

The smallpox scare, if there was one, is over in Bellefonte.

A double hanging is not a pleasant spectacle to contemplate, yet Centre county will have one within the year.

So the Crown Prince of Norway is coming over to sue for the hand of Miss ALICE ROOSEVELT. Well, what of it? That's Miss ROOSEVELT's business.

From a stand-point of health St. Petersburg boasts the lowest mortality rate of any European city, yet it is decidedly unhealthy for some people just now.

If this kind of weather continues for any length of time it is hardly possible that any of the candidates for local offices will find it warm enough for them, no matter what happens.

General manager ATTERBURY of the P. R. E., ought to be one of the Grand Dukes of Russia, then the Czar would be sure of having his strikes nipped in the bud and all sides pleased.

Next week the popular subscription for the beautifying of the Academy grounds will open. If you want to be on the first list send in your dollar, or whatever amount you think you can give, at once.

JOE FOLK, of Missouri, must either have a better memory or more back-bone than most public men. He seems to be about the only one extant who proposes doing in office just what he said he would do before he got there.

A Missouri Democrat who broke away from his moorings for the first time last fall and voted for ROOSEVELT has just been presented with triplets by his wife. Now he's mad, right, and says he'll never vote for another Republican.

Now that Japan has about completed the job it is quite appropriate that Mr. JOHN HAY, our Secretary of State, should jump to the front of the platform with a spectacular proposition to keep Russia from gobbling up China.

The wagging tongue of gossip has caused more trouble in this land than anything else we know of and not the least of the sorrows it has produced was the death of a little girl in Northumberland, on Monday. She drowned herself because her associates said unkind things about her.

The council of Bellefonte should not be changed. The works of this body are apparent to everyone and with another year in which to carry to completion plans now developed the tax payers will find that they have secured many permanent public improvements and a reduction of taxation, as well.

There cannot be any question of the truthfulness of the astounding revelations Mr. THOMAS W. LAWSON has made of modern financing and wealth production in a night in this country, but the results of his articles will scarcely bring about any correction of the evil. Lamentable as it may be the people of this country are too crazy for wealth to reform their methods. What they want most is a grip on the "Magic Jimmy" themselves.

The New York Sun is opposed to whipping poets because it contends that a man who comes home from a hard day's work to find the fire out, his children running the streets and his wife drunk on the floor is justified in beating her. While we grant that the drink habit is growing among women we cannot but regard the Sun's hypothesis as an exceptional one. When it comes to robbing a home of its comfort and happiness Mr. John Barleycorn uses the man as his lieutenant ninety-nine times out of a hundred.

While the whole civilized world shudders at the horror of the massacre at St. Petersburg Sunday evening and revolts at a government that requires such a frightful human sacrifice it must not be forgotten that we, the liberty loving, free people of America can extend nothing more than our deepest sympathy to the oppressed and butchered Russian common folk. We have had our own Homestead, our Latimer, our Chicago and our Colorado to remind us to sweep before our own doors before we admonish other governments of their tyranny.

The banishment of the pig-sty, the fencing up of the cow, the improved sewage systems and the strenuous activity of the board of health, though inflicting apparent inconvenience on some, have had their results in the decrease of the mortality list in Bellefonte in recent years. According to a table on another page of this issue the death rate will be seen to be very low; in fact, last year it was lower than during any of the past twelve and today it will be exactly fifty-two days since a death has occurred in this place.

The death of Judge ANDREW K. KAUL, of St. Mary's, at the age of sixty years, marks the passing of a man of prominence in the business, social and political affairs of the Elk district. Associated with the HALLES he was foremost in the development of the rich lumber and coal fields of Elk county and his sound business acumen raised him from the position of a poor boy to that of a man of great affluence. Judge KAUL was, personally, a most attractive gentleman, firm and true and his friendships, philanthropic in his motives and strong in his adherence to the principles of Democracy.

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Palpable Usurpation of Powers.

No grave harm may occur from the present situation in Santo Domingo direct, but it establishes a precedent fraught with the greatest danger. According to the administration statement of the case, the government of San Domingo invited the United States to take charge of her fiscal affairs, that is to say collect her revenues and her debts. The President without consulting Congress accepted the invitation and has entered upon the discharge of the service. If the revenues are sufficient to maintain the Dominican government and discharge the debts, nothing more may happen. After ROOSEVELT there may never be a President so covetous of power. But if the revenues should fall of discharging the obligations this country will be responsible for their payment and the annexation of the Republic would be the inevitable result.

This is the fulfillment of President ROOSEVELT's ambition to make the government of the United States an international policeman and a collecting agency for Europe. After that no European tradesman need hesitate to give credit for any amount to any San Domingan adventurer for the government of the United States will stand pledged to pay the bill. Our own exporters will enjoy no such advantage. They will be obliged to consider the hazard in dealing with the slippery Domingans. But Europeans are safe and secure and they will crouch the market for all time. But the arrangement affords ROOSEVELT a splendid opportunity to splurge. He can sail down along the coast of our southern neighbor swinging the big stick and ordering everybody to "move on." Nothing could half so well fulfill his ambitions. He would probably wear a policeman's uniform while on duty if he had one.

When General GRANT was President a proposition to induce San Domingo to make some concessions which might ultimately result in the same condition aroused the whole country to the highest pitch of national indignation and patriotic apprehension. But GRANT didn't undertake the matter himself. He was essentially a soldier and yielded scant respect to the restraints of civil authority. But he understood the obligation of an oath and when he swore to "support, obey and defend" the constitution of the United States, he didn't deliberately violate the pledge by trampling it under foot. This is what ROOSEVELT has done in the case in point and if no other harm results the precedent is both iniquitous and dangerous. But other and even greater evils are likely to ensue and Congress ought to promptly rebuke the usurpation.

Roosevelt Will be Disappointed.

The President will be disappointed in his most cherished caprice if Speaker Cannon of the House and Senator HALE of Maine continue in their present frame of mind. That is to say, both of those gentlemen declare that they are opposed to and will resist the President's plans for naval profligacy and what they say goes in their respective branches of Congress on that subject. Mr. HALE is chairman of the Senate committee on Naval Affairs and it would be an unheard of, if not impossible, infraction of the traditional senatorial courtesy for that body to vote any proposition with respect to the navy against the expressed inclination of the chairman on Naval Affairs.

The Speaker has equal power in the House of Representatives. It is not by courtesy that he controls legislation. On the contrary, quite the reverse. As a matter of fact there is very little courtesy in the House. But the Speaker has the power of an autocrat. Unless such power were vested in somebody it is doubtful if any legislation would be possible at all. When the membership was smaller and the impulses which controlled the votes different, there was no necessity for such vast authority in the chair. But the machine thinks it necessary now and it is bestowed and exercised and the Speaker is said to be waiting for the naval appropriation bill with an exceedingly keen edged axe.

This is a piece of information which may well afford satisfaction to the thoughtful people of the country. There is no present necessity for additional battleships and the ordering of such things when not needed is a grave crime against the tax payers. We are in no danger of foreign war. In fact, political conditions abroad are such at present that any serious dispute with this country is absolutely impossible. The only reason which can exist, therefore, for more battleships is to impoverish the people by excessive taxation. Tyrants are only secure when the victims of their injustice are too poor to resist and if ROOSEVELT has his way the American people will be as mild as "sucking doves."

The trouble between the Bellefonte doctors and the Pennsylvania Telephone company has all been satisfactorily adjusted and the doctors will continue to use the Bell phones, as heretofore.

The Russian Massacre.

The slaughter on the streets of St. Petersburg on Sunday is without question the colossal outrage of recent history. After long suffering and patient endurance the Russian laborers made an appeal to the Czar for improvement. They didn't come armed or in a menacing manner. They didn't demand redress for wrongs of the past or threaten vengeance for the injustices which have been multiplied upon their heads during the years that have gone by. But as helpless, and suffering petitioners they asked for the sciantest measure of justice in the future and pledging the full complement of loyalty and service as a reward for the benignity.

Coming in that form under such circumstances it might have been expected that the response would have been a gracious evasion, if not actual acquiescence. But instead of that these peaceful petitioners were met with belching guns and keen edged swords and slaughtered mercilessly. Their profers of friendship were answered with murderous attack and their tenders of loyalty rewarded with death. Meantime the Emperor, trembling in a neighboring palace like a craven, cried for pity, though he had no pity for the victims of his reactionary policy. The incident was without parallel in brutality. Its effect is likely to be without equal in history.

It may be said that the Russian empire is tottering and the tragedy at St. Petersburg on Sunday shows that its end is just a matter of time. For years the advancing front of civilization has been admonishing him that the day of absolutism is at an end and that justice among men is essential to national as well as individual prosperity. With an inexplicable fatuity, however, he pursued the path to inevitable ruin and if the brutal massacre in front of his palace on Sunday is the beginning of the end there will be few regrets that his period of incapability at the head of a mighty Empire is at an end. It would have been better if he had never been born.

Dangerous Conspiracy.

There is hardly any doubt that corporations already in existence and others soon to be organized intend to acquire control of all the water in Pennsylvania. Two years ago various schemes were projected to get control of water supplies in one section of the State and another. Because of an apprehension that the Governor would veto all legislation of that sort, the projects were all dropped, however. Reports from Harrisburg indicate that they are being revived now. The Governor has been brought under the influence of the machine and half a dozen water companies have already been announced and others are to follow.

It will be a sad day in Pennsylvania when the water supply is made the subject of the avarice of machine politicians. It has always been the boast of Americans that air and water shall remain free and except in rare instances of extreme drought that boast has been well founded. But at the present time one of the considerable cities of the Commonwealth is contesting with a corporation the right to control the water supply, and information leads to the belief that the movement for control covers a considerable area in the same neighborhood. The very fact that such a thing was not suspected is the great source of danger.

With the present Legislature there is little hope of preventing the evil by moral influences. That is to say, protests and petitions will have little effect on the minds of men who are in a combination to loot in every direction. But it is worth while to try the expedient, just the same, and we recommend an instant and vigorous agitation of the question. Deluge the Legislature with protests against the absorption by corporations for purposes of profit of the supplies which nature provides as her willing tribute to the comfort and free offering to the health of the people. Then at the next election defeat the conspirators.

Unequal Apportionment.

Senator HERBST's resolution demanding the fulfillment of the constitution in the matter of senatorial apportionments was a surprise to the Republican majority of that body, on Monday night. If the managers of the machine had known it was coming they would have prevented its introduction, it was said. Bold in political pincery they nevertheless object to having their offenses exposed to public scrutiny and when, on motion of President Sprout, the resolution was referred to the committee on Senatorial apportionment, they believed that the end of the matter had been reached. That committee will probably never meet.

But the resolution in question revealed a startling partisan iniquity. It recited that provision of the state constitution which declares that under no circumstances shall there be a senatorial district containing less than one half a ratio. But Lebanon county has never had one-half a ratio and at present it has little more than one-third of a ratio. At the time the present apportionment was made it contained

less than the required population and the discrepancy has been increasing ever since. It is not only unjust to the other districts but it is a subversion of the constitution and a violation of the oath of every Senator and Representative who doesn't endeavor to correct the evil.

Senator HERBST might have gone further and more completely exposed the iniquity of the present apportionment. Lancaster county with a less population than Berks, has two Senators while Berks has only one. The mandate of the constitution is that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as possible. This has not been fulfilled in giving the county of lesser population double the representation of that of the greater. But political exigencies are promoted by such discrimination and that is the object of all legislation under the direction of the atrocious Republican machine. It is up to the bosses now, however.

The Absurdity of Recent Years.

Probably nothing more absurd has occurred in Washington during recent years than the President's attempt to seize control of the railroads of the country. His pretense is that he wants to shield the shippers from extortionate and discriminating rates and rebates. But his real purpose is to be able to use the railroads for his own pleasure as he used the naval equipment of the country a year ago last summer. It will be remembered that during that season of his residence at Oyster Bay he kept two ships at hand constantly for use as pleasure craft and finally brought a whole squadron to the front of his house at an expense of millions of dollars that his children might be diverted and entertained by the maneuvers.

President ROOSEVELT did enjoy the favor of some of the railroads for a trip to Yellowstone park that year, and he couldn't have had better accommodations if he had owned the roads. He had a train of six or more of the most magnificent cars ever built, thoroughly equipped, luxuriously furnished and provisioned with princely generosity. It didn't cost him a cent, directly or indirectly, and he didn't even ask for it in a courteous way, but demanded it. But, subsequently, when an investigation of the Postoffice Department was demanded he had the hardest kind of a time to stop the clamor, though it might have revealed that the railroads were well paid in the price charged for carrying mails.

Besides one of the railroads complained of the expense of carrying the junket, and small wonder for it cost that company a matter of \$50,000 in cash. There was no charge for mileage on the other roads over which the train ran, of course, and the trip was that much cheaper than another of the same kind would have been for that reason. ROOSEVELT is exceedingly generous, however, in his hospitality, when somebody else is paying the price, and he entertained lavishly on the train, the railroad company which owned the cars providing the food, drinks and cigars. But nobody ever heard the Secretary of the Navy complaining of the President's use of warships and he wants the cars on the same terms.

Will You be a Helper?

The movement that is to be begun next week for the purpose of raising a fund for beautifying the grounds about the Bellefonte Academy, is one that should appeal especially to all who have been students at that institution. While it is scarcely possible to make it a public matter, yet there are so many residents in all parts of the county who have attended the historic old institution that were they all to join in this movement it would at once assume the proportions of a general rally to the support of a most laudable purpose.

The Academy has been rebuilt on lines that establish it in classic splendor on the hill but the setting is in no wise appropriate. In the days when the buildings were crude and ramshackle in appearance their environments were not in the sharp contrast that has been brought out since the new building has been erected. It will not require a vast sum of money to effect the desired transformation: hence the call upon old students and other friends for this part of it. If every one who has attended the Academy were to give one dollar there would be more than enough, but as there are many who will probably never learn of the movement, it is hoped that those who do will be prompt to start the list off with their remittance.

Will you help?

Endorsed for Treasurer. At a recent conference of the Democrats of the borough of Philipsburg Dr. F. K. WHITE was endorsed and urged to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Treasurer of Centre county.

It is understood that the honor was entirely unsolicited and in that it is all the more complimentary to Dr. WHITE, though that is not to be wondered at because he is one of the best Democrats and best men in the county.

The "It" of the Whole Thing.

From the Philadelphia Record. The Machine is determined to have no middlemen and no lobby save its own in the present session of the Pennsylvania Legislature. All persons desiring appropriations, legislative franchises or any other opportunities of getting something for nothing will have to negotiate directly with Israel W. Durham, chief of the Philadelphia Machine and sinecurist State Commissioner of Insurance. Durham is the fountain of all rewards and all favors in the Commonwealth, and in order that he may perform his high function the duties of his office are turned over to a deputy while he gathers in the fees. Bootliders and others seeking legislative favors will, therefore, recognize that it would be a mere waste of time and money to transact business with members of either House. They must go to Durham at his headquarters and he will inform them on what terms and conditions any appropriations or valuable franchises are to be obtained.

There will, of course, be a dummy chairman and a dummy Committee of Appropriations in the House, and dummies of the same kind in the State Senate. But no measure will receive favorable consideration in any committee without having first obtained the approval of Durham. The people of Pennsylvania will thus recognize with becoming pride what burdens and responsibilities are taken off the hands of the men whom they have chosen with so much discrimination to represent them in the Legislature and make or unmake their laws. Let them be happy in the reflection that few, if any, other States are blessed with a Durham who has kindly assumed all the legislative and most of the executive functions of their government.

How the Republican Harvest is Ripening.

From the Johnstown Democrat. The Pittsburgh Dispatch notes that a singular juxtaposition recently occurred in one of the New York papers. In one column it told of a remarkable dinner at a hotel which has sought the fame of being the most expensive of its class. It was the first dinner at which the gold service of that hotel was used "exclusively." Thirty-six people sat down at a cost of \$50,000, or about \$1,400 per plate. In another column of the same paper was a statement of Robert Hunter of the university settlement work. He says that there are over 400,000 people in New York who are in distress and that 70,000 children go to school hungry every day. One-tenth of New York's dead are buried in pauper's graves. Commenting on this state of affairs the Dispatch says:

The spectacle of thousands of children going to school hungry while a few people feast for the express delight of making an extravagant expenditure is a reminder of the decadence of Rome which the thoughtful people cannot contemplate with any satisfaction. It is also a reminder of the fact that the condition is not due to Bryan or Bryanism, nor to the "vagaries" of wild-eyed "theorists." It is a further reminder of the fact that Dingleyism is doing its work with a terrible vengeance.

But Fair to the Man With Whose Work it Competes.

From the Lincoln (Neb.) Commoner. Labor unions throughout the country are asking the Legislatures of the various States to enact laws making it compulsory to brand convict made goods with the words "convict made." There is no good reason why the request should not be granted, and many reasons why it should be. Congress was quick to come to the aid of the dairy industry and cripple the oleomargarine industry, and certainly the laborers of the country are as much entitled to protection against convict made goods as the dairymen were to protection against the competition of the oleo manufacturers. If people want to buy convict made goods because of their cheapness, well and good; but people who do not want convict made goods at any price are entitled to have some distinguishing mark that will enable them to avoid those goods.

The Way to Explain.

From the Chicago Public. Nobody has yet explained the neglect to hold Paul Morton to account for allowing secret rebates, contrary to law, to the Colorado Fuel and Iron company while he was traffic director of the Santa Fe railway. Instead of being held to account, Mr. Morton is retained in the cabinet. President Roosevelt, Congressman Baker is duly rebuked for asking questions about it in the House, and the public is urged to suspend judgment because Mr. Morton is "more than willing to explain" his alleged crime. But may it not fairly be insisted that in such a case the way to explain is to explain?

Where Republican Prosperity is Showing its Work.

From the Cleveland (O.) Recorder. The number of public beggars in Cleveland is increasing at a fearful rate. One can hardly pass across the public square at any time of day or evening without being accosted by beggars and it is so pretty nearly all over the down town district. There must be many who give to these miserable creatures nearly all of whom are unworthy of charity. In fact it is a rule with only enough exceptions to prove its truth that it is always bad to give to street beggars. They are usually impostors. The giving simply helps along beggary and pauperism.

Park Should be Extended to Afford Setting for State Building.

A bill will shortly be presented in the State Legislature at Harrisburg for the extension of the capital park, a project which has been urged for years and which in the opinion of everyone who has seen the new State capitol, is needed if the magnificent structure is to be given an adequate setting.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Harry Albert Thompson, editor and publisher of the Tyrone Times, has been appointed transcribing clerk in the State Senate.

The thirty-seventh annual state convention of the Young Men's Christian association will meet at Johnstown, February 16th to 19th.

The postoffice wrangle at Curwensville has been settled by the appointment of Samuel P. Arnold postmaster, one of the seven applicants for the place.

Ex-State Treasurer F. G. Harris, of Clearfield, has been chosen a member of the "Canadian Club" of New York, a club owning 50,000 acres of forest land in Canada.

Two boys and a girl, students of Perkiomen Seminary, Pennsburg, while skating last Friday broke through the ice. They were saved with great difficulty by the use of fence rails.

The Reynoldsville business men are hustlers and made of the right kind of stuff. They have subscribed \$60,000 to secure a steel mill and have already paid in two-thirds of that sum.

A. C. Millward, of Philipsburg, has received his commission as special fish warden for Centre, Clearfield and Cambria counties, by commissioner of fisheries, W. E. Meehan, dating from Jan. 16th.

A Clearfield county woman claims to have 16 hens that laid 2,006 eggs during the year 1904. The eggs were marketed at an average of 30 cents per dozen or about \$50 for the year's product.

John A. Patton, of Warriors-mark, Huntingdon county, a leading member of the Pennsylvania State Grange, has received the appointment of assistant postmaster of the State Senate at Harrisburg.

Thomas Barnes, of Barnesboro, formerly of Philipsburg, the well-known coal operator, has purchased a large tract of coal land in Barr and Susquehanna townships, Cambria county, from Caroline R. Tucker, of Philadelphia.

Theodore Rupert has purchased the Thomas Garrey farm located on the "flat" between Nittany and Sugar valleys. The purchase price was \$900. Mr. Rupert and his family will occupy the place in the spring.

Mrs. Mary Patton, the widow of the late Hon. A. E. Patton, will donate a handsome pipe organ to the Methodist church of Patton in the near future and will also make a similar donation to the Curwensville M. E. church.

The traffic on the New York Central has been so heavy the past few days that the company has hardly been able to handle it. Wednesday evening the yards at Avis became blocked, there being over 2,000 cars there at one time.

Miss Edith McPherson, daughter of ex-Sheriff and Mrs. W. R. McPherson, of Clearfield, has been promoted to the position of directress in the Medico-Chi hospital at Philadelphia, after serving for a time as assistant directress and clinic nurse.

James Hall, a giant timberman of Sugar Loaf Mountain, Fayette county, walked into Dr. H. Y. Brady's dental office at Ohio Pyle Friday morning to have a tooth pulled, having nerved up, he said, on moonshine whiskey. Dr. Brady pulled the tooth and Hall died almost instantly.

There promises to be quite a number of rafts going down the Susquehanna river this spring. Alfred Graham, of Clearfield, will have 24, A. C. Lansberry, of Deer Creek, 14, J. Mitchell 4 and John W. Bowden 15, from Curry Run. Most of the timber will go to Northumberland, Marietta and Port Deposit.

Theodore F. VanScoyoc, the oldest locomotive engineer in continuous service on the Tyrone division, is critically ill at his home, 1640 north Pennsylvania avenue, Tyrone. At an early hour Sunday morning he was stricken with an acute affection of the kidneys and rendered unconscious, in which condition he remains.

There is nothing new in the Mill Hill Italian murder case. Lock Haven officers are still working on the case to secure additional evidence which must be forthcoming in order to fasten the crime on Uaro, who was arrested on suspicion. One of the officers working on the case is inclined to believe that two men were implicated in the crime.

The school board of Clearfield has collected sufficient evidence to prosecute at least eight tobacco dealers of that town who have been selling cigarettes to school boys. The board will notify the dealers to desist, and further transgressions will be followed by arrests. The directors say the cigarette smoking pupils show marked deficiency.

Albert L. Walters, of Flemington, was whirled around a shaft in the leach house at Kistler's tannery, Saturday morning at 7 o'clock, just after beginning work, and though all his outer garments were torn from his body, and he was cut and bruised considerably, no bones were broken, though it was little less than a miracle that he was not killed outright.

The Pennsylvania railroad will experiment with having its passenger crews make longer runs. Now crews are changed at Philadelphia and Altoona. Orders have been issued for six crews to make runs from Jersey City to Harrisburg and return, and western crews will be run from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh. If successful the changes will be made on all Pennsylvania lines.

President George Edward Reed, of Dickinson college, on Monday announced that, by the will of the late Senator Alexander E. Patton, of Curwensville, Pa., the college will receive \$10,000. He also said that this sum made \$120,000 which the college has secured since the loss of Denny hall by fire last March. Mr. Patton was a trustee of the college and gave Dickinson the present gymnasium.

George Thomas, aged 10 years, Willard Elder, aged 12, and George Leeper, aged 9, three Tyrone boys while coasting, last Thursday evening, ran under a moving shifting engine on the Pennsylvania railroad and were all so badly injured that they died early Friday morning in the Altoona hospital. The first named boy's father is Harry Thomas, fireman on the engine they collided with and when the crew went to the rescue of the boys the father picked up his own son without knowing it until he had him in his arms.