

—The Senate has passed the "united dry bill" on first reading. It is the one Governor Pinchot and the Anti-Saloon League compromised their disagreement on and its principal features are regulation of distilleries and breweries.

—As the Republican floor leader in Congress the Hon. "Nick" Longworth was only a partial success. Maybe he was cut out for eminence as a floor walker and not a floor leader. Now that the first baby has come into his home "Nick's" real efficiency on the floor might be revealed.

—Actions at Washington all go to prove that the "Watchman" was pretty close to the truth when it stated that the net result of the disarmament conference called by the late President Harding would be the scrapping of a lot of perfectly good warships so that there would be an excuse for building new ones.

—The finding of Floyd Collins, dead, in the sand cave which he had attempted to explore, near Cave City, Kentucky, was a heart scald to the army of volunteers who had organized for his rescue, but not one of them regretted a moment of the time or the limit of energy they had been spurred on to give by the hope that they would find him alive.

—Chlorine gas is now an accepted cure for cold. It will stop it with an hour's treatment. Science is making new discoveries every day. Knowing this we live in hope of the announcement that a cure has been found for pip. That's what we've got. We're perfectly satisfied with our own diagnosis. We've doctored for every ailment recorded in the materia medica and either those who have prescribed for us are punk or we've got the pip for which we want a cure discovered.

—Friend John Francies, clerk of the courts of Allegheny county, is evidently going about his work in that office with the same methodical and thorough going determination to have everything right that characterized his work when warden of the western penitentiary and superintendent of construction of the new institution in this county. We notice that the Commissioners of Allegheny have considerably increased the budget for his office upon his request that he be given sufficient funds to bring the records up to date. "Up to date" is a hobby of John's in everything but cooking and if there ever was a back number in the art culinary he is it.

—We're glad Pennsylvania has refused to ratify the child labor amendment which Congress proposed to the federal constitution. Glad, because this thing of tampering with the constitution every time some one discovers a new cure for ingrown toe nails is threatened with a back-set; glad, because Pennsylvania Senators have had sense enough to see that Pennsylvania knows how to treat her own sons and daughters without being compelled to accept the advise of Oregon, Texas, Florida, Maine and all the rest of her sister States; glad, because it is an indication that people are beginning to realize the wisdom of that fundamental principle of Democracy that has been the "Watchman's" motto for seventy years: "State Rights and Federal Union."

—The Commercial club, of Phillipsburg, on Monday night, passed a lengthy resolution calling on the Commissioners of Centre and Clearfield counties to "forget and lay aside such a trifling excuse" as they gave for declining to build an inter-county bridge over the Moshannon creek at the foot of Pine street in our sister borough. The excuse in question was to the effect that Phillipsburg and Chester Hill have not exhausted their borrowing power and should erect the bridge themselves. We know little of the merits of the controversy. Phillipsburg already has two very good bridges spanning the Moshannon, but her citizens might have been thinking that since the proposed two mill increase in county tax has been predicated on anticipated cost of new bridge building the way was open for them to turn some of it to their need.

—By way of adding another bone of contention let us suggest to those would-be law makers who are planning to shorten the trout fishing season, limit the catch to fifteen, make you keep the little ones, pay more license fees and prohibit the use of more than one rod or two hooks, that they incorporate in their act a clause that will prohibit fishing with minnow for trout in any stream in which the native brook trout predominate. Live minnow is the most alluring and deadly bait for trout. It has a peculiar appeal to the large fish. It is cast on tackle so strong that once they have struck they have little chance of escape. The native brook trout seldom exceeds eighteen inches in length and is very rarely too heavy to be landed, if skillfully played, with a twelve or fourteen hook. On a minnow hook—large as a ship's anchor, it has no chance at all. The consequence is minnow fishermen in native trout streams deplete them of the prolific spawners and the fish commission wonders why its herculean efforts to keep the streams stocked show such trifling results. Let those who will fish with minnow in brown and rain-brow planted streams, varieties that grow heavy, but keep them off the speckled trout streams and a sport like the like of which there is no other will be saved for Pennsylvanians.

—The Vermont Legislature hasn't much on the Pennsylvania Senate. The Vermont Legislature rejected the child labor amendment by a vote of 229 to 3 and the Pennsylvania Senate negatived it 43 to 4.

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Pinchot's Triumph Over the Machine.

The strengthening effect of Governor Pinchot's prohibition message, delivered to the General Assembly last week, is clearly perceptible in every direction. It was easily the best piece of political work the Governor has ever done. His arraignment of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh as the centers of illegal distillation and brewing, respectively, has created a profound impression throughout the State. Even Washington has been gravely disturbed by it, and according to information from reliable sources Secretary Mellon has admonished Senator Leslie, of the Pittsburgh "strip," to "lay away" from Vane. If this means anything it marks the beginning of the end of the Vane-Grundy combine.

It may be safely assured that a considerable majority of the people of Pennsylvania favor prohibition. It is equally certain that a vast majority of them recognize the danger as well as the iniquity of the existing form of commerce in liquor. Governor Pinchot's speech drew the line between his purposes and those of his opponents with respect to this question so clearly that even a mentally blind man must see it. No member of the General Assembly, not completely servile to the machine, will venture to support the machine in the circumstances. Such action would bring upon him an avalanche of reprobation to overwhelm him. Even machine favor could hardly afford recompense for such disaster.

But it must not be assumed by the Governor and his fool friends that this triumph means a restoration to the popular favor expressed in his nomination for Governor three years ago. This reaction should not be interpreted as a "call" for other political honors. It has been intimated that he intends to capitalize his victory over Vane and Grundy as a basis for his ambition to be Senator in Congress. If that be true he is organizing the most complete defeat ever administered to an aspirant in Pennsylvania. Pinchot is the dearest "dead duck" that has ever encountered the current of a political tidal. His false pretenses and hypocrisies will never be forgotten or forgiven.

—The Vermont Legislature hasn't much on the Pennsylvania Senate. The Vermont Legislature rejected the child labor amendment by a vote of 229 to 3 and the Pennsylvania Senate negatived it 43 to 4.

The Child Labor Amendment.

The decisive defeat of the resolution to ratify the child labor amendment to the constitution of the United States by the State Senate, on Monday evening, may be regarded as the final disposition of the question so far as Pennsylvania is concerned. A similar resolution may be offered and considered in the House of Representatives with the same result, though the adverse majority might be smaller. The measure is entirely too drastic to expect favor in an industrial community like Pennsylvania, where eighteen year old boys and girls cut an important figure in the bread-winning activities of the family.

But Senator Barr, of Pittsburgh, was strictly within the limit of truth when he declared in a speech advocating the measure, that the Republican leaders in the chamber were betraying the pledges of their party in opposing the ratification. The national Republican platforms of 1916, 1920 and 1924, pledged the party to such a constitutional amendment and the Allegheny county Senator imagined it was a sincere promise to the believers in such legislation. He forgets that the Republican leaders were ready and anxious to make any promise which would get votes for their candidates in each of the three campaigns referred to, and that a violation of party pledges is not a blamable offense among Republicans.

It is not only wise, but a moral obligation on the part of adult men and women of the present, to conserve the health and morals of the children. But youths upward of sixteen years of age are not likely to be harmed much by indulgence in light employment, while they are capable of doing much good for their parents who may be infirm if not old. But such regulations have no place in constitutions, State or National, and are not the proper subjects for Congressional legislation. They come within the province of the police power of the State and the Legislatures of the several States should dispose of them.

—If the Washington junket item is stricken out of the budget, and that is possible, the Pinchot party would be an expensive project.

—Purposely or otherwise the Governor slighted Vane by leaving him out when he invited Grundy to his party.

Hans Brightman Outdone.

Since the late lamented Hans Brightman "Gif a Barty," long since embalmed in song and entombed in memory, no social function of equal importance has been held. But the near future promises an event of much greater expense and significance. Gifford and Cornelia Pinchot have issued invitations to 104 of the six million people of Pennsylvania to become their guests in a junket to Washington to witness the inauguration of President Coolidge. "If, as I very keenly hope, you will find it possible to accept this invitation to represent Pennsylvania at the inauguration of President Coolidge," the Governor writes, "the detailed arrangements will be supplied as soon as they are completed."

Snugly tucked away and skillfully concealed in the verbiage of the budget bill presented to the Legislature two weeks ago a provision is made to defray the expenses of this rather ambitious social adventure. The amount is \$10,000, which is not too much in consideration of the fact that an entertainment includes "an informal lunch" at the Governor's Washington residence, after the inaugural ceremonies are completed. Fortunately for those favored with invitations to participate in this pleasant diversion from the official routine of the inauguration will not cause much trouble, for the Governor's Washington residence "is not far from the line of march and the automobiles which take part in the parade will come straight to the house."

Of course it is necessary to curtail appropriations to worthy charities and deprive deserving wards of the State of soothing and satisfying comforts in order that the Governor may entertain captains of industry, executives of railroads and leaders in finance with becoming sumptuousness at a time and under circumstances that the eyes of the world are focused on their movements. Those who suffer the deprivations may not be able to see the matter in the same light, but that is their misfortune rather than the Governor's fault. Taking care of himself, is a major feature of his philosophy and who knows but that Hans Brightman's parties were less elaborate because he paid all expenses himself.

—Probably Bill Vane will take the action of the Pennsylvania delegation on the Speakership as an admonition to limit his political activities to the city.

Sesquicentennial Probable.

The President having given his approval of the project and asked Congress to co-operate, it may now be said that the sesquicentennial will be put across in Philadelphia next year. It will probably not be the ambitious enterprise which the late John Wanamaker had in mind when he proposed it several years ago. The preparations for such an exposition would require a long time and a large amount of money. The time was available and, with Mr. Wanamaker's influence behind the effort, the money might easily have been obtained. But there were so many cross purposes, not to say selfish motives developed, that the friends of the enterprise became discouraged.

Among the "pull-backs" responsible for the failure was the present Mayor, but he seems to have had a change of heart and with a bunch of friends visited Washington the other day and got out of the President the concessions which inspire hope of a creditable show. If the Wanamaker plans had been fulfilled the greatest exposition of all history might have been accomplished. The industrial, commercial and scientific life of the civilized world would have been stirred to highest achievement in order to get for each exhibitor the best results. Of course it will be impossible to do this in the brief time now available. But with proper energy and intelligent management a good show may be organized.

President Coolidge has promised to invite all nations of the world to participate, and a good many of them may do the best they can to oblige. Modern methods and improved processes have marvelous power in hastening results and the managers of the movement will make the most of these advantages. But at best it will require the limit of effort and resources to match the event of fifty years ago, when there was more civic pride and less selfish purpose in the actions of leading citizens of Philadelphia. Those concerned may find encouragement in the fact, however, that all the people of Pennsylvania will be in full sympathy with them in their tardy action.

—Any Senator or Representative who has been invited to the Pinchot outing will be an ingrate if he votes against the budget.

Coolidge Cabinet About Completed.

With the naming of former Senator and now Ambassador Kellogg, of Minnesota, for Secretary of State, and William M. Jardine, president of the Agricultural college of Kansas, for Secretary of Agriculture, it is believed the new cabinet of President Coolidge is completed. There is a probability of a vacancy in the office of Attorney General, as the Senatorial opposition to Charles B. Warren, of Michigan, for that portfolio continues with the chances in his favor. Both the Michigan Senators are opposed to his confirmation, and that overworked entity known as "Senatorial courtesy" may prevent. But the opposition to Attorney General Stone's confirmation was quite as strong and he was confirmed easily.

The principal reason for the opposition to Warren is his previous association with the Sugar trust. The Michigan Senators may have other causes of complaint against him, but if so they have not publicly revealed them. They may imagine that his relationship with the Sugar trust is sufficient to cause an adverse vote. If that be true they are likely to be disappointed. Most of the Coolidge appointments are men who have had similar relations with big business. Only the other day he appointed a federal district judge at the request of a member of the Pierpont Morgan firm, apparently without any other endorsement, and he was promptly confirmed after the source of his influence was exposed.

It may as well be known first as last that the Coolidge administration will be dominated by big business. Mr. Coolidge has always been a corporation man, not in the sense that he supported corporations in courts as a lawyer. He had never attained the rank of a lawyer that large corporations require. But corporations have invariably chosen him as their candidate for office and he has as invariably served them in his official capacity. Besides corporations furnished the money to conduct his campaign for the Presidency, and though he is proverbially silent he has never been accused of ingratitude. Taking one consideration with another it may be predicted that Warren will be confirmed and the cabinet completed.

—Harrisburg is struggling with the recommendations of the Giant Power survey board. Few people understand the pet project of the Governor and not more than a few will bother themselves with an effort to become informed on it. Briefly stated it is a plan to make a common pool of power; giving the Giant Power companies rights of eminent domain in taking water power, other natural resources, with which to generate electricity, and then to carry it over any lands whatsoever for public use at a cost to be regulated by a commission of the State. It is a very constructive project, wholly practical and could be made of inestimable value to the people of Pennsylvania. But would it? Will it be controlled by such altruistic minds as have conceived it or might it ultimately fall into the domination of political mercenaries? We're for the Giant Power bills if in them there is a provision that the people can recall any franchises given. If there is no such provision we're against the project, beneficial as it appears to be.

—Of course it didn't matter that every industry depending on electricity to keep its wheels turning was brought to a stand-still by the breakdown in the service of the Keystone Power corporation. But there was an awful holler from the people who had to eat cold breakfasts because their electric stoves refused to warm up. And it all happened on Friday, the 13th.

—Secretaries Weeks and Wilbur are in grave trouble. Congress has asked them for information on a subject they appear to know nothing about.

—Floyd Collins, victim of a Kentucky cave disaster, was dead when rescuers reached him but the recovery of his remains was worth the labor it cost.

—Senators and Representatives in Congress will soon begin to wonder why they voted for the child labor constitutional amendment.

—The Governor has ordered "full steam ahead" on prohibition legislation, and it is a safe bet the Legislature will obey the order.

—Over a thousand bills have been introduced in the Legislature already, and the early adjournment leaders are plainly worried.

—Moreover if the cost of collecting taxes were reduced to a fair level the proceeds of the levy would go farther.

Opposition to Warren.

From the Philadelphia Record. The opposition to Charles B. Warren, of Michigan, for Attorney General threatens to prevent his confirmation. Indeed, it is said that the administration forces do not seek a showing of hands and would welcome the chance to keep the nomination in the Senate's Judiciary committee, believing that he might fare better when the new Congress comes in on March 4th.

To many persons it has appeared strange that opposition to the President's nomination for a Cabinet office should appear in the Senate, for it is the common notion that as the President is charged with full responsibility for his administration he ought to be free-handed in the choice of heads of departments. In one of his early papers on governmental functions, written during the second administration of Grover Cleveland, Woodrow Wilson stated the Presidential prerogatives in this respect admirably.

"The President," said he, "may make what selections he will in providing the administrative departments with their chief officers, and keep indisputably within his literal constitutional powers. The Senate must, indeed, confirm his appointments, but it has long regarded its function in this respect, not as a right to assist or dictate to the President in his choice of Cabinet officials, but merely as a check upon the nomination of men touched in some degree by scandal or known in some way to have shown gross incompetency for assuming public trusts."

In Mr. Warren's case, as the discussions have been behind closed doors, it is not known definitely precisely what the charges are that have caused the two Michigan Senators to oppose him and to make his confirmation a matter of doubt. It is stated that they have to do with certain activities of his in connection with the Sugar trust, and if proofs are forthcoming that he had too close a connection with that org of a past generation it will probably keep him out of the trust-busting job which the President has assigned to him as Attorney General Stone's successor.

The Inexhaustible Patience of Science.

From the New York World. Fifty times as powerful as carbolic acid in its power to destroy disease and yet harmless in its effect upon the human system is the description of "hexylresorcinol" by the Johns Hopkins scientists who have perfected it. The importance of this new antiseptic, reports the Associated Press, is that it has been applied to infections of the kidneys and cleared up cases of long standing. It may prove another blessing to the human race.

We know of "hexylresorcinol" only through these brief dispatches tell us; but no layman can read the story of this research at Johns Hopkins without fresh admiration for the spirit of the scientist. For ten years Dr. Veader Leonard and his associates have worked to find the formula which after years of failure they achieved. The patience of successful science is inexhaustible. And the spirit with which it fires its workmen is impressive. Doctor Leonard fed this antiseptic, many times as strong as carbolic acid, to a rabbit. The rabbit lived. Doctor Leonard swallowed some of it himself. He was not harmed. Then he and six of his assistants made test cases of themselves, began taking daily doses of increasing size to study its effect upon the human body.

That is the way science works and why it so frequently achieves its goal.

New Penal Code.

From the Scranton Times. Broadly speaking, the report of the Pennsylvania penal code commission, if adopted by the Legislature, would serve to equalize penalties and define the difference between felonies and misdemeanors. The report recommends that all crimes punishable by a maximum penalty of five or more years be termed felonies while offenses carrying a lesser sentence be classified as misdemeanors.

Realizing robbery is undoubtedly encouraged in Pennsylvania because of the comparatively light sentence which this crime carries, the commission urges that where a conviction is secured for robbery imprisonment up to ten years may be imposed.

The need for a new penal code in Pennsylvania has long been apparent. There has been practically no attempt to codifying our penal laws since 1860.

Nothing Safe Now.

From the Pittsburgh Press. Now they accuse the cockroach of carrying the cancer germ. Rats carry the typhoid germ. Flies carry the typhoid germ. Cats and dogs carry the tubercular germ. Not one darned companionable thing left in the house, save the proletariat bedbug, and they'll find him carrying something, when 'hey catch him.

—The Vane-Grundy combination is already on the run. Harry Baker has been "unlimbering" his artillery.

—Probably the Governor imagines that his Washington party will reinstate him in popular favor.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Despairing because he could find no moonshine in jail, John Crozak, of McAdoo, committed suicide in prison on Monday.

—George B. Stevenson has been elected president of the board of directors of the Annie H. Ross Library, Lock Haven, to succeed Reese Kintzing, resigned.

—Warren N. Drum, principal of the Lock Haven Normal school, has tendered his resignation as head of the school, to the trustees. No action has yet been taken on the matter. Mr. Drum has stated that he intends to go into business in New York as soon as a man to replace him is secured.

—Several foxes are seen about the streets of West Chester, every night, having left the open country to seek shelter and food. They are making their homes between porches and sheds and living on the garbage. On frequent occasions they have been staved by hounds in the outskirts and some lively chases have resulted.

—Margaret Dorsey, Negress, 35 years old, was burned to death Friday night, in her home near Leith, Fayette county, as a result, it is said, of a lighted cigarette igniting her bed. Pedestrians passing saw smoke pouring from windows and called the Uniontown fire department. The woman was dead when the firemen arrived. The house was damaged to the amount of several hundred dollars.

—A ring on her right hand probably saved Miss Mary Jasper, of Manheim, Lancaster county, from losing her hand. Miss Jasper, alighting from a P. R. E. train on Monday, had her hand caught between two cars. It was necessary to unhook the cars before she could be released. The ring was bent almost flat, but the girl escaped with nothing more serious than a bruised hand.

—The Pennsylvania Power and Light company last Thursday took options on additional parcels of land at Hummel's wharf, opposite Sunbury, where, according to announcement, it will build a \$7,000,000 superpower plant. The indications are that it is seeking rights of way for a railroad line to Selinsgrove, four miles away. The prices offered are the largest in the history of that hamlet, as much as \$5,000 an acre being paid for farm land.

—John William Jones, of Spangler, has brought suit against Jacob F. Smith, of the same place, to recover \$5,000 as damages for injuries alleged to have been received because of the negligence of Mr. Smith. It is claimed that the latter operates a motion picture house in Spangler and while the plaintiff was in his theatre he fell down an unguarded and improperly-lighted stairway, as a result of which he was severely injured.

—Through a decision of the U. S. circuit court of appeals, in Philadelphia on Monday, M. J. Dempsey and William W. Walsh, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the Keystone Brewing company, Dunmore, Pa., must go to jail for six months and each pay a fine of \$1,000 for violating an injunction issued by Federal Judge Witmer, at Scranton, Pa., prohibiting them or their corporation from manufacturing or selling high powered beer.

—The Misses Sarah J. Yellen, and Margaret Hellen, of Uniontown, Pa., have five barrels of five-year-old apple brandy. They wish to dispose of it legally and discreetly. The brandy, upon the death of William H. Hellen, former hotel proprietor, was left with the rest of the estate to his wife, Mrs. Grace E. Hellen. At her death the liquor was willed to the two daughters. Under the law an asset of an estate may not be destroyed and the eighth amendment prohibits the sale of liquor.

—With his arm caught in pumping machinery of an oil well, crushed to a pulp above the wrist, Charles Swanson, 50 years old, of Kane, was held prisoner for an hour on Monday before aid reached him. Swanson attempted to cut his mangled arm off with a pocket knife, but dropped the knife out of reach. Glen Gordon, attracted by Swanson's cries, had to start the machinery to release the victim. Swanson walked half a mile to the Kane hospital, where the arm was amputated. He will recover.

—Amanda Heisey, for more than twenty years housekeeper for the late Isaac W. Zug, wealthy retired farmer, banker and for many years well-known horse dealer, of Lebanon, has been rewarded for her faithfulness in the will of the late Mr. Zug, filed at the court house, in Lebanon, late Saturday afternoon, when letters testamentary were granted to Phares S. Nolt. She is to receive a cash reward of \$8,000, and a portion of the furniture. The estate, according to reports, is valued at \$100,000 and about \$55,000 also in personal property.

—Entering pleas of guilty in court at Ebensburg, on Monday, to charges of larceny in connection with the theft of a \$3,300 payroll of the Emmons Coal company last November 9, Arthur Etienne, former paymaster of the coal company, and Arthur Kelly, also of Emmons, were sentenced to pay the costs of the case, make restitution and serve from one to three years in the county jail. Etienne told police at the time of the robbery that he had been held up by bandits. The payroll with the exception of \$500 was recovered by the authorities.

—Prisoners in the Lycoming county jail in Williamsport, may start in business as the result of the transfer of Dennis Lewis to the jail from the eastern penitentiary, to which he was sentenced for burglary and larceny. Lewis was sent to prison three years ago and while there began the manufacture of curtain pullers and beads. As the business grew he began to employ inmates to work for him. Sheriff Little, who knew of Lewis' activities in the penitentiary, has said he is willing to have the men work for Lewis in the jail, as there are no established industries in the institution.

—An attempt to rekindle a stove fire by pouring oil on the heated coals cost the life of a woman and the serious burning of her husband and their daughter early on Sunday when fire resulted that destroyed their home and two adjoining dwellings at Hillsville, Lawrence county. Mrs. Annie Sackin, aged 27 years, is declared by authorities to have poured the oil in a small heating stove on the second floor of the home. An explosion resulted and the woman's clothing was set ablaze. Her husband, Andrew Sackin, attracted by her screams, attempted to rescue her but the woman was burned so badly that she died almost instantly. The husband succeeded in rescuing their 9 year old daughter but both were severely burned and were removed to a hospital. The Sackin home and the two adjoining dwellings were destroyed at a loss estimated at \$12,600.