

Created Evening Times. FOUNDED 1882. Sunday Times-Advertiser FOUNDED 1883. (Daily True American, Founded 1801) PUBLISHED BY THE TRENTON TIMES 8-10 South Stockton Street, Trenton, N. J.

Private branch exchanges through which the news, business and all departments may be reached. Terms of Subscription:—Evening Times, Ten Cents a week, by carrier, Sunday Times, Five Cents a copy, by carrier.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1915.

OIL OR WATER.

Pennington borough is greatly interested in the question of whether its streets shall be treated with oil, glutr in or water. There are residents who think that plain water, applied by means of a sprinkling cart will be quite as satisfactory as any of the mixtures.

There are still persons living in this county who believe in old-fashioned honesty, and fall to see that there will be little hope of "anything doing for the boys" if water is used and the chance for graft is limited to the purchase of a second-hand sprinkling cart.

Last year, it is reported, in Pennington, from \$1,500 to \$1,800 was divided among the parties who had in charge the matter of choosing the binder used upon the road. How tantalizing it must be to see the chance of another "divvy" disappearing in the fight between oil and water advocates.

There is strange music in the stirring wind.—Bowles.

AN INTERESTING RUMOR.

There is a rumor in circulation, to the effect that the agent for the sale of one of the patented road binders has in his possession memorandums of loans made to a number of the Freeholders, including members of the County Road Committee. These I. O. U.'s have been seen by several persons about the Court House, who have been surprised at the signatures attached to some of them.

How can a Freeholder or committeeman who has borrowed money from a favored contractor or materialman be expected to deal fairly by the public or by other contractors and materialmen? It may be that the loans were negotiated in good faith, but the borrowers have placed themselves in the hands of the lender.

If residents on Pennington Road have asked the Road Committee for glutr in on that thoroughfare, it was because some one has urged them to do so. The case is similar to that met with when a city street is to be paved—agents induce property owners to sign in favor of a particular kind of pavement.

But two or three years ago there was a scandal because property owners in the lower section of the city declared that they had been promised that they would not be assessed for the improvement, if they signed petitions for a certain composition or materials. After the pavement was laid the promises were repudiated.

In the light of the findings of the Hennessy committee, the recommendations of the County Engineer, and the experiences of the county with lignin binders, it is difficult to find any other explanation for the expressed preference for glutr in but that somebody has been actively at work boosting that liquid.

When a good grade of oil can be applied at a sixth of the cost of glutr in, and give better and more lasting results, the duty of the Road Committee is to look out for the taxpayers instead of the materialmen and contractors. If they do otherwise they lay themselves open to the suspicion that they are not acting on the level.

So far as the Pennington road this side of the borough limits is concerned, it is for the Board of Freeholders to determine what binder shall be used. Mr. Fell, who was elected to represent Ewing Township, advocates oil and induced the Road Committee to give oil its endorsement.

Evidently some agency has been at work converting a majority of the committee to another material. It will be worth while inquiring into the means employed to make converts. The rumor about the I. O. U.'s suggests the answer. Something more definite may be made known after next Tuesday's meeting of the Road Committee.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The Passaic County Grand Jury having found that indictment was warranted in but 137 of the 606 complaints taken by the justices of the peace of the county, made a presentation to Judge Kihnert, in which suggestion was made that the justices are actuated by purely mercenary motives in accepting complaints in trivial cases.

Recommendation was also made that the voters of the county use more care in selecting candidates for the office of justice of the peace; but that would apply to nearly every elective office. The fact is that ig-

norant and unscrupulous men seek election as justices of the peace solely for the fees that can be collected.

Most of the scandals and oppressions could be prevented if the justices could be regulated by law; but they are constitutional officers and the restrictions which the Legislature can put upon them are limited.

The worst of the situation is that it is not likely to be improved until the entire judicial system of the state is reorganized. However, every impeachment of a justice and every presentment of the kind made by a grand jury helps to create public sentiment in favor of reform.

Calmness of will is a sign of grandeur.—Lavater.

REPAIRING ROADS.

In response to numerous complaints and requests extending over a period of several months, the Road Committee of the Board of Freeholders directed that the county's section of the Asylum road be repaired. When somebody suggested that Westrumite, a new preparation, be given a trial, there was agreement and an order was given for the mixture, which is said to contain asphalt. Subsequently an attempt was made to recall the order, but word was received that the stuff had been shipped.

The section of road to be repaired is about three hundred feet in length. It is understood that an order was given for two thousand gallons of Westrumite on which the Road Committee will be "long" for several months, though there are possibilities of it being used on other roads if the selling agent is persuasive and uses the effective argument.

The Asylum road was built under a guarantee, which had not expired when the contractor was notified to make repairs. It is understood that he is willing to do so. Why, then, should the Road Committee, which must be acquainted with the situation, be so ready to put the expense upon the taxpayers and to experiment with a proprietary composition?

But, sincerely seeking enlightenment, why should not the experiment at Harney's Corner have sufficed? The road there was treated with Westrumite about a month ago, and next day, it is said, a few boys, while at play kicked the brittle surface upon the road-side, and now there is scarcely a trace of it remaining.

Is it not about time that the entire Board of Freeholders took some interest in the road work, instead of leaving it entirely in the hands of a committee and of the Road Supervisor? There are things happening that the honest members of the board are not acquainted with, and they are not likely to learn of them unless they seek the information.

AIDING CRIMINALS.

One of the five men who assisted Alpiro Fiorelli, the wife murderer, in his attempt to escape arrest, has been convicted in the Mercer Court. The other four are yet to be tried. The natural sympathy that is excited in favor of one who is in trouble, was no doubt responsible for the violation of the crimes act which makes it a misdemeanor on the part of any person who conceals a crime or assists a murderer to escape.

But the welfare of society and the interests of the people demand that criminals shall be punished. This cannot be done if relatives, friends or neighbors are permitted to conceal them, mislead officers of the law, and assist the criminals to escape. There has been too much of this interference in Mercer County, and the conviction of De Santis will go far toward ending it.

VOCABULARIES.

One of the objects sought by late-day teachers is to extend the vocabulary of the pupil. Perhaps it has always been so. The Education Bulletin for May, issued by the New Jersey Department of Public Instruction, says that from a study made by the Russell Sage Foundation of words used in two thousand business, professional and personal letters, including those received by a firm doing a mail order business, a practicing physician, a city newspaper, a lawyer, a publishing firm, and by teachers from the parents of pupils, it is shown that 23,629 different words were used.

But of these, 542 words constituted seven-eighths. The personal pronoun "I" was used most, 1,080 times; then came the simple words "the," 918 times; "and," 697; "you," 635; "to," 627; "your," 585; "of," 511; "for," 415; "in," 391; and down to common words that appeared but six to nine times in the 2,000 letters. This does not prove that a more extensive vocabulary is not desirable and convenient for the average man or woman, but it suggests that an acquaintance with 600 to 800 words may meet all ordinary requirements.

Indeed, the Bulletin endorses the recommendation contained in the State Monograph on "The Teaching of Spelling" that "words should be selected from the vocabulary of the ordinary affairs of life rather than from the school-room vocabulary. It is not necessary that a pupil should know how to spell a word which he may seldom have occasion to use in writing. It is sufficient that he should recognize it readily in reading."

It is urged that the 542 words, which are reprinted in the Bulletin, shall be used as a test with the upper grade classes before the close of

the year. There are no unusual catch-words in the list, and it would be interesting to know what percentage of the students in the high schools of the state, for instance, are able to obtain 100 per cent. markings. The list would not answer for a spelling-bee, but it will serve all purposes in the lower grades of a public school—and no doubt to the great delight of the pupils.

WHOOPIING COUGH AND BADGES.

The new Board of Health has fussed over a regulation of whooping cough which should have been laughed out of court at the start. It was proposed at first to require every person who had whooping cough should wear a yellow or some other badge upon his sleeve—carrying, as it were, his own smallpox sign on his person.

One could well imagine the amusement, or disgust, which certain adults of prominence who have had this disease might feel with such a gaudy badge. The ordinance was changed so as not to affect adults, but it is still proposed to thus label children.

As whooping cough carries its own advertisement, by the whoop, any mark is absolutely unnecessary, and the nervous influences might be harmful. But the plan is fussy and small, unworthy of the serious consideration of a Board of Health.

There are several thousand real questions to consider; give your time to these, gentlemen.—Newark Sunday Call.

Misrepresentation.

BY WALT MASON.

I bought a pound of yellow cheese, the other day from Grocer Wheeze. And as he wrapped it up he cried, "In this fine cheese I take much pride. It's made from Jersey cream and milk, and you will find it fine as silk; it's absolutely pure and clean, it contains no dyes or gasoline, it's rich and sweet, without a taint, doggone my buttons if it ain't. Oh, it will chase away your woe, and make your hair and whiskers grow."

I took it home with eager feet, impatient to sit down and eat, for I am fond of high class cheese, which with my inner woe agrees. But that blamed stuff was rank and strong, for it had been on earth too long. My wife, a good and patient soul, remarked, "Bring me a ten-foot pole, before you do your other chore, and I will take that cheese out doors. Before it's fit for human grub we'll have to stun it with a club." What does a sawed-off grocer gain by such a trick, unsafe, insane? And what does any merchant make by boosting some atrocious fake? Yet every day we're buying junk, which proves inferior and rank, although it's praised to beat the band; such things are hard to understand.

Who's Who in War

Dr. Berkeley Sherwood-Dunn, the American physician, banker and financier, who is now at the head of a hospital on the firing line in France, is a native of Rushford, N. Y. He studied at New York University, but completed his education at the University of France. From 1888 to 1895 he practiced medicine in Paris, and his familiarity with the French language and people and his sympathy for the French cause makes him well qualified for the difficult duties of the head of a field hospital. Since 1898 Dr. Sherwood-Dunn has been engaged in business and finance. He has been president of the Alken, S. C. Trust and Savings Bank, vice president of the First National Bank of Aiken, president of the New York and Delaware Railroad Company, and director of a number of railway, insurance and industrial corporations. Dr. Sherwood-Dunn has also been editor of a medical journal, a college professor and a politician. Of late years he has resided in New York, with a winter home in Aiken, S. C. While living in Paris he was a leader in the medical profession, and interested in many humanitarian movements. He was one of the founders of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Paris. For his services in this and other capacities he was decorated by the French government. For five years Dr. Sherwood-Dunn was assistant to Prof. Pozzi in the Broca Hospital in Paris, and he gained a foremost place among the world's gynecologists before he abandoned the healing art to enter business life. For some time he was president of the European American Bank and secretary of the Century Trust Company in New York. In 1898 he was editor of the Annals of Gynecology and Pediatrics in Boston, and for a time he was a member of the faculty of Tufts College Medical School. Dr. Sherwood-Dunn married Miss Louise Krapp of Rochester, N. Y., at Nice, France, in 1892.

ABIE MARTIN CASH POOR TRUST IS DEAD LAFF BUD KILLED HIM DINNER IS NOW REAR

Bryan Still An Ass

W. J. Bryan has lost none of his old facility in writing himself down an ass: "I am glad to note the change in the tone of the press in regard to the note to Germany," he says. He is the only man in the world who has observed any change in the tone of the press. "It is a relief to find that the papers are emphasizing the friendly tone of the note and pointing out that it does not necessarily mean 'war.'"

That is more of Mr. Bryan's sapiently "typical" sarcasm. Although he made a mighty "or" fist of it in both callings. There are no other warrior-journalists in this country that are at present practicing both professions. All the newspapers have insisted that the country does not want war, they have pointed out that the note does not mean war. The chief obstacle to peace at this moment, the only menace of war about which the country has at present any anxiety, is W. J. Bryan himself. Mr. Bryan resigned because, as he declared in his letter to Mr. Wilson, the issue involved in the German note was "of such moment that to remain a member of the cabinet would be unfair to you as it would be to the cause which is nearest my heart, namely, the prevention of war." The note has been published, and it proves to be as peaceful a State paper as could be penned. It contains no suggestion of war. It makes a continuation of friendly relations with Germany well nigh inevitable. It could have been made more peaceful, possibly, by a waiver of all protest and a direct surrender of all American rights, which was apparently what Mr. Bryan would have written into the note if he had been left to himself. But the time and manner of Mr. Bryan's getting out of the Cabinet will naturally, almost certainly, put it into the hands of the Berlin Government that in the Cabinet discussions a warlike tone prevailed, and that the intentions of our Government are really much more bellicose than the tone of the note would suggest.

As a Friend Sees Bryan

We have not the heart, to say nothing of the patience, to discuss in detail the second proclamation of this misguided man—its sniveling about "ostracism" and "execution;" its impudent pretense that his pro-posterous theories represent "persuasion," while the sane, sound and irrefutably lawful position of President Wilson typified "arrest;" his Peckhamian protestations that he, in contrast to the chief he deserted, is "a humble follower of the Prince of Peace;" its stale paraphrasing of his Chautauqua platform eloquence.

Whatever hope his admirers may have had that the note just sent contained something to justify his campaign of detraction must be smothered by publication of the document. It does embody conceptions of which his mind plainly is incapable, but it contains not one suggestion which a true patriot or lover of peace with righteousness dare challenge.

But there is one assertion, repeatedly offered by Mr. Bryan, which is a conception fatal to his voluble pretenses of sincerity. He insists that he makes war upon the administration as "a private citizen." He knows this is essentially false.

For two years he was in charge of the foreign affairs of the United States. His first attack upon the president was made while he still held the post of secretary of State. He was familiar with all the proceedings of our diplomatic business and was the repository of all the secrets of the department.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK ALDERMANIC BOARD

New York's city fathers will observe today the 250th anniversary of the Aldermanic Board of the American metropolis. As a feature of the day, a new city flag will be hoisted over City Hall. The flag consists of perpendicular bars of blue, white and orange, the colors of the original Dutch flag, in which the city's seal in blue on the white bar.

At the time of the creation of the Aldermanic Board, New York had a population of about 1,600. In 1663, just half a century after its founding by the Dutch, the English occupied New Amsterdam and changed its name to New York. The English form of municipal government by a mayor and board of aldermen was adopted. The British occupation did not continue unchallenged, for in 1673 a Dutch fleet of seven vessels, with 1,800 men, arrived off Sandy Hook. The Dutch opened fire, and after returning a single shot from Fort James, Capt. John Manning surrendered the town to its former owners. The Dutch rechristened the place New Orange, and the form of municipal government was again changed. Early the following year, however, New Netherland was restored to England. Captain Manning, who had surrendered the town, was made a ward of the city and sentenced to have his sword broken over his head.

When the Aldermanic Board was constituted two and a half centuries ago, the municipal problems presented to the authorities were of a quite different character from what they are today. In 1665 the people of the city were still believed in witchcraft, and in that year one Ralph Hill and his wife were arrested. Ralph being charged with practicing sorcery and black arts, and Mary accused of being a witch. The jury "found nothing considerable against them," and they were released with a warning. Five years later another

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First Things

The first naval hero of the United States—now almost forgotten—was Jeremiah O'Brien, a Maine man. He commanded an American vessel in the first naval battle of the Revolution, which was fought near Machias, Maine, 140 years ago today, June 12, 1775. Some little time before an English schooner, the Margranetto, was at Machias, and a number of the people of the town, led by Jeremiah O'Brien, a sailor, and Benjamin Foster, conspired to capture her. The attempt was successful, and with O'Brien in command the Margranetto made a voyage to the Bay of Fundy. An English schooner and tender were sent out to look for the Margranetto, and when O'Brien returned to Machias he found them awaiting him. The first naval battle of the United States was fought then and there, and O'Brien and his men added the schooner and tender to their prizes.

A 70 per cent. reduction from a year ago in passenger bookings for Europe does not mean America First so much as Seeing America First.—New York Times.

The bloated fortunes of today were then undreamed of. A merchant worth from \$2,500 to \$5,000 was esteemed a "merchant prince." Ministers were scarce and religions many, and every variety of faith and unity was represented. The city fathers took good care of the poor, and beggars were unknown.

NOT TO BE THOUGHT OF.

Certainly some might be foolish enough to call Athens, Thermopylae and Marathon the most famous Greece spots in history but it would be dangerous.—From Judge.

THE PERFECT CURE.

Mother—Ella, what has happened to your doll? Ella—the doctor says it's nervous breakdown, and he has prescribed mullage.—From Judge.

THANK GOD THAT I AM AN AMERICAN

Philadelphia Ledger.

Best Cartoon of the Day



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NOTICE New Jersey & Pennsylvania Traction Company CHANGE of TIME TABLE Summer Schedule.—Princeton Division. Beginning Monday, June 14, 1915, cars will leave Terminal Station, Trenton, N. J., beginning 5:20 a. m., and every forty minutes thereafter until last car at 11:20 p. m. on week-days, and 12 midnight on Saturdays.

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