

Well, nobody ever accused the Italians of being too modest.

This and next week Centre county's corn crop will be planted.

Anyway the Pennsylvania Legislature does less harm the more it loafs.

If Holland refuses to give up the Kaiser why all we can do is take Holland too.

A man never finds himself completely tied up until he gets to the end of his string.

Rains are essential of course, but they do add a lot to the miseries of a man who has to mow his own lawn.

May is half gone, June will soon be here and, come to think of it, it is only two hundred and twenty-three days until Christmas.

The North ward team having gotten away to a victorious start in the Red Cross baseball league we are constrained to remark that the fight is on.

The new fad of the girls, that makes a sweater worn without a waist under it quite the swaggiest thing, may be chic but it looks more like "chicken."

The Salvation Army is asking Centre county to give it seven thousand dollars next week and it is up to us to see the doughnut, not the hole in it.

Don't waste too much sympathy on those who are assessed under the luxury tax. There are a good many others less able to pay taxes on necessities.

Germany threatens to cease to exist if forced to accept the peace terms offered her. What a calamity it would be to lose the source of so much kulture.

Germany yelled "enough!" before she got a taste of what Belgium and northern France suffered. The peace terms are, therefore, so much the harder to accept.

The new Congress has convened and the country may expect fulfillment of the many promises that it has been caajoled with during the past eight years.

The problem of the unemployed is being solved by the city of Williamsport through a movement to place more benches around the court house in that place.

The price of beer has fallen three dollars a barrel on the Hazleton market. Brewers in that section have doubtless made up their minds to sell while the sellin's good.

After Austria complies with the peace terms she could mobilize her entire navy on the smallest pond at the Bellefonte fish hatchery and still they wouldn't keep much sunshine off of the embryo trout.

Centre county's welcome home celebration for her soldiers and sailors is to be quite up to the high standard we have maintained in giving lavishly and doing splendidly ever since we entered the war.

Because the women elect to wear tight skirts the council of Youngstown, Ohio, is considering compelling the street car companies of that city to lower the steps on their cars. What a useless waste to gratify a whim of fashion.

What are we going to do for paragraps when peace has finally come, the army is home and the country has gone dry? We should worry. Life surely is just "one d---d thing after another," so something will turn up to furnish food for our pencil.

Mme Eleonor de Cisneros, who offered to kiss every man who subscribed one million dollars to the Victory loan and got twenty-three takers at one meeting in Brooklyn, has gone broke. Pity the poor lady, who can't turn her osculatory charms to her personal benefit.

The Salvation Army is modest. It wants only thirteen million dollars and it wants it next week. Well, gittin's good now-a-days and the lassies of Sully's Army deserve and will make good use of every penny of it, so let your contributions be both generous and cheerful.

It was the prodigious preparation we made for war that brought the war to such an early end after our entrance. Prodigious preparation necessitated prodigious expenditures. Some call it waste, but then they don't stop to calculate what the cost might have been had the war gone for a year longer.

As days pass Italy is seeing things with a broader vision. Her delegates are now actually proposing that they make certain concessions of their demands for territory. Italy always was all right, yet she wasn't just prepared for such a new order of things as the Peace Conference has endeavored to bring about.

The German delegates at Versailles are occupying most of their time writing notes to the "Big Four." They are not the kind of notes that are wanted just now. What the Allies want is one of those "shirt tail" fellows that will guarantee all the payments the Huns are asked to pay for the destruction they have wrought.

The contract for the new highway from Bellefonte to Nittany mountain having been let the summer promises nearly a quarter of a million dollar's worth of new business for this section. Aside from the utilitarian value the good roads movement has other compensations and Centre county has no kick on the share she is getting of all of them.

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Peace Terms Just But Not Hard.

The war seems to have ended too soon. The attitude of the German people with respect to the peace terms indicate that they are not aware they were licked. They suffered none of the horrors of war which were so ruthlessly inflicted on other participants in the conflict.

The German people protest that the peace terms laid down by the Paris Conference are hard. As a matter of fact the terms are, relatively speaking, mild. In the Franco-Prussian war no damage was done in Germany and comparatively few German soldiers were killed.

The German people cannot escape just punishment on the pretext that the war was brought on by the military authorities and the atrocities perpetrated by the army. The business element of the German population and the land owners of Germany encouraged the military authorities to force the war on the world and every atrocity committed during the war was applauded by the German press and public.

The refusal of the court to accept "straw bail" for Bill Haywood, the I. W. W. leader, is not really a great source of regret. It may be disappointing to Bill but the country will get along without him.

Two of a Bad Kind.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, has at least one supporter in his claim that Italy is entitled to the port of Fiume. Prince von Buelow, who was a member of the German cabinet during the early part of the war, declares that the "title of Italy to Fiume is good. Everything in Fiume," he says "is Italian."

Prince von Buelow is probably looking for a safe asylum in which to hide himself when that feature of the peace treaty that provides fit punishment for those responsible for the war and its inhuman cruelties and imagines that taking the side of Italy in its controversy with the United States, Great Britain and France upon the Fiume problem, will provide a zone of safety.

But Lodge has no reason other than partisan bigotry. He imagines that the success of the peace conference will add vastly to the influence and popularity of Woodrow Wilson and he is willing to sacrifice half the manhood of the country to prevent that.

There is probably no foundation for the published statement that Holland will refuse to give up the Kaiser for trial. The chances are ten to one that Holland would willingly give trading stamps to anybody who will take him out of that country.

If you want to help the Bellefonte hospital go to the Academy minstrel show next Thursday night.

Opinions of Two Public Men.

In the esteemed Philadelphia Record of last Saturday there are expressions of two conspicuous public men on topics of present popular concern which are interesting mainly because of contrast. Former President Taft is quoted as saying: "The fact that we had 2,000,000 men in America ready to cross, just as good as those who were across; the fact that we had more airplanes, building, rifles and shells and ammunition coming faster, a deadlier gas ready, were deciding factors in ending the war."

On another page of the same issue Senator Penrose is quoted as saying: "I favor a proper investigation of war expenditures and activities. I do not believe the investigations should be conducted in any spirit of partisanship and full allowance ought to be made for the peculiar conditions prevailing in the crisis of the great war. I would feel rather that the inquiries ought to be conducted on broad lines so that we may know what mistakes, if any, have been made in economical matters, including price-fixing and other regulations, as well as the methods of making contracts and the wisdom of such projects as the housing scheme."

The voice of Mr. Taft expresses the impulses of a patriotic heart, influenced by intelligent understanding of great questions. The voice of Senator Penrose expresses the pernicious hope of a scurvy politician bent upon the promotion of selfish partisan interest at any price. Mr. Taft can see no reason for even complaint. Senator Penrose sees a hope that partisans with the instinct of a ferret may discover some error of judgment or carelessness in execution that will justify criticism. It is admitted that mistakes have been made and in his bigoted mind they have already been magnified into crimes.

Germany was warned long ago that it would be a "dictated peace," and negotiations are barred.

Senator Vare is Happy.

The Legislative mill at Harrisburg has not been making much progress this week. "Absence from the capital of United States Senator Penrose, a dinner to the Governor on Monday night, a base ball game on Wednesday afternoon and the journey of State officials and members of the General Assembly early Thursday morning to Philadelphia to join in the welcome to the 28th division," writes one of the Philadelphia newspaper correspondents, "are among the many reasons for marking time in both branches this week."

As has been indicated in these columns before the Legislature was aimlessly dilly dallying until Senator Penrose butted in three or four weeks ago and forced something like activity into the indolent membership. He had an axe to grind, of course, and the only available instrument for accomplishing the purpose was the legislative grindstone. Senator Vare was becoming increasingly troublesome and the only remedy is destruction. Accordingly Penrose went to Harrisburg and entered upon the task. The Governor thrust a sprag into his wheel here and threw a monkey wrench into his machinery there. But in three weeks of strenuous endeavor he achieved much. Then his energies were diverted to another source of annoyance. His political fences in Washington were set on fire and he had to go there to extinguish the flames.

But his absence from Harrisburg played havoc with his plans in Pennsylvania for the Legislature has relapsed into the state of lethargy from which he had retrieved it. All his friends appear to have laid down and the Governor has ordered a complete reversal of his work and a possible reversal of the legislative policy. Meantime the country Members are becoming restive over the prolongation of the session. Under the law after the hundred days have expired they get no recompense for remaining in session and as a rule they believe that the laborer is worthy of his hire "whether his services are of value or not. This is the outstanding situation at present. And Vare is enjoying it to the limit.

Big Fight Impending.

At the assembling of Congress next week there is likely to be staged in Washington the most cruel war of modern times. Senator Borah, a blatherskite from Idaho, declares that he will not consent to the election of Senator Penrose to the chairmanship of the committee on Finance, traditionally the highest office in the body. Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, and Senator Norris, of Nebraska, are said to entertain the same views on the subject and Senator Johnson, of California; Senator McNary, of Oregon; Senator Jones, of Washington, and Senator Cummins, of Iowa, are in sympathy but not willing to go the limit. Senator Penrose is entitled to the office by rules in force "since time out of mind."

Senator Simmons is the present capable chairman of the committee. Being a South Carolinian and a Democrat he naturally expects to be demoted upon the reorganization next week but is probably willing to continue in the event of the failure of the opposition to muster strength enough to oust him. If Borah, Kenyon and Norris vote against him or withhold their votes, Penrose will not be elected for one absent Republican Senator with those Senators not voting will leave the Republican candidate with less than a majority. On the other hand Penrose is said to have declared that rather than let these recalcitrants control the election he will vote for Simmons and thus secure his reelection.

The importance of this contest, however, is not in the persons immediately concerned. It lies between the predatory corporations and special interests on one side and the low tariff and anti-corporation Republicans on the other. The corporations want Penrose for the reason that with him in the office there would be a hope for the restoration of all the sources of graft which excessive tariff legislation promotes. They freely offer any amount of slush funds which the Republican organization requires for the ensuing Presidential campaign and threaten to withhold their contributions if this expectation is defeated. That is the significant feature of the fight and lines the machine with Penrose.

Senator Cummins is already exercising the functions of chairman of the committee on Interstate Commerce though he hasn't been commissioned as yet and if he continues to monkey with Penrose may never be.

Considerable curiosity was manifested on Wednesday by a sight of Burgess W. Harrison Walker and chief of police Harry Dukeman measuring the principal streets of the town with a tape line. The object is very manifest. Last week the "Watchman" told of Burgess Walker's determination to break up the speeding habit within the borough and in order to do so council has granted him the right to import a stranger as traffic officer, whose special duty it will be to catch violators of the automobile laws of the State and borough. The very fact that the Burgess himself assisted in measuring off the speed traps may be taken as a hint that if his special officer is not already in Bellefonte he will be pretty soon, and this is a hint to automobilists to keep within the rules and regulations or some of these days they are liable to get a little notice to appear before His Honor and settle.

Naturally Senator LaFollette is opposed to the League of Nations. We have every reason to believe that General Hindenburg is of the same mind on that subject. It is a pro-German weakness.

Col. J. L. Spangler left on Monday afternoon for Chicago where as a member of the United States commission to adjudicate labor troubles between employers and employees he went to meet with the other members to arrange a scale for the big packing concerns and their two hundred thousand workmen. Just about a year ago the commission was appealed to settle the labor trouble that threatened to interfere with the packers making good on their contract to furnish one thousand car loads of meat, etc., a day to the government, and the arrangement they made at that time proved so satisfactory to both sides that the commission has been asked to lend its assistance in completing arrangements for another year.

It is said that the German delegates at Versailles are standing on President Wilson's Fourteen Points. But if they refuse to sign they will be standing on their heads in the near future.

Those who won the war will make the peace and neither the German delegates in Versailles nor the Republican Senators in Washington had anything to do with winning the war.

For high class Job Work come to the "Watchman" Office.

Sic Transit Gloria Mundi.

From the Philadelphia Record. Less than fifty years spans the period between the greatest glory of Germany and its present position. It is a humiliation deeper than that of any considerable nation in history. In 1871, with its iron-shod boots trampling the third of its victims in seven years, Prussia erected itself into the German Empire and placed the imperial crown upon its brutal forehead in 1919 it listens to a decree of dissolution, disarmament and disgrace.

What it took from France, and much of what it took from Denmark and Poland, is restored to its victims in wars that turned its head and made it the bandit of the world. Its army and navy are to be reduced to the dimensions of a modest police force. Its western front is to be left without defenses. Its colonial empire has disappeared. The greater part of its merchant marine will be taken to pay in kind as far as it goes the penalties it must toil for a generation, perhaps for a century, to pay a pecuniary penalty the full dimensions of which are not stated, but must be accepted in blank, and the first installment of which is four times as great as the unprecedented ransom it extorted from prostrate France.

Its former Kaiser, now a fugitive from his country, which has disowned him, must stand trial for crimes against civilization, and his subordinates must go before the bar of alien courts on charges of specific violation of international law.

Yet the peace treaty is not one of vengeance, but of justice. It lies between the predatory corporations and special interests on one side and the low tariff and anti-corporation Republicans on the other. The corporations want Penrose for the reason that with him in the office there would be a hope for the restoration of all the sources of graft which excessive tariff legislation promotes. They freely offer any amount of slush funds which the Republican organization requires for the ensuing Presidential campaign and threaten to withhold their contributions if this expectation is defeated. That is the significant feature of the fight and lines the machine with Penrose.

Yet, not as a matter of expediency, but as a matter of justice, it is open to question whether it is wise to keep Germany struggling for a generation or half a century to pay what it owes. But Germany has no right to object. It cannot undo the wanton harm it has done. It can never pay for the suffering it has caused. The nation as well as the Kaiser made this war, and whether or not the penalty is greater than Germany can bear, it is not greater than Germany deserves.

Napoleon and the Kaiser.

On the bleak and altogether uninteresting island of St. Helena 98 years ago, Napoleon Bonaparte, the great military genius of France, was passing the last days of his life upon this earth. May 5, 1821, he died. His body is now in his beloved France, and descendants of the people whom he misguided during his ambitious and graphic career go to his tomb and pay due and willing reverence. Ninety-eight years after the death of this great Frenchman, the leader of another great nation is in exile, not far from the land of the people whom he also misguided, misused and falsely led in the blind and futile role of their consecrated head. In his self-appointed exile, William Hohenzollern cannot be compared to the great Napoleon. The only comparison that can rightfully be made is that each of these rulers of a great people became obsessed with the mad desire to extend his rule to the uttermost ends of the earth. But this modern blood-thirsty ruler of the German Empire, who wrecked his kingdom and himself, is, in a sense, just as much an exile today as ever Napoleon was.

Anent the Soldier Vote.

One of General Wood's most enthusiastic boomers makes the prediction that he "will have the solid soldier vote." "There ain't no sech animie!" We doubt if there ever was in this country "solid soldier vote" even among those early fighters for our liberties whom we like to believe unanimous worshippers of their commander-in-chief and the Father of His Country. It is certain that the soldiers coming back from overseas now show no zeal for any of the political faith of any of the fighters under him. Most of our men were voters—or prospective voters—following in their fathers' footsteps—before they became fighters, and when they put on their "civies" again they'll be the same sort of voters.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The Bethlehem Steel company has planted 60,000 pine trees at Corwall, to beautify a neighborhood.

Earl Jearson and Guy Calkins were arrested in McKean county for fishing out of season and on Sunday. The fines and costs, for these early sportsmen footed \$65.75.

Modern machinery has its disadvantages. Edmund Whitelaw, of Crosby, is in the Bradford hospital recovering from injuries received when his clothing caught in the revolving shaft of a farm tractor.

Dependent over recent illness, Mrs. Ida Blecker, of Danville, committed suicide by hanging. Her lifeless body was found suspended from a joist in the cellar of her home by neighbors who made a search for her.

Thieves forced an entrance to a Tomwanda meat market last week, took several pieces of jewelry from the safe, \$250 from the cash register and overlooked \$500 in bills in the safe drawer, this latter likely paid in, by some belated customer.

Announcement was made last week by the Susquehanna silk mills, with general offices in New York, that it will build a \$200,000 plant at Milton, to replace the plant now there, which employs 200 hands. The new plant when in operation will employ from 400 to 600 hands.

The R. & H. Simon Silk company is about to begin extensive improvements on its mill in Easton, which was built, it is said, the expenditure of about \$300,000. It is planned to erect two additional one-story brick buildings, one to be 125 by 230 feet, and the other 115 by 170 feet.

Montandon wants a postmaster. Since Frederick G. Garber, who held the position for six years, resigned, the place has gone a-begging. No one seems to want it, although the place pays \$800 annually. An examination was held on Saturday but no appointment has yet been made.

A suit for \$50,000 damages has been filed for Arpad Kaneco, aged five, by Charles Kaneco, his father, of Bethlehem, against the Bell Telephone company of Pennsylvania, for injuries sustained by Arpad Kaneco, when knocked down and run over by a vehicle belonging to the defendant company.

Woods Rich, of Woolrich, had a narrow escape from death in the flooded Susquehanna Sunday night when lights from another car blinded him, causing him to lose control of the machine which he was driving. The car jumped the bank above McElhattan and plunged partly into the stream. He was bruised and suffered strains in the neck. The car was badly damaged.

Twenty years ago, Falls Creek, DuBois' interesting suburban village, was an interesting town. Two big glass factories were being built, car shops were contemplated, steel mills were looked for, big stores were being built and things were humming. As soon as the town lots were sold, however, and building enterprises ceased, the town went on the blink, where it has remained since.

Mrs. Anna Guelich Heisey, Clearfield county's oldest resident, quietly celebrated her 103rd birthday, on Monday of last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George H. Hall, near Clearfield. Among those seated at dinner with her were her brother, Henry Guelich, aged over ninety years; her son-in-law, George Hall, past ninety-one years of age, and her daughter, Mrs. Hall, aged eighty-nine years.

Peter Smolak, of Kulpman, Northumberland county, found guilty of the first degree murder of his wife and sentenced to die in the electric chair at the Rockview penitentiary, has evidently been overlooked by Governor Sproul's secretary in fixing the dates for the execution of murderers. Smolak was found guilty last September and refused a new trial, but as yet he does not know when his turn to die will come.

When Joseph Munster, assistant mine foreman at the Phoenix Park colliery, Minersville, was married in November, 1905, a gypsy fortune teller who read his hand predicted his bride would present him with eighteen children. During the week the tenth child was born and Munster is beginning to believe the gypsy was conservative. He is very proud of his big family, though admitting it is a great responsibility for one man to take upon himself in these times.

Amos S. Fishel, a widely known Adams county farmer, is dead at his home near Ardenville as the result of injuries received Sunday afternoon, when he was attacked by a bull. He was tossed by the animal for some minutes before his wife and son were attracted by the noise and beat off the bull with shovels. Mr. Fishel suffered great loss of blood through the main artery in his right leg being struck. First aid given by his son, Emory Fishel, formerly in the medical corps of the army, prolonged his life many hours.

The Ferguson Packing company of Johnstown, Pa., is a new organization capitalized at \$250,000. At the head of it is C. L. Ferguson, one of the city's leading financiers and church men. The company, which will employ fifty men in the packing business has bought the Germania brewery, which formerly employed twelve men. In transforming the brewery into a packing house the boilers, generators, compressors, etc., have been left intact. The other machinery has been changed and an additional building is being erected.

That western Pennsylvania may have another tuberculosis sanitarium has been intimated by Colonel Edward Martin, State Commissioner of Health. The sanitarium at Markleton, Somerset county, which was used by the government during the war and which was returned recently to private ownership may be taken over by the State for use in caring for tuberculosis patients. Colonel Martin made an inspection of the hospital lately and admitted that there was some ground for the reports that the institution would be taken over by the State. The State now controls three tuberculosis sanitariums, Mount Alto, Cresson and Hamburg.

Pennsylvania state constabulary, detectives of Allegheny and Beaver counties and Pittsburgh police are searching for the persons who late Sunday brought down a balloon containing two United States naval officers with high power rifles near Baden, Pa. The bag was piloted by Lieutenant Robert Howarth and Ensign Wm. White, of the Akron, Ohio, naval reserve training station and was one of seven balloons which started from Akron Sunday in a race to the Atlantic coast. According to the police the shooting occurred near Beaver, Pa. The first bullet struck Ensign White's cap. Then a fusillade of bullets tore the gas bag but the pilots opened the safety valves and succeeded in landing near Baden without accident.