

—Let us make Judge Kunkel the nominee for Supreme court justice. —Why was all the money spent in rounding up the "Reds" if they were to be captured only to be released again.

—It seems to us that Centre county Republicans would vote Scott and Boal for district delegates with a great deal more self respect than by voting Scott and Gaffney.

—General Wood is getting stronger in the Republican presidential possibility class, but we still stick to our January prediction that the General will not bring home the bacon.

—Anyway Herbert Hoover said pleasanter things about Senator Johnson's victory over him in California than the Senator could find it in his heart to say about Mr. Hoover.

—Looking over the seeding chronology of Centre county for the past forty years, as it appears on another page of this paper, there is not so much to be discouraged over by the backwardness of this season.

—What if Governor Sproul should come out in the open for Gen. Wood? Would the Penrose satellites in Centre county then vote for Major Terry Boal for district delegate to their National convention or would they still blindly follow the big boss.

—So Philander C. Knox is the man whom Senator Penrose thinks is "just such a man as Senator Harding." Well, all the pro-Germans ought to be for Knox, for he certainly has left no doubt in well informed minds as to where he stands with regard to Germany.

—If the coming Republican National convention declares against any kind of a League of Nations, as the stand-patters in that party are now trying to force it to do, more certainly than ever will the next President of the United States be a Democrat. The country hasn't forgotten the sacrifices it made during the war and the unrest and distress since it is such as to convince most of it that anything striving to prevent wars in the future is worth a trial at least.

—Just why the Highway Department won't make the new Bishop street improvement of brick instead of concrete we are at a loss to know. The main street in State College, to be paved this summer, is to be of brick and Bellefonte is told that brick are not to be used any more. It seems to us that council should insist on some uniformity that will save our streets from taking on the appearance of a crazy quilt. There is now red brick on the two High street bridges, buff brick on the sections of the streets approaching them and buff brick and asphalt macadam on Allegheny street. Add to this variety concrete on Bishop and our town will look like an experimental plot.

—Those Democrats of Centre county who think that it is time to register a protest against the selfish leadership of Palmer and McCormick will have a chance to do so at the coming primary. They can write in some other name than that of Mr. Palmer for President and some other name than that of Joe Guffey for National committeeman. While Palmer will probably get the endorsement of Pennsylvania we can show him that he got it by default and not by an expression of a majority approval. The writer would suggest that all real Democrats unite on the names of either Mr. McAdoo or Governor Cox, of Ohio. Either one of these men would give the party a candidate behind whom it could rally with enthusiasm and with hope of a victory at the polls.

—The public health lessons that are supposed to be running in every newspaper in Pennsylvania now may be being read very generally, but those most interested in the benefits it is hoped parents of children will derive from them have little or no assurance that their splendid work is bringing results. Up to this writing not a single person in Centre county has sent a card to the county health department informing it that he or she is reading the lessons. While such an act would be entirely voluntary on your part, if you are interested in the lessons, it is only fair to bear in mind that the work of those who have prepared and are publishing the lessons is voluntary, also. It is a gratuitous labor for the public welfare on their part and a post card informing them of your interest would at least encourage the thought that their labor of love is not in vain.

—Judges Kunkel and Sadler are both Republicans. There is no Democratic jurist or lawyer who is an aspirant for the vacant seat on the Supreme court bench. We Democrats can nominate and, possibly at the primaries, elect the Supreme court justice if we concentrate on one of the two Republican aspirants. Judge Kunkel is the man to whom we should throw our strength. He is opposed by the Republican machine, but will poll many independent Republican votes nevertheless and these with all the Democratic votes in the State would give him fifty-one per cent. of the total in the primaries and thereby elect him without opposition. Democrats should remember that it was Judge Kunkel who presided over the court that punished the capitol grafters after their public official, State Treasurer Berry, had exposed the rottenness and if he had been a machine judge they would probably have gone without punishment.

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Vote a Presidential Preference.

In the third week of the Literary Digest's poll Mr. McAdoo has 18032 votes and Mitchell Palmer 3449. The ratio is nearly six to one in favor of a man who has not announced his candidacy or asked, directly or indirectly, a single man to vote for him against a candidate who has hunted votes like a ferret hunting rabbits. Mr. Palmer has invoked and employed every conceivable trick which the fertile minds of such political sharks as Charlie Donnelly could imagine to lure votes. But upon an appeal to the highest standard and best class of voters, he lands next to last in a field of eight, neither of the others having solicited a vote. This test clearly exposes the absurdity of his pretense.

There is no question of State pride in the premises, either. The decent and self-respecting Democrats of Pennsylvania cannot be bound to the support of a candidate picked for them by Charlie Donnelly, of Philadelphia, or Bill Brennan, of Pittsburgh, because sordid and selfish impulses influenced them to select a man of their own type who was born in Pennsylvania. In his methods of campaigning Palmer has dishonored the State and debased the office so that Pennsylvania is more honored in voting against than for him. His candidacy is a false pretense, an expedient to renew his license as an office broker and provide capital for trading operations in delegates at the convention.

Every Democratic voter in Pennsylvania who has love for the principles and respect for the traditions of the party will vote against Mitchell Palmer by writing the name of another on his ballot or indicating the choice of another by using stickers. This process will cost a little trouble but it will be worth the price as a rebuke to Palmer. He has been a party traitor all his life. When President Wilson was pleading for a Congress which would support his policies two years ago, Palmer was trying to defeat the Democratic nominee in the District in which he lives as well as in that represented by Mr. Dewalt and Vance McCormick prevented the running of a candidate in the Dauphin district.

These are the men who ask Pennsylvania Democrats to be "regular" whenever their selfish interests are promoted by regularity. Charles P. Donnelly, William J. Brennan, A. Mitchell Palmer and Vance C. McCormick comprise a group of political guerrillas which has been plundering the Democratic party in Pennsylvania for ten years. Now they are begging contributions from federal officers and employees, in violation of law, to create a fund to debauch the primary ballot that their lease of looting may be prolonged for another period. Cast your vote to defeat this base purpose. It may be done by expressing a preference for any other man than Palmer for the nomination.

—Out in Cambria county the printers are charging \$34 a thousand for printing the official ballots for the May primaries and \$15 a thousand for the sample ballots, or a total of approximately \$2100 for the job. It will cost Clearfield county \$850 for the primary ballots for that county. Just what it will cost Centre county has not yet been divulged, but from the above figures it is evident that the Cambria county printers are not in business for their health.

—Senator Lodge ought to be President of the coming Republican National convention. His opposition to the peace treaty represents the sentiments of the party and his false pretense is an appropriate trimming.

—Don't be too certain. An old hat and shabby shoes may represent pure niggardliness instead of a noble protest against the high cost of hats and shoes.

—Having exhausted the possibilities of promising lower prices as a medium of getting the front page Mitch Palmer has fallen back on the "red" alarm.

—We have not seen any statement of where General Wood gets his campaign funds but evidently the source has been seriously interrupted.

—Heavy frosts occurred on Sunday and Monday mornings, but fortunately there is nothing far enough advanced to feel the effects thereof.

—It is believed that a cigar store Indian could beat Tom Watson in Georgia and maybe it could but Mitchell Palmer couldn't.

—If our memory serves us right we had six fogs in January and already we have had six frosts in May.

—It looks as if Casey has left the bat and gone to the barrel.

Palmer as Life Saver.

On Thursday of last week Mitchell Palmer, our grotesque Attorney General, sent out from his office in Washington, an alarm of impending slaughter. He admonished the public that on the first day of May there would be a sort of orgie of murder and pillage and rapine which would run through the length and breadth of the land. On Friday he supplemented this statement with a public assurance that he had averted the calamity by the timely interposition of his vast power and the exercise of his great sagacity. Thus he kept the front page of the leading newspapers of the country for two days in succession at a time when the uppermost thought in the public mind was the selection of delegates to a National convention to which he is appealing for favors.

According to Mr. Palmer's "alarm bulletin" the anarchists, nihilists, I. W. W.'s and all other lawlessly inclined persons within the jurisdiction of this "land of the free and home of the brave," were to break out everywhere and murder public officials on May Day. Of course he admonished the proposed victims of the slaughter to "take keer of themselves" during the proposed eventful day. But he didn't entirely trust their discretion and took steps on his own account to protect them. Just how he proceeded is left to conjecture but according to his subsequent statement he obtained a list of those marked for destruction and warned them. Of course he did not have other things for their safety but has not revealed what. In any event nobody has been killed though some wouldn't have been missed, probably.

An esteemed contemporary commenting upon this curious episode of our public life expresses surprise that none of the miscreants concerned in this murderous conspiracy was placed under arrest. If Mr. Palmer was able to discover the names of the proposed victims he ought to have been able to lay the heavy hand of the law upon some of the conspirators. Plainly our contemporary doesn't understand the processes of the Palmer mind. The arrest of a murderer either before or after the event is a common occurrence and though Palmer is an expert horn blower, the public officials and prominent citizens might never have known that their precious lives were saved by the vigilance and efficiency of the Attorney General. Now it's different. They owe gratitude and know it.

—Mr. Taft says his attitude on the peace treaty puts a proposal that he runs for President "out of the range of practical possibilities." So it does. So it does. He reverses himself so frequently that nobody can tell what his attitude was.

Democrats and Liquor.

The Democrats of Pennsylvania must divorce themselves from the illegal liquor traffic now said to be in progress under the sanction of the party leaders in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and the Anthracite coal regions. It is openly declared by some of the leading newspapers of the State that thousands of barrels of whiskey are being handled every week in violation of law in Scranton and that officials of the government, whose duty it is to prevent such traffic, are aiding and abetting it. These accusations reflect upon President Wilson's administration of the government. They are grave aspersions upon the Democratic party. No political exigency justifies such a position of power.

Last week we referred to statements published in the Philadelphia Record and to accusations made by former Congressman Diefenderfer, of Montgomery county, a Democrat, on the subject. Since then the charges have been repeated and amplified by the Philadelphia North American and Pittsburgh politicians are quoted as saying that the authorities must "not be severe in handling liquor cases until after the State primaries, May 18th." This is connecting the Democratic party too closely with a lawless traffic. Liquor cases of the kind in question are exclusively within the jurisdiction of United States District courts which are officered mainly by Democrats. There can be no mistake in the inference.

The liquor traffic is bad enough when legally followed. A good many of the evils charged against it are justly and properly placed. But under a license of the courts and the protection of the law it has rights that must be recognized. When it is conducted in violation of the law, however, and the officials of the government are prostituted to its base service, it becomes intolerable and every man responsible for the criminal procedure deserves popular execration. The name of Mitchell Palmer is associated intimately with this nefarious traffic of the underworld and the evidence against him is so convincing that he ought to be held responsible until he vindicates himself.

Paramount Duty of Democrats.

We again call the attention of the voters of Centre county to the importance of the Primary election this year. Not only will the contest for the Supreme court be decided by the primary vote on the 18th of May, but all contests for party offices and for delegates to the National conventions will be determined. In view of the pending movement to alter or amend the constitution of the State, the office of Justice of the Supreme court is unusually important. It would be a grave mistake to allow this decision to be made by the professional politicians who always vote at primaries for the reason that those who have real interest in the affairs of the Commonwealth have neglected their duties.

The delegates chosen at the Primary election one week from next Tuesday will express the voice of Pennsylvania in the choice of a candidate for President. Every professional politician in the party, every subsidized office holder, every selfish employee of the office-trading machine will be at the polls dragging and cajoling voters to renew their franchise as office brokers. But the real and earnest Democrats who vote for principle rather than profit are likely to forget their obligations of citizenship and allow the traders to get away with an unearned and undeserved victory. We implore the real Democrats of Centre county to lay aside all other things that day and go to the polls.

The rotten and perfidious machine of Palmer, McCormick, Donnelly and Brennan hopes to renew its control of the Democratic organization of Pennsylvania through the neglect or carelessness of the real Democratic voters of the State at the Primary election this year, by the election of Joe Guffey, of Pittsburgh, to membership in the Democratic National committee and the selection of State committeemen who will support treasonable bargains with the enemy such as they made in the last gubernatorial contest. Every earnest Democrat in Centre county should go to the polls on the 18th instant and register a protest against such deals in the past and in the future. It is the paramount duty of the time.

—It may be said that nobody enjoyed Penrose's declaration for Knox less than General Wood though it can hardly be said that Governor Sproul wnet into ecstasies over it.

Disturbing the Machinery.

Senator Penrose appears to have thrown a monkey wrench into the machinery of the Sproul-Wood combination which was making such fine progress in dispensing the vote of Pennsylvania in the Republican National convention to be held in Chicago next month. After a prolonged and confidential conference with Mr. Will Hays, National chairman, the other day, Senator Penrose issued a statement favoring the nomination of Senator Knox as the candidate for President. As a favorite son movement such a shift of affections from Sproul to Knox would certainly have a disturbing influence upon any little arrangement like making General Wood the second choice of the delegation, for Wood belongs to the other side of the factional fence.

Various reasons have been advanced for this unexpected action of Senator Penrose. When Governor Sproul took Gifford Pinchot into his official family we expressed a doubt as to the acquiescence of Penrose in such use of the official patronage. Pinchot is known as the bitterest and most vituperative enemy of Penrose and the Senator has not been widely celebrated for amiability toward enemies. The incident was interpreted, however, as a harmony deal and Penrose is strong on harmony, and the nine days' wonder passed out of public view and was forgotten. The declaration for Knox gives the affair a new aspect, though, and indicates a break between the Governor and Senator that may greatly alter the Republican political map of Pennsylvania.

There are other suggestions which come from well-informed partisans of both the Senator and the Governor with respect to the matter that may be worthy of attention. The National Republican organization is not only against General Wood but has recently shown signs of alarm at the growing friendship between Governor Sproul and the General. On the day that Hays and Penrose were together in Philadelphia Sproul and Wood were in equally confidential association at Pittsburgh as guests of the American club, and it is possible that the Knox announcement was intended as a "keep off the grass" sign to Sproul. Meantime those of us who are not in the confidence of either can do no better than wait future developments.

—Possibly the extravagant habits adopted by the public during the war are responsible for the opposition to saving day light.

Candidate Knox.

From the Philadelphia Record. There was a time when the Republican party owned the German-American vote. That was a good while ago. In 1916 the Republicans tried to recover it by putting in a candidate who would not tell what he would do if he were elected, and for that reason he was not elected. The active pro-German elements were enthusiastic for Judge Hughes, but the greater part of the citizens of German origin were thoroughly American, and divided between the parties, and Mr. Wilson won.

It has now occurred to the sagacious Senator Penrose that, the war being over, it is a good time to make another effort to reclaim the lost German-American Alliance. Mr. Knox is almost the only public man who has denounced the peace treaty on the ground that it is burdensome to the Germans. General opposition to the peace treaty—a treaty which does not meet with the approval of the Germans—naturally inclines the non-Americanized German voters to support the party that has prevented the ratification of the treaty. It is hoped by putting Senator Knox in the field to clinch this disposition and carry the election by the help of those voters who are more concerned in the interests of the country of their origin than in those of the country of their adoption. The German-American Alliance could not keep the country from defending its rights when they were assailed by Germany, but its membership—the organization was dissolved during the war—hopes to do something for the Fatherland by getting a friend into the White House.

Mr. Knox is an excellent gentleman and an eminent lawyer, but we do not suppose that he has been proposed as a Presidential candidate for those reasons. There are other excellent gentlemen and eminent lawyers. But Mr. Knox is not only opposed to the peace treaty, as most of the Republican Senators are, but he is opposed on grounds that the others do not dare to set forth. He is opposed because the penalty imposed upon Germany for causing the world war is too severe for so moderate an offense.

It is an ingenious play. It is designed to bring to the support of the Republican party all the elements that opposed our entrance into the war, and all the elements that are particularly concerned in the comfort and enjoyment of Germany. A majority of the Republicans in the House supported resolutions that would have abrogated the rights of Americans upon the high seas, that would have waived our rights as Americans to help Germany win the war. The effort to elect "Pussyfoot" Hughes, who could denounce what the President did, but could not be induced to tell what he would do, was a failure, and this minor effort in the same direction is not likely to be more successful.

A Governmental Joy-Ride.

From the DuBois Express. Early in June more than 100 American Representatives and Senators, with their wives, their children, their secretaries, their valets and other attendants, will sail from San Francisco on the greatest official junket in the history of the nation. They will go to Honolulu, to Guam, to Manila, to Japan, to China, to Korea, and to Siberia. It will be a pleasant trip. It will be a tour of educational value and of many new and strange sights. Also it will broaden the outlook of many statesmen who have never seen beyond their local horizon.

No possible objection could be raised to this pilgrimage if the members of the party paid their own expenses; if they paid the expenses of their families and their retinues. But the fact that the federal government is called upon to bear all of the cost but \$75 per head is an outrage, and the members of the House or Senate who participate in such a tour to be paid for by the Treasury of the nation will find himself under merited reproach for the remainder of his official career.

To make such a trip as proposed would cost the average individual not less than \$1,000 possibly \$1,500. If 150 Representatives and Senators go, that is now the prospect, with an equal number of wives and others, somebody must put up the million or more dollars to pay the cost. And the government must do the putting up. The \$75 per junketer, which is the sole expense involved under the present program is just about enough to pay the tips going and coming.

It may be too late to call this joy-ride off, but if it is not the far-seeing Legislator who had planned to make the trip would do well to consider the unpleasant possibilities involved in it. It is not enough for him to say that the government transport which will carry him and his family will make the voyage whether there is an official party aboard or not. The voyage would not be made in the expensive fashion that is now proposed. With the country still staggering under heavy load of taxation, it will not look with favor or indifference upon such a junket.

Has no Influence.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. One notes that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., drives an electric. That is probably his mute protest against the price of gasoline.

—The Overall Club seems to have lost its suspenders.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The school directors of Punxsutawney at a recent meeting voted to raise the school tax levy from 19 mills to 22 mills, and in addition impose a per capita tax of \$5 on each male resident. This increased taxation was found to be necessary on account of the increased cost of maintaining the schools.

—Peter Egger was shot and fatally wounded late Sunday night at a "home brewing" party at Coal Run, a mining town near Indiana, Pa. Shortly before he died Egger, it is said, identified William M. Polkowitz, a miner of Coal Run, as the man who fired the shot. The alleged slayer was arrested.

—Earl Eddy, of Powell, who pleaded guilty in court at Towanda on Monday to operating an automobile while intoxicated, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and spend one year in jail. He was arrested by state policemen. In sentencing Eddy, Judge Maxwell said that every offender of this sort would get the limit under the law.

—Adam Trotski, of Kulp, has sued H. S. Evert in the Northumberland county courts, to recover \$2000. Trotski alleges that in buying Evert's saloon for \$2000, there was an additional agreement to the effect that the money was to be returned in case of constitutional prohibition. He asserts that Evert refused repeated demands for the check.

—Having been assured that he is sole heir to the immense estate left by his grandfather, General Patrick Sarsfield, in Ireland, Thomas Sarsfield, a retired miner, of Westmoreland county, is preparing to sail for England to present his claim. General Sarsfield's estate includes 1300 acres of land in Ireland, much real estate in London, Dublin and other cities and bank credits of \$44,000,000.

—That York people have fair private supplies of wet goods in these supposedly bone-dry times was indicated by the number of applications for permits to move intoxicating liquors received at the interior revenue office at York during April. But few permits for removal of large supplies of liquor were issued. Applications were chiefly for small quantities, ranging from two to six quarts.

—When the automobile in which they were riding was struck by lightning, William Dunlap, of Somerset, and James Dunlap, his three year old brother, were seriously injured and the car was wrecked. So far as is known this is the first time a moving automobile has ever been struck by lightning. William Dunlap's right eye was torn out and the younger brother suffered severe cuts and bruises.

—One of the largest realty transfers in Indiana county in some years was recently consummated at Blairsville when the Columbia Plate Glass company's plant was sold to the National Plate Glass company for a consideration said to be over a million dollars. The deed has just been recorded in Indiana. The revenue stamps attached to the deed amounted to \$833. One of the stamps is a \$500 denomination.

—Emuse Nicora, 25 years old, of Mercer, pleaded guilty last Wednesday to murdering his wife, and was sentenced by Judge McLaughry to from 18 to 20 years in the western penitentiary.

—Killed his wife. Nicora shot and western penitentiary. Wheatland several months ago. She refused to leave her parents' home when he started to work in Sharon. Returning one night he fired one shot through the window into her body, killing her instantly.

—The big woolen mills at Lewisburg were destroyed by fire at an early hour last Thursday morning. The loss will exceed \$150,000. The origin of the fire is not known. The firemen were hampered in their work by low water pressure, and the flames, which broke out about 2 o'clock, swept through the big three-story structure. Much available machinery and stocks were destroyed. Two former mills on the same site were destroyed by fire several years ago.

—Edward Wagner, 64 years of age, a Pennsylvania Railroad crossing watchman employed at Montgomery, Lycoming county, was virtually scared to death. While on duty Sunday night Wagner narrowly escaped being run down by a freight train. After the train passed he was found lying on the ground near the crossing where he did his duty. He had suffered a nervous collapse. Wagner was carried home and his condition grew steadily worse until his death yesterday.

—Bratton VanZandt, thirty-three years old, of Lewisburg, was arrested late on Saturday by an United States postoffice inspector, charged with appropriating monies with which they were given him to purchase and forward money orders to patrons with which they desired to mail order houses in payment of purchases. VanZandt was a rural carrier for one year and is the second of the local post-office employees to be arrested in as many weeks. Frank Mateer having been arrested for stealing the contents of parcels post packages.

—Leo J. Russell, superintendent of Bradford county schools, was advised last Thursday by Dr. J. F. Marshman, of State College, who is directing the state-wide and county speaking contests in the public schools, that a thorough investigation will be made into Mr. Russell's charges that the twelve county contests held at Lock Haven two weeks ago were a vicious frame-up. The charges resulted when Miss Anna Holmes, of Towanda, was dropped from the list after she had been officially declared a winner in the first-class high school contest.

—Music was transmitted half a mile by radio at Pittsburgh on Sunday and was sufficiently loud at the receiving end for dancing, according to announcement from the University of Pittsburgh, which with Carnegie Institute of Technology conducted the experiment. University of Pittsburgh students danced to the music rendered by the Tech orchestra. The orchestra sat in Central Hall of Tech and played a jazz tune with the Pittsburgh students gathered in Heinz house, half a mile away. Scores of radio students in the district reported having "listened in" on the music.

—The Burton Clay Products company, according to officers of the concern, plan to expend in the neighborhood of \$600,000 on improvements to their brick and tile plant at Sidney, near Punxsutawney, Jefferson county. The company has acquired 437 acres of land on the Bellwood branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The total clay deposits, flint or hard clay, and Burley clay, are estimated at 7,000,000 tons, and the veins average in thickness from four to twelve feet. In addition to the clay there are coal and sand and an abundant water supply. Tests show that the crude clay will stand 3300 degrees of heat, which insures a fine quality of brick.