

—Let us all help swat the tubercular bug.

—Coal is getting scarcer as the weather grows colder.

—Mr. Palmer insists that the cost of living is decreasing but strangely enough the prices of things we live on continue to increase.

—Surprising as it may seem not a single one of our readers has taken advantage of the unprecedented (?) offer made in this column last week.

—Surely the President shouldn't be regarded as a very sick man since he has recommended a simplification of the income tax and excess profits system.

—If you happen to spend a time at Rockview be careful to stay in your own bed if you are sure none of your fellow lodgers has a grudge against you.

—Reduced to the last analysis there isn't as much difference between collective and individual bargaining as there is between going to work and staying hungry.

—There are a good many reasons for the industrial troubles now prevailing in various sections of the country and among them is the idleness of the agitators.

—If those Mexican bandits want to earn the gratitude of the world and cash in on a handsome ransom at the same time, let them kidnap either Carranza or Villa and make the return "dead."

—Senator Lodge admits that he is fighting the President and in that admission probably lies all of his opposition to the peace treaty. What a little man Massachusetts has selected to fill a big chair in Washington.

—Germany has refused to sign the peace protocol, because she thinks the United States is no longer interested in whether she is good or not. She has become quite arrogant since we failed to ratify the peace treaty and, we presume, Lodge, Reed & Co., are correspondingly happy.

—General Leonard Wood will not be the Republican nominee for President if Henry Cabot Lodge, Boies Penrose and a few others who have a habit of puncturing the booms of "favorite sons," can prevent it. They don't want him, for the same reason that they didn't want Roosevelt.

—During this month of December we expect every subscriber to the "Watchman" whose paper is not paid at least six months in advance to write us a letter or call personally and show reasons why he or she should not forthwith relinquish, set over and assign to our use forever one dollar and fifty cents.

—The success that hunting parties have been having during the past two years can be ascribed to the legislation that preserves the deer. Deer have multiplied wonderfully since that act was passed and the most conclusive proof of the statement is found in the fact that now many parties slay more bucks alone in a season than they formerly did bucks and does combined.

—Those who think "we ought to do something about Mexico" had better go and do it and stop croaking around about the government's failure to send some other persons' boy down there to fight greasers. Mexico is a thorn in our flesh, we'll admit that, but when it comes to picking it out with bayonets the people who supply the men behind the bayonets should do the talking.

—Why should Congress worry about whether the President or some one else wrote his last message? It hasn't paid much attention to his previous communications and the probability is strong that it will pay less to this one. There is enough work cut out to keep it busy and if it were to look after that rather than spend its time nosing into the sick room of the first citizen of the land it would command greater respect at home and abroad.

—The "Watchman" this week devotes much of its space to the anti-tuberculosis campaign in Pennsylvania which is now being strengthened by a call for public interest, and contributions through the purchase of Red Cross Christmas seals. We think too little of these things. We are too prone to smile indulgently at the patient, persistent efforts of those who have been working for years to efface the white plague, under the impression that it is only a hobby that gets nowhere. Don't be deceived. The result of this beneficent work is almost incredible. Fresh air, sanitation, prompt treatment of incipient cases have worked wonders, because some one has been harping on them all the while most of us have been unconcerned. Time was when we seldom went onto the streets without meeting one of the stricken victims of this dread malady. Scarcely a public gathering of years ago failed to produce that hacking, awful cough from some quarter of a room. It is the exception now. And why? Simply because the public is being taught that it can be conquered, stamped out entirely and the good Samaritans who have been teaching all these years are calling on you to help a little. This is the season when colds and coughs, unnoticed, run into tuberculosis. This is the season for you to be alert. Help fight it by taking care of yourself and your children, even if you can't contribute to the fund by buying a few seals for your Christmas letters.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION

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Profits of Coal Mine Owners.

The dispute between coal operators and miners will not be settled until the statement recently made by former Secretary of the Treasury William G. McAdoo has been investigated and affirmed or refuted. Mr. McAdoo states that the profits of coal operators are "shocking and indefensible," and have in some instances reached the larcenous proportions of two thousand per cent. The only answer to the charge thus far made, so far as current information goes, is that Mr. McAdoo has been revealing secrets of the government. That is a mighty disappointing response to an exceedingly grave charge. It seems to the average mind like a confession of the truth of the accusation.

Mr. McAdoo's source of information is the statistics of the government with respect to incomes. Such records are certainly not "government secrets." The records of the United States Treasury are public and should be available to any one who has interest in or curiosity about the subject. If they show that the owners of coal mines have been overcharging the consumers of coal to the extent of taking down profits of 2000 per cent. the public has a right to know all about it. The burglar, however successful, has committed no greater crime against the victims of his predatory operations than this and those guilty of it should be held up to popular scorn everywhere.

The demand of the coal miners for a sixty per cent. increase in wages and a six hour day is raw indeed when it is known that they are now being paid, and have been for two years, on a scale entirely out of proportion to what other skilled labor, in the communities in which the mines are located, has received. And the miners' claim that they are really permitted to work no more than six hours a day is wholly without foundation. There are only two things that deter them from working longer: Their own refusal and an occasional shortage of cars at the mines.

Mr. McAdoo's statement is predicated on the profits made in 1917 when coal reached a price of seven and eight dollars a ton, but that was only for a short period and even that inured little to a lot of operators who had contracts for almost their entire production at far lower prices and were honorable enough to fulfill them. It will be recalled that within a very short time after prices began to soar the government stepped in and fixed the price of coal so that profits in 1918 and 1919 have not been so shocking as the public may be led to believe by Mr. McAdoo's half a truth.

He should promptly qualify his recent statement, for as long as it stands the miners will believe that all of the operators are profiteering as a few of them did in 1917 and will remain unreasonable in their demands.

—Of course every man has a right to quit work if he wants to but by the same token the fellow who wants to work has some right to self-determination, too.

Why You Should Support the Red Cross Seal Sale.

The Christmas Red Cross seal sale, which formally began on Monday, December 1st, should have the cordial support of this community as it is a practical means of helping not only the fight against tuberculosis but against other contagious diseases. Tuberculosis causes one-seventh of all the deaths in the world and \$100,000,000 represents the outlay of public and private funds now necessary in caring for tuberculous patients. In Pennsylvania, 10,000 die annually from this disease and the comparative cost to this State for one year as compared with the annual value of certain agricultural products was:

Table with 2 columns: Product, Value. Tuberculosis cost: \$100,000,000. Value of hay and forage (over): \$5,000,000. Dairy products: \$5,000,000. Corn (over): \$20,000,000. Wheat (over): \$10,000,000. Oats (over): \$10,000,000. Orchard products: \$10,000,000. Potatoes (nearly): \$10,000,000. Tobacco (nearly): \$10,000,000.

Seventy-eight per cent. of the money derived from the sale of Christmas seals will be spent in our own community to improve the public health by health education, by modern health crusade work, by care of the tuberculous and such other measures as shall be considered most efficacious by the local committee, co-operating with the state society for prevention of tuberculosis. The modern health crusade work in the public schools is known to our readers through the several reports published in the "Watchman" and has been financed from former seal sales. If you invest in these Christmas seals it means that you are putting money into public health work here at home and no better investment for your money could be found. A cent will buy one seal, \$5, \$10, \$25, will buy health bonds. Clearfield and Huntingdon counties have ordered 300,000 seals, which means \$3,000 for these counties. Don't let them beat Centre county!

Promise of a Pretty Fight.

There is promise of a lovely fight between the Republican factions of Pennsylvania in the near future, if statements recently published in the leading newspapers are dependable. It appears that Mr. Joe Grundy, who is the leading spirit in the Manufacturers' club of Philadelphia, has some real or imaginary grievance against the Hon. William E. Crow, chairman of the Republican State committee, president pro tem of the State Senate and pussy-footer extraordinary for all the factions of the party in the State. Why Grundy should have a quarrel with Crow is inexplicable for Crow quarrels with nobody and works over time and all the time toting olive branches around to compose the differences of others.

But there is a fight on between these distinguished leaders of the Republican machine, and, according to the press reports, it is not only to the knife but to the last ditch, and if we may be pardoned for the solecism, "then some." Grundy being the most liberal contributor to the party slush fund imagines that he ought to have his own way in everything and Crow, being a diplomat as well as a statesman, took issue with him during the last session of the General Assembly on certain measures relating to labor legislation. But Crow manifested a rather strong friendship for Vare in his recent reverses which sort of alienated Penrose and left him exposed to the merciless vengeance of Grundy.

As Sir Roger O'Trigger would say "it is a pretty fight" and if it continues may result in vast improvement in political morals. There is a time honored adage that "when rogues fall out honest men come by their own," and in an alliance between Grundy and Penrose on one side and Vare and Crow on the other, there is presented the prospect of battle that will make Thermopylae look like a Sunday school picnic tennis contest. It is hard to imagine a break between Crow and Penrose, for Crow has been the Penrose cat's paw for many years. But Grundy has been the revenue producer for an equally long period and there you are. "Home without a mother" is a paradise compared with a political machine without a paymaster.

—The King of Italy is talking of making a visit to this country and however he comes he will receive a royal welcome. But he would better come soon or he may come as a private citizen. Crowns are sitting uneasily on royal heads these days.

Indictment of Senator Newberry.

The indictment of United States Senator, Truman H. Newberry, in the Federal court at Grand Rapids, Michigan, seems like a tardy act of justice. Newberry was elected Senator in Congress over Henry Ford, the Democratic nominee, by a small majority, but at great expense to himself or his friends. The sworn affidavits of campaign expenditures showed a total of nearly \$200,000 expended in his behalf. As the law limits the expenditures to less than one-twentieth of that amount, corruption was palpable. But a Senatorial committee instructed to investigate the matter was unable to fasten culpability upon the Senator. The committee sat in New York and the witnesses in Michigan refused to obey summonses.

Because of this obvious miscarriage of justice the Department of Justice in Washington instituted an investigation. The result is the indictment, at Grand Rapids, on Saturday, of Senator Newberry and 133 of his friends and supporters, for conspiracy to defraud and other offenses. Among the accused is Senator Newberry's brother, who admits that he contributed \$99,000.00 to the corruption fund. Others are accused of contributing more than the law allowed, with the knowledge that the money was to be used for illegal purposes and still others are charged with using the money to bribe voters and in other ways debauch the ballot box. It is said the evidence against them is overwhelming.

Last year the Republican leaders set out to carry the Congressional elections then and the Presidential election next year by bribery and fraud. The Newberry orgie was simply an example of their methods. Not only he, but several other Senators and Representatives in Congress were elected by the use of flood-tides of money. It is now asserted that a fund of \$100,000,000 has been subscribed by special interests in the industrial and corporate systems of the country. This is a greater evil than any other menacing. It is an assault upon the foundations of the government. The arrest and prosecution of Senator Newberry may afford the remedy. In that hope the prosecution should be earnest and energetic.

—The only difference between Socialism and Bolshevism is in the spelling.

President Wilson's Message.

President Wilson's annual message, prepared in an invalid's chair, shows the mental vigor of a master mind. He appeals to Congress with the force of an earnest purpose to remedy the evils present and those impending and points the way in plainly laid lines. He asks for the establishment of a budget system for financing the government, an improvement in the tax system, the readjustment of the tariff system, relief for veterans of the recent war, fostering of the infant dye-stuff industry, improvement of conditions for farmers and the adoption of measures which "will remove the causes of political and industrial restlessness in our body politic."

In most of these things he repeats recommendations made at the opening of the special session of Congress more than six months ago which have been ignored for partisan reasons. For example in reference to the relief of veterans he says "I can do no better than quote from my last message." Referring to tariff legislation he declares "I beg to call your attention to the statements contained in my last message." In the matter of food control he says "I renew and strongly urge the necessity of the extension of the present food control act as to the time in which it shall remain in operation." Referring to cold storage he writes, "I also renew my recommendations that the Congress pass a law regulating cold storage," and so on.

All these recommendations have been ignored by Congress during seven months of a do-nothing session because the leaders of the Republican majority in both branches imagined that political advantage would accrue to their party by the continuance of the evils they were intended to abate and the country is suffering because of this perverse policy and criminal neglect of official duty. The President in each instance pointed out the process of correction and in his present admirable message lays down the lines which will lead not only to speedy but permanent relief and enduring restoration of prosperity. He refers to the peace treaty only casually but promises a full discussion of that later.

—Senator Lodge seems eager to renew his fight on the covenant of the League of Nations and he is welcome to all the enjoyment he gets out of it. But he should remember that "pride goeth before a fall."

Senator Lodge's Reasons.

Senator Lodge acknowledges that enmity against President Wilson influenced him to oppose the peace treaty. "I am fighting President Wilson," he said to a Washington correspondent the other day, adding, "that much I am willing to admit." Why he is fighting the President is left to conjecture. It is certainly not because the President has been discourteous to him for the contrary may easily be proved. It can hardly be for the reason that the President has discriminated against Mr. Lodge's party in choosing men for war activities for more than half those selected were formerly Republicans. As a matter of fact the reasons for Senator Lodge's enmity are purely personal.

But the effect of Senator Lodge's enmity against the President was not personal. It was general, national and world-wide. As Senator Lodge in malicious pride stated on the day the special session adjourned, it "killed the treaty" for a time, and possibly placed the United States in the attitude of an "outlaw nation" for a considerable period. It prevented the fulfillment of the hope of the world for permanent peace and the lifting from civilization the burdens of armament and the fears of the horrors of war. It defeated the purposes for which the country engaged in the war and sacrificed thousands of precious lives. It increased popular discontent and prolonged industrial paralysis.

But it served the sinister purpose of feeding the vanity of a contemptible malignant obsessed with the importance of his ancestors and unable to realize the degeneracy of their progeny. It filled the senile mind of a mischievous egotist with a false impression of achievement and an absurd notion of power. That was probably sufficient recompense for him. Noxious growths require little nourishment and Lodge can subsist during the remaining years of his worthless life on the crumbs that may come to him from profiteers of war materials and munition makers. They had a more substantial reason for defeating the peace treaty than he and they owe him for whatever comes to them through it.

—Governor Coolidge, of Massachusetts, made a great hit in his courageous treatment of the policemen's strike in Boston. But it won't get him much favor among the leaders of his own party.

Friday, December Fifth, Designated by Governor Sproul as Tuberculosis Day in the Schools.

"This is everybody's fight," writes Dr. Thomas E. Finegan, State Commissioner of Education, in appealing to 44,000 school teachers in Pennsylvania to bring the tuberculosis fight and the attendant Christmas seal sale to the attention of their pupils on Red Cross Seal day in the schools today, December 5th.

The fight particularly concerns the school of today because its success or failure is of first importance to the community of tomorrow," declares Dr. Finegan.

The commissioner also urges examination of children and proper treatment for youthful victims of the white plague. Dr. Finegan's letter to all school superintendents follows: "Honorable William G. Sproul, Governor of the Commonwealth, has designated Friday, December 5th, 1919, to be observed as Tuberculosis day in the schools of the State. The Governor suggests in the statement made by him that the schools give special instruction in regard to the white plague menace and that the teachers should explain how the public can aid in preventing the spread of this disease and in ultimately stamping it out altogether. The Governor says:

"Only when the public is fully informed concerning its part in the fight against tuberculosis will it be possible to cause the reduction in the annual tuberculosis death rate that those now engaged in the tuberculosis work confidently hope for.

"No State in the union has been more aggressive than Pennsylvania in the fight it has made against tuberculosis. The fact that a nation-wide observance of Tuberculosis day is possible, is, in a considerable measure, due to the influence of the tuberculosis program in our Commonwealth.

"It would be entirely proper to make a powerful appeal to the personal interest and public duty of children in the school and to bring home to every individual some pertinent questions, for example:

"Are you going to be one of the ten thousand Pennsylvanians who die in a year of tuberculosis? Are you willing to be one of the seventy-five thousand sufferers from this white plague? Or are you going to be one of the eight million Pennsylvanians to help stamp out this menace to human happiness in the next ten years?"

"This is everybody's fight. The person who is so negligent or so unfortunate as to contract the disease does not suffer alone. He threatens the life and happiness of his family and his friends. He is a menace to the public on the streets, in public conveyances, in school and church, and at the movie or other places of amusement. The fight, then, particularly concerns the school of today because its success or failure is of first importance to the community of tomorrow.

"Fighting President Wilson."

From the New York World. "I am fighting President Wilson," says Senator Lodge in an interview printed a few days ago. "That I am willing to acknowledge."

This is frank and truthful. Senator Lodge is fighting President Wilson and he has lost sight of everything else. The total cost of every year directly and indirectly has been estimated at \$338,000,000,000 and the number of dead at approximately 10,000,000, and responsible statesmen are everywhere agreed that if civilization does not prevent war, war will destroy civilization; but all this has only an academic interest to Henry Cabot Lodge. What he is concerned about is fighting the President of the United States.

In order to fight the President it is necessary to fight the treaty of peace; it is necessary to add to the political turmoil and confusion of Europe; it is necessary to keep the United States and the rest of the belligerents in a state of war indefinitely and delay every measure of reconstruction.

What Will the Government Do?

From the Philadelphia Record. What the government will do if Mexico still refuses to surrender Jenkins we do not know, and do not choose to guess. But it is not likely that the government sent the last two notes without a perfectly definite plan of action, for Carranza is stubborn as well as stupid, and the refusal of Mexico had to be reckoned with. Of course, the Jenkins case is only one of a long series; if it were alone we would take the word of Mexico, but it is not alone, and we have had too much experience with Mexico's words to trust its good faith or its resources even when it wishes to do right.

—Christmas is less than three weeks off. Are you ready for it?

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mr. and Mrs. Philip Heimer celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Saturday at their home in Beech Creek township, Clinton county.

—Ellis McCracken, a hotelkeeper in Clearfield county was arrested Tuesday on a charge of violation of the wartime prohibition act. He furnished \$2000 bail for his appearance at federal court at Pittsburgh, at the next session. His hotel is located at Madera, Clearfield county.

—For the first time in many years Mifflin county criminal court did not have a jury trial at its regular session two weeks ago, all the jurors being sent home; their services not being required. The county jail is empty and there has not been a prisoner in the city lockup for five months.

—The Brumbaugh distillery in Bedford county, was robbed some time late Sunday night or Monday morning, the thieves making away with three barrels of bonded whiskey. The value of the whiskey is placed at between \$500 and \$600. This is the third time that the distillery has been robbed recently.

—The valuable papers and magazines donated to Juniata College by Mrs. B. E. Africa, of Harrisburg, in memory of the late Hon. J. Simpson Africa, were received a few days ago and are now in the College library, where local historians and others will have the privilege of looking them over for data and information.

—Scores of old horses that have passed their days in usefulness have been killed in Indiana county this fall, by their owners, who skin the animals and sell the hides, at from \$10 to \$15. Too high cost of feed and the possibility of the weather becoming colder most any time as well as the good market for hides is said to be responsible for this move.

—Three officials of the Pittsburgh Sugar company, accused of charging unreasonable wholesale prices for sugar have been held for the May term of the federal district court by United States Commissioner Knox. The bill of complaint alleges sugar was sold wholesale at 13 cents a pound. The men are George L. Dowd, Benjamin Block and E. F. Adams.

—The Rev. George W. Lutz, of Pennsylvania, preacher, editor and orator of the Perkiomen valley, lost his watch. A pig ate it. He was leaning over the fence of a pigpen at a neighboring farm and was commenting on the points of the stock within when his timepiece fell from his vest and into the sty. He discovered the loss just as a healthy porker was taking a final gulp.

—The lobby of the Hotel Weber, of Lancaster, the gathering place for hundreds of farmers and traveling men, was adorned on Monday with signs reading "For Guests Only. Others Pay 10 Cents." Samuel R. Weber, proprietor of the hotel, said since prohibition became a guest at his house "the gang" had moved from the bar to the lobby, and that hereafter chairs in his lobby will be rented for a dime.

—In memory of fallen soldiers and sailors from York city and county in the world war, trees are being planted along the Lincoln highway by the Woman's club of York. The first was planted at the residence of Mrs. Ralph S. Cannon. It is planned to plant about 2,500 of these trees and permission has already been granted by property holders along the Lincoln highway from Wrightsville to the Adams county line.

—More than a million dollars will be distributed this month to the school districts of the State, mainly to the smaller and rural districts. Payments of the warrants has been progressing at the State Treasury, although not many of the cities have received their funds. The State board will meet this week to complete the investment of state funds in the state's own road bonds.

—With the rise in prices of furs of all kinds, a number of Lancaster countians have started skunk farms. There have been several small skunk farms in that county for a number of years, but, with prices in New York going as high as \$9 per skin, some farmers have come to the conclusion that the profit outweighs the risks. They claim that after a short time the skunks become as tame as tabbies, and that they can be fondled without danger.

—The State Supreme court on Monday dismissed the petition of Daniel S. Brumbaugh, recently defeated for mayor of Altoona on the face of the returns, asking for a certiorari and an immediate hearing in the election case. The court also dismissed a petition by Brumbaugh asking for a mandamus on Judge Baldrige, of Blair county, directing him to order a recount of the returns of the election. The certificate of election will now be issued to Charles E. Rhoads.

—While Harvey Varner was crossing the mountain at Blacklog, Juniata county, he saw an animal that resembled a fox go in to a hole among some rocks. Getting a stick he poked into the hole and a wildcat came out with a blood-curdling yell and struck at his face. Varner thought his time had come. Fortunately the animal missed him and went down the mountain side at a mile-a-minute gallop. Varner says he is done hunting wild animals with only a stick as a weapon.

—Children may attend school from houses placarded for whooping cough only when they have had the disease. That is to say such children may attend school when the records of their health authorities show that they had whooping cough during some previous school term when they presented to the teacher or principal a certificate from their attending physician, endorsed by the county medical director or the physician of the board of health of the borough in which they propose to attend school stating that they have had whooping cough during the present school year and are fully recovered.

—The trouble was they didn't catch the difference between square feet and feet square, and Pittsburghers who bought land from a suave Texan recently—there are said to have been about 200—would like to see him again. The Texan explained he had bought twenty acres of land at a low price, and it had become immensely valuable through development of the Ranger oil field. He was selling parcels of 400 square feet, not more than that to any one person. The twenty acres were sold in two weeks, buyers paying from \$250 to \$500. The purchasers were chiefly washwomen, chauffeurs and laborers. Each thought he was getting 400 feet square. The Texan gave them that impression, and each expected to become independently wealthy. Now it turns out that each got 400 square feet, and that each parcel is so narrow that an oil derrick couldn't be built on it.