

—There'll be no pointing with pride from Republican stumps next fall. There is nothing to point to.

—The Senator from Massachusetts might be regarded as the signed for Lodge in some vast wilderness.

—June brides are love, not seasonal, affairs and that is the reason that there are more of them than June roses.

—Mr. Lowden was willing to pay half a million dollars for a Presidential nomination four years ago but refuses to accept a nomination for Vice President this year as a free gift.

—All the edge was taken off the junket of the Pennsylvania Republican delegation to Cleveland because, at the last moment, Gif and Cornelia decided not to go and put off the fireworks.

—The Journal says "Philipsburg is now beginning to look pretty, as it usually does about this time of the year," from which we gather that the home town of brother Bair doesn't look good to him at any other.

—According to Matt Osborne, who was studying penology when Ellen Potter had pink ribbons in her hair, the lady who has so many remedies and so few cures for Pennsylvania's prison system, doesn't know what she is talking about.

—Sunday schools are still holding their own, we believe, but time was when a whole train of cars were called into use to transport the Methodists to their annual outing and now three busses will haul all who turn out for that once eventful day.

—It tickles us sick, the way Coolidge rode over the Senatorial oligarchy. They are the little band of holier than thou's that, falling in "ridin'" Wilson turned around and killed him, and what Wilson did to them was as a slap on the wrist to the punch in the face that Coolidge gave them.

—Cleveland had nothing to offer the farmers but promises of more legislation like the Fordney-McCumber bill. And what that piece of vote baiting legislation did to them was enough to make the densest of them stop, look and listen before he puts another X in the Republican square.

—Boiled down to the nth degree all that can be gleaned, either from the keynote speech that opened or the platform that was adopted by the Republican national convention, is an admission that we haven't done very well this term, but give us another chance and we'll double cross you again.

—Down in York county the Ku Klux Klan has started in to bust up "petting parties." And that's another matter that the Klan has no business to meddle in. Why doesn't it go after the mothers and the fathers of the poor deluded youth who think lasciviousness is going to get them somewhere.

—France, having made the exalted office of President a plaything for her Senate and Chamber of Deputies, may gain a temporary victory of the moment, but God alone knows what is in store for the future of our sister Republic. Greater dangers beset France today than were those when the Germans threatened Verdun.

—If, as "Dave" Lane says: Pennsylvania will be a doubtful State if the Democrats nominate Al Smith," the same reasoning would put New York, Massachusetts, Indiana and Illinois in the foregone conclusion class. The veteran Philadelphia politician is a wise old bird and his prediction might be accepted by some, while others will believe that he was only "spoofig" when he made it.

—Talking about being on the map: Every time the government has anything to show about the air mail service there sits Bellefonte, right between New York and Cleveland, all dolled up in the same size type as any of the other fifteen big towns that mark the air line course clear across the continent. Who says the money the old Board of Trade raised to procure a field here wasn't good advertising?

—From the looks of things the American Olympic team isn't American at all. Willie Ritola, Molla Mallory, Carl Christernso, Mike Pekete, Max Grob, "Leino" and Leo Nunes sound so foreign that we are wondering why good money was spent for their passage abroad before the matter of their citizenship was definitely determined. Now, there's a job for the Ku Klux. Instead of fiddling 'round about petting parties down in York county, exciting social political and business discord over religious belief in a government that was founded almost solely to insure tolerance in that—and Jew baiting—why doesn't it do some real constructive work by saying a kind word and lending a hand toward Americanizing the foreign element that is settling everywhere among them. Right here in Bellefonte are Greeks, Italians, Slavs, Poles, Croatians, and what not of foreign birth, eager, anxious and hopeful of becoming part of the community. They are the stock from which Bellefonte will take much of its color a generation from now and they are the stock most easily moulded by a spirit that would look on them as future citizens rather than as guineas. Let the Ku Kluxers take off their hoods and a lot of the blue bloods remember that it is red-blood that counts and get to the work of making AMERICANS of the class that is not too busy with clubs and card parties to bear the future Americans.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 69.

BELLEFONTE, PA., JUNE 13, 1924.

NO. 24.

Senator LaFollette's Reasonable Demand.

Senator LaFollette, through the medium of the Wisconsin delegates in the Cleveland convention has asked for a platform declaration of condemnation against "the official acts of Harry M. Daugherty as Attorney General and Albert B. Fall as Secretary of the Interior." This was not an unreasonable demand. Mr. Daugherty's official acts as Attorney General brought disgrace upon the country and have been officially condemned by the President. Albert B. Fall's official acts have driven him out of the public service and forced him to acknowledge his malfeasance before the Senate committee investigating the subject. There is no good reason for refusing to comply with this demand of the Wisconsin Senator.

Senator LaFollette also asks the Cleveland convention to make a platform declaration commending the Republican Senators and Representatives for "their courage and independence in voting for the tax bill enacted into law by both Houses of Congress and signed by the President, as a substitute for the Mellon plan." It is a Democratic measure and was bitterly fought by the special interests. But it affords relief to the overburdened wage earners of the country and to a considerable extent equalizes the tax system as between rich and poor tax payers. The request to commend those Republican Senators and Representatives in Congress who helped to achieve this result is not unreasonable.

Senator LaFollette further demands that the Cleveland convention by platform declaration approve those Republican Senators in Congress who helped to expose the iniquities of Secretary Fall, Attorney General Daugherty and those responsible for the graft and corruption of the Veterans' Bureau. This is not an unreasonable demand of a Republican leader of the convention of his party assembled to nominate a candidate for President he will be asked to support. At this writing the platform committee of the convention has not made its report and therefore the treatment of Senator LaFollette's demands is left to conjecture. But we venture to predict that none of them will be granted.

—It must be admitted that Senator LaFollette is the champion optimist. He imagined that the Republican National convention would repudiate the Ohio pirates known as the "Columbus crowd."

Defending Criminals a Policy.

The attitude of the Republican party is plainly expressed in the action of five Republican members of the Senate committee which made the investigation of the oil leases to Doehny and Sinclair. Senator Walsh made a report of the activities of the committee a week ago. It was singularly conservative in language and judicial in tone. It completely exculpated Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt and accused Secretary of the Navy Denby with no graver offense than "abnormal stupidity." But it recited the testimony in detail and characterized the financial transactions between Secretary of the Interior Albert E. Fall and the beneficiaries of fraud, as reprehensible, to say the least.

On the closing day of the session Senator Walsh moved the adoption of the report. Senator Spencer, of Missouri, who had assumed the office of attorney for all the culprits during the progress of the investigation, had stated that he would make a minority report, but no one expected that there would be serious opposition to the adoption of the Walsh report. Two of the Republican members of the committee and all the Democrats had signed it. When it came to a vote, however, all the Old Guard Republicans joined in opposition and by filibustering for hours prevented its adoption. Spencer and Smoot, of Utah, led the fight and Lodge, of Massachusetts, gave such feeble help as a bigoted mind could render.

Thus the Republican Senators have committed themselves and their party to the policy of concealing crime and protecting criminals. On the eve of the presidential campaign they ask the electorate of the country to continue their party in power in the face of a record of corruption in office unequalled in the history of this country and unsurpassed in the history of the world. If they had even made a false pretense of contrition it wouldn't look so bad. But with a candidate who had either guilty knowledge of the condition or mental paralysis, they go to the country boldly defending their infamy. This shows either contempt for public opinion or dependence upon party prejudice.

—It is said that Charles B. Warren is a skillful phrase maker, and writing the Republican platform was an "acid test."

Cause of Joy Revealed.

The Pennsylvania delegation to the Cleveland convention left Philadelphia on Sunday morning at nine o'clock and after a joy ride of exceptional charms, arrived at the convention city at nine in the evening. The journey through the State was like a royal pageant with Bill Vare, as master of ceremonies, and looking the part. Stops were made at the principal cities between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and contentment and confidence fairly radiated from the palatial Pullmans. A greater measure of harmony never was seen in a group of politicians and the big and little bosses bowed alike to the baton of the "peerless leader" who had in his inside pocket a mandate from the White House.

It must be said, however, that all the good feeling so freely expressed in the smiles of the great chief was not ascribable to admiration for the candidate for President. The intimate relationship between Mr. Coolidge and the Philadelphia "guide, philosopher and friend" is inspiring and the evidence of the President's appreciation of his merits is gratifying to the Congressman. Senator Pepper, in mood to "spit in the eye of a bull dog," laid his tribute of deference at the feet of the master mind and chairman Baker, suave and complaisant, accepted the conditions as necessary if not exactly agreeable. All in all it was a happy bunch of political buccaners that journeyed from Philadelphia to Cleveland on Sunday.

As indicated there was another and potent reason for the happiness that pervaded the travelers. It had just been learned that Governor Pinchot had given up his purpose to attend the convention and possibly throw a monkey wrench into the machinery of the Pennsylvania delegation. For some reason the party leaders of the State are in dread of what our Chief Magistrate may do or say at any moment and it had been widely rumored that both Gifford and Cornelia intended to be in Cleveland during the convention, elaborately decorated with war paint. An announcement had come from Pike county, just as the bunch was assembled to entrain, that Gif had given up the trip and hence the joy.

—With Pat Harrison as temporary chairman of the New York convention and Senator Walsh in the chair during the permanent sessions no Democrat need fear of foolish talk on any subject.

"A Fly in the Ointment."

The friends of President Coolidge in Pennsylvania who invested so much enthusiasm in the contest between Governor Pinchot and Ralph Beaver Strassburger, for delegate-at-large in the National convention, have discovered "a fly in the ointment." Of course they averted the danger of anything Mr. Pinchot might have done in the convention by defeating him and electing Strassburger. But they expected that the Norristown millionaire would quietly accept the favor bestowed upon him and behave himself as a dutiful beneficiary of largess should. It looks now as if this reasonable expectation is to be disappointed. Mr. Strassburger is threatening to "kick over the traces" so to speak.

Mr. Coolidge and those who are managing his campaign now and expect to direct his activities later, fondly hoped that no such disturbing element as the prohibition enforcement question would be injected into the campaign. Mr. Coolidge is a gentleman of the most exemplary habits. He probably never took a drink, smoked a cigar, chewed a quid or swore an oath in his life. He and his managers justly expected that such a record of abstinence would guarantee the prohibition vote as a unit and with equal confidence they hoped that Mr. Mellon's association with liquor interests would enlist the support of the other side, if nothing were said on the subject in the platform.

But Strassburger has made up his mind to assume the role of stormy petrel and disturb the well laid plans of the machine managers. Having paid more than \$60,000 in good money for a seat in the convention he probably imagines he has some right to a voice in the proceedings other than a silent assent to an agreement of the bosses. Therefore he intends to demand a platform declaration in favor of a modification of the Volstead law, and of course that will alienate either the wets or dries accordingly as his proposition is approved or defeated. Governor Pinchot might have done something worse than this if he had been elected instead of Strassburger, but that is a matter of conjecture.

—Only one Republican in the broad land was willing to run for President this year, and it was difficult to find even one willing to take second place on the ticket.

Senator Burton's "Key Note."

Except for the fulsome eulogy of President Coolidge the "keynote" speech of Senator Burton, temporary chairman of the Cleveland convention, might have been delivered in sign language. He paid generous tribute to the memory of the late President Harding and threw a few harpoons into the bodies of his associates in Congress. "By far the greater share of our citizenship," he declared, "looks to President Coolidge rather than to Congress for leadership," and not only justified that alignment but urged the party "to take its stand with Mr. Coolidge on all the controversial issues which have arisen between the executive and some members of the Republican majority in Congress."

And Mr. Burton sets an example in his "solemn protest against the impression that there is widespread corruption in the government at Washington." This idea was probably better expressed by President Coolidge in his message of April 11th, when he said "under a procedure of this kind, (meaning the proposition to investigate the prohibition enforcement activities of the Treasury Department), instead of a government of law we have a government of lawlessness," and against it he entered a "solemn protest." The procedure against which he protested had revealed the iniquities of Fall, Daugherty and Forbes and the stupidity of Denby and was leading up to the exposure of additional crimes.

Senator Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio, is a man of considerable ability and in a good cause is capable of presenting a strong argument. But in this instance he was up against a hard proposition. It was his duty to justify the practices of his party in the past in order to recommend it to the favor of the voters in the future. He did the best he could but acquitted himself badly. The recent record of his party in Washington, under the auspices he was pleading for continuance, is so monstrously bad that it cannot be earnestly approved, and Mr. Burton is an earnest man. He represents big business and corporate cupidity and in the light of late developments those interests are indefensible.

—Chancellor Marks, of Germany, says "the Dawes report will save Germany." Possibly that is true but even so "Hell-an-Maria" can't save the Republican ticket this year.

No Developments in Move to Abandon Bellefonte Central Railroad.

No developments have taken place in the past two weeks in the move to abandon the Bellefonte Central railroad. In fact the only move made so far as the public has been informed was contained in the instructions to James C. Furst Esq., from Robert Frazier to proceed at once with the preparation of a petition to the Public Service Commission for permission to abandon the road. When asked this week if any further action had been taken Mr. Furst said there had not.

Naturally the announcement of the proposed abandonment of the road caused considerable speculation both here and at State College, particularly the latter place which is entirely dependent on that line for all its freight haulage. This traffic, however, according to officials of the road, is not sufficient to pay the upkeep of the track and the cost of operation. One thought was that possibly the Pennsylvania might be induced to take over the line, but it is hardly likely they would consider it a worthwhile financial undertaking.

On the other hand State College is a good sized town and is growing every year, hence is entitled to some consideration. Years ago a survey was made from Hunter's Park right across the Barrens to the College, a much shorter distance than the present line of the Bellefonte Central. That portion of the latter road from Bellefonte to Hunter's Park would take in all the limestone operations in Buffalo Run valley, and an extension of the road from that point to the College would make a short line that would not only give the College ample freight service but would then be in a position to enter competition for a good share of the passenger traffic.

—There is a fortune in a screen picture of Senator Lodge voting for a plank in the Republican platform endorsing the Harding world court.

—It may be observed that Harry M. Daugherty, late Attorney General, is also performing his last political service at Cleveland this week.

—That astronomer who saw foliage on the moon may have been indulging too freely in moonshine.

—Senator Lodge, at the Republican convention, must feel like a man attending his own funeral.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

The French Presidency.

From the Philadelphia Record.

As the majority in the Chamber of Deputies determines the Premiership and the Cabinet, there is no reason why it should attack the Constitution and attempt to get the Presidency also. The Constitution gives the President a term of seven years. Probably he has some influence in legislation, but he cannot have very much with a Ministry and a Chamber against him. The republic has been in existence half a century, and this is the first effort made to alter its structure by political methods and bully the President into resigning when the majority in the Chamber is opposed to him. If he is a check on the extremes to which the Left is eager to go, he will justify his constitutional existence. If M. Herriot plans to do a lot of things that President Millerand will not consent to, will be better for France to have the work done slowly. Progress is essential, but revolution is not, and revolution is the besetting sin of radicals. They have no time. They cannot wait. They want to do everything instantly.

We have the same impatient element here. With four constitutional amendments adopted within the last few years, and a fifth sent to the States by Congress, it would seem that the facilities for amending the fundamental law were ample. But they are not enough for the radicals, who want their ideas not only enacted immediately, but firmly imbedded in the Constitution. They want easier ways of amending the Constitution. They want the courts deprived of the right to declare a law a violation of the Constitution.

Of course, there would be no Constitution at all under this arrangement. If a majority in Congress can at any time change the substance of the government, the whole Constitution is a dead letter. LaFollette would get rid of the Constitution so that there should be no restraint upon Congress, no protection for minorities, no safety for the other branches of the government. And Herriot insists on tearing up the Constitution of his own country so that he can do anything his majority in the Chamber takes a notion to. The right of the people to govern themselves is not abridged; it is safeguarded, by restraints upon revolutionary activities of a scratch majority, which is likely enough to be reversed at the next election. President Millerand will serve his country well if he will defend his constitutional right to hold his office till his term shall expire.

Thumbs Up in Germany.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

It seems not improbable that the Germans who have been howling over the Dawes reparations plan only do it to annoy, because they know it teases. At any rate, the Nationalist opposition in the Reichstag is carefully refraining from moving heaven and earth to defeat the proposed settlement measures.

It is hard for the old-regimers to swallow Gustav Stresemann. The Foreign Minister refuses to mince words with them. His continual reiteration of the fact that Germany lost the war touches them in their tenderest spot. They are thoroughly disgusted with the entire Socialist outfit, which has so unreservedly accepted the Dawes program.

They do not carry their resentment and their prejudice to the length of not recognizing which side the German bread is buttered on. There were many that were not moved to tears when the government on Friday obtained a majority in the initial vote on the matter. In fact, some of them voluntarily absented themselves from the Reichstag to make sure of it. The Nationalists realize that the Dawes plan is the best thing in sight for Germany. Of course, if anything happens in France to change the situation, they will be ready to step in and take advantage of it. But they are willing to accept certainties today rather than fly off on a long chance.

He Learned From Wilson.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

Power, which attaches to an office, depends a great deal upon the man who holds a job. In the past, various Presidents of the French republic have been merely the government's official social front. They kept out of politics—have been forced to keep out, in fact. The theory is that the President of France does not have a great deal of political power. That theory held until Millerand entered the executive mansion. Then it was discovered that the President, if he desired, could make himself quite as powerful as his Premier.

The French Socialists are trying to force Millerand out of office. They threaten to inaugurate a legislative strike. President Grevy was forced to resign as a result of strike tactics. Millerand, however, is apparently a better fighter than Grevy; and it is not at all certain that he will not succeed in blocking the program of the Socialists in case Herriot, Briand and Painleve all refuse to head up a government under him.

Not popularly supposed to be particularly powerful officials, French Presidents are elected for a long term. If Millerand succeeds in investing the Presidency with political authority, France will be compelled either to change its form of government or change its President. Evidently Millerand learned a lot about executives while Woodrow Wilson was in Paris.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Esther Shadle, 7 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Shadle, of Jersey Shore, sustained a broken leg, between the knee and the hip, and other cuts and bruises when she walked in her sleep through an open window and fell to the ground, a distance of fourteen feet.

—The Mill Hall church of Christ was destroyed by fire last Thursday morning. The origin of the fire is unknown. The congregation had been planning for a new church and have the foundation laid and money pledged for most of the construction. It will be rushed to completion.

—Suit for \$30,000 damages was started in civil court at Sunbury, last Thursday, by Abe L. Snyder, Shamokin attorney against the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company for injuries received when a passenger train on which he was riding figured in a collision in July, 1922.

—Orders have been issued by chief of police J. N. Tillard, of Altoona, banning callithumpian serenades at weddings in that city, so June brides are to have a comparatively quiet time of it. Tillard says that, besides the disorder, participants leave their noise-making paraphernalia lying in the streets, creating a nuisance.

—The ice melted and the milk turned sour because his wife lay abed until noon, according to the testimony of Charles P. Geyer, of Norristown, before the master in his action for divorce from his wife, Ruth Geyer. The divorce was granted. When he remonstrated with her she threw furniture and other things at him, he said.

—Mrs. Amelia Polsgrove, of Lock Haven, was 84 years old recently and the anniversary was celebrated by the Colonel Moses Williamson Chapter, National Society Daughters of 1812, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. Lynn Harris, regent of the Chapter. Mrs. Polsgrove is a granddaughter of Col. Moses Williamson, in whose honor the Chapter was named.

—Pittsburgh police are making an effort to get three robbers who held up A. R. Kramer, proprietor of a meat market in Wilkensburg, and, locking him in a refrigerator, stole \$1039 in cash and a number of checks from him and \$157 from the cash register in the store. After remaining in the refrigerator for some time he broke the glass with his foot and crawled into the store.

—Physicians of all municipal, county and State prisons in Pennsylvania have been invited to a conference at the eastern penitentiary, Philadelphia, June 17th, at which time it is planned to formulate a uniform medical policy for the State penal system. Dr. Ellen Potter, secretary of welfare, announced on Friday. Physical and mental care of prisoners will be discussed. The medical staff of the eastern penitentiary is sponsoring the meeting.

—Salvatore Battaglia, a western penitentiary convict, found guilty of second degree murder on two counts in connection with the recent prison riot in which two guards were killed, was sentenced on Monday to serve from 20 to 40 years. The sentence will become effective at the expiration of a term of from 19 to 20 years imposed on Battaglia in a second degree murder case four years ago. Battaglia was identified at the trial as the convict who shot John T. Coax, a guard.

—Marion Willis, a Clearfield county negro, ended his life on Monday by jumping into a revolving brick pan, which severed his head and both arms before the machinery could be stopped. He was employed by the United States Refractories company, at Barret, as a pan tender. To save steps he laid a board across the revolving pan. After shaking hands with fellow workers he walked deliberately on the plank and jumped head first into the machinery. Before leaving his boarding house to report for work he instructed his landlady what to do with his personal property.

—An estate estimated at between \$500,000 and \$400,000 of Mrs. Elizabeth E. Hayward, widow of the former State Treasurer Benjamin J. Hayward, who died at Sharon last week, is devised to charitable purposes. The will, drawn in November, 1920, was offered for probate at Mercersburg. It will provide a gift of \$25,000 to the American Sunday School Union, an un denominational society. The spacious Hayward home in Sharon, together with its furnishings, is devised to the Presbyterian Board of Ministerial Relief and Sustenance as a home for superannuated ministers, and all of the remainder of the estate is given to support and maintain the institution.

—More than 80,000 tons of rock were dislodged with one blast of dynamite at the quarries of the American Steel Wire company at Wertz, Blair county, when a new method of blasting was demonstrated to the quarrymen by a representative of the Atlas Powder company. For the blast 22,000 pounds of dynamite were used, the explosive being placed in nine eight-inch holes dug about sixteen feet apart and forty feet from the face of the quarry. The holes were 160 feet deep. The blast was a demonstration of the new method used in blasting and which is supposed to be much less dangerous than the old method of drilling the holes into the face of the quarry.

—Mystery surrounds the death on Saturday evening of Miss Ida May Sutton, 14 years old, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sutton, in Windsor township, York county, and the critical illness of another sister, 11 years old. District attorney Van Baman has requested a post mortem on the body of the dead girl, who was in a meadow with an infant sister in her arms when she suddenly became ill. The girl went to her home and complained to her father, who advised her to lie down for a while. When her condition became worse she went to the front porch for some fresh air and was overcome by convulsions. She collapsed, her body turned blue and she died a few minutes after the arrival of a physician.

—The Paradise Valley Lutheran Association has been formed to accept a tract of land in the Henlyville section of Monroe county and has purchased and added 300 more acres of land to be developed as a resort for Lutherans, of no matter what synodical connection. The original land was donated by a Philadelphian, whose identity is not disclosed, in appreciation of regaining his health in that region. He then decided to make the gift if the Lutherans would accept. It is expected that the various boards of the church will erect buildings for homes and also that members will build bungalows and cottages. There is a spring which will be dammed and form a 23-acre lake, to assure water for the buildings. The altitude is from 900 to 1000 feet and the scenic beauty is unequalled in the county. The contemplated resort is not far from Stroudsburg.