

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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NO. 11.

INK SLINGS.

Blue-birds and robins have made their first spring calls.

Don't fail to get your income tax report in by tomorrow.

Make your home so that your children will love it and they will not be so hungry for amusement elsewhere.

Bellefonte entertained a hold-up man last Saturday night, but he must have been an amateur for when the intended victim wouldn't be held up he took to his heels in a way that indicated that he might be going yet.

The maiden legislative effort of the Hon. Ives Harvey died a bornin'. He had a bill giving cemetery associations the right of eminent domain clear up to third reading in the House, then the Members began to take notice and the Hon. Ives' first bill went to the Legislative boneyard—that always finds room for the interment of such measures without the right of eminent domain.

We understand that some of the ladies to whom the "Watchman" referred last week as being loose—of course only so far as the grip they keep on their pocket books is concerned, have been disposed to remark that: "There are others." Which means that they recall the wail the writer set up when he lost a perfectly good overcoat last fall.

If the liquor people had put the price of drinks up to their present mark a long time ago there might never have been a Prohibition movement.

The Philadelphia conference of the Methodist church is in session in Philadelphia. The work it will take up will be of very great interest to all of us at this time, for the proposed Rorke Sunday law will surely come in for an expression of opinion and we will not be surprised if some fanatics, flushed with the success of Prohibition, propose a resolution favoring an amendment ending the sale of tobacco and the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes.

Mitchell Palmer may hold on to the office he holds because he doesn't want Joe Guffey to succeed him. Palmer knows that making Guffey National committeeman will destroy the Palmer-Donnelly-McCormick faction but Guffey has a strange hold on Palmer and the rest is plain.

In a statement issued by the Philadelphia charter committee the other day the reason for opposition to the proposed charter revision is clearly revealed. It is shown that within twenty years from 1898 to 1918 the city paid out of its treasury to the Vares brothers the vast sum of \$14,784,681.

The Mayor of Philadelphia has also a considerable interest in the preservation of the present system of government for that community of political slaves. Through the medium of the same statement the public is informed that Mayor Smith's business as the agent of a New York bonding company has increased within the three years he has been in office from about a million and a half of dollars to the enormous total of nearly nine millions.

It may safely be predicted that there will be no charter revision for Philadelphia during the present session of the Legislature which might impair Senator Vares' drag on the city treasury or the Mayor's monopoly of the bonding of municipal officials and contractors.

Of course the radicals will object but it may safely be said that William Howard Taft is nearer to the Republican nomination for President in 1920 than any man in sight.

It may be all right to take all the traffic will bear as a rule but in levying indemnity on Germany it would be well to fix the sum within the limit of money in sight.

The Senators who are opposing the League of Nations may be able to live it down but they will have a long period of uncertainty to go through.

Everything Goes to the Governor. The surprising deference which the Senators and Representatives in the Legislature show for the Governor is attracting popular notice as well as curious comment.

No Danger of Defeat. There is no occasion to worry over the fear that the League of Nations will fail because a considerable number of Senators have declared they will vote against it.

The Baying of the Houn' Dog. One of the chief opponents of the League of Nations is Senator Reed, of Missouri, Democrat.

Treachorous Work of Republicans.

The efforts Republican newspapers are making to justify the filibuster in the Senate at the close of the session of Congress would be amusing if the result were less serious.

The sole and whole purpose of the filibuster was to embarrass the government in its legitimate operations. Just as Jefferson Davis and Robert Toombs undertook to cripple the government in 1861 the Republican Senators proceeded at the close of the recent session of Congress.

If either branch of the new Congress had a Democratic majority the Republican Senators would have no desire for an extra session. The first Monday of December, the time fixed by law nearly a hundred years ago, would have been early enough for the assembling.

Reason Against Charter Revision. In a statement issued by the Philadelphia charter committee the other day the reason for opposition to the proposed charter revision is clearly revealed.

Wise Exercise of Liberty. Most Pennsylvanians will cordially endorse the plans of the State authorities to make a proposed memorial bridge at Harrisburg, the finest structure of its kind in the world.

Government control of production and service is justified only when it results in keeping prices down.

An Expensive Habit. Habit is second nature. Why did our short-sighted parents, when breakfast bacon was twenty cents a pound, let us get into the habit of eating the stuff?

Peace Assured. Representatives of nine circuses are meeting in Chicago to plan next season's campaign.

Can Fill Some Orders, Anyhow. If the League of Nations cannot prevent war, it can at least guarantee that those insisting on war will get all they want.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The salary of Federal Judge C. B. Witmer has been increased from \$6000 to \$7500 a year.

The first outbreaks of smallpox to be reported for some time have been announced by the State Department of Health. Four cases have been found at Carbondale, two being nurses in an emergency hospital. The disease has also appeared at St. Marys.

One of the largest awards yet made in the first district bureau of working men's compensation, has been given by Referee Jacob Snyder, in Jefferson county. In the case of Assunta Sorelli against the Corbet Coal company and the Ocean Accident and Guarantee company, the award to the widow was \$6100.31.

John Kreider, of Kratzerville, regained his sight recently after being blind for seven years. He had been struck in one eye by a chip while cutting wood. The eye had to be removed and the sight of the other member was lost. Recently, while standing at a window, he suddenly realized he could see. His vision has completely returned.

Over four hundred camp sites have been granted by the State Forestry Commission for summer outing, fishing and hunting camps for clubs, associations, schools and individuals on state lands. The number has increased rapidly in the last few years. The use of the sites is given for ten years subject to certain regulations as to use of fire and firearms.

P. M. Sharpless, the millionaire manufacturer of Chester county, slandered Dr. Bayard Kane, of West Chester, and twelve good men and true, sitting in judgment, said in their verdict the doctor shall receive \$8,000. Millionaires should be more careful in speaking of their fellow-citizens. The verdict in this case was the largest ever given for slander in the Chester county courts.

Marvin Hayes, sheriff of Jefferson county, has been notified by the Pittsburgh police bureau that Paulino Polischio has been arrested there, charged with the murder of Tony Guillo, at Paradise, November 7, 1918. Polischio disappeared after the death of Guillo, which a coroner's jury decided was caused by accidental discharge of a gun held by Polischio and the latter, at the time of his arrest, did not know that he had been exonerated.

According to the will of the late M. Kay Watkins, of Mt. Carmel, which has been probated at the office of the register and recorder, Northumberland county, the Old Fellows' orphanage, east of Sunbury, will receive the sum of \$1000. The deceased also bequeathed \$6000 for a new Methodist parsonage and \$5000 for a fund for the establishment of a suitable home for Mt. Carmel boys. He also willed large sums to other church and charitable institutions.

J. A. Goon, proprietor of the Woodland hotel, in Clearfield county, has been placed under \$15000 bail to answer a charge of manslaughter at the next term of criminal court in that county. He was arrested last week on a warrant taken out by the district attorney, which alleges that Goon ejected Albert Reposi from his hotel on January 27th, and then struck Reposi, causing him to fall on the concrete sidewalk in such a way that his skull was fractured and death ensued several days later.

The office of commissioner of Potter county does not seem to be a healthy job. August Noek died in office. H. J. Theis, who was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of the deceased, who has filled three years of his elective term, has resigned because of ill-health, and Judge Heck has appointed Philip J. Meine, of Galeton, who is asking for the Democratic nomination for the office in Potter county. It would have been fairer to all candidates to have appointed some one not an aspirant for the office.

In an opinion that will be of interest in every county in the State, Judge Whitehead, of Lycoming county, decided against James A. Applegate, who sued to recover \$545 for 109 days' work as clerk to the board of County Auditors. The County Commissioners opposed payment of the claim on the ground that a clerk was unnecessary and the court sustains this contention, admitting the plaintiff "was honestly employed" and "faithfully and well performed his labors; but it must not be forgotten that these labors were the labors or work for the doing of which the County Auditors were elected."

While on his way to the electric railway station in Scranton to take a car for Clark's Summit and the Hillside Home on Monday morning, Harry Condon, 32 years old, of that city, dropped into the postoffice and called for mail. He was given a letter from an aunt in Syracuse, N. Y., which apprised him that he had come into about \$1000 willed by a relative who died recently. When Condon received the unexpected fortune he had twelve cents in his pocket and a one-way ticket to the poor-house. The same letter which notified him of his good luck also contained an invitation to go to Syracuse and make his home with his aunt. He left for Syracuse on Tuesday instead of going to the poor-house.

Misses Irene Bauman, Kathryn King and Ruth Packer, three Lockport girls, pupils of the Lock Haven High school, pulled into the river Saturday afternoon, near the Lockport shore, while crossing the stream in a row-boat, and at least two of the girls would likely have been drowned but for the timely efforts of William Bauman. The girls were being rowed to the north side by Lloyd Bauman. When near the shore the girls stood up in the boat, which tilted, and they were thrown into the water, which is quite deep at that point. One of the number managed to reach shore, but the other two were going down for the third time when Bauman, hearing the cries of the girls, ran from his home, and plunging into the river, saved them.

Walter D. Hines, Director General of Railroads, is defendant in a unique lawsuit entered in the Blair county court, in which Mrs. Cora A. Kuhn, widow of Peter Kuhn, seeks to recover \$2400 awarded her after her husband had been killed. The case was not paid because the railroad authorities contended she had no claim. Kuhn was employed as a freight brakeman by the Pennsylvania Railroad and while on his first trip on a train between Altoona and Blairsville, became mentally deranged and was locked in a cabin car by the conductor. He escaped, wandered on the tracks and was killed. The railroad's claim adjuster allowed the widow \$2400 damages, but the Pennsy's legal department disapproved. It is held in the bill that Kuhn's mental trouble was due to the motion of the train and his death therefore was an accident due to the nature of his employment.