

—The "Afaletics" are slipping, but Bellefonte is still on top, so we should worry.

—As for us, we prefer the somnolent rocks of the Alleghenies to the convulsive ones of the Coast ranges of California.

—Next week we expect to loaf, not that we haven't been doing a lot of it all of our life, but as there will be no edition of the "Watchman" next Friday the excuse for doing it is something real for us to lean on.

—The hay crop in Centre county is going to be short. But why worry, when a ton of hay will only keep a cow alive and giving a fair amount of milk for a year and its equivalent will run the fliv eight hundred and seventy miles.

—Talking about the inventors of ice making machines, modern refrigeration devices and all the other contrivances for cooling, they have a lot to learn from the little coterie that started in to frappe the suggestion that the "Watchman" made, last Friday morning, to the creditors of the Centre County Bank.

—Reading the program of the Fourth of July celebration in Bellefonte in 1876, we were struck with the fact that five minutes were allowed the preacher for his opening prayer and only three minutes given to the two orators. We'd like to hear the crowd's estimate of a preacher who would undertake to pull a five minute prayer at a Fourth demonstration in this day of our Lord, 1925. In fact a prayer of any length would be the last thought of modern program builders.

—Speaking of the reasons why Dr. Thomas resigned the presidency of The Pennsylvania State College the Raftsmen's Journal, Clearfield, says: "It is regretted that Pennsylvania treats her own college so shamefully." Of course it is regretted—everywhere outside of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh political machine and when the country cogs refuse to mesh every time they are manipulated by those master chauffeurs there'll be nothing for the Journal to regret—so far as Pennsylvania's "own College" is concerned.

—Of course we know we're doing something wholly contrary to the principles of good business, but we just can't help giving a lot of free publicity to this town of Sykesville. We didn't know there was such a place until it was discovered by the C. and C. baseball league and we accused Phillipsburg, Clearfield and DuBois of looking for something "soft" when they said to Sykesville: Come in, the water's fine! Well, Sykesville's in and wallopin' the life out of the other teams, demanding that ump. be removed and refusing to pay fines imposed by the president of the League. Hurrah for Sykesville! We still don't know exactly where she dots the map, but she's the bear cat and the C. and C. has her by the tail and can't let go.

—They tell us that all that was needed at Millheim, last Saturday, when Bellefonte and the team representing the capital of Penn township were battling for baseball honors, was for some one to drop the hat and the fight would have been on. Great news! Whenever they get to the point of mobby' the ump. and stonin' the visiting team out of town you can take it from us, there's going to be a pretty interesting season of baseball all around the circuit. We know, because we led a team out at Phillipsburg one time in a storm of stones more torrential than we imagined the Alleghenies could have supplied and "snuk" a team out of Houtzdale after it got too dark for miner's picks to find a target and them were the days of the best baseball the old Mountain League ever knew.

—It will scarcely be denied by any one that railroads have done more for the development of the country than all other agencies combined. In fact, practically all development has been the result of railroad pioneering. And who are the railroads? They are the thousands of men, women, children, estates, etc., who have put the money in to finance them. In the last analysis, they are almost as personal an enterprise as if they were that of an individual or a partnership. Every time an injustice is done to a railroad company the effect is felt by the person who has invested his or her money in its stock, whether they live in Bellefonte or on the other side of the globe. Yet how thoughtlessly injustice is done to the great carriers that have made the country what it is. And simply because the public doesn't understand that a corporation is something more than an octopus. Juries bring in verdicts against them that they wouldn't think of finding against an individual. Legislation that is regressive, confiscatory and petty burdensome is continually coming out of Congress and our Legislatures and when nothing else is in sight to take a crack at the railroads are always a popular target. It has come to a time when the people must realize the importance of as fair dealing with a railroad as they expect for themselves, else there will be an end of railroad development, for the reason that investors will not furnish the money necessary for it. They will not put money into an enterprise that is mulcted at every opportunity and legally harassed to the point where it cannot pay as fair a dividend as a chain of cigar stores.

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An "Annual Address" of Value.

The average "annual address" of the president of an organization or society is a perfunctory affair. It usually expresses satisfaction with the progress of the work in which the organization is concerned and congratulates "those present" on the increase in numbers or the improvement in financial strength. But the address of General George E. Alter, president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, delivered at the annual meeting of that Association held at Bedford Springs last week, is a worthy exception to that custom. It presented a review of the legislation of the State of much value to the legal profession and of deep interest to the lay mind. It indicates a needed improvement in practice.

We learn from the address of Gen. Alter that "one session of the Legislature of Pennsylvania is responsible for about as many statutes as are passed by the English Parliament in ten years." This indicates either a pernicious energy on the part of the local Legislature or a lamentable laxity on the part of the Parliament, and there has been no complaint from the British public. There is complaint, and apparently with reason, happily indicated by Gen. Alter, himself, of over production here, when he adds "there is very much that could be omitted without peril to the public welfare." The increase in departments of government in recent years justifies some increase in legislative activities but there is still a redundancy.

An analysis of President Alter's very interesting address reveals a reprobation of the tendency to centralization of government in which most thoughtful citizens will concur. Many of the remedies for minor evils might well be left for correction to State government of perplexing obligations and unnecessary burdens. "It is human," as Mr. Alter says, "for the officeholder to seek to magnify his office, to broaden its jurisdiction and increase its powers," and this multiplication of laws may be ascribed to this natural impulse. But it is not beneficial in its results and it is a hopeful sign that this fact is recognized.

—Just by way of saying something that everybody will agree with we rise to remark that it certainly wasn't Governor Pinchot who first suggested that Mr. Finegan be made president of The Pennsylvania State College.

Soldiers' Bonus Postponed.

A decision of the Supreme court, handed down on Saturday, settles adversely and definitely for the present, the question of a bonus for the veterans of the world war. The court holds that Article XVIII, Section 1, which declares that "no amendment or amendments shall be submitted often than once in five years," is valid and binding. Justice Sadler, who delivered the opinion, said "we are not unmindful of the fact that the voters should be given free opportunity to modify the fundamental law as may seem to them fit, but this must be done in the way they themselves have provided, if stability in carrying on the government is to be preserved."

The constitution was amended in 1901, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1918, 1920 and 1923. The amendments of 1911, 1913, 1918 and 1923 were invalid and the "Watchman" called public attention to the fact in each case, not because of opposition to the proposed measures but for the reason now given by the Supreme court that amendments must be made in the way the people provided. No attention was paid to the warning for the reason that the dominant political machine favored the amendments. When the question came up of justly rewarding the sons of the State who had imperiled their lives to preserve the honor and safety of the country an objection was raised and the amiable purpose has been postponed.

The decision of the court unfortunately carries with it the postponement of a vote on the proposed loan for State College and that for reforestation. It has been suspected that both these propositions were unwelcome to the political masters of the State but they hadn't courage to openly oppose them. It was easier and safer to achieve the purpose of destruction by the devious course of placing the burden on the court. In 1923 the vote on the bonus amendment was enjoined but that on the highway loan allowed to pass. This year they enjoined the reforestation and the State College measures as well as the bonus loan for the reason that they are equally hostile to all.

—The re-appointment of Pinchot's giant power board may be for the purpose of pursuing the enterprise, and it may be only an expression of contempt for the Legislature.

Coolidge Balloon Deflated.

At the conference of Governors, held at Poland Spring, Maine, which convened on Monday, Governor Smith, of New York, threw a harpoon through the economy balloon recently inflated by President Coolidge and sent out to fool a credulous public. Governor Smith quoted from the President's speech of June 22, in which, after claiming a reduction in Federal expenses of \$2,081,000,000, he declared "history of public affairs will hardly show a parallel case of retrenchment in the cost of government;" and added, "the fact is the expenditures have been reduced because the war is at an end and it is no longer necessary to maintain the government on a war basis."

The total from which the claimed reduction is measured is expenses of a period in which the country was maintaining at home and abroad an army of more than 4,000,000 men, and the succeeding year in which the expenses of demobilizing that vast force were incurred. The costly operation of demobilizing the army had ceased fully four years before the decrease in expenses of which the President boasts and the interest account on the upward of two billions of dollars paid on the public debt during the last year of the Wilson administration was cut out, which at four per cent. would amount to \$88,000,000 a year. Taking these facts into consideration the decrease in the expenditures of the government is practically nil.

Governor Smith punctured another tire in the Coolidge boastful claim. That is, the President declared that while the National government is practicing the most rigid economy the State governments are indulging in the wildest extravagance. So far as New York State is concerned the cost of government during the last three years has decreased in greater ratio even than that claimed by the President for the federal government. In Pennsylvania and some of the other States in which Republican control is regular and certain there may have been extravagance in administration. But it is not true in New York or Ohio, though in both those States Democratic Governors have had constant struggles with Republican Legislatures to keep expenses down.

—The friends of Henry C. Niles are urging him to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for judge of York county to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Judge Wannier. Mr. Niles was the Democratic nominee for Justice of the Supreme court a few years ago, and it may be said he would adorn the bench of any court.

Charge Against Pusey Proved.

It would have been an easy matter for Colonel Fred Taylor Pusey to persuade the public that Governor Pinchot had been influenced by ulterior motives in separating him from the State pay roll to which he had been long and fondly attached, if there had been no other evidence in the case. There have been so many charges of that sort lodged against the Governor, without even an attempt at refutation, that most people have come to that frame of mind which takes things for granted. But in this case the Attorney General has been able to present evidence corroborating the accusation of the Governor and he has promptly availed himself of the opportunity.

Among the reasons given for the dismissal of Colonel Pusey from his lucrative office was that he had solicited an exorbitant fee for performing a nominal service for a Philadelphia banking company. Colonel Pusey denied this charge promptly and positively. Thereupon the Attorney General made public a letter signed by the president and treasurer of the banking company, addressed to a deputy Attorney General, in which the transaction is given in detail. It not only completely supports the Governor's charge but justifies his action in dismissing the Colonel. There are other charges against him but it isn't necessary to consider them. The one so completely proved is sufficient.

The Colonel is a rather unique figure in politics. He was somewhat conspicuous and occasionally absurd as a Representative in the Legislature some years ago and took an active part in the campaign to defeat Pinchot for Governor. But he was then on the pay roll under appointment from Governor Sproul. In the contest for the Speakership of the House, at the organization of the last session of the Legislature, he espoused the cause of the Governor's candidate and probably imagined that made his tenure of office safe. But in that "reckoned without his host," for the Governor is taking on a new fight and proposes to have none but real friends on guard.

—The Governor is heading westward and the politicians are wondering and guessing.

Secretary Mellon to Resign.

The revival of the rumor that Secretary of the Treasury Andrew W. Mellon is about to resign suggests to the analytical mind that he is disappointed in the results of his efforts as a party harmonizer. Almost from the beginning of his service at Washington he has been by common consent regarded as the actual leader of the party in Pennsylvania. Senator Penrose still held the title but he was so feeble in health that the necessity for a director in full vigor was realized and Mellon, who had health, wealth and brains, was chosen for the place. But it has not proved congenial because it has not been successful. The organization has been tattered and torn for one cause or another and Mr. Mellon is tired of the work.

The rumor of his resignation, now current in Washington, sets the time of his retirement immediately after the passage and approval of his proposed revenue legislation. Last year it was said he would resign after the passage of his tax bill, and possibly he would have done so if his bill had passed. But Congress, though the Republican majority was much greater than now, refused to pass his bill and did pass a measure offered by the Democrats. The same thing is quite likely to happen again. Even the Republican chairman of the House committee on Ways and Means has asserted opposition to some of the provisions of his bill, and the Democrats are certain to be a unit against it.

Mr. Mellon never was a politician, though always a partisan, and no doubt some of the work of an organization leader as well as the routine of an official position are distasteful to him. He is one of the richest men in the United States and among the wealthiest in the world, and probably accepted the office in the expectation that it would afford opportunities to help himself and his fellow-millionaires to shift tax burdens from their shoulders. His defeat last year and the ominous prospects for his pet legislation this year are disappointing, of course, and it will not be surprising if he resigns in the early future. His vast business interests require personal attention which he is unable to give.

—Chairman Greene, of the House committee on Ways and Means, says there will be no legislation to reduce tariff rates during the next session of Congress, for the reason that such legislation would break up the Republican party.

Two Hundred Fifty Signers Not Necessary.

Considerable discussion has been provoked by a statement in this paper, several weeks ago, that difficulty might be had in finding 200 bona fide Prohibitionists to sign the nomination paper that would place Judge Dale on that ticket at the coming primaries. It has since been learned that 250 names are not necessary. Only 100 are enough, but as there are only a few more than 200 voters registered as Prohibitionists in the county considerable traveling will be necessary to secure 100 names.

In event they cannot be reached with the paper and no name is printed on the primary ballot as Prohibition candidate for Judge, Judge Dale's name can be written in the blank space provided, or that of any other candidate or even one who is not now a candidate, and the one receiving the most votes would get his name on the regular ballot in the fall as the Prohibition candidate for Judge.

The only advantage filing a paper for the primary will give Judge Dale is that of having his name printed on the primary ballot. Of course that is appreciable for where only one name appears on the ballot the average voter marks it rather than go to the trouble of writing another.

—At this distance it appears as if General Atterbury had "shooed" off all opposition to J. E. B. Cunningham, of Harrisburg, as the candidate for the Republican nomination for Judge of the Superior court.

—The prohibition enforcement force has been reorganized again, which is about the only thing the prohibition enforcement force does.

—No movement to relieve MacMillan has been reported thus far but it may be expected in another week.

—The seat of government has been changed temporarily, but the policy of economy remains the same.

—When Coolidge suggests legislation to reduce the cost of living we will admit that he is a reformer.

—If there were no temptations to be bad being good would be of small merit.

Retirement of Judge Orlady.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. Judge Orlady's announcement of his coming retirement from the State Superior court after thirty years of faithful and honorable service will attract attention in all parts of Pennsylvania, but particularly in the section in and around Huntingdon. He was appointed by Governor Hastings on June 28, 1895, and has been elected three consecutive times and is now the president judge of the court. He is seventy-five years of age, and has earned the rest to which an active public man is entitled.

Few public men are better known throughout the State, and not many have taken a more active interest in everything relating to the public welfare. Judge Orlady graduated in both medicine and law, but after two years' practice as a physician he turned to the bar and became district attorney of Huntingdon county, a post which he filled with conspicuous success for nine years. Prior to going upon the bench he was prominent in Republican politics. He figured in the famous State chairmanship contest between Matthew Stanley Quay and B. Frank Gilkeson. The fact that Mr. Orlady had just been appointed to a judgeship and was a candidate for the nomination to succeed himself prevented him from taking the interest he would have liked in that notable political battle, but he was a factor just the same, and when the smoke of the contest cleared away Quay as the victor assisted in the nomination of all the judges of the newly created Superior court, although several of them had been his opponents.

Judge Orlady has been a familiar figure at many State conventions. His tall form and his resonant voice and his forcible oratory singled him out as a man of more than ordinary talent. His pleasing personality made many friends for him, even among those to whom he was politically opposed. Feeling sometimes ran high in those old political contests, but time, which heals all wounds, obliterated bitterness and the Judge has lived to see former antagonists dwelling in peace and harmony. His record upon the bench has been excellent, and in the evening of his days he has the satisfaction of possessing the respect and the good will of the public.

Can't Thou Beat It?

Writer Unknown. Consider the editor! A child is born unto the wife of the merchant in town. The physician getteth ten plunks. The editor writeth a stick and he telleth the multitude that the child tipped the beam at nine pounds. Yes, he lieth even as a centurion. And the proud father giveth him a Cremona.

Behold, the young one groweth up and graduateth. And the editor putteth in a notice a column long. Yea, a peach of a notice. He telleth of the wisdom of the young woman and of her exceeding comeliness. Like unto the roses of Sharon is she, and her gown is played up to beat the band. And the dressmaker getteth two scores and four iron men. And the editor gets a note of thanks from the sweet girl graduate.

And the daughter goeth on a journey. And the editor throweth himself on the story of the farewell party. It runneth a column solid. And the fair one remembereth him from afar with a picture postal card that costeth six for a fifty.

Behold, she returneth, and the youth of the town fall down and worship. She picketh one and lo, she picketh a lemon. But the editor calleth him one of our promising young men and getteth away with it. And they send unto the editor a bid to the wedding, and behold the bids are fashioned in a far city.

Flowers and long is the wedding notice which the editor printeth. The minister getteth his bit. The editor printeth a death notice, two columns of obituary, three lodge notices, a cubit of poetry and a card of thanks. And he forgetteth to read proof on the dead, and the darned thing cometh out "Gone to Her Last Roasting Place."

And all that are akin to the deceased jumpeth on the editor with exceeding great jumps. And they pulleth out their aids, and cancelleth their subs, and they swing the hammer even unto the third and fourth generations.

The Roaring Cut-Out.

From the Latrobe Bulletin. Nowadays, with houses dotting the highways at frequent intervals, it means annoyance to their occupants; it means rest disturbed;—and it comes as good news to know that the Highway patrol made a total of 112 arrests for opened cut-outs during the month of May.

It comes as still better news, moreover, to read that the head of the Highway Department, in commenting upon these arrests, declares that they are only a start, and that he has directed the patrol to act vigorously for the elimination of the cut-out nuisance. "The idea," he remarks, "of operators roaring up and down a country road, creating noise and dust, is ridiculous."

So say we all.

—The War Department has a number of captured German guns for distribution and State College and Lock Haven have put in applications for one each.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Miss Frances Elizabeth Fry, of Burnham, Pa., has won the scholarship prize of \$100 awarded to the student with the highest average who has taken the Bryn Mawr entrance examinations in Pennsylvania and the Southern States.

—Oil from a burst pipe line of the Standard Oil company flowed into the Juniata river Saturday afternoon and becoming ignited on the stretch of smooth water at the Brua flour mills near Frankstown, burned fiercely, setting fire to the trees and brush on the river banks and damaging the flour mill considerably.

—Mrs. Paul Smith, of Bald Hill, Clearfield county, who was seriously burned when a can of kerosene with which she was starting a fire in her kitchen range exploded Tuesday afternoon of last week, died at 5:30 Friday morning. She was about 40 years of age and is survived by her husband and three children.

—Harry Charles, 58 years old, committed suicide at his home near Millersville, Lancaster county, on Sunday morning by hanging himself on a picket fence. Charles, after stooping to his knees, placed his head between the pickets and allowed the weight of his body to wedge him tightly closing the trachea and causing death.

—Believed to have entered the water too soon after having eaten a heavy lunch, James Irvin McCauley, 8 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin L. McCauley, of Eldorado, Blair county, was drowned Saturday afternoon in the Iryside swimming pool in Juniata Gap. The drowning is the first to occur this summer in the pools in the vicinity of Altoona.

—Frank M. Gates, 69 years old, oldest man in point of service employed by the Altoona & Logan Valley Electric Railway company, was retired on a pension on Saturday, after thirty-seven years of service. During this long period he traveled 960,875 miles. Gates was a driver in the days of horse cars and the first man to be taught how to operate an electric trolley car in Altoona.

—Two masked bandits held up Robert Anderson, aged 21 years, and Miss Dorothy May, aged 20 years, of Shamokin, as they were driving by automobile from Treverton to Shamokin late Friday night, robbed the former of \$30 and shot the young woman when she attempted to reach for a revolver in a pocket of the car. She is in the Shamokin State hospital with a bullet in her thigh and will recover.

—For the third time in as many years, fire has destroyed part of the lumbering operations of John R. Thompson, of Sango, Clinton county. A saw mill and two stave mills which he has been working in the lumber territory of Sugar valley were burned on Friday morning by fire, which may have started with a spark from the boiler. Similar occurrences have burned Mr. Thompson's mills in other parts of the county.

—After firing five shots into the body of his wife, Brocilia Marts Cobough, killing her instantly, and missing his mother-in-law, Mrs. Joseph Marts, Henry Charles Cobough, whose home was near Windber, on Sunday night, used the remaining cartridge to send a bullet through his right temple, death following in a few minutes. The pair had quarreled frequently. It is declared, Cobough objected to the presence of his mother-in-law in his home.

—Tony Gero, serving a sentence of ten to twenty years in the State Prison at Pittsburgh, for killing George Kelly, at Bradford, a year ago, has been awarded \$1,500 of the reward for the capture of the killers of William McDougall, aged recluse of Lewis Run, in February, 1924. He aided officers by getting Blasius and Tony Sphar to confess to the slaying in the Gero home, where officers were concealed and overheard Blasius tell of himself and his brother committing the crime.

—Bishop Ethelbert Talbot, presiding bishop of the Episcopal church, presided last Thursday evening at the unveiling and dedication of a window placed in the Episcopal church at Danville, Pa., in memory of Alexander and Sallie Frier. Part of the glass in the window came from the Cathedral at Chartres, and is centuries old, while a stone more than 700 years old, presented by the Dean of the Canterbury Cathedral in England, was blessed. Episcopalianism from throughout Central Pennsylvania were there for the services. Miss Mary Hathaway Hager unveiled the window.

—Miss Anna C. Heverly, 22 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Heverly, of Altoona, was almost instantly killed and Irvine Blackburn, 23 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Blackburn, of Hollidaysburg, was severely injured, when the automobile in which they were riding was wrecked on the state highway a short distance below Prince Gallitzin Spring, early Monday morning. The Blackburn car turned completely over and Miss Heverly was pinned under the machine. She was dead when rescued. Blackburn was thrown clear of the car. He sustained a deep laceration of the right wrist and probable internal injuries.

—Advertising for a pony for his little step-son brought to Charles H. Chilcote, of Mapleton, the wife who had left him twenty years ago and whom he had thought dead. It also disclosed a marital complication unrivaled in the courts of Huntingdon county. After nine years of domestic felicity Mrs. Chilcote disappeared. Without obtaining a divorce, her husband, after twelve years, married Mrs. Mazie McMullen, the mother of four children. Two weeks ago Chilcote advertised for a child's pony, bringing the answer from his former wife, living in an adjoining township, who, eight years ago, had married William H. Howard without the formality of divorce. Chilcote has asked the court to untangle his matrimonial knot by setting aside his second marriage.

—Charged with posing as women in answering matrimonial advertisements and to have obtained several diamond rings from prospective suitors, Glenn Lyons, of Greenville, and Wesley Hill, son of the Rev. A. J. Hill, of Sharon, were held for the Federal grand jury following a hearing before a United States commissioner at Pittsburgh last week. The investigation into the matrimonial activities of the two youths was started when one of the prospective suitors made inquiries to the Sharon police for details concerning the "death" of his "fiancee." Postal inspectors charged that the scheme involved sending a "death" notice to end the correspondence after the youths had exchanged several letters with their "mail suitors."

A photograph of a young woman obtained in a novelty store was sent in the introductory letter, it was charged.