

—M. Ward Fleming Esq., of Philipsburg, and H. F. Frank, of Millheim, have been appointed Notaries Public.

—We worked off the spring fever and spring feet we were stricken with on Sunday by shoveling Tuesday's snow.

—Now what do you suppose will happen to Dr. Finegan for having so completely spilled the Governor's budget of beans?

—It is to be hoped the President will enjoy his period of rest. Two years hence he will have much more time for vacation.

—It begins to look as if Gifford Pinchot knows as little about administration as he does about the constitution of Pennsylvania.

—Governor Pinchot assures the public that the school system shall not suffer. Then it follows that the budget will take the punishment.

—Having gotten one white elephant off his hands the President is going south to recuperate sufficiently for the ordeal of trying to train another one.

—Our Attorney General seems to think that the provision of the constitution which requires appropriations in separate bills is unconstitutional.

—The Senate committee amendment to the Pinchot enforcement is probably intended to demonstrate the difference "twixt tweedledum and tweedledee."

—Our piscatorial editor having failed to mention it we want to call attention to the fact that it is just one month until the opening of the trout fishing season.

—If reckless drivers continue their slaughter some fellow may propose an amendment to the constitution to prohibit the manufacture, sale or use of automobiles.

—The Governor continues to remain silent on the subject of electoral frauds, which may be interpreted as evidence that he is keeping faith with one element of his supporters.

—We've got to give it to Governor Pinchot for having the courage to stick to his guns long enough to scare a few members of the Legislature, at least, into getting in out of the "wet."

—The Sixty-seventh Congress has adjourned "without date" and the country may be regarded as safe for a period of nine months. The Lord only knows what will happen then for our friend Billy Swoope will be there with the bells on when the Sixty-eighth convenes.

—There's a fly in every ointment. From under the blanket of snow that had been untroubled since December 13th, good old earth came to view on Sunday and just when we were being transported furthest on the wings of hope, returning life and warming sunshine we went into a tail spin and discovered that spring fever and spring feet had caused our loss of control.

—We want to say right here that the "Watchman" was the only paper in Pennsylvania, so far as we have been able to get the opinion of the press of the State, that declared, without reservation, that Pinchot's prohibition bill would go through without material change. Re-read the editorials on this subject that we have published for the last six weeks and see how certainly we have lead you up to just what is going to happen in Harrisburg.

—It is a pleasure to note the progress of the Hon. Cyrus E. Woods, of Centre and Westmoreland counties, in the gratification of his long ambition to be in his country's diplomatic service. From his post as Ambassador to Spain he has been asked by President Harding to go to Japan. The advancement speaks for itself. As a Senator in Pennsylvania for eight years, as Secretary of the Commonwealth for six, Mr. Woods displayed a broader conception of the duties of public office than is evidenced by the average official who comes to the fore through the turn of the political wheel of fortune. It is reassuring to feel that one so eminently qualified has been chosen to represent us at Tokio. Our relations with Japan are very vital at this time.

—Generally speaking our advice to those who might be thinking of becoming candidates for county office on the Democratic ticket is this: Don't let any one persuade you to enter the lists before you have had several hours honest communion with yourself. Decide whether you can devote enough time to the pre-primary campaign to stand a chance of a nomination. Decide whether, if nominated, you can give every moment of the time from the primary in September until the election in November to an aggressive campaign. Decide whether you are the kind of a person who has a way about him that attracts and holds others. Decide that having a few thousand cards printed with your picture on them and then handing them out like a boy passes bills won't get you anywhere. Decide whether you have the pep and the will to win then go to some brutal friend and tell him all of your self analysis. If he is really what you think him to be, a brutal friend, accept his advice: Go to it or stick at what you are at. Candidates who can help themselves can win on the Democratic ticket in Centre county in November. Those who can't would be well advised to lay off.

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Enforcement Bill Will Pass.

Governor Pinchot's enforcement legislation is now well started on its "triumphant tour" through the Legislature. On Monday evening Senator Snyder, of Blair county, reported it from the committee of Law and Order with an affirmative recommendation. The opponents of the measure held it back as long as possible. That is they prevented the report on Tuesday evening of last week. But the delay is a matter of little importance. The full force of the State administration, the government at Washington, the Anti-Saloon League and the sundry organizations of professional and amateur "uplifters" are behind it, and they will work with the zeal and energy of crusaders.

This prohibition business has been both-work from the beginning. Most good citizens, men and women, are inclined to sympathize with the purpose which its supporters have in mind. But it was begun wrong and has been pursued along mistaken lines. The regulation of the liquor traffic is a State rather than a national prerogative and a statutory instead of a constitutional question. Having thus started it wrong it was wrongfully made a political question and in most other States, as in Pennsylvania, the enforcement of it was perverted into an orgie of criminal partisanship. Millions of dollars have been paid to favored party plunderers through this medium of corruption.

The slogan, "the saloons must go," is popular because the saloons had degenerated into a grave evil. Gifford Pinchot, who knows as little concerning the public sentiment of Pennsylvania as an infant knows of the signs of the zodiac, is utilizing this popular aversion to an evil, for a selfish purpose. He hopes to promote his political ambitions by falsely pretending an absorbing interest in prohibition enforcement. His original intention was to use the budget fad as a vehicle to carry him into popular favor but managed it so badly that it proved a failure. He is determined to make the most of the enforcement proposition, however, and the indications are he will fulfill expectations.

—Mr. Beaver voted against passage of the bill that aims to make a woman who refuses to pay her taxes liable to a jail sentence, the same as men. It carried, however, by a vote of 107 to 82.

Our New Postmaster General.

The appointment of Harry S. New, of Indiana, to the office of Postmaster General removes all doubts as to President Harding's intention to try for a second term. The Postoffice Department is the political "listening post" of the government at Washington. Every President selects the most skillful politician of his party for that office and it is invariably taken for granted that whoever is Postmaster General is the President's mouthpiece so far as political maneuvers are concerned. At the beginning of his administration President Harding named Will Hays, of Indiana, for the service but the lure of the six figure salary enticed him to the "movies." Attorney General Daugherty made a poor substitute.

Strangely enough Senator Watson, of Indiana, was the first to openly suggest a second term for Harding but it is safe to say that he had no intention of promoting the political ambitions of his then colleague in the Senate, Harry New. These two men represent different factions of the party in the State and both aspire to spokesmanship of the party. Therefore when Watson suggested Harding for re-election it is altogether likely that his purpose was to harm rather than help New, who was an especially crippled "lame duck." The contrary result having ensued it may be presumed that the party breach in Indiana will be widened instead of being closed by the incident. Altogether the situation is confusing.

But out of the uncertainty one fact shows clearly. It is that Mr. Harding has chosen as the political manager of his administration a capable politician. Senator New has been in the game a long time and is familiar with all the rules as well as the tricks. He is not a statesman by long odds, and neither is Watson, but he is a diplomat of the sort that manipulates politics for the "interests." Since the retirement of Will Hays from the chairmanship of the Republican National committee the organization has been weak at that point and it may be predicted that Postmaster General New will strengthen it materially. But he will have a difficult task to work out. Harding is a heavy load.

—That Harrisburg man who was able to prove in court that he is not dead has something on a good many of the congressional "lame ducks."

New Taxes Apparently Necessary.

The news from Harrisburg every day makes clearer the fact that the "mess" can never be cleaned up unless additional tax burdens are put upon the already overloaded shoulders of the people. However the question is considered there is a deficit of something like fifty millions of dollars. By judicious pruning the expenses of the government of the State might be cut down ten or twelve million dollars. But after that achievement the obligations would be twenty-five or thirty million dollars in excess of the revenues as provided by existing laws. If the anthracite coal tax is repealed, as it ought to be, the default will be increased by something like ten million dollars.

The so-called "luxury tax" proposed by Representative Alexander is not the logical method of adding to the revenues. The suggestion of Speaker Goodenough for a horizontal increase of twelve and a half per cent. on all taxes has even less merit. But something must be done. The creditors of the State can't wait a year or more for money that is due, and it is equally impossible to stop the operations of the government. The misuse of revenues in the past and the criminal profligacy of the three last administrations in creating new offices, increasing salaries and undertaking expensive and needless enterprises have swamped the State and a proper remedy for the evil must be devised.

The policy of the Republican party is, and has always been, to put the burdens of government upon those least able to bear them. The theory of the managers of that party seems to be that those least able to pay are also least able to resist payment. The purpose of this policy is to enlist the wealthy in the interest of the party which so favors them. The exemption of manufacturing enterprises from taxation is an expression of this policy. By the payment of a million or two to the Republican campaign fund they save a dozen millions or more by exemption from taxes. It is time to change the policy of the State in this respect. Any new taxes this year should be put on manufacturers.

—Those who know that Lillian Russel is dead will be curious to learn why her husband, Alexander Moore, was appointed Ambassador to Spain.

Sad Condition at Harrisburg.

What an awful "mess" has been created in Harrisburg in respect to the maintenance of the public schools? That new but ponderous and potential public official, the budgeteer of the administration, fixes the allowance to the public schools for the biennium at \$21,000,000. Dr. Finegan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, estimates the cost of the service at \$39,000,000 and Auditor General Lewis declares that \$55,000,000 will be required to square the accounts. The estimates are expressed here in round numbers, there being a few thousands and hundreds to add in each case. But the differences are wide and each estimate comes from a man who ought to know exactly what is needed.

Nobody knows what the budgeteer bases his calculation on but the Governor seems to accept his statement as accurate. The superintendent bases his estimate upon the provisions of the Edmonds law which provides for certain expenses of schools and ratios of increase in compensation. It is true that he made an under estimate at first to the extent of \$4,500,000, but appears to be certain of the accuracy of his last statement on the subject. The Auditor General's estimate is based upon the same foundation, but he takes in some collateral expenses which the superintendent omitted purposely or otherwise. In any event the "mess" has knocked the much heralded budget "into a cocked hat."

But this is not the worst aspect of the affair. Even wise men have differed upon questions of fact, and wise men will do so to the end of time. This difference, however, is not of that innocent sort. There is woven into it something of a sinister nature that engenders bad blood, and our righteously Governor and our equally estimable Superintendent of Public Instruction are thinking and saying unpleasant things about each other. During the campaign their relations were so widely different. It is true that the Governor discreetly withheld open praise of the superintendent but the superintendent converted the public school organization into a Pinchot propaganda. It is sad indeed.

—A recess appointment was too raw for McNary. It's a pity the President isn't equally sensitive to public sentiment.

—The groundhog may have slipped a cog last week but he is back on the job sure enough now.

Senator Pepper the Low Limit.

It wasn't necessary for Senator Pepper to announce that he would have voted for the ship subsidy bill if a vote had been taken on that vicious measure. Everybody knows that he is the most servile slave of the machine in the Senate. He probably knows that the only purpose of the legislation was to bestow upon certain wealthy campaign contributors license to loot the treasury. But the President wanted it to pass and Pepper's idea of public service is to gratify the wishes of those higher up in the official scale. He is a born sycophant and in obeying orders which conflict with a properly controlled conscience he is fulfilling his purpose in official life.

Some time ago the President nominated for the office of controller of the Currency a banker residing in New Mexico, named McNary. Objection had been filed against the confirmation of Mr. McNary and a sub committee of the Senate committee on Finance, of which Senator Pepper was a member, was named to probe the charges. This committee investigated the charges and Senator Pepper made report to the President that his nominee was unfit and asked that the nomination be withdrawn. President Harding declined to withdraw the nomination, which had been made at the request of Secretary of the Interior Fall, now happily an "ex," and when the question of confirmation came to a vote Pepper stultified himself by voting in the affirmative.

There have been some rather rank figures in the public life of the country and Pennsylvania has supplied some of the toughest. Pretending to respectability he willingly lends himself to the nefarious schemes of political adventurers. Only the other day he put himself behind a movement for the unconditional pardon of all political prisoners, and justifies the action on the ground that he was acting as a lawyer rather than as a Senator. But as a Senator he is paid for conserving the interests of the government.

Judge Henry C. Quigley, of Bellefonte, was featured on the front page of every Philadelphia paper on Tuesday through his instructions to the grand jury in quarter sessions court to clean up the city of the willfully careless drivers of automobiles who pay no regard to the rights of others and kill and maim with apparently no thought of the consequences. According to the Philadelphia papers there are hundreds of cases on the dockets of the various courts in that city against automobilists for all degrees of offenses from punitive damages to murder and Judge Quigley stated to the grand jury that it was high time to call a halt on such criminal recklessness. The high-powered car of the present day is not only a luxury but an almost absolute necessity, but in the hands of an intoxicated individual or a reckless driver it is a terrible instrument of destruction, and the only way to keep it in its proper niche is to get rid of the incompetent manipulators.

The New Game Bill is Having Rough Sledding.

The Hon. Tom Beaver's new game code is having a rough time of it in Harrisburg. The committee, of which Mr. Beaver is chairman, had a stormy session Tuesday morning and many things happened to the bill. The proposed increase of 50 cents in license fees was cut to 10 cents, the feature that would have deprived farmers of the right to hunt on their own lands was cut out, the groundhog was taken off the protected list and a lot of other changes were made. In fact the bill has been changed entirely, but will not be reported out until the committee has another session over it next Monday.

Centre County Bank Case Argued Wednesday.

The appeal of Geo. R. Meek, Florence F. Dale and Andrew Breese vs. the Centre County Banking Co., was argued before the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in Philadelphia, on Wednesday. Attorneys Spangler and Gettig appeared for the Banking Co., and Hon. Ellis L. Orvis and M. C. Rhone represented the appellants. All we know as to the outcome is that the argument was concluded.

Engineer "Bill" McCollum is Having Troubles of His Own, so Don't Tell Him Yours.

Following close upon last Saturday's slight wreck in this place, when the engine of the Lewisburg passenger train jumped the track, the engine he was driving on Wednesday broke down at Lemont and he was over two hours late getting into Bellefonte.

The Grandiloquent Member from Northampton.

It is seldom that speeches made on the floor of the House at Harrisburg have any public interest. For the most part they are little more than parliamentary passages at arms between Members who are jockeying for technical advantage under the rules. Such being the case it is refreshing to note the speech which the gentleman from Northampton, Mr. Stofflet, made last week in defense of his intention to vote against the measure that would bring women under the same penalty of law that sends men to prison for failure to pay taxes. While Mr. Stofflet added little to constructive thought on the issue he did contribute a grandiloquent bit of persiflage when he said:

Mr. Speaker and members of the House, it is a fact that we have women suffrage, but I cannot say yet that I am thoroughly reconciled to it. During the last campaign, a candidate who is a very close personal friend of mine made that same remark, and he said in violent opposition to women suffrage, and he partly laid the blame on me, by reason of his close association and my opinions. He said in his remarks that the time when Solon was the great jurist; Phocion, a great Legislator in Greece; when Socrates delivered his great orations and Demosthenes thrilled the world with his eloquence; when Phidias carved the immortal statue of Jupiter Olympian; Hypocrates laid the foundation of medicine; Archimedes laid the foundation of mathematics; when Alexander had conquered the world; when Napoleon had become the greatest military genius of all time and Solomon, the wisest of men, that that was considered the Golden Age of thought. But, unfortunately, in those days women occupied a sphere in life little better than that of a slave. I must agree with him, but today we must also admit that woman is practically in the saddle. Now let us go back for one minute and see what olden times. Solon no longer is a jurist; the modern Solon is a justice of the peace; Phocion no longer passes laws, he is clerk in an insurance office; Demosthenes no longer orates; Socrates no longer thrills with his eloquence; Demosthenes calls out the trains at the railroad station and Socrates is an auctioneer; Phidias no longer carves the immortal Jupiter Olympian, he works in a stone quarry for a dollar and a half a day; Hypocrates no longer lays the foundations of any new cults in medicine, he peddles liniment; Alexander no longer conquers worlds, he is chief of police, and Napoleon is a constable, and Solomon, the wisest of all men is at home, diligently sweeping the kitchen, washing the dishes and taking care of the children, and his six hundred wives are down at a meeting of the women's voters' league. But, having amused you for just a minute, I want to say in all seriousness that I shall vote "no" on this bill, and I hope that every man that wishes to protect woman from herself will do the same.

Prohibition and Politics.

From the Doylestown Democrat. "It would be very embarrassing," said President Harding, speaking in opposition to the application of civil service to the machinery of prohibition enforcement, "to be obliged to submit charges and establish, in each case, misconduct in office." Embarrassing to the accused employee, perhaps, but is the good fellowship of the President so pervasive that rather than irritate and annoy an incapable or dishonest enforcement agent, he would prefer that nothing whatever be mentioned about the matter? From the very beginning politics has influenced the enforcement of the liquor law. Politics has plagued the system continuously, and to it the difficulties of enforcement may be traced to a great extent. Politicians demand the selection of their favorites. They ask for pressure in this instance and beg relief from pressure in that. They have kept inefficient and unscrupulous agents in office. Small wonder, then, that there have been difficulties. We do not say that the merit system would affect a panacea for one hundred per cent. prohibition enforcement, but in so far as it would banish politics from the service, the efficiency and honesty expended in seeing that the law is obeyed would be subjected to a tremendous advancement.

Mistress of the Seas.

From the Columbus Dispatch. We are now going to have a floating weather bureau, and with our floating debt, our floating population and our drifting foreign policy, we may yet become a great maritime nation, even though we have no merchant marine to speak of.

Restless Europe.

From the Detroit News. At times it looks as if things in Europe are to pick up and go ahead just the same as if nothing had happened, and then something happens.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mrs. Mary Jones, of Wilkes-Barre, entered a plea of guilty in federal court at Williamsport, on Monday afternoon to the charge of transporting liquor and was sentenced to one year in jail and to pay a fine of \$1000.

—Their fourth "set" of twins was born last Thursday to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Watkins, residing near Lock Haven. Three of the "pairs" have been born within the last three years. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins have been married eighteen years and are the parents of thirteen children, all living.

—According to information regarded as very reliable, a new fire brick plant is to be built at Monument the coming spring and summer by the Harbison-Walker Refractories company to replace the one now in use and erected about twenty years ago. The new plant will be built south of the present works so that there will not be any interruption of production.

—Henry M. Harding, of Luzerne county, is the oldest guest of the Masonic home, at Elizabethtown. He is in his ninety-fifth year, was associate judge of Common Pleas of Wyoming county and thirty-eight years a justice of the peace. He has voted at every Presidential election since the candidacy of Scott and Pierce, and is a distant relative of President Harding.

—Peter Selp, of Fleetwood, near Reading, was robbed of \$65 by two highwaymen, who clubbed him to insensibility and laid his body on the Reading Railway tracks. When he revived he rolled himself from the tracks just as the late express dashed by. Twenty men formed a posse, and searched the farms and woods for hours for the highwaymen, but without success.

—Miss Virgie E. Ream, of Elizabethtown, has entered suit for \$5000 against the estate of Pierson M. Brooks, of that town, whom the plaintiff, through her lawyer, John E. Malone, alleges promised to marry her, but always postponed the wedding during their sixteen years of courtship. The suit for heart balm was directed against Hiram H. Nissley, administrator of the Brooks estate.

—That the destruction of a marriage certificate by his wife was just cause for divorce was decreed by the Fayette county court in the case of Anthony V. Matron, of Brownsville, who was divorced from Margaret Matron. The couple were married August 8th, 1910, at Conneville. Matron testified that his wife declared that she did not want to live with him any longer and that she took their marriage certificate and tore it up in front of him.

—Stephen Bitterbender, of Sunbury, a telephone collector, piled his clothing neatly on the bank of the Susquehanna river fourteen years ago and was supposed to have plunged into the stream, in lieu of satisfying an alleged shortage in his funds. James Phillips, county treasurer, of Northumberland county, received a letter from Bitterbender from Portland, Oregon, on Saturday, in which he asked what had become of his mother's estate. She lives in Shamokin and is not dead yet, the treasurer said.

—Two highwaymen early on Monday morning entered the City Line hotel, a road-house on the northern boulevard of Scranton, and ordered fifteen men to hold up their hands. They then rifled the men's pockets, getting in all about \$500. The proprietor of the place, Samuel Tevelin, says he was behind the bar when the bandits entered. Other men who were in the hotel at the time tell conflicting stories and as a result, a police force launched a fresh investigation. No trace of the highwaymen has been obtained.

—Harry Orr, a young farmer on the Misses Anna and Maude Hutchinson farm near Warriorsburg, committed suicide on Wednesday afternoon, February 28th, by hanging himself to a rafter in the barn, where he was found by the children on their return from school. Mr. Orr, who formerly resided at Tyrone, was held in high esteem, and the day before the sad affair seemed perfectly rational as he mingled with his friends. No one, consequently, can account for his act. He leaves a wife and six children.

—Two youths who pleaded guilty in the Allegheny county criminal court of stealing automobiles for "joy riding" were sentenced on Monday to penal institutions by Judge A. B. Reid, who indicated last week he would endeavor to break up the practice by punishing offenders to the full extent of the law. Louis Bucholtz, aged 19 years, was sent to the Pennsylvania industrial reformatory at Huntingdon, and Floyd Lavender, a negro, was sentenced to serve thirty days in jail. Lavender's sentence was shortened because he had passed sixty-five days in jail since his arrest.

—According to the will of Mrs. Martha Souser, widow of a former superintendent of the Danville district, of the Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which disposes of a \$15,000 estate, \$1,000 is bequeathed to the support of a native missionary in India. The sum of \$1,000 is given toward founding the John W. Souser and Margaret Tewksbury churches somewhere in Oregon. The Rev. Dr. John W. Souser, who died some years ago, was widely known as one of the influential preachers in Methodism in the Central Pennsylvania conference.

—Three hundred and fifty men are at work on the first of the three great hydraulic power dams being constructed on the Clarion river and the crews will be increased to 900 men just as soon as the building season opens. Construction is being concentrated at the Piney creek dam, and engineers estimate that seventeen months will be required to complete the work. The lower dam of Foxburg and the upper dam at Mill creek will be taken up later. The upper reservoir is to be the largest. It will have a breast wall on the dam, that will be 250 feet high and will back water up in the Clarion river as far as Ridgway, sixteen miles distant.

—Big game hunters will be interested in the announcement that a herd of elk has been wintering in the hemlocks near Kelleysville, in Forest county. There are about a dozen elk in the herd, and Game Protectors Beaty, Wilson and Shaw have been carefully guarding them and plowing hay and feed for the animals during the period of heavy snow. The elk are all big fellows and are evidently an outgrowth of the few that were given freedom in Forest county several years ago. This is the first report of the animals since they were turned loose in the woods, as they were never spotted by hunters during the hunting season. All of the animals are in fine shape.