

—Winter took another fall into the lap of spring on Monday.

—The man with the straw hat was hunting the cook stove on Monday.

—The earth-quake shook the coal strike clear out of type for an entire week.

—The adjournment of Congress is said to be far off. The Lord save the country.

—The recent freeze justifies our inquiring as to the welfare of the Delaware peach crop.

—As yet not a single sea-serpent has been sighted off any of the Atlantic coast resorts.

—Let us hope that the new San Francisco will have no China-town and that she will have a Sunday.

—All we need is a good man to head the ticket and reform in Pennsylvania will reap another nice BERRY crop in the fall.

—Some Americans may be leaning towards Socialism, but that doesn't appear to be the kind of Socialism that GORKY represents.

—MILLET'S famous painting "The Man with the Hoe" was burned in the San Francisco fire, but "The Man with the Muck Rake" is still saved to us.

—WALTER WELLMAN started for the North pole on Tuesday. He went via Europe and will probably come back by any old route the rescuers choose to take.

—The new Russian constitution has been discovered to be a farce. It is not stated whether the farcical features apply to the octopi or the individual rights of the country.

—And now they are accusing President ROOSEVELT of stealing "the man with the Muck Rake" from JOHN BUNYAN. What if he did. JOHN isn't here to take out a writ of replevin.

—After his brilliant work in San Francisco we will have to forgive General FURSTON for robbing one of his privates of the glory of being first across the Pelayo river in the Philippines.

—Mr. "POULTRY" BIGELOW'S visit to the Isthmus of Panama probably has for its object the discovery as to whether he or Secretary TAFT was lying during their recent heated interview.

—Mayor GUTHRIE is clearing up Pittsburgh so fast that ere long MABEL GILMAN might be able to visit the city again without carrying away with her such impressions as she did the last time she was there.

—The Penny has offered to carry all supplies destined to California relief free of freight charges, but that isn't going to make us forget the \$10 bill we have to give each time we go to buy a mileage book.

—If the Senate wants to give us some other kind of alcohol why don't it out out the denatured idea and make it all good natured. That would be more to the point and save the country a lot of police and court expenses.

—San Francisco had a desperately frightful shock, but San Francisco embodies that greatest type of energy, western American pluck, and that is why her people have already announced their intention of building greater and finer than ever.

—Let us see: Wasn't it this same Mr. QUIGLEY who tried to frazzle Col. JOHN A. DALEY out of a chance to run for the Legislature who once did the same trick to a gentleman by the name of ALLISON who wanted to run for County Treasurer.

—RICHARD PEARSON HOBSON has won his fight and will represent the 6th Alabama district in the next Congress. ANDY CARNEGIE having stolen his kissing laurels the hero of the Merrimac will now have a chance to win a few in forensic fields.

—The Missin county fisherman who tried to escape punishment for catching trout under size by asserting that the sun had shriveled them up might find it profitable to carry his wife's parasol with him the next time he goes out for a little piscatorial sport.

—When the Metropolitan opera company got back to New York, after being wrecked in the San Francisco disaster, every member, men and women, kissed Herr CONREID, their manager. Inasmuch as there are more than a hundred persons in the company the overly-oculated manager must have felt like any earthquake victim, himself.

—It is noted that the English insurance companies doing business in this country are already evincing an intention of using policy technicalities to avoid payment in full of their San Francisco losses. While they cannot be expected to pay any more than the insured are entitled to recover under their policies, if they do not pay that in full there should be an end of their opportunity to do business at all in this country.

—The President's announcement that foreign contributions to the San Francisco fund were not acceptable for the reason that we can furnish all the relief that is necessary here at home has aroused much condemnation in all parts of the country. One of the most pointed rejoinders of an exchange being that if the President feels so squeamish about accepting anything from foreigners he ought to have made the foreign public wise before his daughter's wedding presents began to arrive.

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An Interesting Promise.

In a speech at a Jefferson Day banquet at Kansas City, the other day, Congressman TOWNE, of New York, declared that he was "going back to Washington with the avowed purpose of exposing President ROOSEVELT. He is the greatest promiser and smallest performer since the days of JUDAS ISCARIOT," continued Mr. TOWNE. "He flouted his rate legislation programme from a Democratic platform and has now laid down on his own bill." On the same occasion Senator STONE, of Missouri, protested against the fulsome praise of ROOSEVELT by Democrats. The eloquent Missourian is willing to approve and even endorse all that is meritorious which comes from the White House or the President. But he objects to the absurd habit of calling the President a great Democrat and attributing to him other qualities which he doesn't possess.

But are those distinguished orators accurate in their judgment? We frequently hear of men speaking in the name of Democracy who oracularly pronounce the President an able and earnest exponent of Democratic principles because he happens to have adopted and perverted some Democratic ideas. Even Mr. TOWNE in the speech in question, goes beyond the limit of fact when he says that the President's "rate legislation programme is flouted from a Democratic platform." As a matter of fact the idea is stolen from that source but the programme is about as far from Democratic methods as it is possible to get. Democracy never sanctions the confiscation of property or the subversion of the constitutional right of the citizen to manage his own affairs. That is a symptom of Imperialism or Populism, but it is not Democracy.

Nevertheless we shall watch with absorbing interest Representative TOWNE'S exposure of the President's false pretenses. They are numerous and striking and deserve all manner of popular execration. That he has now completely broken from the plans of his party may result in the fulfillment of some of the pledges which he has been making in season and out during the past several years is probably true. But from the beginning of his campaign to regulate us until the present moment, not a single substantial point has been gained by the people. Even the triumph over the Northern securities company was wasted because of the failure to prosecute those concerned in the lawlessness in the original courts and every other trust provision proved abortive because of his sympathies with or friendliness for some of the originals.

The Stricken City.

The great calamity which devastated San Francisco last week not only revealed the vast recuperative power of the American people but the prodigious resources of the country. The destruction of a couple of hundred million dollar's worth of property in two or three days is not altogether surprising. It might have occurred in St. Petersburg, Paris, Berlin or London. But the collection of a relief fund of ten or twelve millions of dollars within a few days would have been possible in no other country in the world and at no other period in history.

The destruction of a great city is a disaster of incalculable proportions. In the case in question 300,000 human beings were cast helplessly upon the charity of the world almost within a moment. They were not only left without food and shelter but were exposed to the dangers of pestilence. Yet before the smoke of the fire had blown off the scene of the calamity, we hear of plans and preparations for rebuilding the city and restoring the commerce of the community. What rational mind could have imagined such things.

While sympathizing with the stricken people of the desolated city, we can't refrain from expressing admiration of the generous impulses which have so promptly responded to the cry of distress and for the fortitude which has enabled the sufferers to shake off the effects of disaster before the full force of it is felt. It shows not only resourcefulness beyond the dreams of optimism, but a courage that is sublime. We hope that these elements of greatness so admirably revealed will expand the spirit of charity already amazingly shown.

A Fit Congressional Candidate.

The Democrats all over the State will learn with more than ordinary pleasure that Mr. JOHN C. McHENRY, of Benton, Columbia county, is practically certain of a unanimous nomination for Congress in the district composed of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Sullivan counties, and that his election is assured. Mr. McHENRY is among the best of the younger Democrats of the State, who have chosen to hold aloof from public life, though always deeply concerned for the prosperity of Democracy. His candidacy is a wholesome sign of political regeneration.

For several years Mr. McHENRY has been identified with the political activities of his own section of the State in the capac-

ity of a progressive private citizen. He has been even more prominently identified with the business interests of the State and is favorably known in the commercial life far beyond the boundary of the Commonwealth. His presence in Congress, therefore, will have a salutary influence on the public mind. It will serve as an assurance of conservatism and safety in legislation.

The country would be the better for it if all the capable young men trained to business would give at least a portion of their time to the public service. No schooling is as effective as that of business experience. It broadens the mind and whets the intellect to a keen edge. For that reason it is always gratifying to learn of such ventures in the political world as the candidacy of JOHN C. McHENRY.

We congratulate his prospective constituents and wish him abundant success and pleasure in public life.

Chairman Charles P. Donnelly.

In electing CHARLES P. DONNELLY as chairman, the Democratic State committee has placed the conduct of the impending campaign in the hands of one of the most sagacious, energetic and experienced party leaders in the State. There is no point in the practice of politics that he doesn't know thoroughly. No opportunity to promote the interest of the party will be overlooked or neglected by him. He is earnest, alert, courageous. Moreover he is unselfish in the work which he has undertaken, not upon his own desire, but at the urgent call of his party. Such a man, under the circumstances, is certain to prove efficient.

Mr. DONNELLY has long been conspicuous in the councils of the Democratic party. A speaker of great force and a reasoner of vast power, his voice has been heard on the hustings and at the council board for many years, and to excellent purpose. But he was not chosen as the official head of the party because of his oratorical ability. His splendid executive talents and his marvelous organizing power have commended him to the Democratic leaders of the State and to the earnest men who compose the rank and file of the party. He was the choice of the organization because he deserves the confidence of the people.

Mr. DONNELLY has announced that he will be "a working chairman," and we may well believe that for he has been a worker in the ranks for years. It may safely be predicted, moreover, that he will be an efficient as well as an industrious chairman, for he has the ability and zeal to guarantee success. That being true, the party may well be congratulated on its auspicious opening of the campaign of 1906. The signs are all favorable and with a capable leader and vigorous work we may confidently expect a splendid victory at the polls. We earnestly hope that the new chairman will be cordially supported by the Democrats of the State.

Excellent Actions by Some One.

It would be unjust and unkind to refrain from expressing appreciation of the appointment of CHARLES E. HUGHES and ALEXANDER SIMPSON Jr., to conduct the investigation of the coal trust. Whoever is responsible for it, whether President ROOSEVELT or Attorney General MOODY, deserves the highest commendation. We own to a sentiment of doubt respecting the sincerity of both of those gentlemen in their professions of hostility to the iniquities of the trusts. In the past they have not inspired confidence or justified faith. But in the appointments in question there is both wisdom and honesty.

CHARLES E. HUGHES is the great lawyer who conducted the investigation of the insurance companies in New York, recently. In that vast labor he was both able and earnest. No influence was able to divert him from his duty or swerve him from his obligations to the public. Neither fear nor enmity touched him directly or indirectly. He was offered political preferment and professional favors of the most enticing character, but he was unmoved in his purpose. His steadfastness was admirable and honorable. It created confidence in the legal profession and a higher estimate of the human mind.

The appointment doesn't guarantee the elimination of a great evil. Mr. HUGHES has not been vested with authority to prosecute and bring to punishment the coal trust conspirators and we are not able to forget that equally able and honest lawyers were named to investigate the Santa Fe railroad's rebating operations and the corruption in the postoffice department, yet the crimes were condoned and the criminals praised rather than punished. But it incites a hope of better things and justifies expectations of improvement. Therefore we cordially commend the action, whoever is responsible for it.

—There is great activity in telephone circles herabout at present. Both companies have big gangs of linemen at work stringing new lines in most every direction.

Roosevelt and Judge Humphrey.

When Judge HUMPHREY, of the United States District court, at Chicago, handed down his preposterous decision a short time ago, guaranteeing the beef trust magnates immunity from criminal prosecution, the WATCHMAN made a few observations on the miscarriage of justice involved which could hardly be construed as flattering to that corporation-owned jurist. In this view of a judicial outrage we expected the concurrence of all intelligent laymen and fair-minded lawyers. But we own to something in the nature of a surprise, the other day, when we discovered that the most emphatic and unequivocal endorser of our several propositions is President ROOSEVELT, who appears to have absorbed our idea.

But after all, Judge HUMPHREY is not entirely to blame for his palpable misinterpretation of the law and perversion of the facts. He no doubt firmly believed that he was expressing the will of the President in declaring that while corporations are culpable their managers are free from blame. That is precisely the policy which the President adopted in the case of the Santa Fe railroad which had been paying rebates to the Colorado Fuel and Iron company. PAUL MORTON was vice president and traffic manager of both corporations and confessed that as agent of one he had paid the money to himself as agent of the other. But the President promptly decided that he shouldn't be prosecuted criminally for the reason that the corporations instead of the individual are at fault.

We are glad to learn that the President has experienced a change of heart with respect to the matter. If he himself had decided in that case as he declares Judge HUMPHREY ought to have decided in the beef trust case, PAUL MORTON would have passed from the office of Secretary of the Navy into some hospitable penitentiary, and the crime of rebating would have been stopped forever. But Mr. MORTON was a friend and favorite of the President and with him, as with other sham reformers, it makes "a vast difference whose ox is gored." We are offering no apology for Judge HUMPHREY. What the President says of him and his atrocious ruling is true. But he had an illustrious precedent to follow.

An Unmeaning Platform.

Legislative candidates in the anthracite coal regions are declaring opposition to the State constabulary as the principal plank in their platforms. "I will support a bill which will be introduced calling for the repeal of the state police act of 1905. We need no authorized rioters," is the language employed by one of them. The inference is that Captain GROOME'S "co-sacks" have been cutting up pranks of one sort or another and promoting rather than preventing disorder. This is a grave accusation. We are not informed as to the accuracy of it and probably it implies an exaggeration.

The state constabulary was a pet enterprise of the Republican machine and was designed to serve a double purpose. The main object of those who conceived it was to create places for party pensioners. The plan of the Republican machine was to make the public pay the expenses of the party organization and campaigning. In the cities the party workers were provided with places in the municipal service as a recompense for their political labor. With the idea of extending that system all over the State, needless offices of all kinds were created, and the state constabulary proved a boon. It was an iniquitous scheme but marvelously prolific. An army of well-paid, well-dressed, able-bodied and energetic young fellows, located where they could do the most good, created an effective political force.

But legislative platforms expressing opposition to an accomplished fact are of little use. If the Republican party is defeated at the coming election the law creating the force will be repealed for it is objectionable to Democratic principles. But if the result of the election is a restoration of the Republican machine to power, the force will not only be continued but increased. The Republican managers need it in their business and though individuals among them may protest, they will be dragged into the support of that or any other party measure.

The remedy is to defeat the party, co-sacks and all.

—The civil engineers are still at work running lines in various portions of Centre county, principally in the Bald Eagle valley and the foothills of the Allegheny mountains, but for just what purpose has not yet been divulged. That a survey is being made for a prospective railroad is beyond question but for what road and whether it will mean any immediate work of building in that direction remains to be seen. The civil engineers in charge are as tight as clams with their knowledge; that is, if they themselves even know what they are working for.

A Timely Service Well Performed.

From the Philadelphia Record. Senator Tillman performed a timely service when he stirred up his colleagues by an expose of the contributions to the Republican campaign fund. In the last three presidential elections these have amounted, respectively, to \$3,800,000, \$2,800,000 and \$2,900,000. Statements giving the names of contributors, as well as those who had not contributed, were prepared at regular intervals during the last campaign by Mr. Anthony, the auditor of the Republican National committee, and the facts appear to have been known by Chairman Cortelyou and President Roosevelt. Contributions by life insurance companies to the extent of \$268,000 were disclosed during the recent investigation in New York, and larger gifts probably remain undisclosed. The expose did not contain anything particularly new, but it was needful to rouse to action the dormant indignation of the Senate and awaken interest in the bills to correct these evils, which have been slumbering in committee since the beginning of the present session.

Especially emphatic was the demand of the Senator from South Carolina for a report on his measure to prohibit campaign contributions by national banks, because these institutions, being organized under a national law, are directly under the jurisdiction of congress. But the banks have probably not offended in nearly so great a degree as the tariff-fed industrial trusts, the coal and oil monopolies, and the transportation companies. These are beyond the direct penal control of Congress except in the matter of regulating interstate commerce, but it would be entirely within the province of federal legislation to penalize the use of corporate contributions in the election of members of the house of representatives.

The Crust We Live On.

From the New York Times. Probably most un instructed persons who thought of all about the subterranean effects of the unusual eruption of Vesuvius, which has not yet subsided, on the latent forces of the underworld over which humanity and human civilization so precariously swim, took the easy and comfortable view that Vesuvius was a safety valve for those unknown and subterranean forces. This view is contrary to all that we on the surface know of what is going on in the depths to which we cannot penetrate. The seismologists, the geologists, the astronomers, who are also "cosmogonists" were no more certain to the rest of us to foreseeing that the eruption of Vesuvius, instead of affording a vent to the internal fires of the still liquid core of our planet, was but the symptom of an internal unrest which would show itself in still other disturbances. And yet we historically know that disturbances at one point of any zone have usually been followed by disturbances at other points in the same zone. The destruction of Lisbon, the greatest disaster in human history resulting from the unequal cooling of the crust of the earth, may have been of less geological importance than disturbances which passed unmarked. And yet we historically know that the earthquake which destroyed Lisbon, and put to death 60,000 persons in six minutes, undulated from Iceland to Africa. We know that the earthquake which from the human point of view was most memorably felt,

Where Ichbia smiles O'er liquid miles, carried its serpentine undulation into the Indian ocean, suppressing charted islands here and raising uncharted islands there, to the dismay and discomfiture of navigators. We know that the upheaval which depopulated Martinique by the eruption of Mont Pelee was experienced far away from Martinique, through channels which must have been subterranean. As to the earthquake which, as it were, incidentally destroyed Lisbon, Humboldt, after the fact, estimated the area of operations as four times the extent of Europe. But the point is that none of the specialists deduced any of these sequels before they had actually happened. Since the test of science has very well been defined to be pre-science, and since none of the consequences of these convulsions was predicted, we seem to be warranted in saying that seismology is far from being a science.

An Old Thought Re-clothed.

From the Lincoln (Neb.) Commoner. David R. Forgan, vice president of the First National Bank of Chicago, recently delivered an address to a gathering of young men. Mr. Forgan gave his young auditors some wholesome advice and warned them not to be in too great a hurry to get rich.

"Perhaps you think it impossible that a man's soul should entirely shrivel up in the pursuit of wealth. If you knew some millionaires as well as I know them you would agree with me that they had lost the last vestige of the souls they may be presumed to have possessed before the mania for money getting possessed them. I would like to acquire millions, but if the process is going to make me like some of the old devils I know who are millionaires I don't want the money."

Mr. Forgan has merely put into his own language the thoughts expressed nineteen centuries ago: "What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? The man whose whole life is given over to the mere making of money is to be pitied. Money as a possession is not in itself a bad thing, but money as the possessor is wholly bad.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Game Warden Shoemaker arrested two men at Williamsport for catching undersized trout.

—Miss Mary L. Trencott, of Wilksbarre, was admitted to practice before the Supreme court of the United States the other day.

—The general officers of the National Guard of Pennsylvania have decided to hold the division encampment at Gettysburg on July 21-28 next.

—A home for sick and crippled children is to be established in York under the will of George P. Schasberger and \$4,000 is given to foreign missions.

—About twenty-five dogs, a horse, a bear, and a girl are the known victims of a dog that developed rabies in Allentown the other day and ranged the city until shot by an officer.

—While eating his dinner in a quarry hole at Bangor Royal, Northampton county, Leonard Albion had his skull crushed by a big stone that rolled down on him where he sat.

—Assisting in the spring housecleaning, Bernard Salvage, chief Burgess of Middleport, Schuylkill county, in lifting a heavy stove, burst a blood vessel, his death resulting shortly after from hemorrhages.

—Born without hands, Miss Sallie Klein-fance, of Mohnsville, Berks county, runs a sewing machine, attends to a lot of correspondence, kills chickens and does all kinds of housework with the stumps of her arms.

—Thomas and John Keenan, sons of Thos. J. Keenan, a well-known contractor of Johnstown, formerly of Hollidaysburg, fell into the swollen Stony creek while playing on its banks Saturday evening and were drowned.

—Merchant S. G. Beaver, of Mexico, Juniata county, during the past year shipped 55,340 dozen of eggs to market for which he paid \$9,210.85, an average of almost 17 cents per dozen. He also shipped during the same time 6,000 pounds of live chickens.

—Twenty-one young men have been presented to the York county grand jury on the charge of gambling. They composed a portion of a crowd of about sixty young men whom the constables raided while they were shooting crap just outside the city limits.

—Last week the Lackawanna court was a lucky one for those charmed with murder. Of the five cases listed one pleaded guilty in the second degree, two were tried and found not guilty and two were declared not guilty without the formality of a trial, none being necessary.

—Saiers Brothers, of Lock Haven, last Saturday completed two new kilns for the Pennsylvania Fire Brick company at Beech Creek. That company has now 16 kilns and two more will be built during the summer. A number of Bellefonte people are interested in this company.

—Ira D. Fry, of Liverpool, Perry county, had his feet frozen while working at Lucknow last February. He has suffered much pain with them and was taken to the Harrisburg hospital for treatment, where it was found that the feet would have to be amputated. They were taken off Wednesday.

—A boy named Batey, together with several companions, encountered a den of snakes along the road above Widmann's brewery in Lockport on Sunday. They succeeded in killing seven of the reptiles, while others escaped. One of the snakes measured nearly four feet in length and showed fight when the boys attacked it.

—The Raystown Water Power company, the leading representatives of which are J. R. W. B. and G. E. Simpson, of Huntingdon, have purchased within the past several days, or secured options, on two-thirds of the properties on the branch from the Corbin school house, near Huntingdon, and extending up the stream for some ten miles.

—Max Williams, of Marysville, whose store two weeks ago was robbed, reports to the police of Harrisburg that Friday night robbers again entered his place and took therefrom eighty-five suits of clothes. The store, it is alleged by Williams, was literally cleaned out by the robbers that night and he has no suspicion as to who they were.

—The shopmen along the line of the Pennsylvania railroad between Philadelphia and Pittsburg have been notified of an increase in the working time to forty-five hours a week. While this is not full time by one full day's work for a week, it is a great improvement over the twenty-five hours that the men have been working since April 2.

—Rockwood claims to have the finest water supply in Somerset county. The water will be conveyed from Sand Run, which is a pure mountain stream fed by cool springs that do not fall in the driest seasons. It is calculated that a dam of eight-foot breast will submerge seventy acres of land and impound 68,000,000 gallons of water at a height of 500 feet above Rockwood, giving a static pressure of 330 pounds to the square inch, more than sufficient for fire purposes.

—Governor Pennypacker will this week appoint a sheriff for Blair county to succeed the late Sheriff Bell, and have received a number of applications have already been from politicians who want to serve the State. It is said that among the applications yet to be sent in will be one from Miss Mary Marks, who is at present filling the position of deputy sheriff, and whose friends will make a strong effort to have her appointed. She is the first woman to aspire to the office in this State.

—I. C. White, a public school teacher, and several friends, of Lebanon, while spending an afternoon at Strack's dam, in Lebanon county, witnessed a battle royal between a wounded bald eagle and a hound. The party were taking their lunch when the eagle was seen to descend to the water, where it soon caught a fish in its talons. A well directed shot by White crippled the bird, and it fell into the water. A hound was then sent in after it, but the bird tore the animal's neck with its beak and talons. The dog was entirely unable to cope with the big bird, and swam to the shore in terror, the eagle still lingering on. It was finally killed by the men. The eagle is a very handsome specimen, and measures 63 inches from tip to tip of its dark brown wings.