

The more we read of Teapot Dome the more we are convinced that his name ought to be spelled Dough-ehny.

When it comes down to spice in the political life of Mrs. Barclay Warburton she will probably declare that already she has had about as much Pepper and Sinnamon as she relishes.

A few more riots like that in the western penitentiary on Tuesday may dispel Dr. Ellie Potter of the notion that food ought to be pushed into the inmates of our penal institutions on tea wagons.

Just because our friend W. P. A. is worried lest we forget let us remind you that spring can't get here until we have had the "saplin bender," the "poor man's manure," the "onion" and the "robin" snows.

Today is the anniversary of the date on which the Maine went down in Havana harbor. The Lord willing, two months from today we'll be going down—Fishing creek or to some other stream when the lure of trout beckons.

In the good old hymn December's as Pleasant as May, but in the recent matrimonial adventure of old man Candler, the cocoa-cola king, it's different. His bride of thirty has been caught straying from the fireside of her room of seventy and there is great gossip in Atlanta, Georgia.

We think that President Coolidge is entirely right in telling the Senate to mind its own business. It is to laugh, however. The very crowd of inconsistent who are now trying to protect the prerogatives of the executive department of our government are the ones who fought so maliciously to deny them to Wilson.

Philipsburg has a Ku Klux Klan. Seventy strong, draped in sheets and white hooded, they marched to church over there last Sunday night. What a sight for sore eyes. Except for when the Odd Fellows or the P. O. S. of A. or the K. of C. marches in a body to its annual sermon we'll bet Philipsburg never beheld seventy men going into church at once before.

Between those who are reported as having their ears to the ground and those who have already tuned in and gotten the call we are inclined to think there are so many of Centre county's lawyers going to be candidates for Judge that we would advise all those having any 'lawin' business to do to do it now. If reports be true the bar will be too busy buildin' fences a year from now to bother about trifling retainers.

We would be inclined to pass up the expressions of a Pittsburgh gentleman who has written to say that he regards the "Watchman's" story of the life and last illness of former President Wilson as the most comprehensive of any that he read were it not for two facts. First we have a great respect for the competency of the gentleman as a judge of such matters and, second, because we know it was the best any one could have read.

The worst has happened. Another of our idols has been shattered. The general factum of State College borough, John Laird Holmes, he of the intention to run for the Legislature on a "trust me," "no pledge to any one" platform has met the enemy and is theirs. We note from an announcement published elsewhere in this issue that a committee has visited Mr. Holmes and that he gracefully came across with all the promises it desired him to make.

The "Watchman" isn't for Mr. McAdoo, or Mr. Davis, or Mr. Underwood, or Mr. Murphree, or Mr. Pomeroy, or Mr. Walsh for President. It is for that one of them, or some one else, who may later prove to be the best bet as a winner. But if we were Mr. McAdoo we'd not withdraw from the race. The attempt to link his name with the Teapot Dome scandal is only a political man hunt and if he is clean, as we believe him to be, none but such as were only his friends for what they hoped to get out of him will desert his banner.

The young man who left State College because he couldn't stand for military drill has our sympathy. We had the same inclination once, though not inspired by the same motives. Our obsession was dispelled by a stern note from home and a few hours polishing an old brass cannon that stood out on the front campus, and a few more trying vainly to shovel mud out of the bottom of a rifle pit. Them were the moments when we could have gotten the D. S. O. from any of the rebellious Central American States. Also, them were the days when we learned that discipline had as great a part to play in peaceful pursuits as it does in warfare.

On Tuesday night, in New York, President Coolidge cut the apron strings that have bound him to his inherited position and fared boldly forth into the political arena with all the hope and confidence that stimulate the youth who opens his eyes on the dawn of his twenty-first birthday. It was the President's first speech outside of Washington. It was his candid salutory. It was not great. One thought interested us, however. When he said: "To me the greatness of Lincoln consisted very largely of a vision by which he saw more clearly than the men of his time the moral relationship of things" we got to wondering whether the President really thought that of Lincoln or whether the more recent memory of Wilson inspired it.

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Pinchot Opposition Organized.

At a meeting of Republican leaders, held in Philadelphia on Monday evening of last week, a movement was organized to oppose the election of Governor Pinchot as delegate-at-large to the Cleveland convention. There were no very great leaders present and not a great number. But Dave Lane, Frank McClain, Bill Campbell, Jim Connelly, Charlie Snyder, Horace Shantz and Ralph Strassburger were on hand and to quote from a statement issued, "in common with hundreds of thousands of Republicans of Pennsylvania," they proclaimed opposition to, and declared war upon, Gifford Pinchot as a candidate for the honor which chairman Baker, Senator Pepper and Secretary Mellon have sold, bargained and conveyed to Gifford Pinchot.

Ex-Lieutenant Governor McClain, as spokesman for the insurgents, justifies himself and his associates on the ground that they "believe that seven stalwart Republicans should be sent to the Cleveland convention as delegate-at-large," and that "Governor Pinchot's record, past and present, does not entitle him to be included in such a list." It is "none of our affair," probably, but the proposition may easily be refuted. In the first place there is no legal right to challenge the Governor's record previous to 1922. His cordial and enthusiastic support by all the complainants for Governor condoned previous offences and since his election he has developed a capacity for political dicker- ing that equals the most stalwart.

But we hold no brief for Pinchot and have little inclination to enter the lists in his defense. It does seem to us, however, that the impending fight is quixotic, in that under the agreement with Baker and Pepper, Pinchot will appear in the convention, if he gets there at all, "hog-tied," and harmless, and defeating him may offer an excuse for repudiating his agreement to keep four or five hundred of Baker's faithful followers in the good jobs they are now enjoying. Besides Mr. Strassburger, upon whom the favor of the insurgents is to be bestowed, has not always been stalwart. While serving as the "angel" of Hi Johnson and the guide of Pinchot in 1923 he was not in the line of orthodoxy.

Just a tip! If the Teapot Dome scandal is to be a major issue in the campaign wouldn't it be consistent and logical to give Senator Walsh a place on the ticket?

Plenty of Capital for Business.

An esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, in its issue of Monday last, gives considerable space to impending industrial expansion in that city. It states that the Gulf Refining company has acquired land at Girard Point at a cost of \$180,000 upon which it proposes to construct storage tanks to cost \$1,500,000, and that the Ford Motor company has purchased land near Sixty-first street at the price of \$490,000 upon which to build "a duplicate of the Detroit plant" which will cost \$5,000,000. The General Electric company has acquired a tract on Mingo creek upon which it proposes to erect an addition to its plant and the Porter-Gildersleeve corporation has purchased ninety-two acres for expansion purposes.

These developments in the industrial life of Philadelphia go a considerable distance toward proving the contention of Senator Couzens, of Michigan, that there is plenty of money available for business enterprises when and where there are opportunities for profitable investments. Philadelphia is not an exceptionally progressive community and yet there appears to be ample capital and an abundance of courage to employ it in that city. Other cities may be less favored, but the chances are that conditions are alike all over the country, and wherever there is promise of fair return on the investment there will be funds to keep the wheels of industry in motion. It is a feature of the law of supply and demand.

Yet the esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, from the columns of which we have quoted, constantly iterates and reiterates the absurd proposition that the income tax levied upon a couple of hundred multi-millionaires must be cut in half in order to enable them to invest their capital in industrial enterprises instead of tax-free securities. There may be a few mossbacks who have acquired wealth by inheritance and have neither brains to reason nor patriotism to inspire, willing to thus "bury their talents," but happily they are few and far between. Secretary Mellon knows better, but he is anxious to save a million or two annually on his personal taxes, and is fooling innocents like our contemporary.

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, it might have been," is probably Gifford Pinchot's opinion at present.

Gifford's Great Disappointment.

Our heart bleeds for Gifford Pinchot. For years he has been cherishing an ambition to be President of the United States and just as the opportunity was about to open in full flower he was beguiled into putting it aside and completely out of reach, not only for the present, but for all time. Of course he didn't know that a scandal which involved the slated candidate for the office was about to be uncovered when he bound himself body and soul to chairman Baker and Senator Pepper for and in consideration of a seat as delegate-at-large to the National convention. Possibly Baker and Pepper were equally ignorant on the subject. In that event they stumbled into a bargain of great value.

On the Sunday evening when Mr. Pinchot took himself away from his customary devotions to frame up politics for Pennsylvania Republicans, Calvin Coolidge was almost as good as nominated for the Presidency and the only thing our Governor could ask was a conspicuous place in the convention that is to ratify the choice. But within a week the scandal developed and practically took Coolidge out of the running. If Mr. Pinchot had been foot-loose at the moment he might easily have taken the place. The only other announced candidate is Senator Johnson, of California, and he is anathema to the Old Guard leaders. With his big purse and widely known reputation for liberality Gifford might easily have stepped in.

But unhappily he has "sold his birthright for a mess of pottage." He has pledged his word to chairman Baker that he will not be a candidate himself and that he will not support any other candidate who is not favored by the State organization leaders, and he can't possibly repudiate his agreement. An honorable man would not want to do so and one willing to make such a sacrifice of manhood could not be elected even if nominated. It is a sad situation for Gifford and even more disappointing to Cordelia, who would love to be "the first lady of the land." But as the late Elbert Hubbard once said, during a period of despondency, "this life is just one damn thing after another."

Incidents like those which marked the close of the mine workers convention do more harm to organized labor than the attacks of corporation lawyers.

Republican Troubles Multiply.

The troubles of the Republican machine leaders multiply. "One woe upon another's heels doth tread." The agreement between chairman Baker and Governor Pinchot has been repudiated by hosts of local leaders throughout the State. Dave Lane, Frank McClain and Max Leslie protest that they never will allow the Governor to sit in the Cleveland convention as a delegate-at-large and the Governor has traded off all his available political assets to buy the coveted honor. His last investment, the appointment of former Mayor Tom Smith, may accomplish the result. But even so the party conditions are not greatly improved. Mrs. Barclay Warburton is now in revolt.

Some weeks ago Mrs. Warburton exacted a promise from chairman Baker and Senators Pepper and Reed, not only that the women should have fair representation on the convention delegation, but that the vice chairman of the State committee should select the women to be thus honored. After prolonged deliberation Mrs. Warburton selected the wife of Judge Martin, of Philadelphia, as the delegate-at-large and named two or three up-State women as alternates. Mayor Kendrick and Congressman Vane had promised one of these places to a Mrs. Sinnamon, of Philadelphia, and appealed from the decision of Mrs. Warburton. At a meeting held in Washington, on Saturday, Baker, Pepper and Reed decided in favor of Mrs. Sinnamon.

Now Mrs. Warburton is real angry with chairman Baker and we don't blame her. Of course she blames Senator Pepper, too, but realizes that the chairman is the boss and could have forced the fulfillment of his pledge if he had wanted to. "If this be true," she declared, "it means that Senator Pepper and chairman Baker have broken their pledge to me that I would have the sole authority to name all the women candidates." It is easy to imagine how she felt about it. Senator Pepper and chairman Baker are such nice men that their perfidy is like shattering a cherished idol. But Mrs. Warburton will have to get used to disappointments if she intends to continue in political activity.

Probably Harry Sinclair intends to move his office to Europe. It's a safer place for his kind of business.

It is in the air that former sheriff John Condo is going to be a candidate for nomination for the Legislature.

Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson.

Of all the men in public life who have published appraisements of Woodrow Wilson since his death that of Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Great Britain during the world war, is easily the most accurate. This is not surprising for no other man living enjoyed the same opportunities to take the measurements. They were intimately associated though separated by the sea during the field operations in France and Flanders and more closely, because nearer in touch, during the sessions of the Peace Congress at Versailles. They were not always in agreement in the matter of detail but they worked for the same results, Wilson the more sincere and earnest and Mr. George the more diplomatic.

"Woodrow Wilson will become one of the great figures in history. He was a man and therefore had his weaknesses but he was the first to embody the ideal of fraternity of nations into a concrete plan," said the former Premier, and added: "Like the founder of Christianity, and like Lincoln before him, he prosecuted his ideal to his tragic death." Thus coupling mild but candid criticism with superlative praise, the British statesman reveals the sincerity of his purpose. Mr. Wilson had the weaknesses of humanity but they were of the amiable type. He misjudged men in the dispensing of his favors and adhered too long to his friendships or favorites.

Mr. Wilson may have cherished his animosities too well as Lloyd George states as well as his friendships but it was because of his sincerity. He could not compromise with what he conceived to be wrong any more than he could tolerate crime. "After all," says the Premier, "Mr. Wilson was a tenderfoot in politics." Otherwise he might "have realized his ideals during his life time," but such subtlety would not have added to his stature as a statesman or increased the profound affection which the right minded men and women of America held for him while he lived and cherish him in memory now that he is dead. Maybe he "trampled on little men" but they occupied places of the big.

Former Lieutenant Governor Frank McClain declares that the opposition to Governor Pinchot will be "a merry war." Maybe so, but if Cordelia gets warmed up in the scrimmage it will not be all fun.

McAdoo Vindicates Himself.

The evidence given by Mr. William G. McAdoo, before the Senate committee investigating the oil scandals, will absolve him from blame or taint in the minds of all unprejudiced men. As he stated, there was no reason for dragging his name into the matter. It was clearly a feature of "the fight against Wilson," which is to be continued though the lamented former President lies in an honored grave. Mr. McAdoo left the public service on January 11th, 1919. After a vacation of three months he organized a firm to practice law, and in November following his firm was retained by the Doheny interests to protect their property in Mexico. He rendered no service outside of the Mexican matter.

The manifest purpose of trying to mix him up with the oil scandals was to impair his chances of nomination as the Democratic candidate for President. How far the sinister purpose will succeed remains to be seen. The friends of other candidates will make the most of it, beyond doubt. But Mr. McAdoo's frank statement of the facts before the committee will go a long way toward vindicating him. If he had advised the leasing of the naval reserve oil fields, even as counsel for Doheny, or had recommended the action of the government officials, in any capacity, there would be just cause of complaint against him. But as a matter of fact he had no part in the matter, direct or indirect.

Mr. McAdoo, with a vast earning capacity as a lawyer or engineer, gave seven years of his time at meager compensation to the service of the country. After the close of the war he withdrew from the public service for the declared purpose of increasing his revenues in the interest of his family. In pursuit of this laudable purpose he accepted Doheny as a client in a perfectly proper matter. But the enemies of Woodrow Wilson imagined they might distort this action in such a way as to harm him in his ambition. It is a dastardly enterprise, a sneaking, cowardly effort at character assassination, which will fail because an intelligent public discerns and a courageous public denounces such methods.

The Anti-Saloon organization proposed to stand by Anderson, notwithstanding his conviction for forgery, which indicates that the organization is not opposed to all kinds of crime.

Dead Sea Fruit.

From the Philadelphia Record.

It was to be expected that our Republican friends would roll under their tongues as a delicious morsel the naming by Doheny of Messrs. McAdoo, Gregory, Garrison and Lane as recipients of oil money in their capacity as attorneys at law. Here is incentive for them to redouble their efforts, based on a cue from President Coolidge, to represent the official corruption lately revealed as implicating both political parties. So we may anticipate their labored attempts—already, indeed, begun—to deceive their readers.

Oil money has legitimate and illegitimate uses. It is needless to point out to fair-minded men that even so slippery a gentleman as Mr. Doheny may with perfect propriety employ attorneys to represent his lawful business interests, and that it is quite another thing to employ oil as a lubricant for the actions and services of public officials.

None of the prominent Democrats above named is accused by any one of having accepted money from the oil interests, or from any other interests doing business with the government, while holding a government office. None of them is alleged to have been paid money for any improper actions or services in private life. These men were all free to accept and earn retainer fees from oil or any other companies as practicing attorneys, and it is not even hinted that they failed to perform the services for which they were employed, or that those services were in any way discreditable.

It is perfectly true that Mr. Gregory is disqualified from acting as special prosecutor against Doheny and others by his connection, however trifling, with the Doheny interests as a lawyer. It is equally true that Mr. McAdoo's Presidential boom will not be promoted by the knowledge that he had, and has, important professional relations with Doheny, because Mr. Doheny is in bad odor, and his breath just now has a withering effect. But it is not true that the honor or integrity of either of these gentlemen, or of the others above named, is in question, and no effort to represent them as tarred with the same stick that has smirched Fall, Doheny, Sinclair and their fellow-conspirators can possibly succeed.

As to George Creel, that is another matter. Creel seems to have been paid \$5000, not for services, but for the influence he was supposed to possess with Secretary of the Navy Daniels. The event proved that he didn't have any influence, and if he sold any, the purchasers were cheated. We do not say that Creel received this money for this purpose, as we have not heard his side of the story, but we do say that the matter is of no importance. If the Republican organs wish to rest their case of Democratic involvement on Creel, they are welcome to. Nobody cares.

If any of the Republican headlines in this scandal could demonstrate that their connection with the defrauding of the government went no further than that of the Democrats so far named, there wouldn't be any scandal or any investigation or prosecution, and probably a great many Republican officials so far unnamed who are spending sleepless nights would rest easy.

The Loan to Japan.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The Japanese government has turned to the United States for the reconstruction loan necessitated by the earthquake disaster of last September. An international syndicate has been formed to insure a wide distribution of the Japanese bonds, which will total between \$250,000,000 and \$300,000,000. More than half of the amount will be floated in the United States. The Japanese are asking no favors of the United States or of any other country. American citizens generously aided the victims of the earthquake. That was charity. The requisite will be upon a strictly business basis.

The bonds to be issued this week will run for thirty-three years and carry interest at 6 1/2 per cent, being offered at a price to yield "better than 7 per cent." The credits thus established in this country will be employed for the purchase of steel, lumber and other materials here, to the benefit of American business.

The general soundness of Japanese government credit is well recognized. The government is stable from a political point of view. It has always in the past been able to meet its obligations. Its foreign relations, especially since the Washington conference, have been smooth. Moreover, it is customary for American financiers before including a loan of this character to obtain the sanction of the State Department.

The only political difference between Japan and the United States is over the immigration question, a thorny domestic problem that has impinged upon international relations. Sound business relations should, in the long run, help to smooth out differences that are already being approached from both sides in a friendly and conciliatory manner.

If a large block of these bonds could be placed in the anti-Japanese sections of this country and anti-Americans in Japan could have a part in the business negotiations with American concerns that will follow the flotation of this loan, it is likely that better understanding would be promoted on both sides.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Michael Diello, of Kane, 37 years old, has received notice that his claim against the Pennsylvania Railroad for the loss of an arm has been settled by the payment of the railroad company of \$12,000.

George Whary, of Shamokin, walked out of the Northumberland county jail last week a free man after the grand jury had ignored a bill charging him with the murder of his brother, John, in a saloon fight last summer.

While Samuel B. Mickel, 50 years old, of Frankstown, Blair county, a farmer, was operating a corn shredder on Friday, the machine exploded from some unknown cause, and he suffered a fracture of several ribs and right leg and lacerations.

The county of Montgomery is no longer liable for the salary of the late Dr. John N. Jacobs, who, as controller years ago, refused to accept his pay to the extent of \$16,000. After five years had elapsed, according to Controller Irvin, all claims were outlawed.

At a meeting of the trustees of the J. C. Blair Memorial hospital, at Huntingdon, on Saturday, it was announced that Mrs. Kate F. Blair had presented the institution with 60 milligrams of radium and the Huntingdon Presbyterian church had given \$500 to endow a perpetual membership in the name of Alexander Elliott, in accordance with his will.

Under a ruling of the workmen's compensation board, announced last Thursday hospitals will be permitted to charge more than the \$100 maximum established by a former ruling for care of certain compensation cases. The modified ruling provides for extra charges, other than the \$100, in extraordinary cases, when proof of such extra charges is approved by the board.

Requests of \$10,000 to the Lutheran ministerium of Pennsylvania, \$2000 to the Germantown Orphans' home, \$10,000 to Trinity Lutheran church, Lancaster, and a similar amount to Trinity Lutheran church, New Holland, and \$2500 to the Lancaster General hospital are included in the will of Miss Anna M. Kinser, of Lancaster, which has been admitted to probate. Her estate was valued at \$100,000.

Rev. Dr. John Wagner, first and only pastor of Trinity Lutheran church of Hazleton, which he organized nearly 50 years ago has presented his resignation to take effect June 30, marking his golden jubilee in the ministry and also that of the congregation. He is 72 years old. Dr. Wagner is a trustee of Gettysburg College, of which he is a graduate, and is prominent in the affairs of the Susquehanna Synod of the Lutheran church.

The biggest gas well in the Marion Center field has just been brought in by the T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil company, on the farm of Mrs. S. H. Jones, within the borough limits. The gas was tapped at a depth of 900 feet and was so powerful that it blew sand high into the air, while drillers found it impossible to continue their boring through the Murraysville sand. More than a day was spent before the well was placed under control.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Silas C. Swallow, of Harrisburg, have been married 58 years. Dr. Swallow will be 85 years old March 5. He was born near Wilkes-Barre. He was the prohibition nominee for President. He was pastor of the Ridge Avenue Methodist church, Harrisburg, for five years and for fourteen years was superintendent of the Methodist Publishing House in that city. Mrs. Swallow's maiden name was Robin and at the time of their marriage their friends called them "the two birds."

DuBoisstown, a Lycoming county borough with a population of 750 persons, claims the distinction of not having a manufacturing plant or place of business within its bounds that employs a half dozen men. It has no lockup or cemetery, borough hall, paid police officer or street commissioner, and no place of amusement exists within its limits. There is no doctor closer than South Williamsport, and as a consequence the borough has been unable to have a physician as a member of the board of health, as required by law. It has, however, one church and a volunteer fire company.

Robert Light, 19 years of age, pleaded guilty in Judge Bailey's court at Huntingdon, last week, to homicide in the killing of his brother, Frank Light, 31 years old, near Alexandria, December 30 last. The brothers after indulging in moonshine whiskey quarreled, and Frank knocked his brother down. Robert procured a gun and going to Frank's residence shot him through a window. He died in a few hours. The court sentenced him to seven years minimum, fourteen years maximum, in the western penitentiary. Both men lived near Tyrone and worked in a lumber camp at Alexandria.

Brooding over the belief that he had paid too much for the old homestead of his parents, Plus Andrew Keener, a furniture worker of Red Lion, York county, committed suicide on Sunday by hanging himself from a rafter in the garret of his home. He was 53 years old. His wife, investigating the reason for his being so long on the garret, discovered the dead body. Last week Keener purchased his parents' home for the sum of \$5,100. This he afterwards came to regard as "too high a price, but real estate men of the borough declared that it was reasonable, and that Keener had no cause for regretting his bargain.

E. A. Beshore, Sunbury representative of the Swift meat packing company, escaped death by mere inches late on Friday afternoon when the Pittsburgh-Easton flyer crashed into the roadster he was driving, on the East Sunbury crossing of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He had but a moment before left home and upon seeing the approach of the train, stopped and tried to back off the tracks. He was too late, however, the engine plunging into the front of the machine and hurling it from the tracks. Beshore clung frantically to the steering wheel and emerged from the wreckage without a scratch. The machine was a complete wreck.

Despite a widespread search which has been made by the state police and the police of a dozen or more Central Pennsylvania towns, no trace has been found of Miss Verna Rhoades, of McVeytown, Mifflin county, who disappeared after leaving Wernersville, enroute to her home, December 22. Miss Rhoades had been receiving treatment at a Wernersville sanatorium for several months. Just before Christmas she decided to spend the holidays with her sister, Mrs. S. B. Kiner, of McVeytown, and left for that place on December 22. The last seen of her by any one knowing her was when she boarded a Reading company train at Wernersville. She checked her baggage through to McVeytown.