

Talking about works of art: Any little task you may have to do is one, if it is well done.

It may be noticed that all the wings of the Democratic party are flapping together this year.

Wheat has been jumping quite rapidly during the last few weeks, but it hasn't been able to set a higher mark than corn.

The question of approval or disapproval of the "mobilization day" scheme can never be raised to the altitude of a campaign issue.

We read Gov. Bryan's speech of acceptance pretty carefully and we didn't discover anything in it that a real Democrat can't endorse.

The Republican papers have found another reason why Coolidge should be elected President. He drove a tent peg the other day. Isn't it wonderful what some men can do.

There is no occasion for alarm. The LaFollette movement will not throw the election of President into Congress. It will accomplish the same result as the Roosevelt movement did in 1912.

The esteemed contemporary which appraises the acceptance speech of Coolidge to the speeches of Lincoln ought to make arrangement for a bed in an insane asylum for its paragraph.

Where was all this "common sense" that Coolidge is claiming now when he was sitting in Harding's Cabinet meetings and Daugherty and Fall were plundering the Nations' oil reserves?

Of course one swallow doesn't make a summer, but two of four letters recently received touching on the Presidential situation were from Republicans who said they intended voting for Davis.

God help the country that has to be guided by one who exploits "common sense." Common sense is nothing to blow about. Everybody who has reached the age of maturity and isn't in a bug house or prison is supposed to be endowed with some of that.

It's too bad, girls, but it's all off. Davey Hanover won't be at the Altoona races. Several weeks ago we told you he would, but his pap, who happens to be George V of England, has it in for Altoona and won't let him go there, so if you are a candidate for Queen you'll have to go to the Long Island polo matches and talk it over with the Prince there.

We understand that the Grand United Order of Vamooseing Prisoners are preparing a memorial to be presented to Dr. Ellen Potter suggesting that the colony houses she planned for their use be located in such secluded parts of the State that they will provide sanctuaries from nosy officers of the law while they are effecting their get-away.

Tomorrow Mars will be nearer to Earth than that planet has been in one hundred and twenty years or will be in one hundred and twenty years to come. Just a little matter of thirty-four million miles will separate the two. If the proximity of Mars has been the cause of all the weather vagaries we have endured this summer then the sooner our nearest planetary neighbor gets back to her normal distance the better we'll be pleased.

E. W. Kline writes from away out in Nebraska that he would feel as badly at missing a copy of the "Watchman" as he would over losing "the biggest" trout. That's sayin' something we understand. To one who really lives from April 15th to August 1st and only exists during the balance of the year, the thrill of the strike, the excitement of the fight and the disappointment of the escape of "the biggest" trout is something indescribable. Those who have never sensed it know not what we are talking about. Mr. Kline has and with his piscatorial simile has paid the "Watchman" a wonderful tribute.

Because he walked away within ten days of his legal discharge and thereby invited another sentence, longer than the one about to expire, Judge Quigley suspended sentence and directed that George Bradley, escaped from Rockview, be examined as to his mental condition. Most any one will admit that Bradley must have been "nuts" to do a trick of that sort. Yes, we mean just plain "nuts." He didn't have a phantasy, or exfoliating erythema or inguinal adenopathy or any of those things that Darrow is trying to discover in Loeb and Leopold. If he had had anything like them he'd been too cute to attempt a get-away on the eve of his discharge.

The United States leads the world in missionary endeavor, in social welfare activities, moral uplift work and—in crimes of violence. What have we done that the bread we have been casting on the waters for years should be coming back so soggy and sour? Maybe it has been because we have been dealing with crime and criminals with a velvet glove instead of steel knuckles. Maybe it's because we have been toying with steering wheels, golf sticks and baseball bats on Sunday instead of thumping hymn books. Maybe it's because ice cream, jazz and moonshine injected into kids not yet dry behind the ears is worse than real liquor served to persons mature enough to handle it. Maybe it's because the country needs less he-men and more she-men. God knows we need something. Whatever it is, let's pray for it like old fashioned, christian folks.

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Progress of the Campaign Encouraging.

The energy and intelligence revealed in the preliminary work of the Democratic organization inspire confidence in the result of its labors. The great Clarksburg meeting managed by a non-partisan committee under the direction of national chairman Shaver commanded the admiration of practical men of all parties. The organization of the National committee was completed wisely and well and the establishment of headquarters in New York, Chicago and Washington indicates a readiness for action that is most encouraging. The active work of the campaign will begin at Columbus, Ohio, next week, when Mr. Davis will express his opinion of the "Columbus crowd" in its home town.

The record shows that while John W. Davis has never actively canvassed for a nomination he has never been defeated for an office. His first venture in public life was as member of the House of Delegates in the West Virginia Legislature. He was literally drafted into that office by the people of his native city and county. Afterward the nomination for Congress was forced upon him, and in that office, to which he was elected notwithstanding the party of his opponent was largely in the majority, he acquired such distinction as to command the notice of Woodrow Wilson, who appointed him first to the important office of Solicitor General and afterward Ambassador to Great Britain.

It is the present intention of the party managers to arrange for a speaking tour of the middle west by Mr. Davis soon after the Columbus, Ohio, meeting next Tuesday. Former Congressman Lincoln Dixon, of Indiana, an experienced and capable campaign manager, has undertaken this work for the National committee. The purpose of this enterprise is to disabuse the minds of any of the middle west voters of the false impression that Mr. Davis is not in sympathy with the progressive ideas popular in that section of the country. It is the section in which Mr. LaFollette's greatest strength lies, and it is expected that after Mr. Davis has been seen and heard there the LaFollette vote will be drawn from Republicans.

Herriot is being lionized in Paris for doing that which Poincare was afraid to do, which shows that Frenchmen are wise as well as volatile.

Mr. Coolidge's Acceptance.

Mr. Coolidge's speech of acceptance is essentially an appeal to the "forgettery." He emphasizes the achievements of the Republican party in diplomacy, finance and economy since the advent of the Harding administration in 1921, and reasons from his conclusions that the party ought to be continued in power. The Republican party assumed control of the government practically with the election of 1918 at the conclusion of the greatest war in history. The expensive necessities of that great war had ceased, and before the inauguration of Harding the costly process of demobilization was almost completed. There could have been no other result than a vast reduction of the cost of the government.

Mr. Coolidge also stresses the value of party government as an invention of the Republican party, whereas as a matter of fact party government is older than the constitution of the United States. There were governments and parties before the Revolutionary war brought the government of the United States into existence, and the separation of men into parties in this country was influenced by Jefferson and Hamilton in the beginning. It is true that a party "founded on a great moral principle and directed with scrupulous regard for its integrity" is a potent force for good, but in the face of the record of the Harding-Coolidge administration it cannot be said that the Republican party "has been directed with scrupulous regard for its integrity."

From beginning to end Mr. Coolidge's speech is a collection of glittering generalities which, when not founded on false basis, are puerile. The foreign policy of the Harding-Coolidge administration has been a grave joke. After stultifying himself by repudiating his support of the covenant of the League of Nations, Secretary of State Hughes has made himself ridiculous by the spy system he has pursued in relation to the readjustment of questions abroad, and the financial policy of the administration is expressed in the Mellon tax bill, which was repudiated by his own party for the reason that it plainly favored the rich and discriminated against the less fortunate tax payers.

Comparisons are proverbially odious, and comparing Mr. Coolidge's acceptance speech with that of John W. Davis is absurd.

Governor Bryan Accepts the Call.

Governor Charles W. Bryan's speech accepting the Democratic nomination for Vice President shows that he is keenly alive to the issues of the campaign and closely in sympathy with the aims and purposes of his distinguished associate on the ticket. Governor Bryan indulges no illusions with respect to his nomination. He was chosen by the New York convention to please voters of the Middle West. "My connection with the problems of government, city and State, in which the people of Lincoln and the State of Nebraska, regardless of party affiliation or station in life, have co-operated and supported me is largely responsible for the high honor that this occasion confers," he said.

The New York convention had no boss. It assembled for the purpose of selecting a ticket that would commend itself to the favor and support of the intelligent and patriotic voters, men and women, of the country, that it thus became an instrument to rescue the government from the pirates who had been despoiling it for nearly four years. Individual delegates had favorites among the available candidates for President and Vice President and prejudices attempted to swerve the convention from its line of duty. But the convention "held its head in the air and its feet on the ground," until favoritism and prejudice were exhausted and then nominated the admirable ticket, Davis and Bryan.

The nomination of Governor Bryan ought to prevent the desertion of any progressive Democrats of independent voters to LaFollette. He is a Progressive and has accomplished more for the cause they have espoused than LaFollette. Mr. Davis is a Progressive and has done more for the cause than LaFollette. Governor Bryan made these facts clear to his audience at Lincoln on Monday evening. He made it equally plain that progressive voters for LaFollette will help to continue the reactionary Republican administration in power. For these reasons Governor Bryan urged his neighbors in Nebraska and his friends throughout the Middle West to vote the Democratic ticket.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin has settled the question. It declares that Coolidge and Dawes "stand squarely for the Constitution and common sense." Presumably the Cabinet will add "and an appropriation."

New York Safe for Davis.

The announcement of Mayor Hylan, of New York, of his intention to support the Democratic nominee for President takes the joy of hope out of the life of chairman Butler, of the Republican National committee. Ever since the New York convention Mr. Hearst, the Ishmaelite in opposition to Mr. Hylan to enlist in support to Mr. Davis and for a time the Republican managers hoped, and some Democrats feared, that he would succeed. But after reading Mr. Davis' speech of acceptance the cautious and calculating New York Mayor has publicly declared his fidelity to party obligations.

It is an open secret that Mr. Coolidge must have the electoral vote of New York to give him a remote chance of election. It is possible that he might be defeated even with the vote of New York to his credit. In 1916 Woodrow Wilson was successful without the vote of the Empire State, though his party managers depended to a considerable extent upon the vote. But the Republican party cannot, by any possibility succeed without New York, and the allegiance of Mayor Hylan to the Democratic candidates guarantees that vote to Davis and Bryan. In fact it makes New York almost as certain as Texas.

There was no reason on earth why Mayor Hylan should have adopted any other course than that indicated in his cordial endorsement of the Democratic ticket. He has been highly favored by the Democratic organization of New York, and with fidelity to his party obligations he is likely to be favored in the future. He has served the party well as Mayor, for he has given the city of New York an admirable municipal administration during two terms. Unfortunately he is on friendly terms with Hearst, an unconscionable party wrecker, and Hearst alone stands to lose by the election of Davis and Bryan.

Brother Charlie may not have "the gift of gab" equal to the more famous William Jennings but his speech of acceptance proves that his reasoning faculties are equal to the best.

If Coolidge had been able to control Congress as he managed the Cleveland convention he might lay claim to leadership.

Those Chicago alienists have the country in doubt as to whether everybody or nobody is crazy.

John W. Davis a Progressive.

In the generous praise, richly deserved, of the eloquent speech of John W. Davis accepting the Democratic nomination for President, the fine points of an equally forceful speech made by Senator Thomas J. Walsh, notifying Mr. Davis of his nomination, seems to have been overlooked by the press. It having been charged that Mr. Davis is in sympathy with the reactionary spirit of Wall Street, Mr. Walsh refuted the accusation in most complete fashion. "Tried by the touchstone, by the acid test," he said, "every fair-minded man must adjudge you a liberal, a progressive."

In this connection Senator Walsh quoted from a speech delivered in Congress. The question was upon a provision of a pending bill authorizing trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt of court in labor disputes. The amendment was offered by Mr. Davis and in support of it he said: "I denounce as a libel upon American citizenship the assertion that the laboring men of this country are ever ready at the word to break into lawlessness, or that they sympathize with those who do. And I pity the man who takes such counsel with his fears as to be unwilling to recognize and accord them by statute and in practice the full use of every weapon of offense and defense in all trade wars and the untrammelled exercise of every constitutional right."

Senator Walsh has always been an advocate of progressive principles. He has never been affiliated with corporate interests or associated with reactionary movements. He favored the nomination of Mr. McAdoo by the New York convention, not because he doubted the attitude of Mr. Davis on the question of his liberalism, but for the reason that Mr. McAdoo was the choice of the majority of those of that mind. But he cordially supports the nominee of the convention with full knowledge of his attitude, and because of his personal understanding that they think and act alike on the subject of progressivism.

The Hon. Alexander G. Morris.

The passing of the Hon. Alexander Gilchrist Morris closes a very interesting chapter in the industrial, political and social life of this community.

In three months he would have celebrated the ninetieth anniversary of his birth, an exceptional span of years crowded with intensive activity and fruitful results to the very moment of his collapse, only a few weeks ago.

Mr. Morris was of that rugged, determined type that fights for its place in the sun with such weapons as nature has endowed them and his were unflagging energy, canny business foresight and scrupulous honesty in his dealings with men.

Almost single-handed he developed the greatest industry in this section and while the task was one calling for the efforts of a super-man he yet found time to take an outstanding place in every civic, social and welfare movement that had for its objective the public weal.

His was a life of achievement, begun in times when the way to success was not so clearly blazed by experience as it is today. His was a life of fruitfulness, for it provided employment for thousands and gave of its products with a lavish hand. His was a life that came to the end of the road utterly worn out with service to his Master and his fellow-men.

The "pony express" run last Sunday by the various troops in the 52nd machine gun battalion was pronounced a success, though the trip was not completed on schedule time. The initial carriers of the Defense day message left Sunday at 4:20 in the morning, riding to Williamsport. Two other carriers took the message to Lock Haven and the Lock Haven carriers left there at 10:20 expecting to reach Bellefonte at one o'clock, but they were 25 minutes late. Sergt. Walter Sweitzer and private Paul Fanning carried the message from Bellefonte to Boalsburg but they got lost in the Nittany mountain and were delayed half an hour on their trip. Boalsburg troopers carried the message to Woodward where they were met by two men from Lewisburg who carried it to that place, and from there it was taken to Sunbury where it was delivered at 10:52 p. m. The riders averaged 10.7 miles on the trip.

The recent destruction by fire of the Pennsylvania railroad station at Beech Creek has started a good-natured rivalry between residents of Beech Creek and Blanchard. Quite naturally the business men of Beech Creek want the station rebuilt on its old location while Blanchard people are putting forth the claim that the station should be located there; and up to this time the railroad company has not given any decision in the matter.

Get your job work done here.

Presidents and Parties.

The President gives a rather painful impression of his knowledge of political history, American or foreign, when he says in the first paragraph of his acceptance speech:

Very early in search for a sound method of self-government the American people discovered that the only practical way to secure responsible political action was by the formation of parties, which they adopted because reason pronounced it the most promising, and continued because practice found it the most successful.

The idea that the American people invented parties in order to secure the blessings of popular government under a sense of responsibility is as droll as anything we have seen. Parties exist because people have different opinions, and in the language of the immortal Lord Dundreary, birds of a feather flock together. Before the Revolution we had the patriot party and the loyalist party, because some Americans refused to put up with the inconveniences of British rule, and others liked it, or preferred it to anything they were likely to get from the patriots. Our own Joseph Galloway was a patriot till secession from the British Empire impended, and then he got into the loyalist ranks.

After the Revolution we had two parties. One wanted more government and the other did not. The former secured the Constitution; the latter resisted it to the utmost, but most of the opponents were reconciled to the Constitution by the adoption of a bill of rights as a series of amendments. The division continued between the Federalists, who wanted the Constitution and wanted it broadly construed in order to create a strong government; those who didn't like the Constitution much wanted it construed in the narrowest possible terms and called themselves Democratic Republicans to emphasize their difference from the Federalists, who wanted a Republic, but as little democracy as possible.

Mr. Coolidge's further remarks show that what was in his mind was not a treatise on political history, at all, but his eager desire that every Republican should vote the party ticket in November. Mr. Harding gave some talk once about the necessity of parties, the fact that they were divinely appointed, and the sacred obligation of every Republican to vote the ticket of his party, whether he liked it or not.

Mr. Harding did not see any reason why a Democrat should not vote the Republican ticket. The President can appreciate the broad-mindedness of a Democrat who can vote the Republican ticket with the name of Calvin Coolidge at its head. Mr. Harding and Mr. Coolidge have both disclaimed being narrow and hidebound partisans; they are broad-minded and liberal men whose hearts are warmed when they see an intelligent and conscientious and patriotic Democrat vote the Republican ticket. But if a Republican should vote the Democratic ticket the President would sternly remind him that parties were ordained of God—the Republican party, at least—and that to vote independently is to break down the party system, without which we can't have responsible popular government.

Mr. Coolidge may not be very strong on the history of politics, but he feels perfectly confident of his grip on common sense, and in his opinion it was just common sense for his party to nominate him, and it will be common sense for everybody classed as a Republican to vote for him. And if Democrats should vote for him, Mr. Coolidge would believe that also was common sense.

China's Sorrow.

The Yellow River is called China's sorrow, so great has been the devastation wrought by the uncontrollable stream. Rising in the marshes of Tibet, it twists like the growling earth-dragon itself to the distant seaboard, constricting much of the arable land within its coils. The Chinese farmer cannot hope to escape the grip of it or of its sister river, the Yangtze-kiang, overflowing fifty feet above its banks, pours six billion cubic feet of sediment each year into the Yellow Sea.

The latest estimate of the Famine Relief committee is that 13,115 persons have been drowned in the floods, but millions are dispossessed in eight provinces, north, central and south. At best, in China the margin between life and death is pitifully small. But the Chinese in such a crisis display a stoic patience that commands admiration and evokes universal sympathy. The provinces able to assist are sending all they can to the relief of the distressed. American aid as heretofore is gratefully acknowledged. Such a disaster makes the world kin, and all ethnic differences and political issues are forgotten in the fact of a crucial emergency.

As a result of encouragement by the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters thirty-four tree planters in Centre county have set out 129171 forest trees so far this season. In Clinton county fifteen owners of waste land planted 112693 trees.

When you see it in the "Watchman" you know it's true.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Dr. P. N. Oeder a chiropractor, of Philadelphia, was convicted of having swindled a patient out of \$8,930 and was sentenced to ten years in the county prison. The jury did not leave the court room to return its verdict.

The Masonic homes at Ellizabethtown received a bequest of \$25,000 in the will of the late Lane S. Hart, of Harrisburg, prominent banker and former State printer, who died last week, leaving an estate of \$225,000. Trust funds were established for several local charities and the remainder of the estate given to relatives.

Harold Smith, 17 year old son of Frederick Smith, of Lebanon, is in the Good Samaritan hospital at that place suffering from what the surgeons fear as a broken neck. In diving into the bathing pool at Hershey park, Smith's head struck the concrete bottom with great force. He was rescued in an unconscious condition.

Because witnesses swore she had a "crackling tongue" and a "dirty laugh," Mrs. Sallie Pryor, of Lancaster, has been held for court on a charge of being a common scold. According to testimony the woman sat on her porch with a broom, chased away children when they came near her house and then went into the back yard to emit the "dirty laugh."

A man hunt was staged around the village of Kimberton, in Chester county, on Saturday, when the robber who has looted a number of houses in the neighborhood was seen to run from his cave along French creek. The searchers found the hole filled with all the articles that had been stolen. The man escaped capture when he ran through a cornfield.

Suit for \$10,000 damages has been brought against the Methodist Episcopal church of Mount Union by James M. Miller of that place. The congregation has recently completed building one of the finest edifices in the Juniata valley. Mrs. Miller alleged in her complaint that during the construction operation she fell over a rope stretched across the sidewalk in front of the church and suffered a fracture of the arm at the elbow.

The Rochester and Pittsburg Coal and Iron company mines at Adrian, Eleanor and Helvetia, which give employment to 3000 miners, are to close for a period of at least two years, according to a letter received by the miners from B. M. Clark, president of the company. The mines involved are the oldest operations in the section and have been working for at least twenty-five years. The shutdown is blamed on the "impossible wage scale."

Approval of the purchase of 2445 acres of forest land in McKean, Forest and Warren counties by the National Forest Reservation Commission brings the total acreage of the Allegheny national forest reserve to more than 150,000 acres. The forest was designed to protect the headwaters of the Allegheny river. The national commission plans to establish a large camp in the Warren county region, so it will connect with Allegheny Park, maintained by New York State.

Edward S. Benney, 50 years of age, is at the Lewistown hospital with a compound fracture of the left arm, several teeth knocked out and other wounds of the head and body, suffered when the automobile driven and owned by James O'Hara collided with a concrete culvert along the State road east of Lewistown. Charles Jones, 56 years old, suffered deep lacerations of head and body. O'Hara says the light of an approaching automobile flashing across the curve blinded him.

Alone in an automobile with his skull fractured William Wallace, 45 years old, was found dead by a workman two miles south of New Holland, Lancaster county, Tuesday morning. Members of the man's family say he left home Monday in company with a stranger and was seen several times in the neighborhood during the day. The only clue unearthed by police is a blood-spattered limb of a tree which hangs dangerously low across the highway at about a mile and a half from where the body was found.

The high cost of funerals has caused parents of Fayette county to bury their dead children without burial permits, and already four bodies have been uncovered from graves near their homes, where they were interred. Two were found on the outskirts of Uniontown, another at Allison and a fourth near Lamberton. They all died of natural causes. Detectives were told that the parents had been their own undertakers because funerals were too expensive. The identity of the parents has not been made public, but district attorney E. D. Brown will bring prosecutions in each case.

When the Williamsport police last week raided the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Goodall, who live in what was formerly a church, they found two large stills, a quantity of mass and some liquor. The old church had been converted into an apartment, but part of the pulp in the rear had been left unchanged. It was here that the stills were in operation, partly hidden from view by some curtains which had been hung in the rear of the pulpit when the building was still used as a church. Mr. and Mrs. Goodall and their two sons, 21 and 19 years old, respectively, were arraigned before an alderman on a charge of making whiskey. They were held for court under \$2000 bail each.

Police of Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia are searching for five men who are alleged to have kidnaped Lucy Debana, 20 years old, of Cresson, from her home Wednesday. People living in the vicinity of the girl's home, which is on the outskirts of the town, said that an auto containing five men drove up to the Debana home, and while three went to the rear of the house a fourth, said to be Patsy Rubis, of Homer City, is reported to have seized the girl, who, screaming and fighting, was carried to the automobile in which the fifth man had kept the engine running. After calling their three companions the machine was started at a high speed toward Homer City. Rubis is said to be a jilted suitor of the girl.

Life is just one thing after another for Mrs. Mary Victor, of Mt. Carmel. She was released from the county prison at Sunbury a few days ago, and returned to the coal region town, when her home was nearly destroyed by fire. William Victor, another member of the ill-starred family, who occupy the parental abode, became intoxicated, and attempted to light a cigarette in bed. The mattress caught fire, and he was overcome and nearly suffocated before being rescued. Firemen carried him out, and saved the home after the second floor was gutted, with a loss of \$1,000. Mrs. Victor was sent down for beating up the family while intoxicated, having consumed the better part of a bottle of moonshine. Squire Hughes released and she was released.