ile.—Exchange,

When the prized Old Barracks on Willow Street were restored a few years ago, it will be recalled that an entirely new stone section had to be built in, so as to connect two wings which for a long time were separated by the full width of Front Street. Again the McKonkey ferryhouse at Washington Crossing has been practically rebuilt the last few months and nevertheless will continue to be reverenced as a revolutionary memorial of great interest.

Plans have been perfected to effect such a restoration in the Douglass House as will make it correspond with historical accuracy to the building in which Washington and his Generals conferred on the strategic movement that confounded the confident calculations of the British and resulted in an epochal victory at Princeton. The old framework is still there, and that is as much as can be expected in a wooden house over 150 years old.

TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.

There is a way to aid the starving German children and get a quick return on the investment. A concert of the first quality will be given at Crescent Temple a week from tomorrow night, the proceeds of which are to swell the local fund, and the Liederkranz Singing Society, under whose auspices it will be held, has taken pains to arrange a program of unwonted excellence. Choruses by the society, orchestral numbers and vocal and instrumental solos by artists of reputation are included.

Purely as a musical entertainment of variety and distinction, the affair merits a house full of patrons, but in view of the purpose, there should be and probably will be an overflow

LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE FALLACY.

The public school, while dear to the heart of every right-thinking American, is still constantly under fire for alleged failure to educate our children up to the full measure of critical expectation. So much is said by way of censure that opportunity should not be lost to pass along such messages of approval as come from authoritative sources. Take, for instance, what School Superintendent Ernest C. Hartwell, of Buffalo, said recently:

"Don't let anyone tell you that the children of today can't do many things better than the past generation. They not only read better but they read more. They not only compute as accurately but they compute more rapidly. There are many who love to talk of the 'good old days.' to express their admiration of 'the little red schoolhouse.' But I have noticed that those who are the loudest in their praise of the old-fashioned school were usually the first to get away from it when they got the chance."

It is a big jump from the little red schoolhous to our present million-dollar High Schools. The United States ought to have the most enlightened citizenship in the world and probably has.

FULL OF PLEASANT MEMORIES.

Two venerable Trentonians, who passed away within the last few days, were genuine links with the city's early history. T. B. Taylor, for over fifty years treasurer at Taylor Opera House, talked familiarly of a time when Bechtel Hall on East Front Street was the only local place of theatrical entertainment, and he lived to see playhouses spring up like mushrooms all over town. Ex-School Trustee J. Fletcher Dickson had sprightly recollections of a day when hand cigar-makers, of whom he was one, numbered 150 in Trenton, where now only one or two remain. It was interesting to hear his defense of Lady Nicotine, he himself having chewed and smoked tobacco all his life without ill effects.

Both Mr. Taylor and Mr. Dickson were modest gentlemen, cheerful octogenarians, and proud of the city's growth and progress.

March started out like a perfect lady.

Keeping the polls open until 9 p. m. had more merit when workmen's quitting time was 6

A lot of social pleasure will be crowded into the next two days. Lent, which comes in on Wednesday, is not so rigorously observed as formerly, but even yet it affects to a considerable extent the town's Winter round of gayety.

It makes one's chest swell with pride to read that the city's tax ratables have jumped \$29,000,-000 since last year, provided you do not read the explanation too pointedly in your coming tax bill. tion of industry and commerce.

The Legislative Manual is out for 1924, bulging as usual with useful information concerning a multitude of subjects connected with state, a got-namen county and city government. Sketches of state institutions, brief biographies of state officials is so cum to the number of 250, a complete list of municipalities, rosters of county officials, and election palities, rosters of county officials, and election figures in great detail stand out conspicuously tion.

Mr. Ber like summed up the needs in the contents, but there is much more in the 611 pages to keep up the reputation of the Manual as one of the best and most carefully edited works of its kind in the United States. John P. Dullard, acting for the widow of the popular old publisher. Thomas F. Fitzgerald, is the compiler.

Even if the groundhog was right in his guess. Spring is only a couple of weeks off.

in the distant past, Scotch "planters" crowded the native Irish out of much of Ulster, and now report has it that Scotland is being invaded by Irish immigrants to the number of 600,000 or more. Turn about is fair play.

Conviction of the fourth prisoner charged with . STRENGTHEN WEAK-KNEED. the murder of two bank messengers in Brooklyn last Fall is all right so far as it goes, but after conviction usually comes a long-drawn ordeal of appeals to other tribunals, based on technical points of more or less flimsy substance. It is the allowance of such dilatory proceedings that brings the law and the courts into contempt and encourages other criminals to take a chance with banditry and man-killing.

If you sometimes wonder what the corporais enlightening. The Pennsylvania Railroad is about to spend \$60,000,000 for fifty new locomotives, 12,000 freight cars and other equipment.

The rooster makes most noise, but it's the hen

Reputations, like little fishes, may be b'iled

Gov. Smith Among Strong Claimants For Presidency

In no survey of the available candidates for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency can the name of Governor Smith of New York be omitted. He is a strong, fearless and highly popular Democrat. He comes from, politically, one of the most evenly balanced States in the Union. Few observers doubt his ability to carry New York in a national election.

Governor Smith has an admirable record. In the campaign for the Governorship, which he won against Governor Miller, who had given the State an excellent administration, the Republican newspapers of New York city freely admitted his exceptional abilities, his clean and resolute handling of administrative problems. This factor and all due credit should be given the Republican newspapers, for it had much to do with his election. So far in his present administration

it had much to do with his election. So far in his present administration Governor Smith seems to have won the same wide-spread commendation as in his previous term. He has made vigorous attempts to enforce economy in State affairs and reduce taxation. Not a whisper of criticism has been raised about his appointments. Though he has been all his life an active member of the so-called Democratic machine, he has shown great independence in choosing men for high position.

His political courage has many times been tested. Without shouting defiance from the houseto: he has quietly put the "bosses" in their places and yet held their respect.

"Al" Smith, as so many New Yorkers call him, is a mighty fine type of man. He was born in poverty, remained among his old neighbors on the East Side when he rose in the world, raised a large family and kept his name free from any taint of

world, raised a large family and kept his name free from any taint of cheap partisan politics. He has measured well up to every office he ever held. Like President Coolidge, he has had a most thorough training in the American political school.

in the American political school.

Recently, Governor Smith has comout forcibly for a drastic enforcemen of the Volstead act. This is a wisposition. No Democrat, hoping to receive his party's endorsement, can gain it by any defiance of a law on

the statute books of the nation.
It will be well to keep an eye on Governor Smith, of New York. He is one of the outstanding Democrats of the country, a marvellous vote get ter in his own State. And he is solid, substantial citizen, neither headed American who makes goo his promises of efficiency in govern ment.—Boston Post.

REFRESHING.

Of politics we turn
In joy to read of garden seed
And spring, for which we yearn.
No hint of graft or pull or craft
Or passing of the buck;
No notes or bribes this book
describes,
But wondrous garden truck.
Forgetting ofl, we till the soil
In fancy, well content
To read at ease of giant peas
And count the time well spent.
—Newark News.

LABOR'S LITERARY CABINET The Labor government in Great with Britain contains more authors and of the authors of more books than any ch

previous administration.

Ramsay MacDonald himself had published eleven books before be-Ramsay MacDonald himself had published eleven books before becoming premier. Sidney. Webb, and his wife, have published an entire shelf of books, as has Philip Snowden. Josiah Wedgwood has written several volumes on pottery, land taxation, India and local county history. Sir Sydney Olivier has published poetry and books on social problems. Noel Buxton has written books on the Balkans. J. H. Thomas, John Wheatley. F. W. Jowett have also been authors, and, of course. Viscount Haldane and Lord Parmoor. It is a government made up largely of laborers who have long been engaged in the work of thinking. For many years most of them have been using pees rather than picks and pens rather than pi-—Toronto Daily Star.

PSALMIST ON OIL

Somehow Uncle Sam does not share the joy the Psalmist felt when he wrote. "Thou anointest my head with oil."—Boston Transcript.

OVERLAND GOVERNMENT.

WHEN A UNIVERSAL AMBITION BECOMES A CRIME

WERE A MATTER OF PRIDE TO HIS BEHOLD YOUR HUSBAND WHOM SUCCESS HAS THIS DAY CRONNED



BUT IF HE HAD HAPPENED TO TAKE UP POLITICAL

REFRESHING.
From Teapot Dome and fume and for the weak-kneed and for the conscienceless in the national legislature that Congress will not dare do anything but pass a proper tax reduc-tion bill. But if the Nation wants such a law to go on the books it must get fearfully busy, and get busy right away.—Detroit Free Press.

THOSE THREE R'S.

The three R's have held their own these many schooldays. They seemed the very fundament of primary education. Now, at Chicago, we find the schoolmen themselves assailing them before the National Educational Asschoolmen themselves assailing them before the National Educational Association, laying stress on the type-writer as diminishing the importance of penmanship and the adding machine as lessening the significance of sums. But one cannot carry these mechanical appliances everywhere. Useful as they are, they do not train the hand and the mind with the discipline of formal instruction. The hance of the school system today is cipline of formal instruction. The bane of the school system today is believe that you ought to love every the tendency to soften the rugged asperities and take the starch out of the curriculum, so that many who hold in liquid form, and he would have perities and take the staren out of the curriculum, so that many who hold diplomas are grossly ignorant of ele-mental things.—Phiadelphia Ledgen

EDISON AND THE FLAPPER

a product of Edisonism. The con-tributions of the Wizard to the motion picture and phonograph and light developments give him at least f them have been light developments give him at least damn, with a big, big D, and other than picks and a claim to a share in the credit for profane things when he got ready. In the flapper, the phonographic disc carries music to which her toes tingic and the lights enable her to turn night into day. So the "Wizard" owes it to the flapper to be her champion. Nor does he tell her anything she doesn't leave the leave anything she doesn't leave the leave that she is all got knocked down by that equally right.

when oil—Boston Transcript.

OVERLAND GOVERNMENT.

Ideo Dr. Nicholas Murray Ritter, who complained the other day of the the ot

The course of the properties of the posterior of the properties of

Washington Had Better Stay On Top Of His Monument

Some persons still think Washington the greatest of Americans, and ed on every anniversary of his birth many of us indulge in complimentary, if conventional, references to him How much do Americans now really believe in him; how much of their praise is simply lip service?

Washington was not a pacifist in the modern sense of the term. He on that basis, costs about the same favored international and domestic there as in this country: but charpeace, but he was not a turn-yourpeace, but he was not a turn-your-te other-cheek pacifist, and he did not believe that you ought to love every of 50 cents for thirty-three pounds. been aghast at the idea of sending a neighbor to jail for drinking it. He Thomas A. Edison approves the apper, and why not? She is partly product of Edisonism. The conjubutions of the "Wizard" to the lotion picture and phonograph and lotion picture a was fond of horse racing and he had the flapper, for the screen is the a word, he was what used to be source of many of her notions and called very human, which is now re-

them by the author. For anyone so unfortunate as not to know the whole of the precious group appearing in the novel this would be a real boon.

—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

RUN AUTOS WITH CHARCOAL. Another news item, bearing on the petroleum situation, is that of the invention by a Frenchman of a

means of running automobiles with charcoal. Thirty-three pounds of charcoal, costing 25 cents in France, will drive a car sixty miles on the gas fumes produced, or one-fourth the cost of the gasoline necessary for the same trip, says an Associated Press report from Lyons. Gasoline, There will be no haste to install the charcoal car in the United States. Such a machine would be more of a novelty than a practical device. Charcoal is very light, weighing only twenty pounds to the bushel. it would take five bushels or 100 pounds to drive from St. Paul to Duluth, compared with twelve gailons, more or less, of gasoline. Charcoal filling stations would have to be too large to be conveniently located where most of the oil stathe charcoal rcoal car in ti Such a machine Charceal filling stations would have to be too large to be conveniently located where most of the oil stations now are.—St. Paul Dispatch.

THE POWER AT HOME.

When a man gets to be 90 years old, depend on it, there is somebody to blame. When he reaches that stage with his shoulders thrown back, his legs straight and strong. his wind good and his pulse normal, it ought to be made a subject for