

—Here's hoping that the daylight saving law won't be repealed.

—Don't put off making your income tax return. The easiest way to keep out of trouble is not to get into it.

—Whatever goes up is sure to come down doesn't apply to the price of your old home newspaper, for the very good reason that it didn't go up when everything else caught the rising fever.

—Tomorrow will be the first day of March. It is proverbially the longest and most disagreeable month of the year, but we have had a pleasant winter and a little rough weather will make us appreciate spring all the more when it comes.

—After July 1st it will be a bait box not a bait bottle that will accompany the angler to his favorite fish-hole. Maybe the "old hole" won't be such a favorite place either when old John Barleycorn isn't there to brighten things up a bit when the fish are not bitin'!

—Candidates are beginning to offer themselves to the voters. It is a wholesome sign when men take an interest in political affairs and the public would do well to investigate them thoroughly so that none but competent, honest and constructive men get into the county offices.

—Pennsylvania was the forty-fifth State to ratify the dry amendment, but she can't take any glory out of the "better be late than never." Everyone who knows the real feeling of the present Legislature knows that it is an hundred to one shot that that body would have been holding up ratification right now had the necessary thirty-six States not already passed it.

—What is Centre county going to do with the good roads movement that is sweeping over the State? Many counties are taking advantage of every opportunity to get a full share of the vast sums that are to be spent during the next four years and we should be second to none of them. Let us get busy and make the Bald Eagle, the Buffalo Run and the Lewistown highways permanent brick structures. It can be done.

—The President has returned and gives us the bit of significant information that it is the people of Europe, and not the rulers, who are in the saddle and have to be dealt with. They want an assurance of permanent peace, something with a guarantee that the boys of tomorrow will never be taken again for cannon fodder, that war and all its attendant horrors is done with forever. If they are not given this either through a League of Nations or in some other satisfactory way the smouldering unrest is likely to become a seething volcano which will erupt with such force as to shatter the foundations of all present government.

—The Fulton Democrat wants all of its readers to "Help pull McConnellsburg out of the Dark." What can our contemporary mean? Can it be possible that the lovely town, nestling in one of God's most productive valleys and externally watered by the limpid streams from the majestic Tuscaroras and Scrub Ridge has fallen into a moral or financial slough? Surely not! With not even the shrill shriek of the iron horse to disturb its peaceful calm McConnellsburg is what the Salvation Army hopes for when it sings: "Every Day Will be Sunday By and By." Pull such a spot "out of the dark." There is no darkness there. It only seems dark to the Democrat and others because they haven't tried to look out over the tops of Cove mountain and Scrub Ridge.

—Talking about Americanizing our foreign born residents we believe that it can be done in the simplest and speediest manner. How many of the "Watchman" readers say Good Morning! or Good Afternoon! to that man or woman or child of unmistakable foreign appearance who is met so frequently on the street and who looks at one uncertainly out of great dark eyes? Have you ever done it? If you have you have felt almost thrilled with the instant smile coming out from a soul that is really crying for some expression of good will from the natives whom he has come to make his home among. He doesn't learn to speak our language because we give him no chance to use it unless it is bartering for his earnings. Let us take a little interest in him. Let us be cordial to him as we are to our American fellows and we believe he will be an American fellow before we know it.

—Liberty bonds are just as safe and valuable today as they were the day you bought them. Don't think that because some one else offers you less than one hundred cents on the dollar for them that they have lost value. You didn't buy them to sell or speculate with. You bought them for just what they are, the safest investment that can be made and also to keep your taxes down by lending Uncle Sam money that he would otherwise have had to raise by taxing you far more than he is now. If any one tells you your Liberty bonds are not good, or that the government hasn't treated you right with them or tries to make you sore over the purchase he is a liar and an enemy of his country and probably is an I. W. W. or a Bolshevik and the "Watchman" would like to know his name. Your Liberty bond is a mortgage on everything in these United States. It has a fixed time to run and when that time is up you or your heirs will be paid exactly what you paid for it.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Wilson's Home Coming Speech.

If the militant spirit expressed in President Wilson's Boston speech does not admonish the Senators to behave the fighting language will make it clear that there will be consequences. In sublime faith that the people of the United States approve of his work in the Peace Conference he declares that it shall be brought to the test. There will be no backward movement. Our millions of soldiers went across the sea to make a better world and having achieved their task it shall never be said that their sacrifices were in vain. Unless some such guarantee for the future as the proposed League of Nations is obtained, however, the full measure will not be attained.

As usual President Wilson is both happy and forceful in his presentation of the matter. He saw many pleasing things during his sojourn abroad and met up with many incidents which gave him pride. But the one thing which appealed to him stronger than any other was the perfect confidence which the people of other countries show in the people of the United States. "Was there ever so wonderful a thing before?" the President asks. "Was there any fact that so bound the nation that had won the esteem forever to deserve it?" he continued. There can be only one answer and that is in the form the American representatives in the conference has answered by the League of Nations.

In any event the President has thrown down the gauge of battle to the Senatorial prattlers who have been parading their provincialism before the world. And he tells them that he has fighting blood in his veins and is entirely willing to "let it have scope." He knows his ground and he understands the people of the United States. He has planted our standard on an advanced line and will not recede. Like our soldiers in France he will come back only when he wants to and that will be when the glorious result is fully achieved. If the Senators want fight let them accept the challenge and enter the lists. The American people will determine between him and them.

Mr. Bryan is trying to get into the limelight as usual but there are too many prohibitionists now to make that a certain vehicle. All the Presidential candidates will be on the water wagon next year.

Lincoln's Memory Dishonored.

There were considerable more than the usual number of Lincoln day celebrations this year but it can hardly be said that the fact indicates an increasing respect for the memory of the great Civil War President. Admiration for the work of the great emancipator is a wholesome sign of an enlightened patriotism. As the period since his activities lengthen animosities diminish and prejudices disappear and it might well be, as in the case of Washington, that only kindly emotions are aroused by the approach of the anniversary of his birth. But unhappily that is not the case in this instance. Lincoln day was this year perverted into a vehicle for disseminating slanders against Woodrow Wilson.

In every section of the country meetings of partisan Republicans were held on Lincoln day at which the speakers seemed to contend with each other in the virulence of vituperation. In New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Louisville, St. Louis and San Francisco the same sordid note was sounded from the throats of partisan wind-jammers under the false pretense that the purpose was to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln. As a matter of fact this concert of action was the result of propaganda created and employed with the view of impairing the influence of the President of the United States in his splendid efforts in behalf of Christian civilization and civil liberty.

It may be safely said that if Lincoln were alive he would be among the most earnest of the protestants against this treasonable perfidy. At the time of his death he was entering upon a process of pacification very similar to that in which President Wilson is now engaged and the leaders of the Republican party were organizing a force to resist his amiable intentions with respect to the Southern States. If Lincoln had lived he would have broken with the party which had twice elected him President and his untimely, unfortunate and tragic death made the atrocities and corruptions of the reconstruction period possible. His memory is not honored by the use made of Lincoln day celebrations.

Nobody can satisfy the Republican politicians. Not long ago they were clamoring for a big army and navy and now they are protesting against force enough for safety.

King Emanuel, of Portugal, slipped a cog on his attempt to get back to the throne but he is better off than some of the ex-Kings.

League of Nations Formed.

It may be said that the most important work of the Paris Peace Conference has been completed. That is the terms upon which a League of Nations is to be formed have been adopted and that is the feature upon which opinions differed most widely. It may be added that this achievement is largely the work of President Wilson. As chairman of the committee to which it was referred he practically laid the lines upon which the instrument was placed. It relies upon moral rather than physical forces but it provides the necessary physical force if it becomes necessary. "Should any of the high contracting parties break or disregard its covenants," Article 16 provides, "it shall thereby ipso facto be deemed to have committed an act of war against all the other members of the league, which hereby undertakes immediately to subject it to the severance of all trade or financial relations."

A further punishment is provided in the prohibition of all intercourse between the nationals of the States composing the League and the nationals of the covenant breaking State and "the prevention of all financial, commercial or personal intercourse between the nationals of the covenant-breaking State and the Nationals of any other State whether a member of the League or not." Of course no offending State could survive such isolation and the resistance by force would bring the entire force of all other States into action.

It is encouraging to know that all the best minds of the civilized world are in accord in the approval of this important instrument. Among the first to declare his cordial endorsement was former President Taft, who asks all American citizens to give it moral and material support. It is to be regretted that our new Governor, William C. Sproul, takes an opposite view of the merits of the measure. But he has enlisted under the banner of Lodge and Smoot to fight the President in any and everything so that what he says about the League will be taken with a large grain of allowance.

On the second page of today's "Watchman" will be found a full and complete history of the work performed by the Centre county exemption board from the time it was appointed until it made its final returns to Major Murdock at the State selective service headquarters in Harrisburg. It is interesting because of the fact that it details the enormous amount of work entailed upon local boards in the carrying through to a successful issue of the selective service system. And to the credit of the Centre county board it can be said that they made one of the best records of any board in the State and were pioneers in the introduction of the system of military instruction to the selected men as well as the entertainment provided for them.

Salary Increases Halted.

Governor Sproul has called a halt on the salary increase projects which cropped up so abundantly at the opening of the session, according to reports from Harrisburg. The spoilsman had set out to make the money in royal fashion and bills had already been introduced to boost the salary of the Governor as well as those of most of the judges of the State. Monday night of last week the bill which had been reported out and passed on first reading was recommitted and it is rumored that the action was taken at the instance of Governor Sproul, who has also given orders that it be buried.

This is a wholesome sign. Years ago profligacy in appropriations was taken seriously and Legislators who squandered the public funds were held to account by the people. Lately, however, profligacy has been interpreted as a merit in legislation. The only question was in the distribution of the spoils. No matter how much money was spent the people of a community made no complaint so long as a good share of the boodle came in that direction. The result of this was the enormous increase in expenditures and a corresponding increase in taxes. But there was no complaint. Each Legislator easily reconciled his constituents by showing that "he got his."

During every recent session of the Legislature salary increases have been numerous. A few years ago the salary of the State Highway Commissioner was raised from \$5000 to \$8000 without exciting a syllable of comment. The bill recommitted on Monday night boosted the salary of that official to \$15,000 and nobody said a word until it was discovered that one of the judges had been inadvertently omitted. In this way it came to the knowledge of the Governor who called the halt. There will be lots of money spent within the next four years and every section will be taken care of. But there will be few if any salary increases.

Significant Incident in Philadelphia.

There is considerable significance in an incident which occurred in Philadelphia on Sunday last. At a meeting called for the purpose of advancing the cause of self government in Ireland were the Catholic Cardinal Archbishop of Baltimore, several other Catholic prelates and three Protestant Doctors of Divinity. As might have been expected it was under the auspices of the Catholic church but the Protestant clergymen fairly divided the honors of the occasion with their Catholic colleagues. In fact the ovation to Rev. Dr. Myhow was equal to that bestowed on Cardinal Gibbons and the famous and eloquent Rabbi Krauskopf was welcomed as cordially as either of the others.

Thus the most distinguished of the clergy in the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths were brought together on a single platform to raise their voices in common for the great principle announced by President Wilson of the self determination of peoples. Ireland has been striving for seven centuries to achieve this fundamental right in government but never before has the aspiration developed such a spectacle as that witnessed on Sunday when sect and creed were submerged in the righteous purpose of Jew and Gentile, Protestant and Catholic to promote the result. The head of the Catholic church in America personally congratulated the Protestant clergymen upon the completion of their addresses.

And while this splendid spectacle was being unfolded in the city in which civil and religious liberty had its real birth a cabal of conspirators in Washington were working to defeat the plans which the leading statesmen of the world hope will produce the result for which they were assembled. Self determination in Ireland is as much a part of the League of Nations as is self determination in Germany or Armenia. But the Republican partisans in Washington are willing to jeopardize the achievement everywhere in order to discredit President Wilson and rob him of the honor he has earned by his work in the Peace Conference in Paris. In their minds politics is more important than justice.

Farmers, we believe, constitute the principal objectors to a continuance of the daylight saving law. While it is certain that it does cause some of them inconvenience in handling such labor as they secure by the day only that per centage is so small as to be almost negligible. Most farmers board and lodge their help so that if the fields are too wet to start to work in at six o'clock, sun time, they can change their hours without inconvenience. In cases where an extra hand comes to help for a day or so it is different. His time begins when he arrives on the job and, for the most part, ends when he has spent eight hours on it, whether he has worked or not. Such instances, however, are comparatively isolated and when weighed over against the extra evening time at home the new regulation gives the vast army of industrial workers who rarely have a chance to see their families in daylight it seems that it ought not to count for much.

George M. Harter, farmer, of Marion township, this week officially announces himself as a candidate for the nomination of County Commissioner on the Democratic ticket, and James E. Harter, of Penn township, is out for the nomination for County Treasurer. Both are good men, staunch Democrats and worthy any favor the party may see fit to bestow upon them.

The price of all kinds of drinks was boosted five cents in Bellefonte on Wednesday morning, and the size probably reduced, so that the "small libation" or "a mouthful" will now cost about as much as a fair-sized jag used to in ye olden times.

Germany is licked all right but not entirely satisfied. It would be a pity to let history record the fact that she wasn't licked enough, however, and it may be necessary to give her another turn.

The State Senate at Harrisburg on Tuesday ratified the prohibition constitutional amendment by the vote of 29 to 16, thus making Pennsylvania the forty-fifth State to ratify the amendment.

Look out for Senator Lodge for President Wilson is back. His heart is none too good now and a shock might prove fatal.

It must be conceded that "the colored troops fought nobly." But something of that sort was said more than fifty years ago.

The people want peace but the Senate of the United States is doing its best to deny them that blessing.

The Governor of Kansas wants to get back to the old industry, which is raising hell.

Monroe and the League.

From the Philadelphia Record. Mr. Borah will have none of the League of Nations because in his opinion it destroys the Monroe Doctrine. What does Mr. Borah suppose the Monroe Doctrine is?

It is true that in his letter to the British government regarding the Venezuelan boundary Secretary of State Olney used language which, taken by itself, would give the impression that the United States claimed some authority over the other countries of the Western Hemisphere, and recognized obligations to protect them from their enemies. Mr. Roosevelt undoubtedly accepted that as the meaning of the Doctrine. But that is a great extension of a principle of action that had stood for more than 70 years when the Venezuela boundary became an exciting subject, and the United States is not committed to it.

In the first place, the Monroe Doctrine was beyond dispute a defiance of the Holy Alliance. Beginning as a means of preventing war, this Alliance quickly developed into a machine for the suppression of liberalism, first in Greece and afterward in South America, where Spain's colonies had virtually established their independence, but had never had their independence acknowledged by Spain, and the Holy Alliance showed a disposition to aid Spain in re-establishing its authority on this hemisphere, after it had, as a matter of fact, ceased.

In the second place, the Monroe Doctrine was a notification to the Holy Alliance that if it should begin the suppression of popular government we should not wait to be invaded. The United States was the greatest menace to the divine right of Kings, and the suppression of the South American Republics was to be only a prelude to the suppression of ours. Europe could operate against the United States from Mexico much better than it could from the other side of the ocean.

What we announced in the Monroe Doctrine was that any part of America which had emancipated itself from monarchy should not be subjected to monarchy by external force, because any combination of nations that did that would be in a position to attack us. If anybody started a fire on our neighbor's premises we should put it out without waiting for our own house to catch.

We have never made ourselves responsible for the conduct of South American countries or undertaken to protect them against all their enemies. We allowed Spain to have a war with Chili, and we allowed England, France and Germany to collect debts in Venezuela and the West Indies by a naval demonstration. But no European nation should establish a lodgment on this hemisphere from which it could menace us.

The League of Nations is as unlike the Holy Alliance as possible. The one thing the League does not propose to do is to prevent disturbances within a country—that is, revolutions. It is the safeguard of the United States as it is of France. Mr. Taft is perfectly correct when he relies to Senator Borah that Article X of the covenant of the League of Nations extends the Monroe Doctrine over the world.

The high contracting parties undertake to respect and preserve against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all States members of the League.

Pershing at Brest.

From the New York Sun. General Pershing's report to the War Department on the conditions at Brest should go a long way toward putting a stop to the hysteria about that camp.

If Brest were to be judged by the statistics recently told, before Congress committees and elsewhere, our soldiers in France were subjected in peace to horrors worse than those of war. Yet we have the assurance of the commander-in-chief, who has personally inspected the camp within the last month, that the general camp conditions and the method of handling troops at Brest are good. The fact that the death rate in the camp is lower than it was in the earlier months of the winter certainly shows that there has been no recent collapse in the sanitary system.

Brest is not an ideal camp, being undeniably a muddy region, but its convenience to shipping made its use necessary. It is probable that our soldiers have undergone great discomfort there; but the difference between discomfort and death is considerable.

Income Tax Refund.

From the Williamsport Sun. The government stands a reasonable chance of losing millions of dollars, collected through income taxes in the last few years by the recent decision of a federal court that this tax on stock dividends is not collectable.

Of course, the government will not meekly return these sums without invoking the aid of the law's highest courts to prove that the lower tribunal is wrong in its findings, but as the decision hangs in the hope that the courts will concur cannot but help to act as a tonic to the man who is now figuring on his present levy. If this phase of the tax should be declared illegal it will not be necessary for any one entitled to restitution to employ legal aid to secure the rebate. Claims may be filed at the home revenue collector's home or by appeal to the Treasury Department at Washington, where some of the most cautious have already placed them.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

D. A. Leighty and Charles Hodge report seeing grasshoppers in the woods near Newry, Blair county.

An increase in sheep raising in the State during the past year has added many additional sheep to the total in the State and the enforcement of the dog law promises to keep the interest.

Hog cholera is prevalent in parts of Indiana county, and at the Indiana county home alone twenty five porkers have died of the disease. The majority of the cases seem to be in the vicinity of Indiana and Homer City.

The Central Pennsylvania annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church will convene in St. John's church, Sunbury, Rev. John H. Daugherty, D. D., pastor, on Wednesday afternoon, March 19th, at 1:30 o'clock with, it is expected, Bishop Edwin Hughes presiding.

Mrs. Elizabeth Croft, sixty years of age, of Harrisburg, dropped dead in Broad Street Station, Philadelphia, early Sunday morning, while waiting for a train to Trenton. Dr. Vane of the Pennsylvania Railroad staff, said that death was due to heart failure. Mrs. Croft was on her way to visit a son in Trenton when she died.

A can of peas in the home of Irvin Keener, Marion Center, Indiana county, exploded with enough force to wreck a kitchen range, but without injury to anybody. One of the children of the home placed a can of the vegetables in the oven of the stove, and later Mrs. Keener came around and fired up the stove. The liquid in the can formed into steam and caused the explosion.

Reuben Cuff, ten years old, was found guilty of manslaughter by a Cumberland county jury, the result of the death of his companion, Ephraim Pierce. The testimony was that Cuff became enraged when his companion refused to play with him. He secured a shot gun and shot through the heart. The jury deliberated only half an hour. Pierce's brother was the only eye-witness to the crime. The families reside at Bridgeton.

Game Warden Hilton, of Punxsutawney, at the direction of the State Game Commission, last week sent to Harrisburg the hide of one 310-pound bear which Fred Shober shot along the North Fork. It will be mounted for the State Museum. Friends of Mr. Shober who are worried because he shot the bear out of season are unduly exercised. The State game laws give specific permission to kill any animal at any time in self defense.

State Senator William P. Graff, of Blairsville, Indiana county, and T. L. Eyrer, of Chester, Chester county, have pooled their coal mining interests in the Blairsville section under the name of the Kiskiminetus Coal company, with offices at Blairsville. The new corporation is capitalized at \$100,000. Senator Eyrer is president; Senator Graff, treasurer, and F. M. Graff, secretary. The company was formed from the old Kiskiminetus and Roaring Run Mining companies and is said to have valuable holdings.

The last remaining fact that Punxsutawney, Jefferson county, was once a "wet" town was thrown to the discard Saturday, when the license of the Punxsutawney Brewing company expired. The brewery in pursuance of government order had not manufactured beer since December of last year. They had a considerable stock on hand and had a right to sell until the expiration of the license. No arrangements have been made for the future of the brewery, but it will probably be conducted as an ice-manufacturing plant.

Albert S. Mills, merchant, of Gettysburg, was shot twice in the head in his store Saturday night by a robber, John N. Miller, recently discharged from the army, was arrested Sunday morning, and police are searching for a second man. It is believed that robbery was the motive. Mrs. Mills was in the store when the shooting occurred. One of the two men asked for a package of cigarettes, and while he was making the purchase, the second, partly masked, entered the door, said something about money and fired two shots. Mills fell and the men fled.

Patrolman John B. Gro, of the Lewis-town police force, won his claim for compensation amounting to \$894.25 for the loss of an eye while following his regular occupation. Patrolman Gro claims he was on his best performing his regular duties when some foreign matter was blown into the eye by the high wind prevailing at the time, which was responsible for the loss of the eye. Gro was awarded the amount of his claim and had been paid in part by the borough when the insurance people called a halt and the case has been under litigation for two years. Referee W. W. Champion, of Williamsport, made the award.

Plans for the Methodist Home for the Aged to be established and maintained by the Methodist Episcopal churches of Central Pennsylvania conference were discussed last Friday afternoon at a meeting of the board of directors which was held in the First Methodist Episcopal church of Tyrone. A number of sites have been offered for the home and are now under consideration. The board of directors is composed of the following: Revs. S. B. Evans, C. W. Karns, A. S. Fiske, G. F. Boggs, C. Lamberson, James Glas, W. J. Shaffer and J. B. Stein. The membership of the board will be completed by the addition of several laymen.

More than 300 girls were rescued by firemen, a score overcome by smoke and a dozen injured in a spectacular fire which late on Monday destroyed the building occupied by Duff's Business College, in the heart of the business district of Pittsburgh. One girl, who fell from the arms of a fireman at a third-floor window, probably was fatally injured. Of the 450 students in the school when the fire alarm was sounded, shortly after 3 o'clock, only about 100 girls and 50 boys were able to reach the street in safety before smoke and flames cut off the escape of 300 others. Trapped on the second and third floors, the remaining students were taken from windows or jumped into fire nets in the street below.

Charles McKee, of Altoona, Blair county, who claims to be in the produce business, but who has been referred to as a sort of a "tin horn sport," was before the Clearfield county court last week on a charge of conducting turkey raffles at Chester Hill and other Clearfield county villages. The fine was \$100 and costs \$50 and Judge Singleton Bell decided that he would remain within the confines of Clearfield county for a period of four months, with postoffice address in care of Sheriff Gorman. The reason that McKee was "sat on" so heavily is because this was the second offense, although he tried to escape by means of a borough license he had from one of the villages where he conducted the raffle match.