

Peace might be nearer than any of us surmise.

Anyway there seems to be enough life left in the Tammany organization in New York to stir up a first class fight.

Only six more days of August and then the first fall month will be here. Have you thought about that Christmas shopping yet?

A few more such drives as the Allies have made within the past two weeks will recover all of the great iron and coal fields of France that have been in German possession for the past two years.

The bare legged girls at the seashore ought to be arrested for giving aid and comfort to the enemy. They are straining the eyes of many men who might otherwise qualify as first class gunners in the navy.

The government should draft every striker into the federal service at once. They should be made to see that patriotism demands some sacrifice on the part of the worker who is not called upon to make the supreme sacrifice that going into the trenches calls for.

At last Germany is regarding America's entrance into the war seriously and coincidental with this acknowledgement comes the news stories to the effect that she is expecting peace within six months. All the signs seem to indicate that the German autocracy is getting ready to quit.

In the seven hundred mile motor run just completed by the writer over the best highways in Pennsylvania and New Jersey the most durable looking, the cleanest and easiest riding section of road traversed was a stretch of about three miles of brick that had been laid on a concrete base with a concrete curb.

Centre countians will likely look upon the statement with incredulity but it is none the less the fact that right in the heart of the finest truck garden section of New Jersey choice roasting ears were this week selling at forty cents the dozen, and potatoes, though there are acres of them on all sides of the roads, are retailing higher than equally as nice ones can be bought for from our local farmers.

The great disparity between the estimate of the cost and the bid that was received for bricking south Water street was probably due to the fact that the estimate was made before the cost of material and labor had mounted to the present high prices. It may be possible that the contractor who did bid on the work didn't want the job and bid high in order that he wouldn't get it. Let us hope that such was the case for if it is possible at all to complete the improvement at a reasonable cost it should be done.

The examination of conscripts in Centre county has resulted in the acceptance of sixty-nine men out of the first call. Forty-seven more are needed to bring the number up to the full quota of one hundred and sixteen men required from Centre county. While the number of exemptions for other reasons than physical disability seems high it is no higher than the average observed in other counties. The President has made it very plain that he does not want married men to go at present; and as most of our exemptions have been claimed upon the ground of a "wife" or "wife and children" they are only what might naturally and properly have been expected.

The peace plan of the Holy See might be regarded as a means to an end, but nothing more. It proposes a status quo ante bellum which could not possibly be acceptable to the United States, for if it were the ground upon which we entered the war would be cut from under us. We are fighting not for indemnities nor for territorial acquisition, but for a world democracy and to end the conflict with no assurance that Prussian autocracy will be unable to rehabilitate itself for another campaign of carnage would be the veriest waste of the sacrifices already made. If general disarmament could be secured and the wealth of the German military class, as well as her colonies, confiscated with which to restore Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and the devastated part of France then we think the United States would feel that something had been achieved.

The President's order cutting the price of soft coal at the mouth of Pennsylvania mines to \$2 and \$2.25 per ton would be great news to the public were it certain to guarantee coal at that figure. We believe that while it might be the means of cutting down the price it will, at the same time, make the product harder to secure, for the reason that many small mines will have to cease operation. Mines producing from one hundred to four hundred tons of coal per diem and paying as high as \$1.50 per ton for mining have overhead charges so large that they cannot produce coal at \$2.00 per ton without a considerable loss, consequently they will have to close unless the order is modified as affecting them. It is out of the question to assume that the miners working in such operations will accept a lower scale for their work and it would only be through a drastic reduction of the mining rate that the small mines of Pennsylvania would be able to continue in operation.

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Tale of Two Cities.

Public Service Commissioner W. A. Magee having resigned, temporarily, in order to run for Mayor of Pittsburgh, guarantees a boodle campaign for Chief Magistrate of the second city of the State. We say temporarily for the reason that his seat on the Public Service Commission will be kept open until after the election so that he may be recalled to the office in the event of his defeat for Mayor. That is a way Governor Brumbaugh has of making his political patronage an asset in his business as a political manipulator. He appointed Mayor Smith, of Philadelphia, a Public Service Commissioner in order to give him standing to justify his subsequent aspiration for Mayor of Philadelphia. It is a new method of commercializing politics.

The Penrose candidate for Mayor of Pittsburgh will be E. V. Babcock, a wealthy lumber broker, who has served as a stalking horse for the Senator at various times. Mr. Babcock is very liberal and quite popular and the Brumbaugh adherents despaired of beating him with the candidate who had been chosen to represent them in the contention, Dr. J. P. Kerr. Commissioner Magee had served a term as Mayor and given popular satisfaction, so that it was thought that he might "pluck victory from the nestle danger," and as his ten thousand dollar job could be kept open it was no great sacrifice for him to resign while his election to the office of Mayor of Pittsburgh would be a vast advantage to the Brumbaugh faction. But it all means corrupt politics.

The factional differences in Philadelphia are more easily adjusted and it may be said that an agreement has been reached among the leaders. Neither McNichol nor Vane would know a political principle from an automobile truck and Penrose is absolutely indifferent to anything except spoils. So it was easy to come to an understanding upon a basis which would divide the spoils comparatively equal among them. Of course Vane will demand the lion's share of the plunder. He wants both feet in the trough all the time and as the others are satisfied with an occasional mouthful the matter has been readily adjusted. But the people of both cities will suffer alike from the war in one and the peace in the other, for war or peace means plunder to pirates.

It is suspected that the German fleet, safely secluded in the Keil canal contemplates a run out in the open sea, but the suspicion is without foundation. Big ships cost a lot of money and Germany is not likely to expose those she has to the danger of destruction or capture.

Twenty-Sixth District Judicial Contest

The withdrawal of Christian A. Small from the contest for the nomination for President Judge in the Twenty-sixth district, composed of Columbia and Montour counties, ought to guarantee the election of John C. Harmon Esq., on the September primary. Mr. Small is a lawyer amply capable and eminently fit for the high office to which he aspired. But he recognized the fact that a district so substantially Democratic ought to have a man of that political faith on the bench and that a division of the Democratic voters this year might result, as it did eleven years ago, in the election of a Republican. Consequently he has gracefully withdrawn in favor of Mr. Harmon, as possessor of the stronger claims.

John C. Harmon is among the most capable lawyers of Pennsylvania. Clean, keen and conservative, he possesses a mind peculiarly judicial and essentially open. He has practiced his profession with great success in Columbia and adjacent counties for twenty years or more and his record is radiant in achievement. He has served as District Attorney, as Representative in the Legislature and led a forlorn hope as the candidate of his party for State Treasurer. In 1906 he carried the district for the Democratic nomination for Judge but another aspirant for the honor ran as an independent and compassed the election of the Republican nominee. It was a grievous disappointment to the majority of the voters of the district.

Since that legislation has converted the office into a non-partisan service. But the Republican machine of the State asserts itself in every judicial election and in the present contest in the Twenty-sixth district is projecting every "ism" and "ology" known to the political vocabulary into the contest in the hope of defeating Mr. Harmon. Our information, however, leads to the confident belief that they will be disappointed and that John C. Harmon will receive the necessary fifty-one per cent. at the September primary to make his election complete. We sincerely congratulate Mr. Harmon on this prospect and predict for him a distinguished career on the bench.

Beginning of the End in View.

Reports from the firing line in France and Flanders clearly forecast the final result of the fighting. The German successes in the East are of minor significance. They are the result of German bribery and Russian perfidy. But even there the victories are diminishing in number and importance. The indications are that within a brief period the traitors will be weeded out of the Russian forces and the vast power in moral and material strength of that great people will assert itself. Meantime the real battle ground is in France and Flanders. The war will be won there and the certain and constant movement forward of the French and English battle lines indicate the victors.

The work of expelling the German invaders from the soil of France and Flanders has been slow and expensive. Equipped as no army in the history of the world before, these legions got a foothold before their antagonists were aware of the danger and entrenched themselves almost invulnerably. But they have been yielding constantly during the last four months and are now almost on the verge of despair. They have fought courageously and persistently, with a spirit worthy a better cause. But the beginning of the end is in sight. It may require a year or two to complete the work, for desperation makes stubborn resistance. But there will be no yielding until the end is achieved.

Before long the soldiers of the United States will be on the firing line. For some inexplicable reason the German Kaiser and his military sycophants pretend to have supreme contempt for the soldiers of this country. They will change their opinions upon this question before many days. Soldiers of the United States have never been defeated. They have never learned to yield and they are not going to learn new lessons in warfare on foreign soil. They are there now not to yield but to win and may be depended upon to accomplish their purpose. Their mission is in behalf of the highest ideal to which men might dedicate themselves. They aim to plant democracy in every section of the world and will accomplish that glorious result.

After a sleepless night we are unable to work up sympathy for the Americans in Germany whom the Kaiser is forcing into military service. Any American who has remained in Germany since the beginning of the war ought to be made pay some sort of penalty.

Wipe Out the I. W. W.

The information that the government proposes to round up the members of that traitorous and murderous organization which impudently styles itself the Industrial Workers of the World ought to give universal satisfaction. Composed of emissaries of Germany and vicious loafers in this country, this organization has been committing depredations of various kinds for several years. Now and then one or more of the leaders have been apprehended and punished, but as a rule they have been able to defy the law, flout authority of States and the nation and commit crime according to their depraved fancy. Recently the military authorities in the West have taken charge of the matter.

Half a century ago, or thereabouts there was a murderous organization in certain sections of this State which operated much on the lines which this infamous gang is following. Throughout the coal regions they terrorized officials and citizens and refusal to obey their criminal mandates was promptly followed by the murder of their victims. Finally a courageous and capable district attorney in Schuylkill county declared war on the organization and convicted several of them, in that and adjacent counties, of murder. That put an end to the Mollie Maguire menace. The organization was secret, strong and vicious but when the law got after it in earnest it promptly ran to cover and dissolved.

The Industrial Workers of the World ought to be treated everywhere precisely as the Mollie Maguires were treated in Schuylkill, Columbia and Carbo counties about 1875. In the first place they have no right to the name they have assumed and prostituted. Industrial workers wherever they happen to be are law-abiding, peaceful and good citizens. Those who compose that organization are criminal loafers who have never earned an honest day's wages in their lives. Besides that their criminal operations are destructive of the earnings of men who do work and that is of itself reason why their activities should be checked. Let the authorities who have undertaken the work of annihilation proceed.

How many of our back-yard gardens paid? All of them. Even if they produced nothing more than a means of wholesome exercise.

Peace Terms that Will Satisfy.

A bone-head correspondent of an esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, featured as a writer of distinction, sees no reason why the proposal of the Pope should not be adopted. It would stop the slaughter, he says inferentially, and that ought to satisfy anybody. He professes to be unable to see why Germany should be required to make restitution to Belgium. "If Belgium must have restitution," he continues, "then what of Serbia, what of Poland? The Pope is right; if you begin you cannot stop." That is alike absurd and false. If you begin you can stop when justice is fulfilled. Belgium, France, Serbia and Poland are entitled to restitution and when those debts are paid the books can be balanced.

But those debts must be paid if it is necessary to coin the blood of that imperial monster, the Kaiser, to achieve the result. We want no peace upon the conditions that invited the war. The world cannot afford such a settlement of the war. The German Emperor began the war with the view of acquiring the sea coasts of Belgium. He didn't invade Belgium as he said in his message to President Wilson as a strategic step to reach France. He did it to conquer Belgium and subject her people to his control, and he failed of his purpose because the entire world understood his purpose and Belgium put up a fight which defeated his plans. Therefore, he must pay as Germany made France pay.

The United States are in the war not for the purpose of exacting restitution but to wipe out autocracy. The Pope's proposition would defeat that purpose quite as effectually as it would exculpate Germany from the payment of indemnities to the countries she has devastated. Both these obligations must be fulfilled to the full measure before the American people will consent to peace. The posterous notion that any man is born invested with Divine right to rule, must be obliterated entirely and forever, before peace can be agreed to and that even if it be necessary to plant every Hohenzollern in dishonored graves. This is not official but absolutely true.

Of course the obvious purpose of certain labor leaders to take advantage of governmental necessities to force unreasonable demands, is fundamentally wrong but the insistence of Prohibition cranks and Women's Suffrage fanatics on riding their hobbies into the statute books at the expense of public safety is equally reprehensible.

Maryland's new law requiring all male persons between the ages of eighteen and fifty to work went into effect on Tuesday. We know one or two gentlemen in Bellefonte who must be mighty glad that Bellefonte is in Pennsylvania and not in Maryland.

Thus far in the war the Kaiser decorated his troops with forty-seven tons of iron crosses. Go to it Bill. The more iron you use up in this way the less you will have from which to manufacture more destructive agencies of war.

Nick Romanoff is safely sequestered in Siberia and it remains for those managing the war to find a quiet retreat for Bill Hohenzollern. He will be out of a job when the war ends and will need a rest.

Penrose and the Vares have decided to divide Pennsylvania politically on a fifty-fifty basis. The welfare of the Commonwealth may be regarded as secure until the next gubernatorial fight at least.

Wheatless and meatless days may be all right for those who feel like doing penance to an idea but if needless waste of foodstuffs is avoided there will be no actual necessity for either.

It may be said safely that Miss Rankin will be the last woman in Congress as well as the first. That distinction has been fairly won by voting wrong upon all important questions.

It behooves Bellefonte to hold on to certain of her borough officials who have really taken their positions seriously and worked for the best interests of the tax payers.

Senator LaFollette is certainly earning all the German government pays him. But he is accomplishing nothing except delay of the inevitable.

If soft coal is to be \$2.00 at the mouth of the mine let it be seen to that the price is fair when it reaches the cellar door.

Look every situation squarely in the face. Meet it like a man and you will be doing all you can do.

For high class job work come to the "Watchman" office.

BY GOSH!

Johany get your gun, your sword and your razor.

We are going to fight mit Bill, der German Kaiser.

Load your gun mit beer Squirt him in der ear Dot will make him skee!

By Gosh!

Johany get your cap, your boots and your rattle.

We are going to fight mit Germany a battle.

Stuff your boots mit kraut make him strong and stout Der smell will knock him out

By Gosh!

Johany get your life, your drum and your monkey.

We are going to play for Bill der German Donkey.

Play "Yankee Doodle Dandy." Feed him pills of sugar candy. He will hunt his aunt Mirandy

By Gosh!

Johany get your rake, your scythe and your sickle.

We are going to put der Germany in pickle Cut for him some lolly-pops

Make a brew with malt and hops Dot vill beat Von Schneiders Schnops

By Gosh!

"PRISCILLA."

How an Early Decision May be Forced

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

The strongest new force now in sight and aimed at the ending of the war is the little noticed, but rapidly developing force of the American embargo upon supplies to the neutral neighbors of Germany.

There are two neutral nations upon which this policy may be expected to take effect before many weeks—Holland and Denmark—and two others—Norway and Sweden—which may be almost as quick to respond to it. Although they have been subjected to many outrages and have suffered heavy losses by the small regard paid, in many instances, to their neutrality these States have not failed to profit greatly by their neutral trade.

It is not at all doubtful that these neutrals have supplied Germany with importations from America; neither is there reason to doubt that the stopping, or even the limiting of their importations from America would hit them in their pocket-books and bank accounts.

It is an old maxim, that a nation hurt in its pocket-book becomes hellicent, or, at least, truculent.

Holland has often been grossly offended by Germany. She has given warning that such offenses must not be repeated. If the benefit of very profitable war trade with Germany should suddenly be removed, if Holland should even feel herself, the pinch of want of American supplies, she might be forced, in desperation, to yield to popular indignation at the next German offense and suddenly join the war. That she would do so without a moment's warning would be dictated as a strategic necessity far more pressing and justifiable than the German invasion of Belgium.

The same is true of Denmark, and, in hardly less degree, of the two other Scandinavian States. Such a development would throw open new and wide war fronts and unlimited possibilities of allied naval offensive. The long expected great naval battle involving the mightiest battle fleets would come, literally "at the drop of the hat." Sea power would assert its determining value, as our Admiral Mahan showed it has been asserted in every chapter of history and blows sudden and swift, by land as well as sea, would be made possible by that opening of new lines of attack and fields of war. This is not a blind guess, but a distinctly evident prospect.

Far From the Madding Crowd.

From the New York Evening Post.

After all, the Czar wasn't looking for a regular summer resort. He has had enough excitement. Plain country food and reassuring country noises, the rooster's crow and the cow's mooing, ought to sound pretty sweet to him.

The Upward Trend of Art.

From the Springfield Union.

Now that "Mary's Ankle" is proving such a success, we anticipate that some earnest playwright will try to elevate the drama by writing a play about Maude's or Mabel's or Edith's knee.

It is Still Quite Wild.

From the Baltimore American.

Even though the periscope seen in the bay turned out to be a pole of a fishing net it is comfortable to know that native imagination has lost nothing of its power.

Rev. James P. Hughes, principal emeritus of the Bellefonte Academy, walked up to two gentlemen standing at the postoffice yesterday morning and asked the altitude of Bellefonte above sea level. Neither one could tell exactly and he proudly announced that it was just 809 feet and State College was about 1000. He then requested that this information be published for the benefit of those who don't know the altitude. It later developed that the reverend gentleman had spent a half hour in the county surveyors office before he could get the information himself.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Anthony Kline, aged 52, of Wilkes-Barre, who sold his homestead and the rebooth it at an advance of \$17,500, brooded so much over his loss that he snuffed himself in the head and died on the way to the hospital.

The Williamsport Steam Heating company of Williamsport, has filed notice with the Public Service Commission that effective September 20, it will discontinue the supply of steam for heating purposes to the public. The Lock Haven plant will also be allowed to remain idle next winter.

An announcement has been made that the Berwick plant of the American Car and Foundry company will build 1000 box cars for the government. These will probably be used in France. Announcement was made at the same time that the company's Milton plant would build 300 tank cars for the government, also to be used in France.

William Blackburn, 35 years of age, of Freeport, Pa., was killed and H. McClean, 25 years old, of Breckenridge, was wounded last Thursday night when Policeman McWenny fired five shots at the occupants of an auto, who were trying to make their escape after having beaten up the officer who had attempted to arrest them. Blackburn was hit by a stray bullet as he watched the fight. McClean was in the automobile.

Clyde Doney and Halleck Webb, two young men of near Falls Creek, who escaped from the Jefferson county jail at Brookville, Wednesday night, August 8th, in much the same manner that Ward Mottern secured his release one night last winter, are still at large. Although an active search has been made there is no clue to their whereabouts. The young men are charged with breaking and entering and receiving stolen goods.

Crops in Fayette county are spoiling in the fields on account of the shortage of farm labor. Farmers in the northern part of the county claim that they were urged to plant larger crops to aid in the food production and were assured that the labor problem would be solved for them. High school boys who were sent out into the country to assist in the harvesting found that higher wages could be obtained in the coal mines, so they deserted the farms.

The mysterious disappearance of \$6,000 from the Harrisburg Pipe & Pipefittings company three weeks ago, was solved in an alleged confession made by Chas. Shoemaker, an employee of the firm, and his arrest on Monday by police. Shoemaker, according to the police, wrote a letter to the firm declaring that he had taken the money, and because of worry had thrown it into the Susquehanna river. Detectives have been searching the river since the theft became known but up until late Monday night it had not been recovered.

Evidently in anticipation of a coal famine during the coming winter and difficulty in securing fuel from the mines, owing to abnormal traffic conditions, the Pennsylvania railroad is storing a large quantity of coal in the lower yards at Sunbury. A force of possibly one hundred men is at work unloading coal. Several thousand tons will likely be stored there. Similar action was taken by the Pennsy last year, and a large heap of coal was placed in the yards for use in case of emergency. During the spring of this year, however, the fuel was removed and used.

James Wileman, 20 years old, died at the Blair Memorial hospital, Lewisistown, on Sunday night from a bullet wound in the right temple, self inflicted. Wileman, whose home is at Oakland, Juniata county, was a rookie in Company M, Eighth regiment, N. G. U. S., who are quartered in the market house at Lewisistown waiting orders to entrain for the south. He was at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth LaMay, of Yeagertown, and was handling a .32-calibre revolver. After a caution to carefulness, he was whirling it about when it accidentally discharged, the bullet lodging above his right eye.

Attorney M. A. Kilker, of Girardville, on Monday filed suit at Sunbury for \$10,000 against the Pennsylvania Lighting company for the death of William Cunningham, of Ashland, who was electrocuted near the Cameron colliery a year ago last month. The suit was brought at the instance of Cunningham's mother, Mrs. Bridget Farne. Cunningham was employed as an electrician by the United Telephone company and was working on a pole along the state road below the Cameron colliery when a high tension wire fell across the telephone wires. He was instantly killed.

Stephen Gracian, Austrian shooter at the American Steel and Wire company's quarry, at Wertz, Blair county, was accidentally blown up and instantly killed at 8:30 o'clock Monday morning as the result of a misunderstanding between him and his helper as to time. His face and head were frightfully mutilated, while the body and limbs were intact. He had been with the company a number of years and was considered one of its best and most reliable men. His reputation for thrifty habits was confirmed, when it was disclosed upon examining the body that he carried on his person at the time of the accident the sum of \$2,000. He was born December 28, 1884, and was unmarried.

Jealous because his wife started to ride home in an automobile owned by her brother, after spending Saturday at a Sunday school picnic at Rock Glen, near Hazleton, Clarence Bankes, twenty-eight years old, of Fern Glen, shot her through the breast late that night. After firing three more shots at the car, he ran into the woods and shot himself in the abdomen. The woman will recover, but Bankes is in a critical condition. Both are at the State hospital, but neither knows the other is there. According to the wife, Bankes was of an extremely jealous disposition and frequently placed a revolver against her breast and told her that some day he would kill her. The shooting broke up the picnic.

Henry H. Whitney, who was named by President Wilson on Monday, the 13th, as one of the brigadier generals in the new arm, is a son of Rev. W. P. Whitney, a well known member of the Central Pennsylvania M. E. conference and who at one time was located in Phillipsburg. General Whitney graduated from Dickinson Seminary in 1884 and from West Point in 1889. During the war with Spain he made an enviable reputation, going to Cuba and Porto Rico as a spy and making the maps used by the United States troops in their campaign on those islands. He served on the personal staff of General Miles and made the tour of the world with him. He was a colonel in the coast artillery when raised to his star.