

It may be necessary to adopt the German system of providing money in order to strike a balance between receipts and expenditures in Pennsylvania.

Today Pennsylvania is without licensed saloons. Any person may sell near beer to children, as well as grown ups and sell it at any hour of the day or night.

The Governor has sanctioned an appropriation of \$2,993,914 to State. He will approve it, he says, if the Legislature can find some source from which to get the money.

With sugar at ten cents a pound it must be pretty hard for the new woman voter to keep sweet on the party that put it there by placing a needless tariff on the commodity.

Judge Quigley is landing on the front pages of the Philadelphia papers so frequently of late that, if there should happen to be a vacancy on a bench higher up some of these days, he's getting the publicity that will help a lot in landing him on that.

Bernhart is dead. Those of you who never saw the great French tragedienne will never know what you have missed. It is well, for after having seen her Cleopatra we never fully appreciated such wonderful actresses as were Ellen Terry, Miss Gale and Julia Marlowe.

If every man, woman and child in Bellefonte were to pay \$37.08 into the borough treasury during 1923 there would be no necessity for a tax levy for borough purposes and the entire borough debt would be wiped out. Of course all the bachelor men and women will say: Let's do it, but the heads of the big families say: Nay! nay!

If nothing intervenes to prevent it on the sixteenth day after this one we opine that our salutation to the first fellow we meet, after it gets light enough to see any one, will be: Are they doing anything? In other words we're goin' fishin' and, because our private boot-logger has completely forsaken us, any old ossifer can search and seize us to his heart's content.

Using an expression so popular and full of meaning in the pre-Volstead days: "We don't care what becomes of us now." The First National bank has just presented us with \$50,000.00. The fact that it is Bolshevik money and is actually worth only two cents doesn't make a particle of difference to us. All we need to do is turn Bolshevik and then we'll be crazy enough to think it's good.

The bills that the Governor has had introduced as supplementary to the enforcement measure that is now a law are, to say the least, anomalous. What the purpose of licensing a brewery to make near beer and not the retailer of it could be we are at a loss to understand. And we read into one of the other measures introduced an effort to make effective the principle of the "search and seizure" clause that was stricken out of the original bill.

Princess Mary's baby was christened on Sunday and he bawled during the ceremony. The bawling probably made the incident front page stuff for our metropolitan journals. We can see no other reason for making such a fuss over this English infant, when we're christening a thousand of them every day right here at home and few of them will ever get into a personal column, even, until they grow up and go to spend a week-end with some one or become a successful boot-logger.

Just because it has happened a few hundred miles away from home we all feel inclined to talk about the trouble J. Kearsley Mitchell, of Philadelphia, has gotten himself into through his philandering with a New York model. And yet, if we were to talk about the philandering of a few married men, right here at home, that we know of, those who are rolling the Mitchell-Keanan affair around on their tongues like a delectable bit-bit, would think we ought to be ridden out of town on a rail.

The slender margin of seven votes by which the Governor's prohibition bill got through the House, on Tuesday morning, was something of a surprise. The only conclusion that the unbiased mind can make from the result is that prohibition is not as strong in Pennsylvania as it was supposed to be and the Governor has less strength with the Legislature than his assumptions have proclaimed. It is very apparent that had the "search and seizure" clause not had the teeth amended out of it the enforcement bill would have failed of passage. The outstanding significance of the vote, however, is that the Governor's pet measure, the one on which he had counted as being a call to the Union to rally behind him as the Moses of the Volstead act and a potential candidate for President was passed, not because of his power, but because most of the 107 votes cast for it were influenced by sentiment "back home." It is plain that the Governor cannot dictate legislation. If, with all the power of the prohibition sentiment in the State back of him, he could get only a margin of seven for an emasculated enforcement bill, what may he expect for the governmental reform measures he has fathered? They might get through, but we are making no predictions because, as we have said before, the Governor has a lot of good ideas but seems to know nothing about how to get them over.

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Pinchot's Great Victory.

The Pinchot enforcement bill passed the House of Representatives on Tuesday afternoon by a narrow margin. There being 209 members of the body 105 votes are necessary to carry a measure and it received 107. The majority was small but sufficient. It was acquired at a high cost, however. Every possible expedient was invoked to cajole or coerce the membership. It will be said, and probably with reason, that official patronage was used to persuade members of the House to vote in the affirmative. It is certain that no effort was spared to accomplish the result. Whether it is worth the price remains to be seen. There are other crimes in the catalogue quite as heinous as taking a drink.

Most citizens of Pennsylvania, men and women, will be glad if the ostensible purpose of the legislation will be achieved. Saloons had not only degenerated into a nuisance but had actually become a menace. If the enactment of this measure will abolish saloons in Pennsylvania the people will have cause to rejoice. But if the effect of the legislation is to change a limited number of regulated saloons into an unlimited number of unregulated drinking booths, it will work harm rather than good. A great many people are apprehensive that such will be the result. Pool rooms, cigar stores, restaurants, booths of various sorts may dispense beverages as the saloons have been doing, and more harmfully.

Be that as it may, however, regulated saloons ceased in Pennsylvania with the executive approval of the bill. Possibly "the end may justify the means" employed to secure that result. But it was hardly necessary to employ the "bunk" used by the speakers in advocating the passage. Men who opposed the bill may have been quite as earnestly in favor of sober and clean lives as those who favored it, and the speaker who introduced Lincoln's name into the discussion paid no compliment to the memory of the great martyr. If the Pinchot bill had been in operation when Lincoln was "riding the circuit" he would have been liable to arrest every trip he made.

The suggestion of the road-builders in conference in Harrisburg, last week, that politics be eliminated from the Highway Department is not likely to be followed generally. In this State, at least, the Highway Department has been the fountain of politics in the past.

Court of Industrial Relations.

The proposition of Representative Parkinson, of Greene county, to create in this State a court of industrial relations similar to that in Kansas is not likely to meet with popular favor however strongly it may appeal to the Pinchot administration, the machine politicians or the General Assembly. In Kansas it has never accomplished a great deal of good but has provoked considerable confusion and worked some injustice to labor. Moreover when Editor Allen, of Emporia, Kansas, openly flouted one of the salient provisions of the measure creating the court, Governor Allen spluttered somewhat and then subsided, leaving the law and the court "in the air" objects of popular contempt.

No doubt Representative Parkinson has the best motives in mind in proposing such legislation and because it would make provision for some new and lucrative offices it is equally certain that it would please the politicians immensely. But the absurdity of it is revealed in the section of the bill which requires that employees "shall receive at all times a fair wage and have healthful and moral surroundings," and "that capital invested therein shall receive at all times a fair return to the owners thereof." In the event that existing industrial conditions made it impossible to thus recompense capital and labor some body, presumably the State, would have to chip in to balance the books.

There are a whole lot of "good intentions" expressed in the proposed legislation, but it is said that the streets are paved with good intentions in a certain otherwise undesirable locality, and it would be almost as difficult to get good results out of the proposed court of industrial relations as to maintain a stock of ice in the locality paved with good intentions. There are plenty of courts now in existence in Pennsylvania and they are endowed with powers that cover almost any complaint or contingency. Besides the safest and surest way to reconcile differences between labor and capital is to adopt the golden rule in dealings between employer and employee.

Mr. Pinchot seems to imagine that his election as Governor of Pennsylvania invested him with authority to govern New York.

The Anthracite Coal Tax.

It appears that the vote of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg for the repeal of the anthracite coal tax was an expression of resentment against Governor Pinchot rather than a deference to popular sentiment. The Governor is making Senators and Representatives very tired. He not only wants to dominate the legislation but aspires to control every other agency of the government. There was a good deal of indignation over the publication of a list of persons pledged to support the Pinchot program, and it was considerably intensified by the exposure of the fact that Mrs. Pinchot was responsible for that incident. As a matter of fact there is an increasing feeling of too much Pinchot in Harrisburg.

Immediately following the inauguration the Governor announced that he intended to abolish the Department of Internal Affairs, created by the constitution, and substitute something of his own creation for it. Next he declared that the constitutional method of dispensing charity by the State must be abolished and a plan of his own conception put in its place. When opposition developed to these schemes Mrs. Pinchot undertook to organize the women to either entice or coerce the Legislature into obedience. Finally he brought his Uncle Eno to the capital to instruct the people of Pennsylvania how to build highways and operate traffic. His "sisters and his cousins and his aunts" are yet to be heard from.

But it is impolite to "look a gift horse in the mouth" and we prefer to believe that the vote for the repeal of the anthracite tax by the House of Representatives was influenced by a benevolent purpose to equalize the burdens of government and relieve those least able to pay of an unjust and unfair levy. Governor Pinchot is opposed to the repeal, and employed all the influence and force he could command to prevent the action taken by the House. He feels that the State needs money and is not particular as to the means necessary to acquire it. But the Representatives in the Legislature were not influenced either by spite, envy or resentment in their vote on the bill. They are above such things.

The Legislature is making slow progress, but that is no cause of complaint. If most of the pending measures are scrapped in the end the people will "make profit out of slothfulness."

Work for Women Politicians.

The women of Pennsylvania, whether in politics or out, may find food for reflection in the market price of sugar. Those in politics have had a good deal to do with that important element in the existing political conditions, if it be true as alleged, that in 1920 a vast majority of the women of the State voted the Republican ticket. The success of that ticket in that election is largely responsible for the present price of sugar, which an esteemed contemporary pronounces "outrageous." The Fordney tariff bill made it possible for the Sugar trust to run the price up to the high level it now occupies and in all probability will work further increases as the "canning season" approaches.

Of course women are no more concerned directly with the price of commodities used in the household than the men, for as a rule the men have to provide the money to meet the household expenses and the women are simply disbursing agents. But in spite of that fact we naturally associate women with problems in domestic economy. They use the sugar in cooking, baking and preserving and if the price is low they have the greater per centage of the family allowance for personal use or adornment. In voting for tariff taxation they simply vote license for the party in power to levy all the tax the traffic will bear, and the tax must be paid if the subject of taxation is used.

Of course Secretary of Commerce Hoover is indignant because of the high price of sugar. Secretary Hoover is always indignant after the event but never intervenes in advance to prevent the evil. He is so obsessed with ambition to hold office and exercise power that he never knows what to do. While Senator Smoot was negotiating through the diplomatic agencies of the government to limit the sugar crop of Cuba so as to create a shortage in this country Mr. Hoover might have interfered with the scheme. But he failed to do so and the proposition to increase the tax on beet sugar offered an equally good chance for intervention. But he remained quiet until the damage was done.

The worst thing about the "speed fiends" is that they are making it harder for rational car owners and drivers.

Pennsylvania Threatens Opposition.

The movement for the re-nomination of President Harding is likely to run against the first serious opposition in Pennsylvania. It has not found favor in the minds of the Republican leaders, according to Washington correspondents, and indications point to an uninstructed delegation to the next Republican national convention from this State prepared to traffic with the opponents of the President. Neither Senator Pepper nor Senator Reed is in favor of the renomination of Harding, the story goes, for the reason that he has not given them proper consideration in the distribution of patronage. The appointment of Alex. Moore, as Ambassador to Spain, is the "straw that broke the camel's back."

It can hardly be said that Pennsylvania has been slighted in the matter of patronage, though it is possible that the Senators have been ignored. Of the ten members of the President's cabinet two are Pennsylvanians, Mr. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Davis, Secretary of Labor. Of the Ambassadors three, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Woods and Mr. Moore are Pennsylvanians, and we recall no time when the State had a greater number. It is true that Senators Pepper and Reed had no voice in the selection of the cabinet members. They were private citizens then and Mr. Fletcher's appointment was in the nature of a promotion and made before the Senators were inducted into office.

There is some cause for complaint against the appointment of Alex. Moore, to be Ambassador to Spain, however. Persons not well informed on the subject might think that the Senators were responsible and that would militate against their reputation for intelligence. But we hardly think that Mr. Pepper would take such a matter so seriously. Of course he was disappointed that so important an office should come to the State without his knowledge or consent. But he can easily be reconciled. He wants patronage and if the President will favor him generously during the year which will intervene before the delegates are chosen the threatened opposition will fade away.

Henry Ford may have a shady understanding of the past, but he shows a bright view of the future when he predicts a minimum wage of \$10 a day a few years hence.

Senator Capper's Gloomy Report.

Senator Capper, of Kansas, in a signed editorial in his newspaper, "Capper's Weekly," says "another twenty-five per cent. will be added to the cost of living during 1923. This is the point to which prices are climbing. So reports the economist Fisher. It is disturbing news. If this comes to pass it means the consumer will have to pay seventy-five per cent. higher for what he buys than the same necessities cost him in 1914, the first year of the war." And the Kansas Senator is justly alarmed. "It looks as if we were in for another goose-killing," he adds, "unless the purchasing power of the consumer is increased twenty-five per cent.," which is not at all likely to occur.

About four and a half years ago the fighting forces in France and Flanders agreed to an armistice on terms proposed by Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States. Subsequently the peace conference, sitting at Versailles, adopted a plan to secure permanent peace on lines laid by President Wilson and his American colleagues. At that moment the government of the United States was the greatest moral and physical force on earth. When its voice was raised the whole civilized world listened. The covenant of the League of Nations expressed its aspirations for permanent peace and its guarantee of prompt readjustment and certain prosperity. But partisan malice, envy and uncharitableness intervened and prevented consummation of the purpose.

Then we had the largest merchant marine, both in number of ships and tonnage, of any nation in the world. We had more available capital and greater resources than all the rest of the world. We had an urgent invitation from all the world to lead in the activities of life and point the path to achievement. The markets of the world beckoned us to offer our wares. But the malignity of politics and the perversity of envious men have robbed us of all these advantages, because as Senator Capper says, "we have only a home market for American products," and no nation cares a snap what we think or do on any subject. Senator Capper was in the Senate during this period and contributed to the destruction.

The justice of the French invasion of the Ruhr valley is generally admitted but the wisdom of it becomes increasingly uncertain as time passes.

The Sugar Duty.

From the Philadelphia Record. Whatever else there may be behind the advance in sugar prices, the increased duty is undoubtedly there. Secretary Hoover denies that there is a shortage. There is said to be speculation, and that, of course, is facilitated by the increased duty, which has a tendency to keep out Cuban sugar and necessarily enhances the price.

Chairman Hull, of the Democratic National committee, appeals to the President to exercise his discretion under the flexibility provision of the tariff law to cut the duty 50 per cent. The appeal is perfectly reasonable; the duty is needless, and the increased price is burdensome. But, of course, a Republican President will take no notice of the representations of a Democratic chairman. To do what Mr. Hull asks would be to admit that the duty increases the price, and, while there is no other reason for imposing protective duties, the Republicans do not like to admit the truth to the consumer.

The sugar duty is mainly a revenue duty, but it would yield the most revenue if the duty were low and importation encouraged. The duty is considerably above the revenue point to accomplish the very thing that has happened, an increase of price by speculation. The cane sugar interests in this country are very small. The sugar planters of Louisiana complain that even with a high duty the business is not profitable, and they are gradually going into fruits and early vegetables as substitutes.

The beet sugar interest is a large one, but it needs no protection. Wherever soil and climate conditions are favorable sugar beets are a very profitable crop, and this is shown by the high prices such lands command. When the Beet Sugar trust was selling stock many years ago it assured investors that it could make money without any protection, and there is no doubt that this is true. But the consumption of sugar is very great and it is a legitimate subject for revenue taxation, and whatever incidental protection is afforded by a revenue duty the domestic producers are welcome to.

Beyond that they are not entitled to anything. The beet interests have a virtual monopoly of the sugar business in the interior of the country, as Hawaii has of the Pacific coast. The Eastern States get the greater part of their sugar from Cuba, and a low revenue duty is all that there is any justification for. In spite of representations from refiners, from consumers and from American owners of Cuban plantations, Senator Smoot's committee insisted on a high duty, which should increase the price and limit the supply, and thus facilitate the extortionate speculative increase of price from which the community is now suffering. The Republicans imposed this burden on the people, and they will not relax it lest they betray the secrets of protection.

How Government Payrolls Were Cut.

From the New York World. With great pride the Harding administration calls attention to the reduction of the number of government employees from 606,794 to 504,778 in the last two years. The figures are vouched for at the White House. On their face, without further comment, they look impressive. Here is very real economy. Here is substantial benefit to the harassed taxpayer. Only stop to consider what has been accomplished in the short period of 24 months.

But where was this large reduction in government employees effected? That is another matter. To begin with, the War Department shows a cut of 45,020, because of the reduction by Congress in the size of the army, in the face of the opposition of Secretary Weeks and the Administration. It was a memorable fight, in which the White House was beaten. Next comes the Navy Department with a cut of 43,037, because of the reduction made by Congress in the personnel of the navy, against the persistent protests of Secretary Denby and the President. Once more the administration was on the losing side. Secretary Mellon also parted with 19,154 workers in the Treasury Department. Thus 107,211 employees were dropped from the government payroll in these three departments.

For the rest there were increases in other directions that more than offset other reductions. Over 9100 employees were added to the Postoffice Department, in keeping with the rapid growth of its work. The forces of the Department of Agriculture were increased by 1197. The force of the Veterans' Bureau was raised to 32,325, an increase of 6693 in two years, and is still a target for numberless complaints.

After all, if Congress had everywhere cut as close to the bone as it did with the army and navy, the Administration would have been able to take still more credit to itself for the rigorous economy imposed upon it.

It is said that an Englishman laughed himself to death at a joke, but it may be safely predicted that it will never happen again.

Beauty isn't a thing of the face and the form. It is the heart, the mind and the will.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Wallace Dorward, 28, a boarder, and Beatrice Smith, 5, grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Reber, lost their lives when the Reber home at Slatedale was badly damaged by fire Sunday morning.

Oscar Kline, of Allentown, while painting the roof of an outhouse at his home on Saturday afternoon, was blown off a ladder and in falling broke his neck. He was dead when his wife, attracted by the noise of the falling ladder, reached his side.

Steps have been taken to induce the commission in charge of erecting a memorial to the memory of President James Buchanan to consider Buchanan Park, Lancaster, as a site. The money for the memorial was left by the late Dulton F. Buhmiller.

At a meeting of the congregation of St. Peter's cathedral, at Scranton, on Sunday, it was decided to present Rev. A. J. Brennan S. T. D., with a purse of \$25,000 as a testimonial of appreciation on the occasion of his elevation to the bishopric in that city on April 25th.

One hundred and twenty dollars, which he intended to pay a doctor's bill, were burned by fire which Saturday destroyed the home of David E. Burkholder, Chambersburg. The money was drawn from a bank several days ago and placed under a pillow in a bedroom.

Miss Beatrice Brady, an eighteen year old Shamokin girl, went to bed Saturday night more quickly than she had expected. The young woman went to the garret, the joists of which were not floored, to hunt some covers. Slipping she fell on the unprotected plaster and in a second was lying in bed in the sleeping-room below, having gone through the ceiling.

Walking into the "best" room at his home in Nanticoke while his wife and four children were entertaining a visitor in the kitchen, Anthony Mosculo, 22 years old, shot himself in the head with a 45-caliber automatic pistol. Authorities said that despondency over ill health and his inability to support his wife prompted the act. Mrs. Mosculo stated that he had threatened to kill himself several times.

The great Conowingo dam, to be built by the Susquehanna Power Co., of New York, will be located 18 miles south of Holtwood dam at McCall's Ferry, will be of the same type as the latter, will cost upwards of \$20,000,000 and will furnish about 65,000 horse power to Lancaster and about 45,000 to Harrisburg. Its location is nearly half a mile above the Conowingo bridge, and 60 feet is the intended height.

Mrs. Charles Vaughn, 43 years old, of Pittston, died early Saturday morning of injuries received when she slid from the second to the first floor of a fire engine house in that town Thursday night on a brass pole used by firemen. The stunt was the result of a dare by one of a number attending a dance in the hose house. Lying on the ground floor, Mrs. Vaughn's legs were broken and she was injured internally.

The coolness of Iva Moss, eleven years old, of Almeda, Columbia county, on Saturday saved the lives of her six younger brothers and sisters and prevented the house from burning down. Iva discovered the baby's carriage had caught fire from the kitchen range. Grabbing the infant in her arms she smothered the flames in his clothing while she pushed the carriage out of doors. Then she summoned help and neighbors put out the fire raging in the kitchen.

The Rev. Z. A. Colestock, the oldest United Brethren minister in the United States, on Monday celebrated his 90th birthday anniversary at the Colestock home for aged people, at Quincy, Franklin county, which he founded a number of years ago. The aged clergyman was born in York county. He was licensed to preach seventy-nine years ago and was an active minister for fifty-six years. The home which he founded was established at his own home in Mechanicsburg but later was moved to Quincy.

Pottsville women are joining with the women of St. Clair, who have organized a movement to cut down home consumption of sugar 25 per cent. The women say they have received assurances that if this is carried out generally there will soon be a big drop in prices. Business men, however, doubt if the consumption can be much reduced in that district, due to the great increase in the use of ice cream and sweet drinks since the advent of prohibition. St. Clair women say they are receiving assurances of co-operation all over the State in the movement to organize a buyers' strike against sugar.

A calf born on the Willoughby Daub farm, about a mile northwest of Frederickburg, Lebanon county, is attracting unusual attention because of the fact that it has two tails. The remarkable feature of the phenomenal growth is that it is located between the shoulders of the animal. It is a real, live, and perfectly healthy organ, and has already acquired the same length and size and tassel as the regulation fly-chasing appendage. Many persons refused to believe that such a phenomenon was possible until they had personally visited the farm and had made an inspection of the calf for themselves.

The John Wagner will case, in McKean county, involving approximately \$100,000, has been settled out of court, according to an announcement made at Kane, last week. Wagner, a reclusive farmer, died in the McKean county home. He left his entire fortune to Rev. P. J. Donahue, pastor of the Roman Catholic church at Smithport. The priest held care for him in his declining days. Mrs. Hannah Boyle, Mrs. Patricia Boyle and William Driscoll, relatives, brought court action to break the will, alleging that Wagner was of unsound mind when he placed his signature on it. Under the settlement Father Donahue withdrew his claim as a beneficiary under the will, but the heirs agreed he should receive \$12,000.

For the second time, a verdict of \$17,000 awarded Mrs. Daisy Shankweiler, of Shamokin, was upheld by the Northumberland county court. Her husband was killed when he took hold of a lighting switch in his butcher shop, which, it is alleged, was alive with electricity due to a defective transformer. The Pennsylvania Lighting company, the defendant, denied this, and alleged contributory negligence. President Judge Frank H. Strouss, in denying the petition for a new trial and a judgment notwithstanding the verdict, points out that the testimony showed that a helper who went to Shankweiler's aid was also knocked down, and that this would indicate there was no reason for the wire to be so charged as to contain a death shock.