

—March certainly did come in like a lamb.

—The Supreme court has ruled that arrests for violation of the Volstead act may not be made without a warrant.

—March fourth, all you Republicans who have been hungering for eight years. The public pie counter is now ready to serve you.

—At the last minute Congress set aside all serious legislation by taking time to vote free seeds to all the constituents back home. What a travesty.

—If President Wilson had wanted to confound his enemies he would have signed the emergency tariff bill, but he was thinking of his country and killed it by the pocket veto.

—The auditor's statement of the condition of the county's finances is published this week, but too late for us to make an analysis that would be either fair or comprehensive.

—Reports have it that Russia is ready for another revolution and that Trotsky and Lenin can't last the year out. God help Russia if they do, for then there will be nothing left to revolute.

—Tonight it will be President Harding. Here's luck and good wishes for an administration that will keep the ship of state off the rocks and do justice to all classes in this glorious old U. S. A.

—The German offer to pay two of the eleven billion pounds sterling demanded by the Allies as reparation for the war couldn't be accepted even on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread at all.

—We notify you right now, Dr. Thomas E. Finegan, that there isn't a kid in this whole Commonwealth who will have a good word to say for that bill of yours that proposes adding ten days to the length of the public school term.

—According to a ruling of the Supreme court handed down, those parts of the Lever act which empowered the government to prosecute food profiteers have been declared unconstitutional. My, oh my, the Supreme court do beat all. It can unmake laws faster than Congress can make them.

—L'Homme Libre, the old Parisian paper that Clemenceau once controlled, has a very wholesome respect for the United States. It calls us the most formidable power in the world and says our open hand is large and generous, but our closed fist redoubtable and stable. Right o, France, you know us.

—Mr. Joseph Rosenthal, of Wilkes-Barre, believed to be part of the "brains" of the whiskey ring that has been flooding this part of the State for some time, was arrested and had a hearing on Tuesday for violation of the Volstead act. The name Rosenthal and the "mysterious red roaster" are both familiar in Bellefonte.

—The resignation of John Skelton Williams as comptroller of the currency, was probably none too soon. Mr. Williams has been an exceptionally capable man, but he minimized his usefulness by so many petty and harassing proscriptions on the National banks that there will be few of the men whose activities he directed who will not God-speed his retirement.

—Women jurors have been an interesting and interested feature of this week's sitting of quarter sessions court. Happily there have been no cases to develop those sordid revelations that sometimes are so shocking to refined sensibilities and because they are inevitable the "Watchman" feels that women might well waive their right to jury service without prejudice to their new duty of citizenship.

—A conductor on the Pennsylvania runs from New York to Philadelphia, which requires two hours and eleven minutes, and takes down eight dollars and twenty-four cents because that is classed as a day's work for him. We scribble away here from seven-thirty in the morning until eleven at night and often don't get even the twenty-four cents because we haven't wit enough to be a railroad conductor instead of trying to enlighten Centre county.

—We agree with Thomas Raeburn White in his contention that the proposed method of selecting delegates to the anticipated convention for revision of the constitution of Pennsylvania is unfair, undemocratic and calculated to destroy any chance there might be for revision. Mr. White pleads publicly, "as a party man and a Republican," for minority representation in such a convention and the fact that a Republican has made a plea to give the Democrats, Prohibitionists, et al, a show just naturally makes us wonder where this kind of Republican came from.

—Everybody of any consequence at Harrisburg, excepting of course our Hon. Tom Beaver, having made a pilgrimage to Washington during the vacation of last week the Legislature is functioning again at Harrisburg. Penrose says he isn't going to interfere with the Governor's program, but the Governor is taking no chances by discretely announcing that he hasn't any program to force through the Legislature. All he intends to do is make some bullets and if the Members want to shoot them they can. It is significant, however, that he is "off" those pet tax raising proposals on coal and manufactures.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 66.

BELLEFONTE, PA., MARCH 4, 1921.

NO. 9.

YAP.

Ere this copy of the "Watchman" reaches most of its readers Democratic administration of the federal government will have passed into history and a Republican crew will be in command of the ship of state.

During the eight years that the party has been in power almost every one of them has been punctuated by irrepressible yap. Yap, according to the new international dictionary, means "to bark snappishly, to yelp."

It is a peculiarly significant word because it expresses so perfectly just what many Republicans have done continuously since the moment Woodrow Wilson was inducted into office on March 4th, 1913. While it is beyond question that more constructive legislation has been enacted during the past eight years than in any other similar period of the country's history; that the world's greatest war was fought to a successful conclusion with the United States playing the stellar role; that an army of five million men was raised, equipped and two million of them transported through three thousand miles of submarine infested seas without a single mishap; that never within recorded history was an army so well cared for while in service and its wrecks so considerably provided for after discharge, not one of these transcendent achievements have been acknowledged by the opposition in any other way than with yaps.

Every act of the President and every member of his cabinet has elicited nothing but yaps from them. There was a concert of effort to "get" the members of his official family. McAdoo, Baker, Burleson, Palmer and Daniels were continuously calumniated and when their acts withstood the acid test of the most searching investigation the yaps but grew louder.

It will be remembered that when the guns of jealous partisanship were bombarding every Department in Washington before we entered the war the Secretary of the Navy had not yet come into range. The war broke out and in the stress of speed to function promptly it was discovered that the navy was ready. Then Joseph Daniels was damned with faint praise.

At the close of the war he advocated a large naval program and at once drew the fire of these despoilers. A new Secretary of the Navy will be in charge this afternoon. He has already announced himself as favoring even a larger naval program than Mr. Daniels advocated and we hear no yapping about it from those who have been unable to do anything else than yap for eight years.

Why this overnight change? Some of the reasons, of course, are that some Republicans really think that a Democrat can do no good and that a Republican can do no harm. Some were bitterly jealous because Democrats happened to be filling federal offices for a short time while others, just without any reason at all wanted a change. All is serene along the Potomac now and the government at Washington lives to a better purpose, they think, merely because the Grand Old Party is in control again.

But why does Mr. Secretary Denby want a big navy? Ah, there is where the yap comes in again, but this time it is spelled with a capital Y and means a little island in the Pacific that Japan wants and the United States thinks should belong to some other power.

There will be no such Democratic yapping over Mr. Harding's administration as there was over Mr. Wilson's but we will be interested in seeing whether the yappers who yapped at Mr. Daniels because he wanted to prepare for possible trouble over Yap will yap at Secretary Denby when he advocates even enlarging on Mr. Daniels' program.

There may be danger ahead with Japan, but we don't believe it probable. The world has too much respect for the revealed power of the United States.

There is not a European nation that can dream of risking a conflict with the United States. Germany under William II ruled over Europe and one happy day got the idea of occupying Haiti. One grumble from Washington and Germany went back into her hole. The England of Salisbury—pupil of Beaconsfield—desired to mix in the affairs of Venezuela. In the form of a note infinitely disagreeable and edited in a tone such as England never suffered from any other people, Grover Cleveland forbade England to interfere in matters that did not concern her. England did as told.

Germany and England both knew, years ago, when we had only the "contemptible little army" that the Kaiser referred to recently and a navy that Whitney described as pathetic, that the United States wasn't to be trifled with. How much more the world knows now of our unconquerable spirit and resources goes without saying. Japan will do about Yap just what William II did about Haiti. Just what Salisbury did about Venezuela.

The Manly Act of Self Defense.

On the principle that a strong body is a prerequisite of an alert mind the colleges and schools of our land are looking more seriously than ever at the problem of physical welfare. It is not a new idea, to be sure, but merely the development of a fact that has long been admitted, but neglected for the reason that the old school of educators were trained in the days when the theory of all work and no play was in vogue.

Instinctively the young of all species of animal life play. Whether it is an effervescent of exuberant life or designed exercise of developing muscles is of no consequence. The fact remains that play is as much a part of young life as food and sleep. Human beings act much the same as the lower order of mammals in this respect during their earlier years, but when the sobering influences of education and business come into their lives they are prone to become more sedentary in their habits, in fact far too much so. The result being that types of phlegmatic, morbid, ascetic individuals grow out of happy, hopeful, ambitious children.

All of this is in consequence of the lack of exercise. Muscles become flabby, livers torpid, stomachs not functioning, hearts weak and such derelicts marry and beget their kind. The cycle goes on with each generation taking a step backward rather than forward in the development of the human race.

The real motive in the special attention that is now being paid to all forms of recreative activity is primarily the development of better specimens of physical manhood. When they are attained there will necessarily be better brain power and a higher plane of intellectuality.

In the past experience teaches us that those who needed exercise most took the least of it, probably for the reason that in those days sports that impelled their interest and participation had not been organized or, if so, were indulged in by so few others in the community as to render them uninteresting and listless.

The college plans of today comprehend games for every one and every one for a game, so that the weakling and the indifferent, as well as the husky who strives for a place on the Varsity eleven, will be attracted to the general playground where the very kind of sport that will interest him and give him the kind of exercise most beneficial is provided and conducted by a skilled supervisor in physical culture. Young and old, weak and strong can and should play. There are games for all of them. Wholesome, recreative games that develop the body and prepare the mind to receive and store knowledge and inculcate the spirit of fair and sportsmanlike rivalry.

We see the idea gradually gripping the nation. Baseball, football, basketball, tennis, golf, hiking, fishing, hunting, sports and out-of-door life of every sort and to us it is a wonderfully hopeful sign.

With the coming of this new attitude of educators to athletic contests we see many forms of sport, heretofore debased to the lowest motives, being lifted to a level where they too supply a useful purpose. There are many of them but the one specially in mind now is that of boxing, known as the manly art of self defense.

It appeals to a lot of fellows who care for no other games and if it can be refined by the manly, strong hearted exhibitions that college boys are now giving how quickly it will purify the atmosphere that has surrounded professional exhibitions of this character and show the youngster who thinks he is "handy with his dukes" that his aptness may be turned to his physical, moral and mental uplift.

Two recent exhibitions of boxing given in this place have been of quite a different order than the ones our ministerium worked so hard to prevent some years ago. They were clean, hard, fairly fought contests between boys who love the game, not for its brutality, for there need be none of that, but because they have in them that determination to conquer that is a quality worth cultivating if directed honorably.

Aside from the fact that every boy should know how to use the only weapons, recognized as fair, that nature has given him to defend himself with, the boxing game can be used to good ends by a large class just as successfully as any of the other means of sport or recreation.

—Time was when a session of court in Centre county would last two full weeks and occasionally run over into three and even four, but now it has narrowed down to a few days. In fact this week the work was all done and court adjourned on Wednesday morning. It must be because people are becoming more law-abiding or else they find it too expensive to go into court.

Hon. Champ Clark, Democrat.

The death of the Hon. Champ Clark, which occurred in Washington Wednesday, removes a noted exponent of the principles of Democracy. He was an outstanding figure in the councils of the Democratic party; a strong hearted, courageous leader and his death closed twenty-six years of service in Congress so that he did not live to feel any regret at the convening of the new body in which he would not have been a Member because of his defeat for re-election last fall. He came near being the party's choice at the Baltimore convention that nominated Woodrow Wilson for President and one of the strange anomalies of politics was that the men in that convention who had been bringing Mr. Clark on for years deserted him to support Mr. Wilson whose chances of the nomination seemed to give greater promise of personal aggrandizement for them.

The two-third rule of the convention alone prevented Clark's nomination. The honor which his party thus paid him was the most notable of his public life. In American political history Martin Van Buren was the only other man who failed of the Democratic nomination for the Presidency after having received a majority of the votes in the national convention, but he enjoyed the unique distinction of being elected subsequently.

William J. Bryan's sensational attack on Clark at Baltimore, charging him with being affiliated with leaders representing "the interests," held the convention in deadlock for more than a week when it ended in the nomination of Wilson. Bryan's speech, declaring that Thomas F. Ryan, August Belmont and Charles F. Murphy were supporting Clark, was a bolt from the blue sky which made the Clark ranks waver. Clark supporters declared afterward that none of the three leaders mentioned were for Clark as first choice, but that the unit rule carried the New York delegation to the Clark forces.

The breach between Bryan and Clark never healed, although they met at a luncheon arranged by mutual friends a few months later and exchanged perfunctory speeches. Coolness between Clark and Wilson wore off after the President entered the White House, and on legislative policies they worked in harmony, except in one notable instance, the repeal of the Panama tolls exemption, which Speaker Clark opposed unsuccessfully.

The failure of his candidacy at Baltimore never ceased to be the disappointment of Clark's life. He refused nomination as Vice President, and told the House on the eve of his defeat that he preferred to remain as Speaker.

His election to the Speakership of the House came in the Sixty-second Congress, prior to the Baltimore convention, and it was by a united Democracy in recognition of the contest Mr. Clark had made again the rule of Speaker Joseph Cannon. Mr. Clark had served in every Congress since including the Fifty-third in 1893, except the Fifty-fourth.

Clark's sincerity, friendship for opponents and adherents alike, his fairness as a presiding officer and his knowledge of history, his love of clean anecdotes and humorous stories, and his marvelously retentive memory ranked with his attributes of leadership. He welded the minority into a virtual Democratic unit when he was minority leader, and after the ousting of Cannon, which robbed the Speakership of many of its powers, he divided with Majority Leader Underwood the control of the Democrats in the House and they formed a great working team.

—The Altoona Tribune thinks the past administration didn't live up to its pretensions concerning the appointment of postmasters. We don't know just what pretensions our esteemed contemporary refers to, nor do we have the nerve to defend all of the appointments that were made, but when it attempts proof of its assertion by stating that there are now only two Republicans serving as postmasters in Blair county we respectfully request it to report to us the number of Democrats who will be handing out mail up there on March 4th, 1925.

—If it should become necessary to prune the appropriations granted by the present Legislature for higher education in Pennsylvania we wonder what Gov. Sproul will do when the bills for The Pennsylvania State College and the University of Pennsylvania are laid on his desk. The one is the child of the State. The other is pleading for adoption, and Governor Sproul said things on the terrace at State last November that we can't well forget.

—If we get into trouble with Japan it will probably be because of too much yap.

The Coal Combinations.

From the Philadelphia Record. It is an astonishing story that underlies the indictment of several hundred coal mine operators and leaders of coal labor unions. A combination of employers and employees to create an appearance of scarcity, cause strikes for the purpose of corroborating this appearance, and milk the public, is something new in the industrial world. It is the more remarkable because there has always been supposed to be a good deal of competition in the soft coal industry; the extent of the soft coal deposits and the number of operators has seemed to make combination impossible, and it was thought no monopoly could exist.

It seems incredible that a conspiracy against the public, embracing so many companies and individuals with diverse interests, could have been formed and its secrecy preserved. The indictments are the result of investigations extending over eighteen months.

When will the repeated investigations of the anthracite industry result in some definite information, the explanation and justification of present prices, or indictments for combining in restraint of trade? The household is very much more interested in the price of anthracite than in that of bituminous coal. What justification is there for prices of \$15 or \$16 a ton? Labor and transportation are more expensive than they were before the war, but they do not explain increases of \$3 and \$10 a ton. If the anthracite companies, between which there is little or no competition, are able to get such prices as they are now receiving, why did they not get them half a dozen years ago? Is it a fact that the war opened the eyes of the coal operators to the amount that "the traffic would bear," and now in the absence of war they are utilizing the information? There has been a good deal of investigation of anthracite mining. Considerable testimony was taken before a Senate committee in hearings on the Calder bill. How much longer will it be before we learn from some authoritative source, either the justification for the present prices, or of the indictment of the men responsible for present prices? Now that action is in sight in the case of soft coal, how long have we to wait for similar action, or a justification of prices, in the case of hard coal?

Moscow Mutterings.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The report from Moscow, by way of Latvia, that 140,000 workmen are clamoring for bread and for increased political and industrial privilege, and have struck to enforce their demands, is in no way surprising; the singular thing is that the nondescript guard posted at the doors of the Soviet headquarters has been able to preserve a semblance of respect for authority so long, in a winter which has repeated all the hardships and horrors of last season. The world waits in suspense for the long-prophesied outbreak, while the Bolsheviks continue their nightly house-to-house search for counter-revolutionaries.

Red Communism of the Soviet brand must establish itself firmly at home ere it can hope for success in its plotted spring offensives, and Trotsky is sparing no effort in these months of bitter cold that keeps a terrorized population within doors to indoctrinate all he can reach with his program of looting and leveling. The peasants are snowbound and he cannot get to them. His propagandists are vociferous in the cities. He need not wonder that city-dwellers freezing and starving manifest small enthusiasm for his doctrine, even though the councils of soldiers and workmen whose pictures are industriously circulated by the Bolsheviks themselves present the fair semblance of patriots working out the salvation of their land. As long as the Soviet finds food for those who work for it and grants them special privileges it can present such pictures of crusading zeal; but the signs are multiplying that the specious semblance of popular content cannot much longer be maintained by giving bread and jam to children at school and supplying free movies to young and old. It is a natural law that the producers live and those who rob and destroy must pass. The prospect of a world-wide war does not rejoice the multitude in Russia. What it wants is food and fuel and work. It has had all the rhetoric it needs and all the war.

Owning Up About Cork.

From the Clearfield Republican. Dropping Germany for Ireland, Lloyd George, in his speech in the House of Commons, attacked where present such pictures of crusading zeal; but the signs are multiplying that the specious semblance of popular content cannot much longer be maintained by giving bread and jam to children at school and supplying free movies to young and old. It is a natural law that the producers live and those who rob and destroy must pass. The prospect of a world-wide war does not rejoice the multitude in Russia. What it wants is food and fuel and work. It has had all the rhetoric it needs and all the war.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The respite staying electrocution of Clarence R. Collins and Chas. C. Reinicker, the two youthful Adams county murderers, has been issued fixing the executions for the week of April 4.

—Chopping down a large walnut tree on the farm of Preston E. Lynn, of New York, near Cherryville, Lehigh county, Albert Zimmerman, caretaker of the property, found 135 pounds of wild honey.

—Bertha B. Hawthorn, of Dauphin, is the first woman justice of the peace to be named in Pennsylvania. Her nomination to be justice of the Dauphin county borough as successor to William H. Edge, who resigned, was sent to the Senate Monday night and immediately confirmed.

—Paul Schomker, aged 15 years, of Homewood, a suburb of Pittsburgh, died in a hospital Monday from injuries received when an electric shock threw him from a telegraph pole several hours earlier. He had scaled the pole to recover a kite which had become entangled in the wires.

—After being teased about not being on duty at his position as a Kulpmont policeman and then felled to the floor by a blow from a bottle by John Novitski, Charles "Smith" Mallnowski pulled two guns and, while on his back on a bar room floor, shot and killed Frank Goldofski and wounded Novitski.

—Auditor General Snyder, who has been elected State Treasurer, may not take up his duties as custodian of state funds, his friends aver, as he has been summoned to Washington, and it is said will be appointed to a special office for the collection of delinquent taxes. Snyder believes he can make the same record at Washington that he has accomplished at Harrisburg in the collection of many millions long due the State.

—Charged with swindling prominent Pittsburgh citizens out of \$20,000 in a gas well promotion at McKeesport nearly two years ago, M. P. Fries, a broker with offices in Scranton, was arrested on Monday by county detective George P. Andrews, of Pittsburgh. It is alleged that during the gas well excitement in McKeesport Fries floated a company and secured the amount involved but failed to drill any well, as promised.

—State police discovered a genuine application for the word "bootlegging," when they discovered Frank Cheslock, of Shamokin, carrying whiskey in his wooden leg. The inside contained a hole to carry two quart bottles, it was said. Cheslock was sent to jail by N. A. Engle, federal commissioner at Sunbury last Saturday. Cheslock was caught in the act of soliciting the sale of whiskey at \$10 a quart, it is said.

—"That 'pennies make dollars" is the belief of the Northumberland county commissioners. Instead of buying more sanitary drinking cups for the court house at six-tenths of a cent apiece, envelopes will be bought at 10 for a cent. According to chief clerk Deppen, if a man takes ten drinks of water a day at six-tenths of a cent a cup it costs the tax payers 6 cents a day, while if this same drinker uses 10 envelopes it costs but a cent to water the man.

—Chickens are being vaccinated to make them immune from disease. The State Department of Health is experimenting with the vaccination of poultry at the laboratories in Philadelphia largely for the purpose of finding a preventive for chicken-pox, which takes a heavy toll of poultry annually in the State. Several thousand fowls have been vaccinated at the department's experimental station in Philadelphia, and the results of the experiment are expected to be known within the next few months.

—The Standard Steel works at Lewis-town which have been gradually closing down since armistice day has reached the minimum and only men enough to keep the plant from actual decay are kept in service and it is said that this week will see even this number materially decreased. Samuel M. Vaulcain, a heavy stockholder and an officer of the plant, made a prediction in an after dinner speech before the local Chamber of Commerce recently that everything would be normal before the blue birds sing again.

—Mayor S. A. Barnes and chief of police Elder, of New Castle, are on the trail of the bunny huggers, the camel walkers, the toddlers and the other dancers who shuffle and wobble cheek to cheek in public dance halls of that city. Drinking in any dance hall also is to be prohibited. The mayor and chief in a statement issued on Saturday gave drastic orders as to what kind of dances and steps will be permitted. Dancers must be at least three inches apart. The penalty for failure to obey the orders will be forfeiture of the dance hall license.

—When M. H. Paxson, of Chester, on his way home one night last week heard a gruff voice shout in his left ear, "hands up," he did not obey the order promptly. A revolver was thrust in his face, and up went his hands. After going through Paxson's pockets, "confiscating" a wallet containing nearly \$400, a gold watch, and other articles, the bandit said "I thank you very much for your kind attention and pleasing consideration. You saved both yourself and me a lot of trouble, maybe, by obeying orders," then politely bade Paxson good-night. Paxson reported the robbery to the police.

—The large flour mill of the Blackburn Milling company at Cessna, was entirely destroyed by fire, with all its contents, Saturday evening about 8:30 o'clock. Shortly before that time a light was noticed in what was thought the vicinity of the engine room and before those residing nearby could notify the owners, flames had gained so much headway that it was impossible to control them. The mill, which was owned by Mr. J. Ed. Blackburn, of east Penn street, Bedford, was operated by his sons, Borden and Jay Blackburn. The loss will reach almost thirty thousand dollars and with but \$6,000 insurance.

—Trapped in a room, eight by ten feet, twenty-eight negroes were taken into custody by the police in an early morning raid at Chester on Sunday, charged with gambling. The alleged gambling joint has been under suspicion for some time, and it is said the man who is accused of running the place, Edward Bass, leader of the anti-Sproul forces among the negroes in the Bethel court section, had been tipped off, but declared he did not have to close up. Bass got the surprise of his life when half a dozen police burst in upon his crap party Sunday morning. Hemmed in the little room the negroes made little resistance, and not a man escaped. Bass was fined \$50 and costs in police court, and his alleged patrons got off with a fine of \$2 and costs.