

—Just eighteen more days until Christmas.

—Hang out the British flag tomorrow. It will be British day and surely we should pay some tribute to our gallant ally.

—Right, O, Mr. President, the ballot would be small reward for the part the women of the country have taken in winning our victory.

—The Yugoslavs appear to have missed something out of the lessons of the war. Their cutting up at Fiume may end in a wholesome chastisement.

—All the bans on sugar are off. Your grocer can sell you as much as you want to buy and neither one of you have to sign cards or keep any record of it.

—Possibly there may have been some use in the formal abdication of his throne but at this distance it looks as if the throne had collapsed and spilled the Kaiser.

—Those feeble minded idiots who are trying to work the sectional issue on the income tax ought to know that Pennsylvania and New York enjoyed incomes equal to the taxes they paid.

—A year ago tomorrow it began to snow and by night there was ten inches of the beautiful on the ground and, you will remember, the mercury fell to zero just after it stopped snowing.

—Governor Sproul is at least surrounding himself with good cabinet material. Let us hope that it means that he is really going to be a worth while Governor and let the diversion of building political machines for others.

—Anyway the President will come back from the peace conference even a greater man in the eyes of the world than he is today and the pin-heads who have been heckling him as to his right to go will be even smaller than they are.

—We are inclined to believe that many of those Senators and Congressmen who say that the President has only gone to France in order to be fussed over are merely jealous because they will not be conspicuous when the fussing is done.

—The bars are down on Christmas shopping. The public will be permitted to buy all the fool things it likes and the merchants can employ as many extra clerks and work as many hours as their business warrants. In other words, we are to go back to our regular Christmas habits.

—The soldier boys evidently took to the government's war risk insurance like hot cakes. Secretary McAdoo's report shows that there is \$36,000,000 of it in force. To our mind the war risk insurance was the most practical and beneficent offering a government ever made to those who gave their service to it.

—So the eldest of the Kaiser's six fat sons denies that he has renounced his right to the throne. Possibly he hasn't, but what of that? It will be like the little boy who wanted the core of his playmate's apple and was told: "There ain't goin' to be no core." There'll be no throne in Germany for the Crown Prince to lay claim to later on.

—If you have been a victim of the flu be very careful of your health. Those best informed say that flu convalescents are susceptible to the tuberculosis germ and unless great care is taken for a long time after recovery it will develop. Don't scoff at such warnings. Heed them. Your health is your most precious asset and you should conserve it.

—The fact that the army of occupation is to comprise a million and a quarter men makes it look very much as if the time for Johnny to come marching home is still very far off. As long as Germany is as unsettled as it is and Bolshevism rules in Russia it will be as necessary for us to be on the job, ready to fight again, as it was when the war was actually in progress.

—Headquarters of the Centre County Branch of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense and Committee of Public Safety which have been maintained in this place during the war will be closed within a few days. The organization will be kept intact but the lifting of all food, fuel and other regulations has reduced the amount of work involved so much that a general office is no longer essential.

—Killed two birds with one stone is what Secretary McAdoo did when he began buying the government's own bonds back in order to keep them from falling too much below par on the open market. Everyone knew that confidence in the value of the bonds was necessary in order to create a general buying by the public, but that confidence could not have been inspired at the time the second issue was offered if the bonds of the first issue had then been quoted on the market at much less than par. The same condition obtained at the launching of the third and fourth issues. So in order to hold all previous issues at a price that was reassuring to a people who had had little previous experience in buying securities of any kind the Secretary of the Treasury went into the market as a purchaser for the government and his report shows that \$244,036,500 worth of bonds were bought back for \$234,310,000. This had the effect of stabilizing the market, the government actually made \$10,000,000 in the transaction and cancelled a large block of its evidences of indebtedness.

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President Wilson's Trip Abroad.

President Woodrow Wilson is on the high sea on board a great ocean "Liner" fitly named the George Washington in fulfillment of the most important obligation that has developed upon any American since the death of Abraham Lincoln...

In view of the facts the puerile complaints of Cummins and Sherman inspired by Lodge and Smoot would be pitiable if they were not treasonable. Their purpose is to discredit our President in the council of nations and impair his influence for good.

There is no violation of either law or tradition in the President's voyage to Europe. Roosevelt visited Panama during his incumbency of the office of President and Taft journeyed abroad at his pleasure.

—Somebody ought to suggest to the Kaiser that the "alibi" has been overworked by common criminals in Quarter Sessions courts and even "passing the buck" wears gray whiskers.

Greatest of All Absurdities.

Of all the absurdities that have come out of Washington within the period of the war the most preposterous is that which contemplated the sending of a Senate committee to France to watch the actions of the American delegates in the peace conference.

Article 2, section 2, paragraph 2 of the constitution of the United States invests the President with the power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, "to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur..."

—How many of you knew that General Tasker H. Bliss, who will help represent our country at the peace table, was born at Lewisburg?

Governor Sproul's Cabinet.

Governor-elect Sproul has officially announced that William I. Schaffer, of Delaware county, will be Attorney General and Cyrus E. Woods, of Westmoreland county, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Schaffer is a widely known and capable lawyer. For many years he has been Reporter of the Supreme court and his work is said to indicate a high order of ability.

—Senator Reed, of Missouri, and Colonel Roosevelt are yet to be heard from on the President's address to Congress but there are symptoms of eruptions in Washington and Oyster Bay.

Vares Enlarging Their Domain.

The latest utterance of Governor-elect Sproul on the subject of a constitutional convention is rather ominous. Immediately after his election he gave out an interview in which he declared quite positively that he favored the creation and adoption of a new fundamental law for the State.

The response to his promise of a new constitution was general and generous. Among the prominent men of the State who are asked to discuss the subject there was only one dissenting voice.

The Vares do not want a new constitution for Pennsylvania. The present instrument, patched and tinkered as it is, suits them exactly. Under its provisions they are immune from punishment whatever they do.

—If every one saves as much as possible and produces to the full extent of opportunity this great country will be able to feed the whole world without stint on a single necessary of life.

The President's Message.

The address to Congress of President Wilson which serves the purpose of his annual message, is literally a medium of giving "to Congress from time to time information on the state of the Union."

He adverts gracefully to the part the women of the country played in the war work. "Their contribution to the great result is beyond appraisal," he says, and "they have added a new luster to the annals of American womanhood."

The question of revenues, the question of railroad and ship control, the question of waste land redemption and all other questions of current interest are discussed with characteristic clearness and capability.

—The "Watchman" has repeatedly called the attention of its correspondents to the fact that correspondence should reach this office Tuesday evening, if possible, and not later than Wednesday morning to insure its getting in the paper in full.

Lock Haven Must be Jealous of Bellefonte.

In a recent issue of the Lock Haven Express appeared an item detailing the fact that the Centre county commissioners had appropriated \$500 toward the expense of building the hangar at the Wilson aerial mail station here, the item winding up with the question, "Is a hangar more important than a farm bureau?"

Evidently the editor of the Express is ignorant of the conditions in Centre county or through jealousy of the fact that the aerial station was located here instead of in Lock Haven is perverting facts.

In various other ways Mr. Olmstead has demonstrated the good work of the Centre county farm bureau as being a very live organization. In the future, therefore, if the Lock Haven Express has any just cause to pick at Bellefonte or Centre county it should exercise proper judgment and pick where the picking is good.

Following Russia's Example.

Latest advices regarding government making in Germany indicate developments of the greatest importance, in which the combination of conservative elements heretofore in control seems to have been displaced and a radical system substituted analogous to that of the existing Russian government.

This is the kind of government that the Lenine-Trotsky combination pretended to set up when the Kerensky government was overthrown, and which quickly developed the extravagances that led to the disintegration and anarchy, with accompanying terrorism, now prevalent throughout Russia.

That the allies are deeply concerned in the kaleidoscopic changes taking place in Germany is a matter of course. It is to their interest and to the interest of the civilized world that stable government be established there as speedily as possible.

—Peter Joseph Schmidt, of Shamokin, one of the Northumberland county commissioners, died in a hospital at Danville, on Saturday, from stab wounds alleged to have been inflicted by Robert Hunt, a Shamokin piano tuner.

His Turn is Coming.

There will be no "return from Elbe" in the case of William Hohenzollern. That is as certain as it is sure there will be a peace conference. It may be the plan of some of the former Kaiser's former officers to again place him on a throne as the ruler of Germany and the chief exponent of autocracy.

—Unable to agree upon a final audit of the Milton school district, auditors Harry B. Bibby and Thomas B. Shannon were on Monday ousted from office by Judge Mower, in Northumberland county courts.

—Last Memorial day, at Sykesville, Jefferson county, Frank Sotek created a sensation by disrobing in the cemetery and scattering his money and effects around with a lavish hand.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The Custer Coupling company's big plant at Bradford was damaged by fire early Saturday, with a loss of \$20,000. C. B. Custer, the owner, carried no insurance.

—Rev. Irvin Bailey, pastor of the United Evangelical church of Saladasburg, has been a valuable assistant to the farmers in that vicinity during the threshing season, having assisted forty farmers to thresh their grain.

—The Rev. Silas H. Durand is dead at Southampton, Pa., in his eighty-sixth year. He was born in Herrick, Bradford county, the eleventh child in a family of fourteen.

—The four children of William H. Grimes, of Wernersville, will have to be "kind" to their step-mother, Grimes' widow, if they want full shares in his estate. Grimes' will was probated at Reading, and gives each of his children a share in his belongings, amounting to \$3750, but it contains a proviso in favor of his wife, step-mother to the children.

—Administration of the draft in Pennsylvania cost \$1,797,938.71 between September 1, 1917, and November 30, 1918, according to figures compiled at the State Draft headquarters. There were 24,405 bills paid on a basis of 25,000 men sent into the service, this is at the rate of \$8 a man. It is believed when all the bills are in that the cost will run about \$10 a man.

—Two weeks ago a party of hunters arrived at English Center, Lyncoming county, to establish a hunters' lodge, in preparation for the deer season. The party came from Cleveland, Ohio. They rented a mountain cabin, placing in it about \$600 worth of furniture and provisions, and then returned to Jersey Shore to await the first day of the season.

—Commissioner of Fisheries N. R. Butler reports that the take of white fish and herring eggs on Lake Erie during the last three weeks has been far in excess of what was anticipated. There is not an empty jar on the batteries at the Erie station, and the following hatcheries have also been supplied with all the eggs of this species that they can take care of.

—One-half of the estate of Thomas J. Stewart, for many years Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, will eventually go to the Grand Lodge of Masons for the erection of two or more cottages at the Masonic home at Elizabethtown, it developed at an adjudication of his \$100,000 estate in the Montgomery county Orphans' court.

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