

Doesn't "Slobbered a Bibful" sound like the Gazette.

We are just wondering whether the splash when Judge Dale finally jumps into the political pond, is going to drown anybody.

There was enough heat concentrated in the ten days prior to Wednesday to cover over the whole of an ordinary summer and make it rather comfortable at that.

One-third of the American League race is run and the "Afaletics" are still in the lead. Which is to say that Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy apparently has at last gotten together a pennant contender.

Chauncey Depew is ninety-one and "Uncle Joe" Cannon eighty-nine. Both are pretty staunch old craft yet, and we'll bet that neither of them ever "laid off" of food, drink or anything else they really enjoyed.

The vast area of the Chinese Empire makes possible the very unique condition there now. Wars and rumors of wars rage in one section and the other goes on about its business as unconcerned as if nothing were happening.

Say what you will about the theory of evolution it must be admitted that it has given world-wide prominence to an inconspicuous Tennessee school teacher who might not otherwise have been heard of outside his own parish.

The MacMillan expedition to the North Pole started from Philadelphia Wednesday. Of course it was given the rousing send off that goes with all scientific adventures. So today MacMillan and his companions are hunting the Pole and tomorrow we'll probably be hunting MacMillan.

Maybe we're lucky, after all, that infants cry. A medical journal informs us that a child expends enough energy in crying for an hour to lift itself to the top of the Washington Monument. If it didn't let off energy in this way think of what it might do in the way of beating up dotting parents.

George Bernard Shaw has characterized our William Jennings Bryan as "a man with an extraordinary uplift and no discoverable brains of any kind." Of course the Irish publicist's opinion of Mr. Bryan matters little to the friends of the Commoner and less to those of us who have long doubted Shaw's ability to recognize brains were he to see them.

It seems to us that the President was badly advised when he permitted his Secretary of State to lecture the Farmer-Labor-Radical elements of the Northwest. A wholesome talking to was very timely, but the people who had repudiated Mr. Kellogg as their Senator in Congress could scarcely be expected to accept a reprimand from him in the matter of their duty as citizens.

The death of "Col." Bill Fairman, at Punxsutawney last week, removes one of the most picturesque characters who has ever figured in legal and political circles in Pennsylvania. Eccentricity of dress made him a conspicuous figure in any gathering and he capitalized it with an audacity that secured attention that the Colonel might not otherwise have had in the degree that it was accorded him everywhere he went.

Whatever else may be said of Clem Shaver's usefulness as chairman of our organization it will have to be admitted that he is the first manager our party has had in a long time who has put us in the position of starting a new campaign with a view of electing our candidates instead of paying off old debts. Clem has cleaned the slate and when he asks for money it will be to put pep into live horses, not to pay for dead ones.

Congressman Vare is back in Philadelphia after his trip abroad. His return was expected to immediately clear the clouded political waters of Pennsylvania Republicanism, but up to the moment William has been silent as the Sphinx. It is reasonably certain that he will remain so until he discovers what crowd can bring the most grist to his mill. He will be for Pepper or for Pinchot, just to the extent that they are for him.

The cost of government in the forty-eight States in the Union has increased more than one hundred per cent. in the last seven years. And it will continue to mount right up to the point where people, being unable to bear the burden longer, awaken to realize that nine out of every ten laws that are written into their statutes are designed, primarily, to provide jobs and fees for the friends of the political crowds that have secured their enactment.

We apologize to DuBois, Clearfield and Phillipsburg, of the C. and C. baseball league. Some time ago we accused them of taking a town, by name of Sykesville, into their circuit, for "easy pickings." We had never heard of Sykesville. Today we are better informed. Before us is a copy of the Sykesville Post-Dispatch, a mighty interesting, well set up eight page paper teeming with intelligent discussion of live topics—and more than a column devoted to the brutality with which Sykesville treated the Clearfield team, last year's League champions. In the opener it licked them twice in the same day and is now "sitting pretty" at the top of the percentage column.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Trying to Perpetuate Fiction.

Secretary of State Kellogg is determined to perpetuate the absurd fiction that the government is in imminent danger of destruction. In his speech at St. Paul, Minnesota, on Monday evening, he said "the principles of the constitution are being assaulted by propagandists advocating the overthrow of the government and substitution of class tyranny, and by a considerable body of our citizens who in the name of liberty and reforms are impatient of the constitutional restrictions and by insidious approaches and attacks would destroy these guarantees of personal liberty. I doubt if you are aware," he added, "of the amount of destructive revolutionary propaganda which is secretly distributed in this country by foreign influence."

That bugaboo exercised a wonderful influence on the voters last fall and Mr. Kellogg wants to keep it alive for future service. He had in mind the surprisingly large vote cast for Senator LaFollette and mentally harked back to the election of two years before when Henrick Shipstead, Farm-Labor candidate, defeated him for Senator and made his elevation to his present office possible. It was the development of public sentiment in the Northwest against the dominance of corporation influence in the administration of the government at Washington that compassed this result and planted in the mind of Kellogg an inveterate hatred of those responsible for it. The nomination of LaFollette and an egregious blunder in his platform gave opportunity for the fiction.

As a matter of fact, ever since the beginning of the government, there have been complaints concerning the restrictions of the constitution and more of them have come from New England than any other section. The Abolitionists before the war of the Rebellion denounced it as "a covenant with hell," and others condemned it at one time or another in equally vehement language. But the government at Washington lived and even prospered through it all. There have been Socialists, anarchists, and radicals of every description spreading propaganda among the discontented and disappointed for years but they have accomplished no great harm to the constitution, which is still "the guarantee of personal liberty" and will continue to be after agitators of the Kellogg type are gone.

Justice Holmes, of the United States Supreme court, isn't worried about menace to the constitution. Pity he can't put some courage in the heart of the Secretary of State.

Pepper, Pinchot and Vare.

Now that Congressman Vare is home political activity may be expected both in Philadelphia and throughout the State. The Congressman is more or less cheery since his return. During his absence he not only enjoyed a personal interview with the Pope of Rome but had an intimate contact with the King of Spain. Only a few citizens of the United States, other than Ambassadors or agents of the government in some capacity, are so favored, and as Mr. Vare thought fairly well of himself before he is justified in a sense of elation now.

But just how he will express his enhanced opinion of merits remain to be seen. Senator Pepper cherishes a hope that it will not take the form of an ambition to don the Senatorial toga at the opening of the Sixty-ninth Congress. Mr. Pepper is willing to give Mr. Vare free rein in local politics and might go so far as to consent to a dominating influence in the selection of the candidate for Governor next year, if he will agree to not only not be a candidate but pledge support to Pepper against Pinchot. But nobody is certain of anything with respect to the future activities of Mr. Vare. He may run for Senator and dictate the candidate for Governor, in view of his new estimate of himself.

One thing may be clearly discerned in the present confused condition of Republican politics in Pennsylvania, and that is that if Vare stays out of the fight for the nomination whichever of the other candidates, Pepper or Pinchot, gets his support will secure the nomination. Senator Pepper's recent declaration in favor of the enforcement of the Volstead law has not helped him with the dry vote, while it has considerably impaired his influence with the wet element. Pinchot has the dry vote completely tied up and if Vare, Grundy and Magee turn in for him he will get a considerable support from the wets. Meantime Pinchot is fishing sedulously and Pepper is worrying while Vare is admiring himself.

There is still ground for the hope that Amundsen is safe somewhere between here and the North Pole and that in due time he will return.

Coolidge Wants a Third Term.

Recent occurrences in Washington are accepted among practical politicians as evidence that President Coolidge has in mind a purpose to challenge the tradition of the country against a third term in the office of President. General Grant, who had been twice elected, tried for a third term and failed. Colonel Roosevelt, who served an unexpired term and a full term, asked for "a third cup of coffee," and was refused the favor. Grant was personally the most popular President of his generation and Roosevelt the most forceful of his time. But Calvin Coolidge, who is neither personally popular nor forceful, imagines that he may overcome the objection and seems to be striving for the third term.

The recent occurrences which have caused this line of mental speculation begun with the appointment of Frank B. Kellogg, of Minnesota, to the office of Secretary of State. Mr. Kellogg was a rather unpopular "lame duck" after his defeat for Senator in Congress by an overwhelming majority in 1922. President Harding consoled him with a diplomatic appointment and Coolidge promoted him to the premier seat in the cabinet when Hughes resigned that office. The next incident was the appointment of William D. Mitchell, of Minnesota, to the office of Solicitor General. Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, another "lame duck," has since been fixed in a comfortable sinecure and Minnesota has been favored with a personal visit, the only visit the President will make during the summer.

Much of the trouble of the Republican organization within the last few years has developed in the Northwest. While serving as Vice President Mr. Coolidge was hooted off the stage while attempting to make a speech at the State fair in Minnesota and it may be assumed that his recent and present favors to the State were not inspired by gratitude. Therefore it is reasoned in the minds of practical politicians that they were influenced by a hope to win the favor of that section and thus make his nomination in 1928 expedient, if not actually necessary to party success in the campaign of that year. Boosting the price of wheat turned the trick in 1924 but another agency will be required in the next contest.

Somebody denies that famous Perdicaris story and thus casts a shadow over the greatest Roosevelt achievement.

Tax Burdens that Work Hardships.

President Coolidge apparently still adheres to the theory that voters in this country read little and think less. He imagines that frequent statements that the expenses of government are being decreased slightly here and there, and that trifling cuts in the rate of income taxes, will solve the problem of the high cost of living. For many years men of his type fooled a vast number of voters by asserting that foreign producers paid the tariff taxes and therefore it was unimportant to the consumer whether the taxation were high or low. Analysis finally disposed of this fiction so completely that it was abandoned. The idea that small economies in government will decrease the expenses of living is equally absurd.

High taxation is certainly an element in the cost of living, but the income tax is not the burden that counts most in the equation. The two per cent. income tax levied on a family of four or five with an income of less than five thousand dollars cuts a small figure in the budget of the year. But the tariff tax on sugar, coffee, wheat, shoes, wearing apparel, ornaments and necessities mount up to a high total and in many cases deprive families of comforts that are essential to health. The present tariff law extracts from the pockets of the people more than five billion dollars a year and nearly four and a half billions of it is graft for groups of men who contribute to campaign slush funds.

Mr. Coolidge, under the advice of Secretaries Mellon and Hoover, is anxious to reduce the tax on big incomes but is indifferent to the other taxes which really grind. Of course the municipal taxes, and school taxes and road taxes and the various other taxes imposed for one purpose or another, are burdensome, but they are necessary for business and convenience. But tariff taxes over and above the revenue level are robbery, pure and simple, and serve no other purpose than to reimburse campaign contributors. Yet Mr. Coolidge makes no suggestion to reduce these levies. On the contrary he refuses to reduce them, even when the non-partisan Tariff Commission recommended the reduction.

President Coolidge is for peace at any price except association with the League of Nations.

False Economic Policy.

The decrease in postal revenues to the large amount of \$20,000 a day, following a considerable increase in postal rates, vindicates a well established economic principle. Small profits increase the volume of business and out of the enlarged operations come better results. This is true in merchandising, manufacturing and transportation activities as well as in the postal service. The postal service might have been made self-sustaining under the old rates if it had been fairly administered. But influenced by false notions the postal authorities undertook to increase the revenues by increasing the rates and the contrary effect has caused great disappointment.

There are commodities and services which the public must have and in which the increase in cost will produce enhanced returns. That is true of domestic taxation. But in tariff taxation it is not true, for excessive rates invariably result in diminished volume of trade. Increasing freight rates and passenger service on railroads has precisely the same effect. Trolley companies which have increased rates frequently suffered considerable loss by the operation. When patrons of these conveniences get the idea that they are being imposed upon they walk whenever it is possible rather than pay even a trifling increase in rates. That is a natural action of the human mind.

The postal service, under the law in operation previous to the recent change, suffered from unjust administration. The publishers of certain magazines or periodicals were favored to the extent of millions of dollars annually in reward for party services or campaign contributions. The remedy for postal deficits was in the correction of this fault in the administration of the service rather than in the increase of the rates of postage, which has resulted in decreased instead of increased revenue. Possibly the popular resentment at the unnecessary increase in rates will abate in the course of time, and that the volume of business of the former period will be restored. But that is uncertain.

At last we have heard of some real thing that Congressman William I. Swoope, of Clearfield, claims to have done. Clearfield and Phillipsburg papers have published a list of old soldiers of the Civil war, Spanish-American war and world war that he has assisted in securing pensions and compensation, forty-five of them to be exact, and among the number we notice the names of James Miller and James Reed, Bellefonte; Fred K. Frank, Centre Hall; Samuel R. Gettig, Madisonburg; Martha Potts, William E. Mongan and George P. Thomas, Howard; and David Miller, Pine Grove Mills.

John G. Love has decided to be a candidate at the September primaries for the nomination for district attorney. Ivan Walker, who is now filling that office by appointment of Judge Dale, has stated on previous occasions that he would not be a candidate for election and there has been no announcement to the effect that he has had a change of heart, so that Mr. Love is the only avowed candidate up to this time.

Bellefonte has been well oiled the past week. Spring street from Bishop to Linn, and Howard street from Spring to Wilson, were oiled and top-dressed with limestone chips by the borough, while the Highway Department did likewise with Allegheny and Linn streets. The state road between Bellefonte and Milesburg has also been repaired.

However much the President may favor restriction on immigration from Italy, Austria and other sections of Europe he assures the Norsemen that they are "the salt of the earth."

Belgium has expressed a willingness to come forward for a settlement of its war debt to this country, and the chances are others will follow her example.

The Governor of Minnesota assured the President that Minnesota is for Calvin Coolidge, which proves that time works marvelous changes in the minds of men.

Unless appearances are deceiving Senator Reed will know more about Bill Vare in the near future than he professed to know a few weeks ago.

Bill Vare is home and the sub-bosses from the Delaware to the Lake are holding their ears to the ground.

Incidentally, a good, soaking rain would be very acceptable to Centre county just now.

Testing Motorists Competency.

The proposal that every automobile driver in the United States be required to pass a test before being given his first license has so much to commend it that it is hard to understand on what grounds reasonable persons could object to it. Yet the fact remains that four out of nineteen members of a committee of traffic experts who met in Washington Thursday to consider safety legislation voted against the plan to put such a requirement into a proposed uniform traffic code.

The explanation of one of the objectors that he was opposed to the proposal because he regarded compulsory examination as a prerequisite to automobile driving as unjustified interference with the rights of citizens is hardly to be taken seriously. It is going a little too far to say that it is an invasion of personal liberty to require men and women to show their competency to handle a potentially dangerous machine before authorizing them to drive it on the public highways. It would be more nearly correct to say that it is an unjustified interference with the rights of the citizens to turn an incompetent driver loose on the roads.

Certainly the great majority of automobile drivers now licensed will approve of the examination requirement. Those who use the streets and roads on foot or in horse-drawn vehicles also will indorse the proposal. They naturally do not want their lives and property endangered by persons given licenses to drive without inquiry as to whether they are competent. The only group that has reason to oppose the examination is composed of those who wish driving licenses and doubt their ability to meet the prescribed test. It is worthy of note in this connection that in some places near Pittsburgh lately more than ten per cent. of the applicants for driving licenses have been refused the test because of inability to pass the test.

With approximately 20,000 persons in the United States last year there is strong cause for making sure that none but persons who know how to drive shall be licensed to operate machines. Pennsylvania requires a test, and such other States as lack the requirements should fall in line.

A Tribute to Pennsylvania's Iron Men.

The Twenty-eighth Division of the United States Army in the world war, composed very largely of Pennsylvania National Guardsmen, may well cherish the tribute which has been paid to its fighting prowess in the memoirs of General Robert Lee Bullard, who commanded in turn the First Division of the third corps and finally the second army of this nation in France.

The men who "came marching home" six years ago will remember the scene of their ordeal of battle to their dying day. It was on the low south bank of the Veste under the machine guns and artillery of the enemy on the hills of the northern bank. "I have rarely, if ever, seen troops under more trying conditions," said General Bullard. "They held it with the greatest balance and self-possession. They never grew wild or excited. They were on the spot and they stayed there—harried day and night by the enemy. Literally, a blade of grass could not sway without calling down hostile fire. The balanced, calm conduct of the division in all its service under me on this occasion made me think it one of the best that I ever commanded. I later had it when I came to the command of the Second Army and it made a like record there."

The Iron Division wrote its name with the blood of sacrifice in France, but it gave a new and glorious tradition to its State. It's something for you to be proud of, men of Pennsylvania, something which will not soon be forgotten in the annals of the nation.

Saving the Outdoors.

Probably no picnicker or automobile tourist who leaves behind him a litter of rubbish or a burning camp fire deliberately purposes to show bad manners or do any damage, declares The Clearfield Progress.

Yet the menace to camping grounds, parks, woods and any attractive outdoor place accessible to picnic parties is growing worse right along. There are more people going on outdoor jaunts and, because of the motor car, they can go farther and invade a greater area and ruin more beautiful scenery than formerly.

For these reasons it does seem necessary for civic organizations, nature clubs and public officials to keep up the campaign of public education on this subject. Of course everybody gets tired of being told continually not to leave camp litter about, not to leave fires burning, not to pull branches off trees and not to pluck wild flowers or pull up plants. Yet, if this year's and next year's picnickers do not heed the warning, a time may come when there will be no welcome shade, peaceful woods, unspoiled springs and charming streams for anybody to enjoy.

Some family skeletons are padded beyond recognition.

Humility is a virtue that hobbles about on crutches.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Thieves broke the large plate glass window of the Carl Keuscher jewelry store at Mahanoy City and stole \$500 worth of rings and bracelets.

Howard Hockenbrach, 17 years old, of Selingsgrove Junction, a student at Susquehanna University, was drowned while bathing on Saturday.

Margaret Rudar, 15 months old, of Pittsburgh, was killed by a batted ball while lying in her mother's arms on the front steps of their home.

Miss Geraldine Lockhart, who has been a member of the Central State Normal school faculty at Lock Haven for several years, has resigned to become principal of a school on Long Island. She has gone to her home at Lake George, N. Y., to remain until September.

George Hinkle returned to his home in Plains, near Pittston, after a storm recently, and found that a bolt of lightning had torn out a window frame, breaking the glass panes, ripping off sections of plastering, tearing a hole four inches in diameter through the carpet and floor and then spent itself in the cellar.

L. S. Buford, 27 years old, of Harrisburg, a freight brakeman on the Pennsylvania railroad, was killed on Sunday night when he was struck by a fast freight train at Cly, midway between Harrisburg and York. Buford was walking along an east-bound track inspecting cars on his train when the oncoming train struck him.

Joseph S. Siscurella, of Johnstown, found guilty in Federal court at Pittsburgh of placing illegally unmailable matter in the United States mails in connection with depositing a bomb that exploded in the postoffice at South Fork, Pa., was sentenced to serve seven years in the Federal prison at Atlanta, by Judge F. P. Schoonmaker, on Friday afternoon.

Sunbury's Susquehanna Park cannot become a modern Eden. Mayor Drumheller said last week in no uncertain terms when reports came to him that habitues of the park were despoiling themselves about the place very scantily clad. "We will prosecute every person guilty," said the Mayor, after many Susquehanna trail motorists had complained of violations of nymphs, in the cooling waters of the stream.

State police last Thursday captured Sherman Etherling, forty-five years of age, of Northumberland county, a giant in stature, whom they consider the worst desperado in that part of the State. He was taken as he slept in a little hut located in the fastness of the Blue mountains and after efforts of more than a year to capture him. Etherling is accused of assault and battery, attempted murder, theft and robbery, and the police believe a murder at Williamsport.

Arthur Cecil Wingart, of Greensburg, Pa., second-class seaman on the naval transport Henderson, was killed instantly aboard ship at Annapolis, Md., by falling through a hatchway to the bottom of the hold, naval authorities announced. Wingart enlisted last December. The body was sent to the home of his mother, Mrs. Mary L. Wingart, at Greensburg. The accident occurred just before the Henderson sailed for the Pacific coast with a contingent of newly commissioned ensigns.

State Senator, George T. Weingartner, of Beaver county, has a cow with a rather unusual appetite. On his farm near the cow's pasture there is a swimming pool. There is no bath house, but friendly clumps of bushes answer their purpose. Several young women sought one of these natural bath houses and donned their bathing suits. After their swim they returned and found the cow munching their clothing. The cow had already eaten one of the undergarments and was starting to eat a dress when the young women arrived. They found it difficult to "shoo" the cow long enough to dress.

For the second time in as many terms of court in Northumberland county, the suit of Thomas Quigley against former Judge L. S. Walter, both of Mt. Carmel, was continued last Wednesday. Charles Grant, of Northumberland, a juror, shook the hands with Mrs. Anna Howard, of Mt. Carmel, a star witness, and spoke with her. The court heard of the action and promptly fined Grant \$5, and told him he was old enough to know better. Quigley alleges Walter kept \$2,400, half of a verdict he recovered for injuries suffered on a Pennsylvania railroad train. Quigley declares Walter agreed to represent him free in return for his services when Walter was defeated for judge.

The intense heat of Sunday had no appreciable effect on the attendance at the annual feast of roses at Tulpehocken Reformed church, at Meyerstown, as many were refused admission. Payment was made to the Caspar Wister family, of Philadelphia, of a red rose as the annual ground rental of one hundred of the richest acres of land in Lebanon valley, and a white rose for the pipe organ installed by the same family a decade ago. When Caspar Wister made his grant to Tulpehocken church in 1758 it was not known that underlying the tract is one of the richest deposits of limestone, the development of which has made the congregation the richest in the entire valley.

With Old Sol keeping the temperature close to the 100 mark, an armed band of searchers for several hours on Sunday scoured the mountains to the south of Emalus, Lehigh county, bent on killing a "big brown, hairy animal" that ten year old Clement Schaeffer said attacked him and mangled one hand so badly that surgeons amputated a thumb and two fingers. The injured boy said the "wild beast" was not a bear but very ferocious. The search finally converged on the spot where young Schaeffer said the attack had taken place. There some dynamite caps, most of them exploded, were found with blood marks on them. The searching party disbanded but the injured lad, who is in a hospital in Allentown, sticks to his original tale.

With the raiding of an alleged gambling house in New Kensington, early on Sunday, State police reported seizing several hundred thousand printed tickets of the "New Kensington Baseball Pool" and a printing press, one of the largest baseball pools in western Pennsylvania is believed to have been smashed. Four men found in the place, were arrested, each on the charge of violating the gambling laws and using the mails to defraud, and were lodged in the Westmoreland county jail at Greensburg. The tickets sold for 35 cents each, the first prize being \$7,000 and the second and third, \$5,000 and \$3,000, respectively. The tickets were sold by sub-agents throughout the Tri-State district. Warrants for the arrest of the distributors will be sworn out by the state police.