

—Don't forget to put 3c. postage on your letters, if you want them to go through the mails without being held up for more postage.

—With Miss Jane Hafer already there and Miss Bertha Laurie now on the way Bellefonte girls have actually beaten our boys to service in France.

—The difference between the Kaiser and the people of Germany is not as great as it seems to some folks. Even a Kaiser can't make brutes out of kind hearted men and women.

—Centre county bought Liberty Bonds to the amount of \$1,206,300. This was at the rate of \$27.77 for every man, woman and child in the county. At this rate all over the United States the total subscriptions would have amounted to \$3,054,700,000.

—Today we will begin to realize in a way that we can understand that we are at war, because today most of the new war taxes become operative and every luxury and many necessities will be enjoyed only after we have settled with the government. Most everything but the air we breathe gathers up a few pennies to help Uncle Sam lick the Kaiser.

—The National capitol went dry yesterday to stay dry until Congress changes its mind about the matter, if it ever does. No liquors, wines or beer are now for sale at the seat of our government. My, what a lot of hot coppers there must have been in Washington yesterday morning, for most of the drinkers sat up at the wake of old John Barleycorn the night before.

—Let there be a great army of Centre county women to enroll in the food conservation movement. This week the cards will be distributed by the school children in every home in the county and it is to be hoped that the women will sign them promptly, name and address, so that Washington will know that Centre county women are eager as we know they are to help to the limit.

—Little else was to have been expected, but it is very gratifying, nevertheless, to note that at the conference of the Suffragists of the Fifteenth and Twenty-first Congressional districts, which includes our own resolutions condemning those women who under the guise of Suffrage banners have been harassing the President by picketing the White House grounds were unanimously passed. Our Suffragists are women contending for a principle by sober, sensible, convincing methods and naturally resent the odium that attaches to their cause through the sensational actions of a few notoriety seeking persons of the Carrie Nation and Pankhurst types.

—Take no chances with suspicious characters. Inform the officers of the law at once of any person whose actions may appear suspicious to you. Our country is full of alien enemies and anything they can do to injure you will help the Kaiser that much. On Tuesday night some of them started a fire in Baltimore that burned up \$5,000,000 worth of munitions and food that was waiting to be shipped to our boys in France. You farmers, listen! Take no chances with tramps or other strangers who come about your place. What you have in your barns is a very little bit of the whole of America's grain and cattle resources, but if it should be destroyed, the whole is reduced by just that much and nothing can be spared now.

—There is likely to be a famine in pennies due to the aid prices that the new war tax makes necessary. Merchants, postmasters, caretakers of all penny slot machines and treasurers of Sunday schools in the county should send their surplus pennies to the banks more frequently than they have been doing. Don't keep them until you have accumulated great supplies, for while you are doing this some one else is at a disadvantage for the need of them. Use your bank as a clearing house. It will be able to keep them distributed so that you will have all you need and others will have an adequate supply, as well. Parents should substitute silver for the pennies in the children's savings banks and release the pennies for immediate use. There are probably plenty of pennies in each community for all its needs, but they must be kept circulating.

—Don't get it into your head that our soldiers will merely have to say Booh! at the Kaiser and he will quit. We are into a fight that might last a long time and bring us much distress and sorrow. The time to minimize the possible distress is here. Right now we should all begin to conserve in food and clothing so that what we have will last against the pinch, if it comes. Do you realize that in one drive, within the last week, the Germans captured more Italians than the entire fighting force we have in France now. Eight victories of that magnitude would wipe out opposition equal to our entire regular army and the new national army that we are now training for the fight. It matters not whether they are Italians, Russians, English or French soldiers who are captured. Each one who is made a prisoner and thereby a non-combatant makes it necessary to send a man to take his place if the Allies hope to win.

Democratic Watchman

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America on the Firing Line.

On the day that American capital completed the munificent contribution of five billion dollars for the war against autocracy, an American soldier on the firing line in France fired the first shot for the American people in the war for democracy. On Saturday last a red-headed Yankee soldier in the first line trenches in France performed this service. It is not claimed that important consequences followed the event. But it was the actual dedication of American life to the cause upon which so much depends and served notice to the world that we are in the fight and will remain in it with all the force of American energy and enthusiasm until the final glorious triumph is announced.

One shot doesn't count for much in a world war but the shot fired last Saturday by the red-headed Yankee meant a lot to the world. There have been a plentiful mischief makers prattling of unpreparedness and this shot was the ample refutation of every calumny that has been uttered against the administration at Washington during the nearly two years which have elapsed since the lamentable sinking of the Lusitania. From that day no opportunity for preparation for a great part in the war has been neglected. There was no precipitation in the operation, no hap-hazard haste. But there was intelligent and systematic effort invested in the work and the first shot on Saturday was aimed with the precision of a veteran gunner.

From this time on every American citizen has a personal as well as a patriotic interest in the operations on the firing line upon whichever front the trenches happen to be. The American people are there, through their valiant representatives in khaki, and every man of them will make "a full hand" in the hazard as well as the execution of a soldier's life and duty. The shot fired by the red-headed Yankee on Saturday has already been heard around the world and it is still echoing in Berlin and Vienna. It will be followed by millions of others within the period that hostilities continue and every shot from that source will be a message for democracy and a protest against autocracy.

Judge Davis, of Philadelphia, has probably got himself disliked in Varenville. He refused to forbid the town meeting ticket from running for office and thus made the success of the 50-50 buccaners doubtful. If Ed and Bill had expected such a decision from the Judge he never would have been commissioned.

Cordona's Defeat Disappointing.

The saddest news which has come from the theatre of war since Marshall Joffre checked the drive on Paris is three years ago is that which disclosed the defeat of General Cordona on the Italian front the other day. That valiant soldier and capable general had made such splendid progress under the greatest difficulties, that the public had come to depend upon him for a large share of the labor necessary to ultimate victory. The decided reverse, entailing the loss of a great army, therefore, came as a shock upon the public mind. It not only disappointed but actually dismayed the average observer.

This unexpected incident may be interpreted as a final expression of the Kaiser's malice. Realizing the inevitable defeat of his armies and his ambitions he has determined to work as much destruction as possible. The geographical advantage which he enjoys, he may shift forces from one front to another over night, enables him to work such extraordinary incidents. A week would be necessary for a movement of British or French troops from the Russian or French front to the scene of activities in the Alps, but Germany is able to compass the result in a day thus surprising the world by the energy of the operation.

The latest information from the Italian boundary removes some of the gloom from the prospect. The disaster was fully as bad as described in so far as the capture of prisoners and the seizure of war materials is concerned. The fact that the disaster is ascribable to perfidy is also a disturbing element in the equation. But the vast proportion of the Italian army is as faithful as it is courageous and unless the signs are misleading General Cordona will have his force reorganized and moving forward to victory within a brief period of time. In so far as possible he ought to and will receive the support of the allies.

Capital and courage are traveling together in this country at this blessed moment and in the combination there is admonition to the Kaiser.

They talk of making Washington bone dry. But that is only talk. Congress may be for that sort but Congressmen are different.

Watch This Experiment.

The Farm Bureau of the Reading Chamber of Commerce is appealing to the farmers of Berks county to "raise more sheep." The matter is to be presented in bulletins and talked about at Farmers' Institutes and other gatherings in the interest of agriculture. It is pointed out that sheep may be abundantly fed on land too hilly for ordinary agricultural operations and that "grazing sheep restore to the soil elements of fertility." The price of lamb and mutton is also cited as an incentive to the enterprise and the value and beneficence of wool is an additional inducement to look in that direction for generous profits from the farm. It is an idea that deserves approval.

Of course there are difficulties to be met and the Berks county farmers have not overlooked them. For example, there is the dog nuisance which is always a menace to sheep breeding. The last Legislature enacted some sort of legislation on this subject but as the laws of the session have not been published as yet its value is left to conjecture. It may be hoped, however, that the new law will prove effective and if that expectation is disappointed the next Legislature ought to make certain of such laws as will achieve the purpose. The people of Pennsylvania cannot afford to let vicious or worthless dogs stand in the way of a useful and profitable enterprise. We need wool and mutton more than dogs.

If it is true that sheep may be amply supplied with food from stony and mountainous land unsuitable for tilling, Centre county ought to join in the Berks county movement to encourage and multiply the industry of sheep raising. The mountains which separate the lovely and fertile valleys of this great county afford grazing area enough to feed thousands of sheep and if the farmers of the county would turn their attention to this line of agricultural product we could soon bid defiance to the piratical meat packers of the West and provide our tables with toothsome and nutritious food at reasonable rates. Let us keep our eyes on this Berks county experiment.

Judge Quigley's order fixing future quarter sessions courts in Centre county at one, instead of two weeks, is exceedingly sensible. While the principal saving to the tax payers will lie in the saved mileage of the jurors of the second, or civil suit, week there are many smaller items of cost that will be eliminated with the execution of the new order. Off hand it would appear that there could be no saving in the per diem allowance to jurors, but there will be, nevertheless in this way: Very often it happens that the work of the first week is closed up in the middle of a day or earlier. Then the jurors are discharged and given pay for the entire day. Under the new order if the criminal list should be closed up before a full day has been served the civil list will be taken up immediately and the tax payers will not be in the position of having paid full day's allowance for a half day's service. While occasions may arise when it will be necessary to keep jurors on duty over a Sunday the probability of such necessity is very remote, for the reason that the business of our courts is gradually becoming less involved and cases less numerous. Viewing the new order of things in the light of knowledge of our courts for the past ten or more years we wonder that Judge Quigley's idea was not adopted and carried into practice long ago.

Next Tuesday will be election day and while the only county ticket to be elected is two jury commissioners, the borough and township offices are just as important as county or state offices. The very foundation of our government begins at home with the selection of men to manage the municipal and township affairs. And therefore, assuming that all the candidates are good men the "Watchman" will take no sides but leave the matter up to the voters to select the man the majority thinks best suited for the office.

Of course there is a scarcity of labor everywhere because a large proportion of the supply has enlisted in the war. But there need be no scarcity of machinery and machinery has labor skinned a mile as a productive agent.

That little incursion into Italy may afford the Kaiser some satisfaction but it won't have half as much effect upon the result of the war as the incursion of Haug and Petain into the Hindenburg line.

High cost of booze appears to be the most potent agent of temperance reform and the liquor dealers are responsible for that.

As has been remarked on other occasions the peace which ends the war will not be made in Germany.

Mr. Roosevelt Explains His Attitude On the Subject of Large Families.

Mr. Roosevelt has been so frequently quoted as an advocate of large families, without discrimination, that we are glad to see, at last, an authentic article on the subject from his own pen. No number of arguments could ever convince us that a large family—eight or ten or more—among the poorer classes would be better than a smaller number of children carefully fed, clothed and educated and we have always been prejudiced against Mr. Roosevelt's widely-promulgated views on the subject. Now, he explains that he does not countenance large families among the worthless and poverty-stricken and that he would support any measure to limit the production of the unfit but that we must first take effective measures to promote the production of the fit. From statistics gathered from various colleges, he shows that in 140 years the average college graduate of today will be represented by only three-tenths of their number and that what he terms the self-respecting American stock—eight-tenths of the whole—must average over three children or the race will die out.

Superior folks preach the doctrines of Malthus who foresaw a population increasing so rapidly that the earth could not produce a sufficiency of food; today we know that the earth could keep twice its present population in comfort if all resources were but directed to preservation instead of destruction and if there were only a reasonably fair division of the fruits of labor. In Great Britain, for example, nine-tenths of the natural wealth is distributed among about one-tenth of the population. If an aristocracy of blood, money or talent wishes to rule the world it must at least provide a sufficiency of rulers. Mr. Roosevelt points out that unless the capable—eight-tenths—stock of Americans increases, the worthless, poverty-stricken two-tenths will dominate. His suggestions for helping the financial problems growing out of larger families are given in the reprint of his article on page 2.

Noah H. Swayne II, so well remembered here as the president of the Nittany Iron Co., has just been made sole commissioner to represent the soft coal jobbers of the country at Washington. He will co-operate with controller Garfield and President Wilson in handling the distribution of soft coal supplies. He represents an association of 1400 soft coal jobbers who have an invested capital of \$165,000,000. It is a great task, but we know that Mr. Swayne is fully equal to it.

The young people of Bellefonte are to be highly commended for the way they conducted themselves on Halloween. While scores of them paraded the streets in costume and had lots of fun and a good time generally no property was destroyed and no viciousness displayed by any one. The young people also hearkened to the call of the "Watchman" and refrained from throwing corn, which is an additional credit to them.

Demer T. Pearce, sealer of weights and measures for Centre county, has requested the "Watchman" to call the attention of farmers and dealers to the fact that the standard weight of gooseberries is forty pounds to the bushel and that of onions fifty pounds. This correction is made because in his "Notice to Dealers" card the weight given for gooseberries is 48 pounds to the bushel and for onions 56 pounds.

Another war tax that will catch the traveling public is that on railroad transportation, the tax being eight per cent. of the cost of the ticket. That is if the ticket should cost one dollar the purchaser will have to pay \$1.08; if the cost should be ten dollars the tax on same will be eighty cents, so it is plain to be seen that even traveling will be lots more expensive than formerly.

On Sunday the electric light service at Howard was changed from the old town plant to the wires of the State-Centre Electric company which have now been completed to Beech Creek. The old plant at Howard was taken over by the State-Centre company and will probably be dismantled.

The dog poisoner is abroad in Potter township, several quite valuable bird dogs having died recently from being fed poison by some unknown person. Efforts are being made, however, to discover the identity of the individual who is placing the poison.

The city steam heating plant in Lock Haven is being dismantled, which marks the end of that public utility in that city.

Old weather prophets are predicting nice weather during the month of November, and let us all hope they will be right.

A German-born American Speaks.

From the Johnstown Leader. Every once in a while some distinguished citizen of German ancestry, but naturalized as an American, speaks in the burning words that should be dinned into the ears of all, native-born or naturalized.

Prof. Max F. Meyer, of the University of Missouri, recently the recipient of an invitation to join one of the organizations with high-sounding names whose real object is to paralyze the fighting arm of the American government, in replying that the invitation was an insult, said: "I am thoroughly familiar with the present organization of the German social body and with its culmination to the present German government. I am much more familiar with it than any of your committee. I have lived in Germany 25 years. I was born there. I was educated there. I spent 19 years of my life in German educational institutions from the kindergarten to the research laboratory."

Prof. Meyer cites these things to show that he knows Germany not from the outside but from the inside as a land in which the military class is the governing class. Stating these facts, Prof. Meyer then utters this solemn warning to disloyalists in this country: "If Germany wins this war, 50 years hence its government will rule the American people. I do not want my American children to be put under this yolk which I escaped by coming to America. My hope is that the German government will be overthrown and that the German nation, my relatives and friends, will enter an international organization for peace and justice."

"The German government, this fearful danger to our future, can be overthrown only by raising armies, not by sitting around your council tables and working for the repeal of the conscription laws."

Hoover on Hogs.

From the New York Evening Post. Meat products are the latest subject of special concern with Mr. Hoover, who in an interview speaks of hogs as of equal importance with wheat in ending the war, and states that the allied need of fats demands a reduction in our consumption of pork. His declaration that home consumption is outstripping production is surprising; in the fiscal year ending 1916 our slaughter of hogs reached nearly 41,000,000, or over 4,000,000 above the preceding year. Of meat as a whole, judged by prices and by the fact that we slaughter about 20 per cent. more animals yearly than a decade ago, we must be exporting a good deal.

But the decrease in the number of meat animals in France and elsewhere has been alarming, and though a people can obtain protein from other foods, it is hard to obtain enough fats without it. The reduction in European stocks will make meat-production in this country profitable for years after peace comes, and it is not certain that wheat-growing will be so much so when Argentina, Russia, Australia and other grain lands have access to market. Mr. Hoover speaks a word to the wise when he advises farmers to attend to hogs, cattle, and sheep as well as to grain. The government in its intervention in food administration has an interest in seeing production diversified, especially since Congress has let it in for a \$2 guarantee on wheat, no matter how much is raised or how soon peace comes. If there is a billion-bushel crop, and all other world-sources are reopened, Mr. Hoover estimates the loss of the government next year at \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000.

The Plight of Norway.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. The desperate plight of Norway, "between the devil and the deep sea," compels sympathy. We have been logically obliged to include Norway in our embargo against the European neutrals who have been supplying Germany with food and other merchandise brought from the United States, and yet the Norwegians are in a different case, for the land will hardly support its population. They are a sea-faring people, dependent upon commerce, yet too feeble to defend that commerce. In the era of the Napoleonic wars, they suffered from famine and they are threatened with it again.

Now they complain that if they try to satisfy Germany, they will offend us, and get no food for themselves, for Germany wants only the food that they get from us; while if they try to satisfy us, they will offend Germany. It is a striking example of the hard fate of a neutral and feeble nation in a world at war.

But, after all, Norway has been almost as badly treated by the Germans as she might be if they made war upon her. A large proportion of the neutral vessels sunk without warning have been Norwegian and many lives of Norse non-combatants have been thus taken by the Germans. Norway has had a profitable war trade, but at great peril.

Mr. Lorenz Should Have a Heart.

From the Springfield Union. Many persons would be willing to put up with the occasional wheatless, sweetless, meatless, headless and eatless days if some one could fix it up with Old Prob so that we should have reasonable number of sleepless days this winter.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Lewistown Owls have bought the Joseph Fichtorn property on Market street for \$10,000, and will alter it into a Lodge home.

—The dairymen of DuBois have decided to boost the price of milk. Consumers have been paying ten cents per quart for their milk during the past several months, and now the Dairymen's association says they must pay twelve cents.

—Harry P. Bigler, aged 70, a son of former Governor Bigler, and a prominent manufacturer and banker of Clearfield, died early last Thursday in Atlantic City. Mr. Bigler was a brother of the late W. D. Bigler, former assistant treasurer of the United States.

—Half a dozen Punksitawney merchants who sell cider have been called to account for the large percentage of alcohol that it contains, by the agents of the dairy and food division of the Department of Agriculture. They say that a large portion of the beverage is too "wet."

—Ida May Hess, of Snydertown, Northumberland county, is suffering from severe acid burns about the face and hands which she received recently when an unknown man stepped out of the darkness of an alley and dumped the contents of a bottle of carbolic acid into her face.

—James Henderson, a farmer near Sunbury, doing detective work to see why he found a cow milked dry each morning for several days, discovered a tramp lying on his back taking his breakfast first-hand. The farmer was so amazed that he allowed the breakfast to proceed undisturbed.

—Edgar Munson, of Williamsport, has been appointed Red Cross field secretary of the Pennsylvania division. He will have charge of work in Centre, Clinton, Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union counties. The appointment was made by the Philadelphia headquarters.

—The barn of Phineas Ohler, near Sand Patch, Somerset county, collapsed one evening last week about five o'clock burying two children and all of his livestock. Fortunately, the children were able to extricate themselves with nothing more serious than fright. One horse and one cow were killed.

—The Centre and Clearfield Railway company, of Philipsburg, is the latest trolley company to file notice with the Public Service commission of intention to increase fare from five to seven cents. It also discontinues sale of twenty-one tickets for a dollar and increases express and merchandise rates.

—John Snook, of Locks Mills, Bedford county, has killed and assisted to eat a score of groundhogs this season; in addition to those he has dug out twenty skunks and eight opossums. These were turned loose as the fur is poor at this season, but Snook says he knows where to get them when the fur is ripe.

—C. E. Ellsworth, janitor of a public school building in Greensburg, Pa., at a salary of \$75 a month, is one of two beneficiaries to an estate valued at \$800,000 left by an uncle, Robert I. Ellsworth, who died in Washington several months ago. The nephew had neither seen nor heard from his uncle for more than forty years.

—Mrs. C. M. Clement, wife of Major General Charles M. Clement, commander of the Twenty-eighth division, Pennsylvania troops, of the National Army, who is now in France for observation, received a letter from her husband last week. In it he wrote that he was a passenger going over on the ill-fated steamer Antilles, sunk by a German U-boat while on its return trip on October 19.

—A crock of gold buried by Mrs. Chas. Taylor, of Northumberland, Pa., seventeen years ago, was found recently by a workman who was tearing down the porch of the Taylor home. The crock contained \$4,000, which will be divided among the eight children. Mrs. Taylor did not believe in banks. On her death bed she tried to tell where the treasure was buried, but died before she could reveal the secret.

—Adopting the slogan of the Williamsport office of the State Employment Bureau, "save the crops and win the war," thirty-eight men from the down-river city, in charge of Harry Spooker, went to a farm near Muncy Station Sunday morning, and by nightfall had cut forty acres and husked 125 bushels of corn, which the farmer had despaired of husking until the employment bureau came to the rescue.

—The West Branch Knitting company, of Milton, late Saturday afternoon received an order from the United States Navy department for 250,000 light weight undershirts. This is the fifth contract from the government for army and navy shirts received by the company within the past few months. The total number of undershirts now contracted for by both these branches of the service approximates a million.

—Harry Pinelli, aged 38 years, committed suicide by hanging himself in his home at Northumberland on Friday. Five years ago Pinelli, accompanied by his brother, his wife and three children, came here from Australia. One year later his brother died. His wife died the next year and two children in the successive years. All passed away during the last week in October. Pinelli became despondent and melancholy as that week approached this year.

—Auditor General Snyder is arranging for the appointment of auditors to represent the Commonwealth and the bondsmen of Register of Wills Asher V. Stauffer, of Northampton, who committed suicide last Wednesday, so that the extent of his indebtedness to the State can be ascertained. It was declared that the amount of the money due the State might run to \$40,000, \$25,000 of which was in one estate. Stauffer was three years behind in his payments.

—Under a woodpile in the rear of a boarding-house conducted by Rosie Saloni, at Washington, Pa., two police found a dozen revolvers, two barrels of whiskey, one of wine, and several thousand dollars' worth of dress goods and wearing apparel. Local merchants have identified some of the dress goods as having been stolen from their stores and warehouses. The police were investigating the murder of Pasquale Salio when they stumbled on the woodpile lot.

—Automobile thiefes Friday night broke into the garage of James B. Finn, a Hollidaysburg merchant, and stole his touring car. They then motored to Roaring Springs, where they robbed the postoffice and dynamited the office safe stealing \$100 in cash and stamps and Liberty Bonds to the value of \$2,000. They completed the night's depredations by breaking into the general merchandise store of Casper Brothers, loading the car with goods and making their escape.