

—Surely Jess Willard proved the big dub.

—How about that coal pile for next winter and a thought or two about Christmas shopping.

—There is always a fly in the farmer's dumpling. Now his barn isn't large enough to hold his crops.

—The President is home again and those wilful Congressmen are among the few who are not glad to see him.

—Flying across the Atlantic has been shown to be practical, but as yet no one has essayed to walk across the pond.

—Bugologists tell us that it is the lady mosquito that does the biting. Another evidence of the amiability and harmlessness of the male being.

—The only unfortunate thing about the Willard-Dempsey fight was that Willard didn't stand up long enough for Dempsey to give him the good beating he deserved.

—The President will tell Congress all about his work abroad today and what he will have to say will be plenty to put an effectual quietus on the mouthings of Borah, Sherman, et al.

—Jess Willard was an unpopular heavy weight champion anyway so that there were really very few devotees of the "manly art of self defense" to regret his ignominious knock-out.

—The date of the fall primaries has been changed, by legislative enactment, from September 17th to September 16th. While this will cut the campaigning opportunity of candidates down one day the public will be duly thankful.

—If the stories of the crew of the R-34 in anyway describe the comforts aboard a dirigible in a flight over the Atlantic it will probably be a long time before physicians are prescribing that kind of a sea voyage to patients in need of rest.

—Farmers of Centre county are offering the highest wages ever heard of for harvest hands but the lure of good money and good food seems to have scarcely enough pull to get enough men into the fields to insure the prompt handling of the crops which are unusually large.

—The "Watchman" was right, two weeks ago, when it expressed the belief that the President wouldn't interfere with the operation of the war time Prohibition law. When Congress undertakes to pass the buck to President Wilson it will have a man's sized job on its hands.

—With the installation of a powerful radio station near Bellefonte we will be able to keep our friends in Lock Haven right up to the minute on information concerning the activities on the government's big aviation fields at such regular towns as Bellefonte, New York and Chicago.

—The results of bone dry legislation are already making themselves felt to telephone companies in large cities where the receipts for long distance talks have fallen off amazingly. It is ascribed to the lack of booze that made men and women talkative to the point where they called up friends in all parts of the country for some damfool conversation.

—An exchange observes that "listening to the noises of the night is a fascinating employment." So it is. But it isn't nearly as fascinating now as it was a few weeks ago when we could lie in bed and wonder whose heels they were that were "hittin' hard" as the various souses wended their circuitous ways home in the wee sma hours of the morning.

—The French offered \$300,000,000 for property inventoried at \$1,500,000,000 which our army thinks would be better sold abroad than hauled home. Of course the French didn't get it and if they are wondering why they might study American character long enough to discover that for principle we give billions, but in business we do things in a business like way.

—The Department of Agriculture advises us to stop saving meat because a crisis confronts the meat industry if more of it isn't consumed. The crisis that confronts our own pocket books each time we walk into a butcher shop is the one that shocks us most and if the meat industry wants to avoid one let it put prices down to a point where people can buy enough to keep themselves and it both going.

—The former Crown Prince declares that the Allies can have only his dead body. Inasmuch as his life hasn't been and wouldn't be very useful to any nation his hide would be all that is really desirable, for what a splendid object lesson to would be autocrats it would be if nailed to the same barn door in France on which his atrocious murderers impaled soldiers who were fighting to make the world free.

—The reception given a socialist soap box orator in Columbia Monday night was exactly what he deserved. Firebrands of that order should be trampled on at once and not given the opportunity to sow the seeds of disloyalty to country and destruction to society that their disordered minds nurture. Intelligent men and women of our country are responsible, more than they know, for just such types as was mobbed in Columbia for they have been teaching them for years something that they have been unable to comprehend with the result that they have made anarchists and not socialists out of them.

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Looting Begun in Washington.

Between the day that Congress declared a state of war with Germany and that upon which the armistice was signed vast sums of money were spent by the government of the United States, at home and abroad. The enlistment and equipment of an army of four million men and the transportation of half that number across the sea, were expensive operations and the organization of the navy and air services were equally costly. As Admiral Sims has said, some of these operations necessarily involved extravagance for the reason that speed was more important than price. But in all these activities there has not been even a suspicion of corruption. There may have been blunders but there was no plunder.

Between these two periods of time there were safe Democratic majorities in both branches of Congress. Those in control of the preparations as well as the operations of war were influenced by the single purpose of serving the country. Money might have been saved at the expense of lives but it was deemed advisable to save the lives. The country was rich in resources and life is precious as that conservation was directed toward the man power of the country. But the vast business of the country was conducted without scandal. Graft found no opportunity even in the hurry of the work to plunder the public and loot the treasury. The transactions of the administration were strictly honest.

With the restoration of Republican control of Congress, however, a changed condition is revealed. The lobby "has resumed business at the old stand," and the sacred work of curing the sick and injured of the war is tainted by a trail of corruption. In other words, a ten million dollar graft has been discovered in the Speedway hospital of Chicago, a memorial institution, which the Republican machine in Congress is trying to take over for the loot that may be got out of it. An ex-Congressman from New York appeared as the head of the lobby and though the Secretary of the Treasury remonstrated vigorously the steering committee of the House managed to commit the party to the sinister scheme.

—There are always surprises stored away in the future and the form Lodge and Knox will put their apologies in, after they really wake up, is a rich source for conjecture.

On Its Last Legs.

If there is such a thing as a "blessing in disguise" the election of a Republican Congress last fall was that sort of a favor to the Democratic party. It is not likely that the voters of the country would so soon after a successful war turn down the party that conducted it in the Presidential election next year. But voters are traditionally forgetful as well as ungrateful and if the Democrats had carried the Congressional elections in 1918 they might have made blunders that would cause their defeat in 1920. But they were saved that menace by the Republican victory then for that party has blundered so egregiously that it hardly hopes for victory next year.

In all the history of American politics stupidity has never before been shown as frequently and densely as that revealed by the Republicans since the opening of the present Congress. Probably the unexpected result of the elections last fall "turned the heads" of the present leaders and possibly the loss of old leaders is responsible. In any event there has been such a wild race in the wrong direction that the party is now divided up into half a dozen irreconcilable factions with no man willing to assume the responsibility of leadership. Lodge and Knox have been thrown down completely and Borah and Sherman are in control.

A year ago there were half a dozen or more men of standing willing to accept the nomination of the party for President next year. Now it is doubtful if any man of Presidential stature would accept the sacrifice. General Wood might be willing but with no civil record and a military record without achievement, his nomination would be absurd. Of course former President Taft would not be acceptable to the radicals and his name is the only one in the Republican party which could command respectful consideration at the hands of the people. In fact it may be safely predicted that the Republican party will not survive the election of next year. It has outlived its usefulness.

—The Fourth of July is now a thing of the past, the "Watchman" force have had a vacation and the next thing to look forward to is Labor day and the contemplated celebration that Phillipsburg has in view for that time. The "Watchman" takes this opportunity to bespeak for that town the hearty support of the people of Centre county.

President Wilson's Home Coming.

President Wilson arrived in New York on Tuesday afternoon and was becomingly welcomed by an enthusiastic and appreciative public. He had been absent for about four months engaged in probably the most important service that had ever before devolved upon a President of the United States. It was the first time in the history of the country that a President was absent from the country for a prolonged period and it may never occur again. But it was an epoch making interval in which the Chief Magistrate shattered tradition that he might make perfect history. No man could have accomplished his purposes so well and no right minded citizen will complain of his action.

At this writing the President is preparing to lay before Congress the fruits of his labors while abroad. In his address in Carnegie hall, New York, on Tuesday afternoon, he merely expressed his appreciation of the cordial reception tendered him. In his address before Congress today he will "give an account of his stewardship" while abroad. He will lay before the law making branch of the government, not only the text of the treaty but the details of the labor involved in its creation. He will state what has been done and why it has been done and ask for the ratification of the work and approval of the methods employed. He will challenge the endorsement of Congress as he has already commanded the approbation of the people of the country.

In the performance of this duty to the country Woodrow Wilson will have the cordial support of the American people. No man could do more than he has done to serve the country or do it more unselfishly. He has had no ulterior motive or unpatriotic purpose. The conservation of the interests of the people of the United States was his only concern and while partisans were heckling him at home he was courageously and consistently pursuing his duties and fulfilling his obligations to humanity and civilization. The opposition of the treaty may assert itself for a brief time but it will not endure. Right will prevail and Woodrow Wilson is essentially and everlastingly right.

—The big packers complain that people are not eating much meat these days, but it is their own fault. The appetite is probably as strong as ever but the ability to buy is diminished by high prices.

Unwise Immigration Legislation.

While the country is threatened with a labor famine the proposition to entirely prohibit immigration for a period of from five to fifteen years would seem inopportune. Information from the West indicates grave danger of vast losses to the farmers of that section because of the scarcity of labor and even in Pennsylvania the lure of the unparalleled high wages has not solved the problem. The grain is ripening in the fields and the weather has been ideal. But harvest hands are as scarce as the proverbial "hen's teeth," and there is grave danger that some if not much of the crop will spoil. Moreover these are elements which add materially to the high cost of living.

It is both wise and proper to take precautions against undesirable immigrants. Recent incidents show that there has been laxity in this respect. But it wouldn't be wise to amputate the foot to cure a corn on the toe. There are simpler and safer remedies. Under existing laws if rigidly enforced, undesirable may be kept or deported if they happen or manage to slip in. Desirable immigrants are valuable assets instead of liabilities. It would be folly to deprive the country of eligibles because there are some ineligible anxious to come. That is precisely what the proposed legislation would accomplish if enacted into law. It would be wiser to defeat it in view of the facts.

Since the close of the world war there has been a surprising, not to say alarming, exodus of foreign born residents and citizens. As many as 10,000 have shipped in a day and a high average has been reported since the close of hostilities. Besides the danger of immigration is largely imaginary. All Europe needs men for industrial purposes and the rebuilding of industries and communities will increase rather than diminish the demand for labor abroad. This will necessarily increase wages and entice foreigners here to go back and hold residence there who might otherwise incline to come here. Taking one consideration with another there is little merit in the proposed legislation.

—One of the compensations of the war worth while is found in the fact that hereafter Mr. Hohenzollern will have to pay taxes like the rest of us.

—The possibility of crossing the sea in the air has been fully demonstrated but the experiments have accomplished little else.

Question of Trying the Kaiser.

Mr. Lloyd George, Prime Minister of England, in an address before the British House of Commons the other day, declared that the former Kaiser of Germany will be tried for his crimes against civilization, in London, and he was vociferously applauded. The Kaiser ought to be tried, for no man in all the history of civilization has offended so grossly. The offer of von Buelow and von Hindenberg to take his place and punishment is sentimental and probably insincere rubbish. They have their own sins to answer for and they are sufficient. But nobody can take the Kaiser's place. Punishing another for his offenses would be a miscarriage of justice.

But trying and punishing the Kaiser is like cooking the hare. It is a first essential to get the Kaiser. He is in Holland and though Holland is under no moral or legal obligation to protect him from just punishment, she is equally free from legal obligations to surrender him for trial in London or anywhere else. Neither Great Britain nor any other power has a right to compel Holland to give him up. It would be an easy matter for the allies to invade Holland and take the Kaiser by force. But that would be an act of war quite as obnoxious to the principles expressed in the covenant of the League of Nations as the crimes of the Kaiser are to the principles of civilization.

But whether he be tried or not the Kaiser stands convicted in the estimation of the world, of all the crimes charged against him. And the present government of Germany understands this fact quite as well as the people of England or the United States. If those now in authority in Germany didn't know this they would not withhold from the world the evidence which will prove his guilt or establish his innocence. Therefore the present government of Germany should be held responsible in so far as possible for his crimes. Guilt is personal but accessories before or after the fact are culpable and no sympathy should be extended toward Germany so long as Germany shields an arch-criminal.

—The Fourth of July was about as lively in Bellefonte as the average country graveyard that hasn't entertained a funeral in six months. Owing to the fact that Bellefonte had had its big time the week before, and many of the surrounding towns holding celebrations on that day, about every man, woman and child who could conveniently do so left town and the result was a practically deserted village. Many people motored to Fishing creek for the day while a large crowd spent the afternoon and evening at Hecla. Others went to Snow Shoe, Lock Haven and other points to take in the celebrations in those places. But it is quite certain that the few who stayed at home were the most comfortable, owing to the extremely hot weather.

—Reports come to Bellefonte that farmers in Ferguson township and other portions of the county are short of the required help to house their bumper crops of grain and hay. They have offered as high as \$4.00 a day and board for good help but have been unable to secure the men. These are probably the highest wages ever offered for harvest hands in Centre county and the only explanation for the farmer's inability to get the necessary help is the fact that the men who want work and are able to earn those wages are now regularly employed and cannot leave their steady jobs to take a week or two of work on the farm.

—The Republicans are just getting a disappointment after another. Just after Mr. Root had said that he would favor an open agreement between the United States and Great Britain to protect France against German aggression President Wilson announced such an agreement.

—Just as the "Watchman" went to press last evening a telegram was received in Bellefonte announcing the fact that the Governor had signed the bill changing the date of the fall primaries from Wednesday, September 17th, to Tuesday, September 16th.

—Lloyd George was cordially received by the British parliament on his return from the peace conference but men of the type of Borah and Sherman are never sent to the British parliament.

—It may seem like excessive optimism but we still predict that the Senate will ratify the treaty and without any material amendments.

—The covenant of the League of Nations may not be perfect but it is heading in the right direction and that is a virtue not always present.

—The Germans who signed the peace treaty haven't been mobbed as yet and the chances are that before long they will be feasted.

Austria as a Good Sport.

Charlton Bates Strayer, in Leslie's. Austria proves herself a better sport in defeat than her stronger ally. It was the Austrian note, inspired by Germany, that precipitated the war. Austria, as I so many times pointed out was the weak link in the Teutonic chain. It was the Austrian collapse which sealed the doom of Germany. The Austrian republic, the responsible nucleus of the dismembered Austro-Hungarian empire, had to wait six months while Germany was being disposed of by the Peace Conference.

When at last their delegation appeared at St. Germain it was with smiling Dr. Karl Renner at the head. Called before the conference to receive peace terms they came without arrogance or whine. In reply to Clemenceau Renner stood respectfully, in contrast with the seated Brockdorff-Rantzau. Accordingly the "horrible crime of 1914 committed" by the old government, Dr. Renner said: "We are before you as one of the parts of the vanquished empire, ready to assume our share for the consequences of the war, ready to accept each and every proposition you make to us."

The Austrian spokesman acknowledged also the generous relief action organized by Mr. Hoover, on behalf of the Allied powers that had saved the people from downright starvation. The world had no love for the ancient empire of the Hapsburgs. The nationalities that composed it will have to assume their share of the cost of the war, but in paying it they will not labor under the incubus of the world's hatred as will be the lot of Germany.

A Leader of Women.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Doctor Anna Howard Shaw had the satisfaction of witnessing the glory of the coming victory for the cause of woman suffrage, for which all these years she had toiled unselfishly and unaparingly. The cause, in the hour of its triumph, has lost its great leader. Doctor Shaw never knew the meaning either of fear or of despair. She was "baffled to fight better." Her own high-hearted confidence bred courage in those about her.

It was not by the primrose pathway of an easy and luxurious life that Doctor Shaw rose to her conspicuous eminence as a publicist. She had fought a long and bitter battle with adversity and she knew from within the problems of the labor and the wages of women. Therefore she brought to the open forum in debate not the academic views of the doctrinaire but the conclusions that were the fruitage of experience. She was an eloquent and a convincing speaker, inspired by a passion for her subject and easily commanding the facts and figures of her trenchant argument.

Such a leader is not easily replaced. But she would have been the first to insist that the torch of progress should pass unquenched to other hands.

Making Them Americans.

From the St. Paul Dispatch.

The Wisconsin Bridge and Iron company, of Milwaukee, has the right idea. It thinks that a man who cannot speak the common language of the country is neither a good American nor an efficient worker. And so it has taken a very interesting step designed to Americanize its non-English speaking employees. It has arranged with a Milwaukee vocational board to credit all non-English speaking workmen with one hour's pay for every two hours devoted to the study of English. The man who works eight hours at the plant, and who attends a night school two hours in the evening receives pay for nine hours of work. It is very well worth his while to learn to speak English—not only because he is paid for learning, but because any worker suffers a serious handicap who cannot make himself understood in, and cannot understand, the language of the country.

One Never Can Tell.

From the Williamsport Sun.

We read that the aerial mail service is just a year old which reminds us that it was just about one year ago that our friends up Lock Haven way were highly elated over the prospects of securing a landing station for that city. They felt they had put something over the rest of us, but sad to relate it was another case, as a year has developed, of "there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip." We say this, however, in a sympathetic tone because how many of us have not suffered like experiences at some time or other. If we had had any choice in the matter we would likely have made Lock Haven a permanent landing place for mail planes because then the route would undoubtedly have passed over Williamsport which would have given us something more to do than to stroll down to the station to watch the trains go by.

A Kick from Over the Mountain.

From the Phillipsburg Journal.

We do not know why it is, but the State and Centre county officials who have the authority to decide which roads shall receive attention from the Highway Department, evidently fancy that Centre's boundary line is somewhere on the other side of the mountain. As a matter of fact, about the only time Phillipsburg and Rush township are considered a part of the county is when votes are needed. Then we are told we are good fellows and it is a shame we have been neglected so long. There the matter ends.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Rev. Albert Vogel, of Jeannette, aged 102 years, has never smoked or chewed tobacco or drank intoxicating liquor. Hard work, lots of walking with an occasional fishing trip, is the formula he gave on his birthday recently for a long life. Rev. Vogel is the oldest active minister of the gospel in the United States, it is believed.

—Jacob P. Levergood, for seventeen years mail carrier on route No. 2, out of Wrightsville, York county, has resigned. Route No. 2 is the second oldest in that county, and was started by Mr. Levergood, who is now 75 years old, in the spring of 1902. During his seventeen years' experience as a carrier Mr. Levergood traveled upward of 100,000 miles, using a half score of horses and buggies.

—An alleged fake sewing machine repair man is said to be reaping a harvest in Montour county. His method is to carry broken parts with him, ask to see a machine, and carefully substitute the bad piece for a good one. Then he tells the woman of the house, fixes it and collects a big price. The police say that he collected \$17.50 at one house for those "repairs" but decline to give the name.

—Capt. George C. Lumb, acting superintendent of state police, has sent word to the directors of public safety in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh of the thefts of quantities of dynamite at New Castle and Lewistown in the last few days and warning them of the possibility of men having the explosives being abroad. State policemen have been endeavoring to get the trail of the men responsible for the thefts.

—One man was killed and another seriously wounded in a fight among twenty members of an Italian band at Ambridge on Sunday night. Twelve of the participants were arrested by state police. Nick Joy, 48 years of age, of Ambridge, was shot through the heart. The fight, according to the police, followed an argument over who should lead the band, which was to give a concert at Sixth and Glenwood streets.

—Fire of unknown origin which started in a garage early Sunday morning, destroyed the general store of William Bickling, the garage of A. T. Dymond, harness store and dwelling of George Osborne and the blacksmith shop of Harry Heckroth, at Conyngham, a farming village nine miles from Hazleton. The loss is placed at \$43,000, Bickling suffering heaviest with a loss of \$25,000. He carried no insurance.

Members of the borough council of Roaring Springs, Blair county, tired of serving without pay or thanks, voted to pay themselves \$12.50 a month salary they have been receiving since January, 1915. They were under the impression, it is said, that a legislative act of 1917 gave them the authority. Now they have to give the money back to the borough treasury, and a majority of them don't have it to give back, having blown it all in.

—July 18th has been selected as the date for the reunion of the Reformed churches of Central Pennsylvania, to be held at Lakemont Park, Altoona. All members of the Reformed churches in Blair, Bedford, Cambria, Huntingdon, Clearfield, Centre and Clinton counties will be gathered in the park for the reunion, which promises to be the largest ever held by the church. Only one address will be delivered during the day, the speaker to be announced later.

—Robert M. Sheep, one of the best known residents in the rural district east of Milton, ended his life Saturday morning about five o'clock, by shooting himself in the left temple with a .22 short target rifle. When found a short time later by a farm hand he was dead. Mr. Sheep was only 51 years old. The death of Mr. Sheep is thought to be a direct result of the terrific hail storm which apparently centered on his farm a week or more ago. Sixty acres of wheat, thirty-five acres of oats, together with the hay and corn crops on the farm, were crushed to the earth. The loss is estimated at \$4,000.

—Extricating himself from the debris of his automobile which was struck by a Baltimore & Ohio train at the Hopwood crossing, W. H. Cloud, aged about 65, a rural mail carrier out of the Uniontown office, gathered every particle of mail and completed his trip over a twenty-five mile route in the mountain district. At the close of the day he complained of a pain in his right side and other parts of his body. It is believed that he suffered several fractured ribs, besides other cuts and bruises on the body, but he lost less than five minutes through the accident and completed his route on scheduled time.

—Herbert W. Cummings, of Sunbury, president judge of the Northumberland county courts, was rescued from drowning on Saturday by Edward V. Nicely, of Sunbury, a former register of wills and recorder of deeds. The two men were fishing in Penn's creek, near Sellingsgrove, when Judge Cummings hooked a bass. In playing it he slipped off a stone, and was soon floundering in twenty feet of water. Without hesitation, according to friends, Nicely, who weighs more than 200 pounds, jumped into the stream, and after much effort succeeded in pulling the Judge to safety. Cummings was uninjured. The bass did not escape. When the rod was recovered it was found to be securely hooked and when weighed tipped the scales at two pounds.

—Three miners were killed and seven injured when the roof of the O'Neil mine of the Pittsburgh Coal company at Fayette City, fell on them on Monday. Nearly 300 men back of the fall were imprisoned for two hours until the debris had been removed. Almost all of the men with the exception of the victims had entered the mine and were ready to start work. The men who were killed were boarding a mine car to be taken to their places when the accident happened. One of the men had already entered the car. The rock and dirt fell without warning burying three men beneath it. Other men near the mouth of the mine heard the dirt fall and ran to the rescue. Help was summoned and one and one-half hours were necessary to remove the men.

—A mob of 3,000 persons Monday night attacked W. W. Cox, a traveling Socialist, while he was in the act of addressing a labor meeting on a street corner of Columbia, Pa. Cox, after being roughly handled, eluded the crowd, but was later discovered on board a trolley car and dragged to the street where he was severely beaten. Chief of Police Campbell and the town constable, the only police protection in the borough, finally fought their way through the mass and placed Cox under arrest. He was hurried to the town lock-up. With Cox out of its reach the crowd turned its attention to the Socialist headquarters and completely ransacked it. Their work done there, the citizens marched to the home of J. P. Brenner, a prominent Socialist. Constable Blair appealed to the crowd to be calm and promised to place Brenner under arrest.