

—And there is to be no third cup of coffee for the Colonel.

—June hasn't yet gotten down to the business of making things very hot.

—They are setting up the pins at Chicago this week that Wilson will bowl over in November.

—General Wood said, in his Boalsburg speech: "Equality of responsibility goes hand in hand with equality of opportunity."

—Victor Murdock, the vitriolic Kansas Progressive Senator, said, at Chicago, Monday: "I am not a Republican and I never will be." With Vic it is "once a Moose always a Moose."

—Scientists declare that there are 120,000,000 fish in each square mile of the ocean. And most of the city sports who visit country streams like surround Bellefonte declare that there is not one fish in 120,000,000 miles of stream.

—In the loss of Lord Kitchener England has suffered her most serious blow since the war began. He was the one man whom all of her people idolized and in whose judgment in matters of warfare they had most confidence.

—The passing of James Wolfenden, of Lamar, removes a lovely old gentleman from the lower end of Nittany valley. He was more or less of a dreamer but while he had his hopes pinned to the stars he was still practical enough to keep one foot on the ground.

—It doesn't matter much how many ships Germany or England lost in the battle off Jutland last week. The thing that counts is that the German fleet got out into the North sea and got back to port without having suffered more serious damage from the much vaunted British armada.

—With Harry Keller the only Brumbaugh alternate in the Republican National convention trying to substitute for the two Brumbaugh delegates from Pennsylvania in that body we know he must be busy as a cat in a garden. Kel has breath of beam enough to hold down two seats at one time should both the delegates be absent at the same time, but as he isn't anything of a ventriloquist he might get thrown out should he undertake to vote for both of them.

—We call your thoughtful consideration to an article on page 2 of this issue. It is the address of President Hibben, of Princeton University, on "Preparedness Against War" and expresses the views of a great mind that has given the subject very careful study. It is the paramount question in the American mind and we want "Watchman" readers to have the benefit of the best views of the subject so that they can discuss and act on the matter with their usual superior intelligence.

—The victory of Wm. A. McGuire, the Ebensburg editor, in winning out so handsomely for State Committee man for Cambria county, was a distinct slap at A. Mitchell Palmer and Roland S. Morris, both of whom were snowed under in the voting in the county, and a little side-swipe at Congressman Bailey. The three gentlemen are accused of having played fast and loose with Mr. McGuire in the matter of a certain Cambria post-office and the way he has come back at them makes it look as though Mr. McGuire had the approval of the majority of the Democrats.

—Many a mother has burned the midnight oil and gotten along without anything new in her own shabby wardrobe in order that her daughter might be dressed as well as other girls at commencement. Are you her daughter? If you are, a little love shown, a wee bit of a caress will repay the dear soul more than a million times over for all the sacrifices she has made for you. Don't let it stop at that, however. Do your share of the home work as though it were the pleasure that it should be and then you will be the daughter worthy of such a mother as you have.

—It is interesting to note that when the totals for Delegates at Large to the Democratic National convention were completed at the State Department in Harrisburg, on Saturday, it was found that the so-called Reorganizers had nothing to crow over. With all the power of the state organization back of them and marked ballots sent broadcast for their favorites they succeeded in landing only four of their hand-picked candidates. Of the twelve selected four are out and out reorganizers; four are satisfactory Democrats because they were endorsed by both sides, and four were not in the Reorganizer ticket. Roland S. Morris, the Reorganizer state chairman was defeated.

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Preparedness Programme Going Forward.

The new army bill has been signed and under its provisions recruiting of the force to the limit provided will begin at once. On Friday last the new navy bill passed the house by a practically unanimous vote, only four Representatives having dissented. The Republican members made every possible effort to prevent this result and tried their best to add one hundred million dollars to the appropriation so as to make it burdensome and odious. But they were unable to break the solid Democratic line in defense of the administration's programme. No doubt the Senate will add a couple of dreadnaughts to the building plan and the House may concur. But the measure will reflect the President's policy.

And while this progress was being made in the preparedness in Washington, Theodore Roosevelt was somewhere else writing or ranting that the Wilson administration has done nothing toward preparing for the defense of the country in the event of war. He served nearly eight years as President and during all that time not a single movement in the direction of increasing the army or navy was made. Not a word in favor of industrial or financial preparedness for war came from the White House during the period that he was grafting there and bullying Congress into other form of profligacy. But now he is working night and day to convince the public that Woodrow Wilson is neglectful of such things though wonders are being performed, under his direction in Washington.

The new army bill already passed and signed and the new navy bill which has triumphantly passed through one branch of Congress will afford ample defenses of our coast and country either in war or peace for they provide for rapid and rational increase of both arms in the event of war. The people of this country are not ready or willing to plunge into militarism and in the wisdom of Congress and the President the measures passed and to be enacted will not have that result. But they will secure the safety of the country, backed by the patriotism and courage of the American people, if war should come, and the people will prove their appreciation of Woodrow Wilson by re-electing him.

The Republican Convention.

Though the Republican National convention has been in session for a day the political atmosphere, in Chicago, is as murky and impenetrable as it was a week ago. Roosevelt's forces have been storming the stalwart strongholds with the energy and pertinacity of the Germans at Verdun, but to no apparent purpose. Probably the costliest primary campaign in the history of the country is drawing to a close and though the convention will necessarily end within sixty hours, no man in attendance or absent from the convention seat can even conjecture the ultimate result. John Wanamaker tried to lead the Pennsylvania contingent out of the wilderness on Tuesday but failed utterly.

The convention is made up of men nursing grievances, fostering ambitions and coveting spoils. Roosevelt's friends demand his nomination, not because they hope he might do good as the candidate or as the President, for in seven years in the office he achieved nothing, but because they want to trample upon the others and occupy the places of power. Penrose, Barnes, Crane and their associates in the opposition to Roosevelt are influenced by no higher impulses. It is an orgie of revenges, a riot of spitefulness, a raid for plunder. One faction has no advantage of the other in this respect. They are alike selfish seekers after personal advantages and party spoils.

It would be absurd to expect good to come out of such a cauldron of evil, preposterous to expect righteousness to emerge from such a pool of iniquity. The leaders of both factions know that Woodrow Wilson will be re-elected by an overwhelming majority, and they are simply contending for control over the defeated and demoralized mob which will represent the Republican party after the coming Presidential election. We hoped to be able to indicate, in this issue of the "Watchman," who of the various aspirants would be chosen to lead the forlorn hope in the campaign. But the absence of every element of patriotism and reason from the centre of the strife defeats this expectation.

Naval Victory for Germany.

The defeat of the British squadron in the North sea, off the coast of Denmark, a week ago, makes the London claim of the mastery of the sea look absurd. It is true that only a part of the British armada was engaged in the encounter and that the retreat of the German fleet probably saved it from destruction. But the incident proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the German navy is more efficient and more alert than that of Great Britain and that the British pretense of a right to create a paper blockade is false. A blockade must be effective to make it valid under international law and so long as German ships may come out of their retreat and win decided victories a blockade is ineffective.

The London authorities claim that they have enlisted and mustered an army of five million men and yet we hear nothing of their achievements on the front or their operations in the trenches. The French and Russians are almost constantly in action and the reports of their heroism challenge the admiration of the world. But English troops accomplish nothing and their dalliance provokes the fear that providing them with places of amusement, such as tennis courts and golf courses, will become a grave problem in the near future. Now that their boasted superiority in naval equipment is successfully challenged they become subjects of contempt. Supplying funds is not a fair share of the burden of the war. Supplying corpses is more important.

The British naval base is nearly five hundred miles from the scene of the recent battle and that of the Germans less than two hundred. But even with that advantage the German navy ought not to be able to make a dash and sink eight or more British ships, including some of the most powerful afloat, if the claim of mastery of the sea has any foundation in fact. If that claim is not supported then the British blockade is a false pretense and entitled to no respect from neutrals. The mastery of the sea would bottle the German fleet completely in the Keil canal whereas that has not been accomplished at any time as the record of several German raiders has repeatedly and amply proven.

Democratic National Convention.

The Democratic National convention is nearly a week off but its work can be practically forecast. Woodrow Wilson will be nominated by the unanimous vote of the delegates. There may be a ballot for the Vice Presidential nomination but it is safe to predict the nomination of Thomas R. Marshall, of Indiana, the present efficient incumbent. The platform will be brief and to the point. It will eulogize the President, endorse his policies and point to the present prosperity of the country as proof of the legislation and administration of the Democratic party. The evidence is abundant and it will be an easy task to assemble reasons for the retention of the party in power.

Though the work of the convention will be simple it will not be an inferior body. Among the delegates will be found some of the ablest men of the country and they will be guided in their deliberations by the highest impulses of the human heart. Selfishness will have no place on the floor. The one purpose of every man in the body will be to conserve the interests of the people and guarantee the safety of the country during the four years to follow the inauguration of the nominee on the fourth of March next. Such a body of men influenced by such impulses should not fail to command the respect of the public and get the endorsement of the voters at the election.

The convention will be less spectacular than that of the Republicans now in session in Chicago, and less demoralizing. But it will come closer to the hearts of the people because it will represent the highest purposes of an exalted patriotism. It will probably last four days so that we shall not be able to give the result of its labors next week. But we can give assurance now that it will be a convention of fine men assembled for a patriotic service to the country. Nothing more could be desired and nothing less will satisfy the members of the great party which has survived the events of more than one hundred years of prosperity and adversity.

—Have your Job Work done here.

Naval Problems Under Consideration.

Every important incident of the European war conveys a lesson to those in authority in this country. Naturally, therefore, the Secretary of the Navy and the Chairman of the Senate committee on Naval Affairs are giving close attention to the details of the recent naval engagement in the North sea. To the mind of Mr. Daniels the most important element in that battle was the work of the battle-cruisers. The operations of the Zeppelins appealed most to the mind of Senator Tillman. The result is likely to be expressed in the action of the Senate in considering the Naval appropriation bill which will be the order for next week. More battle cruisers and airships will be provided for.

As passed the House the navy bill provides for five battle cruisers and no battleships. Secretary Daniels thinks the number should be increased to six and that two dreadnaughts should be included in the building operations. Senator Tillman will insist upon a "flotilla of dirigible aircraft of the Zeppelin type." Neither the army nor the navy has aircraft of this type and it may be hard to persuade Congressmen of their superiority to the type we have. But it is practically certain that some kind of aircraft will be provided in considerable number. The value of them has long been established and their work on the recent occasion confirms the claims of the most enthusiastic advocates of them.

The naval bill as it passed the House appropriates an enormous sum but in the present state of the public mind it cannot be decreased. Whether it ought to be increased or not is a question. There are no indications of war in any direction. When the European war ends all the belligerents will be reduced to a state of pauperism and helplessness, so that there can be no probability of war for many years. Big armies and navies cost immense sums of money for maintenance and high taxes add materially to the cost of living. Nevertheless if we need the additional equipment proposed it should be provided for. The navy is our first and most important line of defense.

—We are betraying no confidence in stating that Theodore Roosevelt would give half of all his property, real, personal and mixed, for a panic in this country now of about the proportions of that which worried the rest of us in 1907 while he was President.

—Probably some income tax dodging has been indulged in by rich men during the last year but as collectors increase in experience they grow in efficiency and after awhile the burdens of government will be more nearly equalized.

—Really Governor Brumbaugh is entitled to public sympathy. Between the Vares and Shunk Brown he has been made a spectacle about which public contempt will cling for all time unless he is rescued by prompt sympathy.

—If the fulsome rot recently printed in certain metropolitan papers about Roosevelt is not paid for at "political advertising" rates some of the big publishers of the country are drifting toward insane asylums.

—When Woodrow Wilson is going through the ceremony of inauguration on the 4th of March next Justice Hughes can console himself with the reflection that he didn't want the office anyway.

—Old Jupiter Pluvius is certainly working overtime these days. In fact more rain has fallen so far this spring than there has for years, and there don't seem to be any let-up to it.

—About sixty people attended the eighth annual reunion of the Tressler family at the fair grounds last Saturday, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather.

—Justice Brandies had a long wait for confirmation but it was not exactly tedious and the prize is made the more welcome because it came tardily.

—Any time an office goes hunting for a man it will head for Oyster Bay if it has any intelligence.

—The trouble is that most of the dark horses being groomed in Chicago are cripples.

The Republican Issue.

From the Philadelphia Record. The Republicans—Regular and Progressive—have no issue; they are merely attempting to perpetrate a colossal fraud upon the country. They are shouting "Americanism!" but they have no monopoly of patriotism, and no person who stops to think a moment pretends that they have. If they had a practical issue they would define it. They avoid this as they would a contagion. Their purpose is obvious; it is to beat Mr. Wilson and get hold of the Federal patronage. That is absolutely all they are after—the offices. If they intended to establish any certain line of governmental policy they would state it; and it is impossible to get them to do this. From Theodore Roosevelt and Eilhu Root down, there is not one of them who will say what the Government ought to have done, or what it would do next year if the Republicans could carry the election.

The only plan of the Republicans is to humbug the country. If they had any other plan they would state it. They are attacking the President for not assuming a more truculent attitude toward Germany and Mexico. But what attitude would they assume? They will not tell us. Would any other attitude than that of the present Administration have given greater security to a single American, either upon the high seas or in Mexico? They insinuate it, but they do not dare assert it. Was there any possibility of a different attitude, short of war with both countries? They do not dare assert it. Do they wish war? They do not dare say so.

Mr. Wilson has not accomplished all that was desired. The conviction of the Democrats is that he has done all that could be done. He has not involved the country in two wars, but if I had done so it is not certain that the rights of Americans would have been any safer. At any rate he has done all that was possible without war. Are the Republicans attacking him because the country is at peace? They are not fools enough to say so, but they are industriously insinuating it in hope of getting votes.

If Mr. Root or Mr. Roosevelt had been President for the past two years would they have done what Mr. Wilson has not done? Neither of those men, and no one of their followers, ventures to all us. If either of them should be President next year, and the great war go on, and disorder continue in Mexico, what would he reply except to shout, "Americanism!"

If the Republicans—Regular and Progressive—desire war with Germany and Mexico their conduct is criminal. If they do not, their conduct is fraudulent. Let them give the country a policy; a program of action. If they dare not do that they brand their campaign with infamy.

U. S. Armor Plate Plant.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Notwithstanding the magnanimous offer made by the Bethlehem Steel company to supply armor plate to the United States at a price to be determined by the Federal Trade Commission, the lower House of Congress has seen fit to adopt the naval appropriation bill passed by the Senate providing \$11,000,000 for a government owned armor plate plant. The offer of the Bethlehem company has apparently fallen upon deaf ears, especially since its officials have endeavored to show members of the Congress the enormous cost involved to successfully turn out armor of a quality suitable for our fighting ships.

The Bethlehem concern contends the United States is paying considerably less for armor than is paid by Japan, Austria, Germany, England or France, and is also getting the best in the world. The company offers to continue producing that quality of armor under government supervision at any price the federal officials themselves shall name as fair. In the face of this there is no plausible reason why Congress should ignore the Bethlehem offer. It has been made in good faith and no doubt will result in a big saving to the government on its purchases of armor in the future.

The expenditures of \$11,000,000 to equip a government owned plant is not the only expense connected with the producing of armor. Millions more in money must necessarily be spent year after year to maintain the plant in the way of competent metallurgists, open-heart superintendents and others to whom the highest salaries have to be paid in order to command men who are able to get the results necessary for the production of armor of the highest type. The government is likely to find after it engages in the armor plate business, which it seems bent upon doing, that the offer of the Bethlehem plant would have been much the cheaper, but Congressmen must legislate and the people must pay the freight.

Natural Rights of the Mule.

From the Coal Trade Journal. The Kentucky court of appeals has reversed the verdict of a lower court awarding damages to a driver in a coal mine who was kicked by a mule. The eminent jurists held that kicking was one of the natural born rights of the mule. Commenting on the fact that the driver had stooped down to pick up a chain, at the same time striking the animal across the hind legs with a whip, the court said in its opinion: "Here the mule would have been untrue to himself and false to every tradition of his breed if he had passively acquiesced in such treatment and kept his heels on the ground."

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Larobe health officials are now rather confident that they have made an end of the progress of measles in their town.

—Elk county has been so quiet during the past few weeks that there are no cases listed for the July term of court and no traverse jury will be drawn.

—Cherry Tree lost its oldest inhabitant a few days ago in the person of Miss Elizabeth Camp, aged 95, who had been a resident of the town for 80 years.

—Grace Drummond has been freed by a Clarion county jury on a charge of murder growing out of her killing her brother-in-law by shooting him through a door.

—Clearfield's health record that was so fine during the winter, received a black eye last week when two deaths from diphtheria were recorded at the county seat.

—Lulu Ellis, who killed her husband with a revolver at Catfish tunnel, was cleared by a Clarion county jury late Wednesday night. She admitted the killing but declared it was accidental.

—Eleven Elk county bounty swindlers have been released from the western penitentiary after serving their terms. It is said that there are warrants in Warren county for three of the men, charging similar crimes there.

—DuBois had a drowning accident a few days ago when an unknown man jumped into the water at a point known as the Little Mill Dam chute, striking the bottom with his head and breaking his neck. Efforts to identify him failed.

—The work of rebuilding the power plant of the Moshannon Coal Mining Co's Weston Colliery, near Osceola, recently destroyed by dynamite at the hands of vandals, will begin at once. New machinery for the plant has already been ordered.

—Frank Hyde was married to Annie Pattison, at Youngsville, Warren county, last Thursday and Saturday morning his lifeless body was found in a small creek under the P. R. R. tracks, an engine having struck him the night before while he was on his way home.

—In an electric storm of unexampled severity that swept over the southern end of Indiana county, the store of the Kiskiminetus Supply company at Strasford, owned by Great Brothers, of Blairsville, was struck by lightning and totally destroyed, with all its contents.

—Peter Povichek, a miner of Hanstown, Westmoreland county, was transferring a couch from the late home of his mother to his own home when the bottom dropped out, revealing \$270 in cash. It had been his mother's savings bank and the old lady desired him to become its owner.

—Mrs. Catherine Faust died at Shawmut on Sunday, May 21st, in her 93rd year. She was born in Jefferson county and was the mother of a man killed in the battle of Gettysburg, a rare distinction at this late day. She is survived by two daughters, each more than 60 years of age.

—After being constant companions for over half a century, two sisters, Miss Lottie B. Finley and Mrs. Lida S. Smith, of Elizabeth, died within forty-eight hours of each other, in the home of another sister, Mrs. W. J. Overend, of Pittsburgh. They were victims of pneumonia.

—The power house of the Montgomery, Lycoming county, Electric Light and Power company was wrecked and other buildings in the neighborhood damaged, when the big fly wheel on the engine broke and pieces weighing from 200 to 800 pounds were hurled in all directions. It is thought the governor went wrong.

—Melchior Shaffer, Edgar Dollard and William Helman, residents of Windber, had a wild experience some days ago. They were driving over a mountain road when a heavy storm came up. Stopping their wagons they crawled under them to keep dry when a blinding flash of lightning rendered them unconscious. Their teams ran away. Shaffer was the most seriously hurt, but will recover.

—Grant T. Morrison, 35 years old, lost his right leg while working in the rolled steel wheel department of the Standard Steel works, at Burnham, on Saturday. An ingot of steel weighing 800 pounds and at a white heat being rolled into a wheel under a 4,000,000 pounds hydraulic pressure when it was thrown from the manipulator. Morrison leaped in to save other workmen, the crude wheel striking and burning away his entire foot.

—More than 200 men, 50 teams and a steam shovel are being used in the construction of the new summer mansion of Charles M. Schwab, at Loretto. The excavations for the foundations have been completed and the sunken gardens are being built. The old summer home, which was recently moved across a ravine, has been remodeled and is almost ready for occupancy. Mr. Schwab and his wife and their servants are expected in Loretto the latter part of this week.

—Hiram Carlton, aged 24 years, of New York city, a civil engineer employed by the New York Central railroad on its new river line from Lock Haven to Keating, was drowned Sunday afternoon in Bald Eagle creek near Lock Haven when a canoe in which he and a companion were paddling was caught in an eddy and overturned. Carlton was drawn under a stretch of cord wood which had broken loose from the paper mills at Lock Haven and never came to the surface. His companion was saved.

—It is stated on good authority that the Berwind-White Coal Mining Company, with extensive operations in the Windber field and along the South Fork of the Conemaugh river, has begun negotiations for the extension, rental and timber interests owned by Vance McCormick, of Harrisburg and others, located in the neighborhood of Portage and containing about 10,000 acres. The McCormick tract is the most extensive in Cambria county that has not already been acquired by corporations engaged in mining.

—About \$300 worth of lumber in the yards of McCauley-McKay Co., at Brockwayville, was burned on Monday and a more serious conflagration was only prevented by excellent work of the fire department. The lumber was located in the McCauley-McKay lumber yards near the company's saw and grist mills, and it is believed sparks from one of the mills set fire to the lumber. There was a lot of other lumber in the yard at the time but the efforts of the firemen were successful in confining it to one portion of the lumber yard.

—Gored and trampled to death by an angry bull, then tossed into a clump of bushes in a secluded part of his father's farm, a few miles south of Leetsdale, Allegheny county, the body of August Schwartz, aged 12, was found at 8 o'clock on Monday evening by a party of searchers, who had accused the vicinity for nine hours, when the lad failed to return at noon from school. Investigation disclosed that the boy had left school at 10:30 o'clock and presumably was taking a short-cut through a woods to his father's farm, when he encountered the bull.

—Refusing to touch a mouthful of food or a drop of water, Anthony Frocio, accused of being one of several men who killed John Valero, an Italian detective, at Woodland Park January 30, is attempting to starve himself to death in the Schuylkill county jail. He was recently taken back to Schuylkill county from New York in company with pretty 18-year-old Mary Valero, widow of the murdered man, who was in the plot to kill her husband. Frocio is considered a most desperate prisoner, as he has already tried to hang himself and also tried to crush his skull by clamping to the top of his cell and falling head downward.