

The Hershey Press

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The columns of the HERSHEY PRESS are open to all articles and items that are of interest and value.

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Thursday, June 27, 1912

In another column you will find an article contributed by one of the many readers of "The Hershey Press." In this article the writer points out the privilege and duty of every loyal citizen to rise when any band plays "The Star Spangled Banner," and for the gentlemen to remove their hats.

This suggestion is timely and should be heeded. It surely is not to much for us to rise in honor of the National Anthem, when our forefathers fought, bleed and died, in order to preserve the Union and that the proper honor should be given to the American Flag and the written emblem of our National Sovereignty.

The laundry fire of Thursday morning proved beyond a doubt that the experience of fire fighting that our volunteer firemen gained last Friday in the fire drill was well worth the time and energy spent in acquiring it. To say that the drill was profitable to the men, and to the laundry, is putting it mildly, because that experience will continue to be a decided help in any other fire which might occur at some future time, and in this case, the experience may be very essential to the saving of our beautiful town of Hershey, and thus the experience gained in the drills becomes an accumulative experience and is continually being added to until Hershey shall have as an effective and practical a fire fighting department as can now be boasted of by any city where thousands of dollars are spent annually in a paid fire department.

Our firemen did nobly and their efforts were effective, as is again proven by the laundry building standing in as good a condition as it is after the damage done to it by the fire of Thursday morning. The firemen worked hard and are to be most favorably commended for their unselfish, and unhesitating efforts to save the laundry building. Not a better equipped and more capable a fire department is to be found in any town twice the size of Hershey.

Notwithstanding all the noble efforts, the quick and effective work, and the present and developing ability of the firemen, taken individually and

collectively, there is one suggestion that the "Hershey Press" wishes to make. Not in the way of criticism, because we could not have done as well, but in the way of a friendly suggestion. A suggestion that we trust will be one thing towards the bettering of conditions in Hershey and that modest and friendly suggestion is this:

That, in the next meeting of the fire company, before the next fire drill, the subject of drills be discussed, and that the drills be systematically arranged, and a scientific study be made in a practical manner of the peculiar advantages and disadvantages of each factory building and of each of the public buildings, so that if any should catch on fire the firemen will at once, upon arrival, know how best to fight that particular fire in that particular building. Here is the point—At the laundry fire the volunteer firemen did just what we would have done. They picked up a large iron sewerage tubing and attempted to smash a panel in the front door of the laundry building in order to gain entrance. Now, if a systematic drill had been carried out and a scientific study made of the laundry building previous to the fire the firemen would have thrust a hose nozzle through one of the lower panes of glass, put his hand through, slipped the bolt across and walked right through the open door. Thereby not only saving valuable time in reaching the seat of the fire, but also saving the difference in the cost of replacing the pannel in the door, and perhaps the cost of the whole door; and the cost of an 8x10 plate of glass.

Therefore we would suggest that a study be made first of the factories because by saving them we naturally preserve our bread earning workshop, then of the public buildings, so as to enable the members of our worthy volunteer fire company to strike at the fire, at the proper and most effective places, and in the most opportune and early moment. Thus more effectively guaranting the saving of every possible asset of our town in the form of public or private buildings, equipment, and personal effects.

Is this not reasonable and timely, and can it not be easily worked out to our own advantage?

Send your personals to the "Hershey Press," we are glad for them.

A TRANSFORMATION

[Contributed By a "Press" Reader]

Take a piece of blue bunting, a piece of red bunting, and a piece of white bunting, fashion these properly, sew them together and out of the meaningless pieces of woven fabric you have produced our National flag, the Star Spangled Banner, the visible emblem of the power of our great republic.

One hundred years ago, Francis Scott Key, in a moment of inspiration, and with a few English words asked the question,

"O, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?"

and futher on in this immortal poem, he answers this question with,

"Tis the star spangled banner: oh, long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

thus making the great National Anthem which, with its accompanying music, has become the written emblem of the sovereignty of our great nation.

Should the President visit our fair town of Hershey, our people would vie with each other in respect and honor to him, not as a man merely, but as the personal representative of the Government of the United States.

The leader of the Hershey Band has shown his respect for our Government by playing the National Anthem as the last number on the program at each evening band concert. It is customary all over the land for bands to play "The Star Spangled Banner" as the last number on their program, and it is quite as customary for the audience to rise and for the gentlemen to remove their hats. At our park a few do this but many do not. Can't we help Conductor Feese in his testimony, of loyalty to the "Stars and Stripes," by all rising when the band plays "The Star Spangled Banner"?

Hats off to the Old Flag, and to the National Anthem!

THE CAMPAIGN

The campaign is a trying time
When politicians are in clover
The rest of us would give a dime,
Or even more to have it over.

READ ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S PLEDGE

Many years ago two boys out in Illinois, named Cleopas Breckenridge and Moses Martin, were persuaded by Abraham Lincoln to sign a temperance pledge which he had written for them. The two boys, when grown to be old men, could still repeat, word for word, the pledge as they made it so long ago. They never forgot that day when Lincoln, standing with the bit of paper in one hand, as he placed the other lovingly on each lad's head as if in consecration, solemnly pledged them to total abstinence. Here is the

Pledge of the Lincoln Legion, as Written, Signed, Advocated and Kept
By Abraham Lincoln

"Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation and crime; and believing that it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

"As a rule a mans a fool,
When its hot he wants it cool;
When its cool he wants it hot,
Always wanting what is not."



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