

—We know one Bellefonte who has stuck onions and sowed lettuce already.

—There is no longer any doubt about it. Bellefonte is actually going to have a silk mill.

—The first day of spring was certainly all that the most exacting might have hoped it would be.

—My, what glorious weather we have been having this week and how the ice and snow drifts are disappearing.

—A bag of golf sticks or a fishing pole would feel much better in our fingers today than the pencil we are pushing just now.

—That the attitude of labor is still sane is seen in its intention to re-elect Samuel Gompers as president of the American Federation.

—We fear the Philadelphia Public Ledger will expire if it doesn't succeed in landing Herbert Hoover at the head of the next Republican presidential ticket.

—Philadelphia councils have repealed their recently passed daylight saving ordinance so that the chickens down there can continue to go to bed with the sun—but the kind Philadelphia has most of won't.

—Sims admits that he was indiscreet in saying some of the things he did and probably wouldn't have said anything if he had been well balanced enough to know that everybody has trouble enough without having more needlessly piled on.

—It has been so long since we have seen a policeman steer a souse to the borough lock-up that we almost wish the dry law could be declared off for a day so that the old might not be so speedily placed in the "once upon a time" stories.

—The spring fever microbe is lurking on every street corner and polutes every leaning post in town. If you want to keep your old man or your able bodied son in good working humor keep them so busy that they can't stop long enough anywhere for the germ to get them.

—General Wood has gathered in South Dakota delegates and thereby adds another State to his presidential kite. Again, let us remark, that he may get pretty near, but not enough delegates to make him the Republican nominee. He is not a candidate after the heart of the bosses.

—The peace treaty having been finally rejected by the Senate of the United States the Germans are getting gay again, Ireland is stripping for a revolution, the Spaniards are showing signs of wanting to upset something and the whole world is aflame with unrest. What a mess has been made of all our sacrifices and for this did all those brave boys of ours lay down their lives.

—The fancy price that creameries and condensaries have been paying for milk and butter fat for some time has had a back-set. Exports have been cut off and the supply now exceeds the demand so that this important commodity is on the toboggan back to pre-war prices. The slump has already had its effect on the sale of cows at vendues within the county during the past week.

—So it was Admiral Benson who told Sims we would as soon fight the English as anyone else, if it should prove necessary. Strange, the metropolitan papers didn't play up this interesting revelation like they did Sims' original assertion. Then the administration phobes left the impression that it might later be traced to President Wilson or Secretary Daniels and while they were quick to create a suspicion they are despicably slow to dispel it.

—The "Watchman" cannot let pass the opportunity to express its admiration of the work done by the committee on Near East Relief in Centre county. It was purely an appeal to the hearts of people who have just come through three years of recurrent demands on their resources and that it was so splendidly successful is due primarily to the persistent, yet tactful presentation of the cause by a chairman who not only was the advising head of the committee but a most diligent worker as well.

—Notwithstanding the fact that it is rather a case of heaping coals of fire on the heads of Methodists of the Williamsport district, in which are located the Bellefonte and State College churches, we cannot refrain from congratulating the churches of the Sunbury district for their selection of Prof. Fred L. Pattee, of State College, as their lay delegate to the National Conference. Prof. Pattee is so eminent in literary circles, so earnestly devoted to church activities and sociology that his will be more than passive representation at the coming great conference of Methodists.

—We don't know whether it was the consuming interest of Rev. Scott's sermon or whether she was practicing self-control in anticipation of becoming a voter soon but it is reported as an actual fact that a lady sat through the entire service at the Methodist church a few Sundays ago while a mouse cavorted about in her bonnet. She couldn't understand why the lid wouldn't stay put. It kept dancing about all the time and she was nearly frantic keeping it on straight until she took it off after church and the mouse, that had had a nest in it and didn't have time to vacate, jumped out.

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Conviction of Senator Newberry.

The conviction and sentence of Senator Truman H. Newberry, on the charge of conspiracy to violate the election laws of the United States and the State of Michigan ought to have a wholesome influence on political methods and morals throughout the country. Senator Newberry is a very rich man with aspirations for high political honors. A graduate of the Naval Academy, an officer in the Navy and during the administration of the late President Roosevelt, for a brief period Secretary of the Navy, he must have been acquainted with the laws which he violated. But he entered into the conspiracy, nevertheless, probably confident that his vast wealth would shield him from the consequences.

Senator Newberry may have been himself a victim of circumstances. The Republican leaders throughout the country had determined to reverse the political complexion of Congress at any expense in morals or methods. The Democrats had nominated Henry Ford, the multi-millionaire automobile manufacturer, and it was realized that his election would defeat the plan of the Republican leaders to carry the Senate. It was expected no doubt that Mr. Ford would spend money lavishly to gratify any Senatorial ambition he may have had. Newberry was possessed of nearly equal resources and a much greater capacity for spending and was induced to run for the office. The evidence shows that he spent nearly a million dollars in the campaign.

It turned out that Mr. Ford spent money sparingly but the voters of the State had such confidence in his integrity and patriotism that his election seemed certain. He is an idealist and before the United States became involved in the war was a pacifist. But the menace to the country aroused his patriotism and he practically turned all his resources over to the service of the government without price or promise of reward. His record as an extensive employer had drawn the friendship of wage earners, moreover, and though the party he represented was an insignificant minority in Michigan, the signs pointed to his election. Mr. Newberry undertook to stem the tide by dumping large sums of money into the channels of corrupt politics.

It was a fatal mistake and his sentence to two years in prison and a fine of \$10,000.00 is a just penalty for his folly. The Senatorial toga is an adornment which he coveted, no doubt. But Senatorial togas are not commodities for sale in the market. They are tokens of honor to be given in reward for distinguished service to the country. In the State of Michigan this fact has not been appreciated hitherto. Vast fortunes acquired by profiteering in timber and other essentials have been employed too frequently out there to buy civic preference and it is to be hoped this event will bring a change. Senator Newberry says he will not relinquish his purchased seat. But he may change his mind about that.

Gifford Pinchot still wants to be a delegate to the Republican National convention but he is not likely to fight Penrose there or elsewhere. In fact he may entertain the body by publicly eating out of Penrose's hand.

The Paris newspapers blame President Wilson for the failure of the Senate to ratify the peace treaty which makes the rest of the world wonder what sort of men Paris editors are.

Senator Lodge has had his fling but the people will speak on the subject in November and the refrain will sound like "Oh for a Lodge in some vast wilderness."

Mr. Bryan probably imagines that there would be honor in posing as the "beardless" leader. He has overworked the peerless role.

No matter who else resigns from the Cabinet Secretary of Labor Wilson may be depended upon to stay until he gets another job.

Governor Sproul is trying to please the Vares and satisfy Penrose at the same time but is meeting with poor success.

That little event in Berlin last week can hardly be called a revolution. Anyway it failed to kapp a climax.

Did you see the aurora borealis on Monday night? If you didn't, you missed one of the most brilliant pyrotechnical displays nature has staged in the sky in some years. According to those who were fortunate enough to see it they aver that it was at its best about two o'clock in the morning.

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Colby's Nomination Confirmed.

The confirmation of Bainbridge Colby as Secretary of State indicates that the Lodge wrath against the President is at least partially appeased. The nomination was held in the Senate committee on Foreign Relations for more than a month, though the business of the State Department suffered materially because of the delay. Secret hearings were held and an impression created that grave charges against Mr. Colby were being investigated. But the committee reported unanimously in his favor and the vote for confirmation, without the formality of the roll call, was equally unanimous. Senator Lodge must imagine that the President has been knocked out so completely that further punishment is unnecessary.

The time honored custom of the Senate is to confirm nominations to the cabinet promptly and in cases of conspicuous merit without even reference to committee. Cabinet ministers are supposed to be members of the President's political family chosen by him because of personal reasons. Because of that fact no opposition has been offered, as a rule. But the Lodge enmity to President Wilson forced the violation of that kindly rule. It was thought that the incident presented an opportunity to annoy a man, already worried almost in to his grave, and the other Republican members of the committee were willing to indulge his evil passion. But after the defeat of the peace treaty they relented.

Little is known about Mr. Colby's fitness for the office but he has served the government in various capacities during the war and invariably with credit to himself and advantage to the government. He is a lawyer of New York and previous to the war enjoyed a lucrative practice. He was a Republican before the war and since 1912 has been associated with the Roosevelt faction. He is said to be a fine speaker and his recent relations with President Wilson have been intimate and satisfactory to both. Most of the original friends of the President will probably think he ought to have chosen a Democrat but it is his own affair and whatever weal or woe follows is for him.

Miss Kathryn Dale, of Boalsburg, brought to Bellefonte on Friday a very liberal donation of jellies for the Bellefonte hospital, contributed through the flower mission of the W. C. T. U. of Boalsburg.

Sims' Molehill Mountain.

In testimony before a Senate committee on Monday Admiral Sims declared that Admiral Benson advised him, previously to his departure to take command of the fleet in Europe, to "not let the British Admiralty pull wool over his eyes," and added, "we would just as soon fight England as Germany." Sims had given this out in a shroud of mystery, some time ago, conveying inferentially, that either the President or the Secretary of the Navy had shown indifference to the result of the war against Germany. It was plainly a half-lie, uttered with malicious purpose and did infinite harm. Dishonorable dismissal from the service of the navy would be a just punishment for the offense.

Admiral Sims is a Canadian by birth and an Anglomaniac by inclination. Admiral Benson, who was Chief of Naval operations at the time, understood his weakness and no doubt sincerely advised against it. But his statement that "we would just as soon fight England as Germany" was obviously a joke. He is known as among the most faithful and efficient of our splendidly faithful and efficient naval staff and was no more capable of entertaining a disloyal thought than of planting a bomb in the flag ship of the fleet. But Sims, who was disappointed for some inexplicable reason, with the administration of naval affairs, imagined he could do the Secretary an injury by quoting it with a sinister slant.

The American navy did admirable work in the war and won the cordial approval of all the governments concerned in the war against Germany. But Admiral Sims has been trying his best ever since his return from Europe to discredit the service and put censure on the Department. Possibly he is a constitutional grouch and can't help his actions. But the absurdity of his attitude is apparent to all observers. The country was unprepared for war at the time it was begun and yet he insists that every recommendation he made for sending ships and munitions, ought to have been complied with though he knows, if he knows anything, that it was impossible to do so.

That Michigan jury has decided that if money could buy Newberry a seat in the United States Senate it could also buy him a cell in the federal prison at Leavenworth.

Get your job work done here.

Palmer's Last Perfidy.

At no time since his inauguration as President in 1913, has President Wilson needed the moral support of his friends so much as during the closing period of his heroic fight for humanity in the ratification of the peace treaty. William Jennings Bryan, who deserted him four years ago probably in the hope that the German Alliance and other traitorous organizations would reward the treachery, arrived in Washington just in time to inject the virus of disloyalty into the veins of such recreant Democrats as may still be influenced by his sophistry, and every other sinister agency available was invoked to mislead Senators and others into attitudes adverse to President Wilson. It was literally the last ditch struggle.

Mitchell Palmer has been banking on his fidelity to the President and posing as the mainstay of the administration ever since the inauguration in 1913. He has been trading on the favors of the President during all that period. But at the moment that the helping influence of genuine friendship was most needed in Washington Mr. Palmer was running the gutters and sewers of Michigan politics, like a ferret, hunting support of his absurd and insincere ambitions. If he had been a true friend of the President he would have remained at his post of duty during that crucial time, sustaining him in his great effort and urging others to loyalty and fidelity at a time and in circumstances unparalleled.

The President lost, temporarily, in his conflict with partisanship and malice, because those morally bound to sustain him failed in their obligations. Chief among the recreants is Mitchell Palmer, because no other man in the country has so persistently and systematically traded on the President's favors for aggrandizement. But it is not an unusual episode in Mr. Palmer's life. He betrayed his party in Pennsylvania two years ago in order to make the election of his college chum as Governor of Pennsylvania certain and thus increase his assets as office broker by adding the minority state patronage to his stock in trade. Will the friends of President Wilson in Pennsylvania reward him for this new act of perfidy.

In the conviction of Senator Newberry there ought to be a valuable lesson to some of the millionaires who are trying to buy a delegation to the San Francisco convention which will obey orders from Palmer.

Platform and Peace Treaty.

Those Democratic Senators who voted with the Republicans to destroy the League of Nations with reservations annulling its provisions are organizing behind William Jennings Bryan to prevent an expression of approval of the President's attitude in the San Francisco Democratic platform. "It would be a mistake to make the treaty a party issue," Senator King, of Utah, declares. "If the President attempts to write into the platform an endorsement of it as he submitted it to the Senate, without reservations," he continued, "he will have a desperate fight and split the party. William J. Bryan has said that he would oppose any such proposition." Well let him. The consequences will be on his own head.

The peace treaty is already in politics and no power or influence can silence the popular demand for its ratification in form and substance as it was submitted to the Senate. England, France, Italy and Japan have already ratified it and for more than six months the world has been waiting, more or less impatiently, for the government of the United States to give assent in order that the great work of readjusting and reorganizing industrial life might be undertaken. If recreant Democrats in the Senate, like Reed, of Missouri; Gore, of Oklahoma, and Shields, of Tennessee, had not set up a senseless opposition it would have been ratified long ago for there were enough patriotic Republicans in the body, before partisanship had been injected, to carry it through.

These party traitors are now anxious to keep the question out of the platform. "They assert," writes the Washington correspondent of an esteemed contemporary, "that such action on the part of the party would leave them in an embarrassing position, exposed to their enemies." Of course it would and that is a very good reason why such action should be taken. They violated faith, betrayed their implied pledges and for one reason or another prevented the restoration of normal industrial and commercial conditions, to the detriment of the Democratic party and the advantage of the Republican party in the coming Presidential campaign. If Mr. Bryan aligns himself with these traitors, let him go.

They are all good enough, but the "Watchman" is always the best.

Taxation.

From the Williamsport Sun. Mr. McAdoo talks taxes, Mr. Carter talks taxes, Mr. Kahn talks taxes, Mr. Houston talks taxes, Congress talks taxes. Taxation is one of the favorite topics of discussion and conversation in national official circles, and well it should be, for there is nothing, absolutely nothing, that touches more people in one way or another than taxation. Every man, woman and child in the United States is bearing the heaviest taxes in our history. Oh, no, not every one is making a return to the income tax collector, not every one is paying a direct excess profits tax, corporation tax, etc., but every one is helping to settle in some way or other for the taxes some one else pays.

From the cradle to the grave there is a tax to pay somewhere along the line. There is a direct tax paid or a tax absorbed on the powder the nurse uses on the baby and there is a tax paid or a tax concealed somewhere in the bill that a man's estate pays the undertaker. Every time you buy anything, whether it be an automobile, a loaf of bread or a paper of pins, you pay either a direct tax on the purchase or you pay a tax that has been taken up somewhere in the selling price. But, mind you, you pay the tax. You can't escape that.

Taxation is a vexatious problem. It bothered people in the beginning of this world and it bothers them more today. In the last few thousand years various schemes and methods of lifting taxes from people have been devised and tried, but as yet the world awaits the ideal system of taxation. We Americans know a lot more about taxes than we did five years ago. That is one of the lessons of the war. Chief among the things we have learned about the subject is that our present method is far from being satisfactory, either from the viewpoint of the government or the people.

True, it raises a lot of money, but not enough to meet all demands, and it operates in a way that is not conducive to an immediate or even reasonably near return to the pre-war condition of things for which every one is hoping and praying. It is quite apparent that the federal system of taxation stands in sad need of revision, looking to the discovery and adoption of some plan that will help to relieve, instead of continually increase the burden of the people, business and financial interests, some plan that will reduce the cost of living and give us, both as individuals and trade organizations, the right and room to move about without all the restraining and hampering bonds of present day taxation.

The average man and woman thinks about taxes only when they pay them. They give little attention to the subject when it is up for discussion in Congress. All of us pay the penalty for the neglect as many otherwise good thoughts on the matter are still born through it. The time to object to the present scheme is passed, this is the time to think and talk about the plan for the next year. The subject will soon come before Congress. The people can ill afford to turn the matter over to that body for sole consideration and settlement.

You, reader, should be just as much interested in the subject as any other person in the land, for you must pay or make good your share of the burden. We, therefore, appeal to you to make a study of the problem, talk about it, read about it, ask questions about it, discuss it as you do the peace treaty. You should know as much about the business of your country as you do the politics. You will not get very far into the subject before you will come to discover the crying need of a revision of our federal taxation system, but you can't expect Congress to listen to any of your suggestions or ideas unless you have an intelligent understanding of the question.

Justice to the Army and Navy.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The army pay bill which has passed the Senate and is now in the House ought to be passed speedily and receive the approval of the President. The men in the regular army of this country have long been underpaid, but considering the great work in which they participated during the past few years and the higher cost of living, too much time has already been lost in dealing justly with them. The officers in the regular army are, as a rule, men of extraordinary ability, who in civilian life could command much more compensation than it is proposed to give them under the bill which has passed the Senate. Their lives are devoted to the service of their country, and there are peace-time duties confronting them which they should be free to proceed with unfettered by the worries of the mounting costs of living for themselves and their families.

System That Works.

From the Kansas City Star.

It is suggested that if all the women would stick together they could elect a woman President of the United States. That's the secret—united effort and stern organization. It works every time. You see it every year in Congressional elections—the business men join forces and elect lawyers; the farmers join together and elect lawyers; the laboring men get together and elect lawyers. It's an infallible system, and the women will not be slow to take advantage of it.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Influenza is believed to have cured Mrs. Lillian Benny, of Lewistown, who has been deaf for forty-seven years in the left ear, through an attack of scarlet fever when she was three years old. She can now hear a watch tick on the left side twelve feet away.

After he had performed a marriage ceremony, the Rev. J. Emory Weeks, of Altoona, was given a box by the groom, which was found later to contain 100 pennies and several gold pieces. This, he says, is the strangest sort of marriage fee he has ever received.

Unable to rent a house, Mr. and Mrs. George Dwyer, of New Castle, applied to the city council for permission to occupy the city pest house during the summer. They occupied this dwelling three years ago, when Mrs. Dwyer was matron of the hospital. Permission was granted.

Game law violators are still being rounded up in the north tier of counties. Four Emporium men paid \$105 each for illegal deer killing. And last week it cost five Routletts \$125 for illegally having ferrets in possession without a license. Two paid \$50 each and the others \$25.

Curtailment in the number of employees of the Pennsylvania railroad has been decided upon as a matter of economy, was the report from Harrisburg this week following the transfer of a number of men. It was said that approximately 2700 men in central and eastern Pennsylvania will be affected.

Gust Kipgen, of Bradford township, McKean county, was shot and killed by S. M. Whitman, a farmer, during a pistol and shotgun duel Saturday night, following four incendiary fires in the neighborhood. It is alleged Kipgen had menaced Whitman's wife, daughter and son and when Whitman appeared Kipgen opened fire. Whitman then shot Kipgen dead.

What disposition shall be made of thirty gallons of forty-year-old wine found among the effects of Mrs. Martha J. Campbell, widow of a Presbyterian minister who died recently in Northumberland, is a question that is causing no end of worry to George B. Redman, a Sunbury lawyer, himself a foe of rum for twenty-five years, who is executor of the \$25,000 estate.

The corporation which recently acquired the factory site on Kapps Heights, Northumberland, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, is the McVey Novelty company, with headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware. The company operates a large plant in Delaware. The deal for the Kapps Heights site, which was sold by the West Branch Realty Co. to the McVey people, has been finished, it was stated Saturday. Work on the new factory is to be started just as soon as the weather permits.

An object of charity in his declining years, listed as a government deserter on the official records at Washington, Isaac Rake, 82 years old, hero of Gettysburg, died at his humble home in Sunbury last week. Rake served through all the important engagements of the Civil war. Through some army regulation he was classed as a deserter, because of being absent without leave when his battery was mustered out, and he was never able to get the blot erased by Washington. Rake lived in poverty while thirty-day men all around him were getting \$36 a month pension.

David Libby, a state forester stationed at Weikert, in Union county, suffered a fractured rib in a strange accident. He was repairing a footpath on a Penn's creek bridge, and fell from the structure. He fortunately caught one of the upper supporting cables but the wash of the swift stream bumped his body against the bridge so severely that one of his ribs was broken. Moreover, his body became entangled in other cables, and suffering from the pain of the broken bone, he was unable to free his feet from the mesh. He clung to the cable like a drowning man to a straw, until saved by James Pursley.

Dr. Karl Schaffe, of Philadelphia, for eight years head of the tuberculosis dispensary working in the State Department of Health, and Dr. Dorothy Child, of Philadelphia, for the last year directing the Child Health Bureau of the department, on Monday tendered their resignations to Colonel Edward Martin, State Commissioner of Health. Dr. Schaffe will leave May 1st. These two resignations are the forerunners of a general reorganization which will include bureaus of the department and the erection of a division which will supervise all activities in regard to transmissible diseases. The bureau's dealing with children will also be reorganized.

Special fishing device permits will not be issued in Pennsylvania before April 15, according to an announcement by the Department of Fisheries. Under the act of 1919 the Commissioner of Fisheries is authorized to issue special device permits for outlines, fish baskets, eel racks, gigs, spears and other devices. While last year the permits were restricted to the county in which the applicant resided, this year the applicant will be allowed to select the county. Under the rules as laid down, an applicant can secure any one of the seven permits or all of them. The State makes no charge for the permit. Distribution of trout will be started in certain sections by fishery authorities next month.

Discouraged and disheartened on account of being afflicted with an incurable malady, which caused considerable suffering for the past fifteen years and growing worse with the passing years, Charles S. Dancy, of Rote, Clinton county, ended his life on Friday by shooting himself through the heart with a bullet from a 32 caliber revolver. He made his home with his mother and brother, and at 6:30 o'clock Friday morning his mother went to the door of his bedroom and calling him asked him what he desired for breakfast. He replied that he would be down soon. Ten minutes later he called from his room, "Good-bye, mother," and the next instant the report of a pistol shot was heard.

Norristown police have eight gallons of whisky on hand. It fell into their lap, so to speak, early last Wednesday morning, when it was tossed from a Reading Railway express train which had come from the coal regions. A suitcase lined with copper made an effective receptacle for the illegal booze. The train from Williamsport does not stop at the station at Norristown, but the suitcase was put off as per orders. But there was no one to receive it, and when the cap was unscrewed and the contents noted, the police were informed and the booze confiscated. Police Chief Elder learned that several similar suitcases were put on the train up the road and put off at various stations, indicating that there is a concerted movement on foot to sell booze illegally.