

—Thank Heavens, the coal strike has come just a little too late to be the cause of another little boost in the price of steam heat.

—Treasurer-elect BERRY wants fusion with the Independents on a nominee for Governor. WILLIAM knows how he got there.

—The time is near at hand when the rolled-up sleeves fad will begin to cheat the laundryman out of his price for washing cuffs.

—How heartless TEDDY is! To throw that harpooned muck-rake into poor old JOHN D. just at a time when he is feeling so badly.

—The sympathy of the civilized world will go out to the citizens of California who have been injured by the awful earthquake disaster of Wednesday morning.

—Between war depleted Russia, famine stricken Japan and Vesuvius devastated Italy we ought to get our share of the immigrant business during the early summer.

—"The Man With the Muck Rake" probably won't last as long as "the Man With the Hoe," but just at this season of the year there is a chance for both of them to get busy.

—The London woman who killed herself by tight lacing will not be missed much. If she had so little sense as to do such a thing she had too little to fill any useful sphere in this life.

—DOWIE has the other bosses who have been run to cover lately skinned a mile. He is to be kicked out just the same as they were, but he is also to get a million, whereas most of the others have had to "give up."

—Statistics prove that brain-workers are long-lived but that shouldn't necessarily delude the editors of some papers and the teachers of some schools and some lawyers we know of into thinking they will be hanging on here after many others are gone.

—CHARLES P. DONNELLY, of Philadelphia, is the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Democracy. He has the ability and experience to make a good one if he exercises both the qualities he displayed so markedly in the Philadelphia campaign last fall.

—A Youngstown, Ohio, man who is suing for divorce from his wife gives as one of his reasons that "she is too slow." As he also recites in his bill that she stuck him several times with a table fork we presume that he liked that little pastime of hers and she didn't do it fast enough.

—The rumor that ARCHIE ALLISON is an aspirant for the Bellefonte postoffice has no foundation. ARCHIE knows he would have no show because the plans have all been made: Judge LOVE is to go to Congress and then he is to make our friend HARTER postmaster. This is official, because TOM made the plan himself.

—The Daughters of the Revolution are again in national Congress in Washington and, as usual, are keeping up ancestral reputations by stirring up another big fight. It is a nice little question to conjure with as to whether such a body of women by any other name would always be at loggerheads over something.

—With TOM PLATT'S announced intention of retirement at the end of his present term in the Senate comes TEDDY'S wish that he could get into that body after PLATT is through. My what a time they would have in the upper branch of Congress with "Pitchfork BEN" and "Muck Rake" TEDDY both doing business on the strenuous side.

—Again Governor FOLK gets through with the leaders of that Springfield mob it is probable that lynching parties won't be as popular as they once were in Missouri. Of course there are crimes that ought to be a lynching seems to expiate, but that neither justifies nor makes lynching anything else than a dangerous infraction of the laws.

—So MAXIM GORKY, the great Russian patriot, is traveling with "a lady"—not his wife! And MAXIM was probably one of the loudest claxers against the Russian army because it was found that many of its officers were paying more attention to the ladies around Mukden and Port Arthur than they were to strengthening the defenses of the places.

—The Philadelphia Public Ledger thinks it "a queer notion that the biggest ship in the navy should be named after a wee State that supports a single Senator." What a poor argument. Everyone knows that to even get that one Senator the "wee State" goes through things more akin to real war-fare than all the other States in the Union put together would have to go through in choosing a million Senators.

—When the Democrats, in 1894, passed the WILSON income tax a Republican Supreme court declared it unconstitutional and Republicans in general split their throats crying that it was socialistic, inquisitorial, etc. Since the Republican President of these same United States has declared, in a public speech, "I feel that we shall ultimately have to consider the adoption of some such scheme as that of a progressive tax on all fortunes beyond a certain amount" what do these matters of twelve years ago have to say? The first thing they know ROOSEVELT will be taking BRYAN and HEARST into his cabinet.

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A Significant Rumor.

Those who imagine that President ROOSEVELT is yearning for the tranquility of private life are likely to have their impressions rudely disturbed unless the alert Washington correspondents are gravely mistaken. In other words, according to a Washington dispatch, published a few days ago, the President contemplates an extensive tour of the country during the coming summer and it is a safe conjecture that if he makes such a trip during the summer of 1906 he will be a candidate for re-election to the Presidency in 1908. This is the plain logic of events. One is the natural, not to say the inevitable, corollary of the other.

A presidential tour of the country is an enterprise of vast expense. We have the best authority for the statement that President ROOSEVELT's trip to the Yellowstone Park two years ago cost the Pennsylvania railroad \$50,000 besides the expenses of the other roads over which his magnificent train passed free of the ordinary "wheel charges." There is a tradition that all men are liberal with other people's money and it is possible that that excursion cost more, because the railroad company was paying the bills, than it would under other circumstances. But whether that be true or not it is certain that a junket across the continent upon the scale of magnitude of that of two years ago would cost more than any prudent man would be willing to spend unless he had an expectation of a return of some kind.

From their inception these presidential tours of the country have been nothing more nor less than electioneering devices. Of late years it may be said that they have been without expense to the party most directly interested and that if the expense had devolved on such party they might have been on a less elaborate scale. The new railroad regulation against the courtesy of free transportation to public officials if enforced will of necessity put the expense of the contemplated trip on the President's private purse and therefore it is a safe guess that if the luxury is indulged in it will be made an electioneering enterprise.

Not so Grossly Unjust.

Our highly respected contemporary, the Philadelphia Record, is giving itself needless worry over the dangers to carrying corporations in the amendment to the rate bill proposed by Senator BAILEY, of Texas. It would be most iniquitous, our Philadelphia contemporary declares, to deny to one class of suitors, the common carriers, "the right that is enjoyed by all others in the courts of the United States." This is really touching, but we regret that it is impossible for us to bring ourselves into sympathy with the proposition. We can't divest ourselves from the impression that the particular class of suitors in question have brought the trouble upon themselves. If any man outside of the walls of an asylum should assert the claim that murderers are entitled to the enjoyment of liberty of person because it is guaranteed by the constitution to every American citizen, he would likely be laughed at for his pains. By the commission of the crime the murderer becomes an outlaw and is justly confined in a cell until trial by a properly constituted jury. These common carriers have similarly outraged every principle of justice and as Senator BAILEY suggests they deserve to be denied the legal rights of other suitors until by the regular process of judicial inquiry they have established the right which is inherent to suitors as a rule.

The common carriers for whom our Philadelphia contemporary pleads so plaintively have outraged the people so long and so orally that they deserve to stand before the public as pirates. If they get the right to hold up rates established by the Interstate Commerce commission, pending a judicial inquiry, they will hold it up until the shipper, having first exhausted his patience and his purse, has subsequently worried himself into his grave.

According to the public prints there is a case of the kind now in the Philadelphia Federal court which was begun seventeen years ago and is still far from a finish. In view of such facts why shouldn't some restraints be considered?

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, of Baltimore, are circulating a four-page pamphlet explanatory of and showing what it purports to be the great good of a Carlew law in a number of cities and towns in the United States. While there is hardly any doubt but that good can be done by such a law in possibly most every city and town in the country, the best Carlew that could be put in force anywhere would be a little more of the proper discipline by parents and there would be no need of any other law.

Housecleaning is now the order of the day and the head of more than one household in Bellefonte has the consequent good reason to take his lunch down town.

Republicans are Alarmed.

The Republicans in Congress are greatly alarmed, according to newspaper correspondents, over what they call Speaker CANNON'S indiscreet declaration on the tariff. It will be remembered that "Uncle Joe" asserted, a few days ago, that there will be no tariff revision as long as the Republicans continue to control legislation and that those Republicans or others who favored tariff revision might go to the Democrats, the dogs or the devil for consolation. A good many Republicans now in the House, it appears, have secured their election by promising tariff revision and feel that if the statement of the Speaker is taken seriously, there will be no possible chance of a re-election.

"Uncle Joe," it may be observed, doesn't share in the idea that his candor may prove harmful to the party. On the contrary he seems to be entirely satisfied with himself. He reasons, with the late Mr. BARNUM, that the people like to be humbugged, and that the old, old story the Republican party means to do whatever the people want will fool them this year, as it has deceived them so frequently in the past. Therefore he inferentially recommends them to pay no attention to what he has said but to go right ahead, as usual, and promise anything. Without pride of opinion or qualms of conscience, the Speaker is ready for anything and feels, justly or otherwise, that his declaration will guarantee a fat campaign fund which will prove potent anyway.

Some other Republicans of the House, men who have adopted a different code of political ethics, are not disposed to tamely submit to this false position, as they call it, however, and Mr. PERKINS, of New York, made public protest in a speech the other day. "No one regards the schedules of the present law as sacred," he said, which is probably true. But a lot of fellows, besides the Speaker, regard their obligations to the tariff pensioners as sacred and may depend upon to fulfill the Speaker's pledge as long as their party is in control of the House organization. The only certain remedy is, as "Uncle Joe" suggested, to vote for Democratic candidates for Congress.

The Reed Smoot Case.

The testimony in the REED SMOOT case is all in and the arguments on both sides have been heard, but the end of the affair is not yet in sight. Printed briefs are yet to be presented to the committee and as the attorneys have other things to attend to it is impossible to say when they will be able to give the matter attention. Meanwhile the Mormon Apostle continues to occupy the seat in "the greatest legislative body in the world," and exercise all the prerogatives of a Senator of the United States. More than half his term has passed and though he has probably been more or less uneasy at times his right to act has never been impaired.

We don't refer to this fact complainingly. That is to say, we are not protesting against the right of the people of a State to select whom they like for Senator in Congress. The constitution of the United States declares that no man shall be denied the right to hold office or exercise any other function of citizenship on account of religious beliefs or practices. Polygamy is forbidden by law and if SMOOT is a polygamist he has no right to a seat in the Senate. But he denies that he is a polygamist and so far as we have been able to discover the charge has never been proved against him. But whether it has been proven or not he still occupies the seat.

A few years ago a Mormon was elected to the House of Representatives by the people of Utah. He protested that he was not a polygamist and it was never proved that he was. But he was voted out of the body with a rapidity that was surprising. He hardly got time to make an ordinary defense of his constitutional right and that of his constituents. Our complaint now, therefore, is that one Mormon is treated considerably while the other got no show. The reason was in the first case that the defendant was a Democrat and the other that he is a Republican. The morals of a good many of our statesmen are regulated by politics.

At a meeting of the Democratic state central committee held in Harrisburg on Wednesday CHARLES P. DONNELLY, of Philadelphia, was elected chairman for the ensuing year, J. K. P. HALL, of Ridgway, declining to accept another term. Wednesday, June 27th, was selected as the date for holding the state convention and Harrisburg the place. Following his election Chairman DONNELLY re-appointed P. GRAY MEEK, of Bellefonte, as secretary.

You don't want to forget that support to be given by the Ladies Aid society of the Methodist church, in the lecture room, Thursday evening, April 26th. The Methodist women are noted for their good sappers and the forthcoming one will be equal to all the others.

The Rate Question at Home.

The well meaning gentlemen who met in Harrisburg the other day for the purpose of inaugurating a movement against a certain form of extortion practiced by the railroads deserve both encouragement and success. It would be impossible to imagine a meaner advantage of a helpless victim than is involved in the \$10 deposit required with the purchase of the 1000 mile ticket. That being true a movement looking toward the correction of the evil is in the nature of a public beneficence. It is a step in the direction of justice for the weak against the strong. It is a movement in the interest of the traveling, not to say the suffering, public of Pennsylvania.

But we very much doubt the efficacy of the plan adopted at the Harrisburg meeting the other day. It was a very creditable body that assembled and protested both orally and in writing, and the formation of a State Board of Trade was a wise thing to do. But the adoption of resolutions protesting against the outrage is not likely "to get them much." The railroads will probably not pay much attention to "their efforts to secure a revocation" of the order or be worried a great deal over their well-meant endeavor to secure "a two-cent passenger rate in Pennsylvania." The approval of the work already done will hardly spread alarm among the offending corporations, either.

There is some substance in the last resolution of the series adopted at the meeting, however. It pledges the participants in the meeting to use their best efforts "to secure the election of members to the General Assembly who will pledge themselves to support a uniform passenger rate of two cents a mile in Pennsylvania." If they had declared for the election of members who will support such a measure it would have been more to the point. There are men in the present Legislature who would make any pledge that might be asked of them to secure votes, who, after their election would pay no attention to the pledges. The reformers should be against such fellows, pledge or no pledge.

Tax on Industrial Alcohol.

There is but one reason against the pending act of Congress for the removal of the federal revenue tax on denatured alcohol, and that is the Standard Oil company. The measure would have the most beneficial effect upon the industrial life of the country. It would add vastly to the comfort and conveniences of the people of all conditions in the agricultural districts. It would largely increase the productive capacity of the soil and multiply the pecuniary rewards of the farmers. But it would create a competitor for the Standard Oil company and therefore all the resources of that criminal conspiracy are mustered against the measure.

Denatured alcohol is a mixture of grain and wood alcohol by chemical process. It is suitable for fuel, illumination and other mechanical uses. It can be produced at a price considerably less than is charged for kerosene or gasoline, while for purposes of illumination it is much superior to the former and for fuel infinitely better than the latter. But it threatens the Standard Oil monopoly and for that reason the resourceful lobby of that monstrous organization has set up an opposition to its passage. The country will watch the result with curious interest. The people are anxious to know which of their representatives in Congress are owned by the Standard Oil company.

No other industrial country in the world taxes this element of prosperity. No other progressive government on earth would be so unjust to the people. But we tax it doubly. That is to say we put upon it a prohibitive tariff tax and an internal revenue tax equally high. The Standard Oil company's products, kerosene and gasoline are subject to no tax burdens and wood alcohol, a useful but offensive fluid is free from taxation. But the product of much greater use and advantage is taxed so heavily as to make its manufacture for commercial purposes practically impossible. There is ground for hope, however, that the pending bill will be passed.

The public at large could glean a lot of comfort from that circular letter sent to the retail dealers the past week from the large coal operators in which they stated that they had an ample stock of coal on hand to carry them through a long strike, and that they would only sell to those dealers who would agree not to put the price up on the consumer, if the retail dealers were only supplied by the operators. But not an order for coal has been filled so far as the Bellefonte dealers are concerned.

With the closing of the ore mines at Scotia and the abolishing of two trains on the Bellefonte Central railroad Centre county is feeling the coal strike to a certain extent. The American Lime and Stone company has so far been able to secure all the coal they need and expect to continue doing so.

Where the Credit Belongs.

Perhaps the highest achievement won by a senator in this generation was that scored by Mr. Bailey, of Texas, Tuesday in his masterly speech on the rate bill which won over Senator Hale, of Maine, and practically saved the day for Theodore Roosevelt. It was a triumph of the very first order, a triumph of intellect and reason, a triumph of legal learning and statesmanly comprehension, a triumph that borrowed nothing from any extraneous source and that was acknowledged even by those whom it in effect laid low.

The Democratic party may well feel proud of this giant from the plains of Texas. He has shown himself to be not merely equal to the Knowers and the Spooners; he is plainly their superior in his grasp of great constitutional questions, in his ability to drive home an argument, in his understanding of the genius of American institutions and in his unflinching probity of thought. Had there been no Bailey on the Democratic side to meet the issues raised by the Republican conversatives, the President must infallibly have been beaten in his effort to secure effective railway rate regulations.

The credit for rate regulation will doubtless be claimed when it is secured by Mr. Roosevelt and the Republicans, but it really belongs to Senator Bailey and to the Democrats who have followed his lead and to those Republicans who have been constrained by reason and other influences to accept his view of the powers of Congress and the limitations of the inferior courts. There is now little doubt that the rate bill will pass and that it will include the Bailey anti-injunction amendment; and thus it will become what it never could have been if it had been left to the devices of the President and his friends—a real check on the capacity and favoritism of the common carriers.

Coming Sure.

The railroads are ill-advised in their fight against the two-cent-a-mile passenger rate which has just gone into effect in Ohio. They had better submit to this reduction gracefully rather than to invite further legislation of a more drastic kind. The Virginia Legislature has enacted a similar law, and a bill has been introduced in the New York Legislature providing a cent and a-half rate on the more prosperous roads. It is idle for railway corporations to claim, as they are doing in Ohio, that they cannot operate their lines profitably on a two-cent basis. No one will believe them, for the facts point the other way.

The great trunk roads in New York State have been on a two-cent basis for years, and there has been no complaint about loss of revenue. The people of the country are in no mood to stand further exactions in the interests of the railroad monopolists. With the fact known to all that a few men practically own and control all the railroads of the country and have grown enormously rich in the business, it is a poor time to talk about resisting a slight reduction in rates. It is pretty certain that if rate-control legislation fails at Washington there will follow an outbreak of State activity for the regulation of freight as well as passenger rates after the Wisconsin style.

Exactly So.

The story is now put forth that Senator Penrose, in order to avoid any appearance of bias, will not be present at the Republican state convention but will go out West on a hunting trip at the time. That would be very gracious on Penrose's part, especially as his private secretary is state chairman and would have all the machinery as well in hand with Penrose on deck at the Loochie or the Boas Mansion.

Because the Republicans of Pennsylvania have had the wool pulled over their eyes many times by a machine show of reform in extremity, it does not follow that they are going to be fooled again; certainly not this year.

Anyhow, it matters little whom the machine shall name; the next Governor of Pennsylvania is going to be a Democrat.

Would Prove an Effective Remedy. From the Springfield Republican. Why should a corporation be imprisoned to all intents and purposes, as well as an individual? Is the question thrown out in a Chicago communication to the Green Bag, a legal publication of Boston. In imprisoning a man, the state merely takes away his liberty, his earning power and his material means for the time of his sentence. If, then, an offending corporation were closed up for a certain period of time, or its earnings were appropriated by the State, it would in effect undergo a punishment similar to that inflicted by imprisonment of a person. It is a startling suggestion, but not many "imprisonments" of corporations would be required to make law-breaking very infrequent where now it is impudently common.

The Notes in Our Own Eyes.

By growing righteously indignant over Belgium's course in the Congo Free State, lot of eminent imperialists in the United States manage to forget all about this Republic's course in the Philippines.

A free-for-all fight occurred among some Italians at a christening up Buffalo Run, Sunday afternoon, in which clubs and knives were quite freely used and some foreign blood was spilled. Sheriff Kline was telephoned for and with policeman George Jodon went up to the scene, arrested three lads, brought them down and lodged the trio in jail.

The amateur gardeners will soon be dividing honors with the trout fishermen in swapping stories as to how their garden things are coming along.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Lock Haven people were served with artificial ice for the first time Saturday by Lucas Bros., of Castanea.

—The pupils of the Lock Haven, Mill Hill and Flemington schools last week contributed 1,858 eggs to the Lock Haven hospital.

—Some unknown miscreant recently broke into the barn of Al. DeForest, along the Ridge near Huntingdon, and poisoned four horses, their lives being saved with difficulty.

—A tree on the farm of Mrs. Bankin, in Franklin county, has a girth measurement, five feet above ground, of twenty-two feet, six inches, and is ninety feet high. It is of the red oak variety.

—A suit has been entered by Hollidaysburg borough against the Postal Cable Telegraph company to recover four years arrears of the pole license tax. This company has hitherto paid the tax under protest.

—Mrs. John Eason, who is visiting at the home of a son in Beech Creek township, Clinton county, slipped and fell on a frosty boardwalk the other morning. As a result she broke both bones of her right wrist.

—The warehouse of Barnes & Tucker, at Barnesboro, Cambria county, was entered recently by some unknown persons and a quantity of groceries and other goods taken. The slaughter house of the same firm was robbed of a quantity of meat.

—James Gardner, of Blacklick, one day last week sold to Corrigan, McKimney & Co., of Cleveland, O., seventy-two acres of land and the coal lying underneath, located just west of the Indiana branch of the Pennsylvania railroad at Blacklick, for \$34,000.

—The many friends of Charles A. Greer, editor of the Altoona Times, learned with pleasure that Treasurer-elect W. H. Berry has named Mr. Greer to be his bond clerk. The position pays \$2,500 a year, and the appointment is for the entire term of two years.

—Alderman David Kinch, of Altoona, has a watch which has been carried by some member of the Kinch family for the past 119 years. The watch was purchased by the Alderman's grandfather, in Lancaster. In 1833 the time-piece was turned over to him and he has used it ever since.

—Sheriff G. Thomas Bell, of Blair county, died Sunday afternoon at his home in Logan township, the farm where he was born and where he had resided all his life. He was aged 60 years, 10 months, and 5 days. Cirrhosis of the liver, from which he suffered for several months, was the cause of death.

—Sheriff Senator, of Westmoreland county, was good to the prisoners in the jail Sunday and they all had plenty of Easter eggs. On Saturday thirty dozen of Easter eggs were purchased by the chef at Hotel Senator and Sunday were served to the prisoners. There are 130 registered in the jail at the present time so that each man had all the eggs he could eat.

—The Philadelphia Journal says that C. M. Waple, who recently purchased the valuable lot on the northwest corner of Second and Presque Isle streets, in that town, has given an option on the same to Clearfield and local parties, who contemplate the erection of a \$40,000 opera house building, which will also embrace a couple of fine store rooms and several handsome offices.

—Miss Naomie Quinn, aged 18 years, daughter of Henry Quinn, of West township, Huntingdon county, has hydrophobia, and her condition is such that she has to be bound. She cannot recover. The origin of the disease dates back to a year ago when there were mad dogs in that neighborhood. The supposition is that she was scratched by a cat infected with the disease.

—The new bridge of the Middle division of the Pennsylvania railroad at Granville, crossing the Juniata river was put into service Saturday. The putting of this bridge into service on the division eliminates a curve on the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad which has been the source of annoyance in the handling of heavy freight trains, as at that point they most frequently stalled.

—Driving along a road near Jersey Shore Saturday Joseph Klapp was instantly killed by a severe jolt of his wagon, dislocating the vertebrae of his neck. His team continued along the road for a distance, finally stopping beneath a culvert, where a following driver, finding the road blocked, went to see what was the matter, and discovered Klapp still on his seat, with his head hanging upon his breast.

—The commissioners of Huntingdon county have instituted proceedings against A. L. Couch, A. L. Carothers and W. B. Wilson, former commissioners, for payment for the new bridge just completed across Spring creek, near Pague station on the East Broad Top railroad. The present board claims that the former board exceeded its authority when it accepted the bridge, and also erred in building the new bridge on the site of the former.

—The Mann Edge Tool company at Mill Hill have commenced operations in their new plant in the rolling and welding department and the several other processes will follow in their regular order. Skilled workmen, who had become scattered since the suspension of operations in September, '05, are returning and reporting for work at the new plant. In a week or two the shops will be filled with the old workmen and the hum of this popular industry will be a welcome sound.

—The dwelling house and its contents, the property of V. B. Wertz, on Dry Ridge, some four miles west of Mann's Choice, Bedford county, together with an old store building which was used as a warehouse, the old horse stables and several other smaller buildings, were destroyed by fire on Tuesday afternoon of last week. The loss was covered by insurance. The house was one of the oldest located along what is still known as the Glade pike, having been erected almost 100 years ago.

—It is rather early in the season for snake stories, but A. P. White, of Lock Haven, had an adventure last Friday afternoon that he will not soon forget. He was on his way home from the lands of Walter Agar in the Bald Eagle mountains near Lock Haven and while coming down the mountain ran into a nest of assorted kinds of snakes. Although considerably startled Mr. White got busy at once and in a short time dispatched seven good sized snakes. At least as many more got away from him.