

—Good morning, Judge Walker!

—The primary returns prove the prediction that the "Watchman" made last fall that twelve hundred votes would make the nominee of the Democratic party for Judge.

—On the Democratic ticket Spangler carried 18 precincts in the county, Johnston carried 9 and Dale 6, making 33 of the 64 precincts. Walker carried 9 precincts over the combined votes of all opponents.

—We're never satisfied. A week ago we were praying that sufficient rain might fall to soften the ground so that fall seeding might be completed. Now we are praying that the rain will stop long enough to get it done.

—As for Centre county. Its voters of Republican proclivities seem to have given notice to Rebecca Naomi, of Bellefonte; Dr. Foster, of State College, and Governor Pinchot that a horse can be led to the water but it can't be forced to drink.

—And 't' think! After years of nursing the delusion that we are the writer of a column without a parallel in country journalism in the United States—it isn't a delusion, it's a fact—it remained for the Phillipsburg Ledger to call us a "scribe."

—The outstanding gratification we have in the primaries of Tuesday was the reaction of the common sense of our beloved West ward of Bellefonte to the eleventh hour attempt of spite and bigotry to keep a really worthwhile man out of council.

—Anyway, Judge Dale gave the organization that was against him scare enough to make it work harder than it has ever done before to convince the Republicans of Centre county that it is anything more than a swivel chair combination of pipe-smokers.

—Dale defeated Keller in the Republican balloting in only thirteen of the sixty-four precincts in the county. He carried the Third ward of Phillipsburg, Snow Shoe borough, north and west Boggs, Burnside, North Curtin, North Gregg, West Harris, Howard township, Penn, West Rush, West Snow Shoe and Taylor.

—Brookville lost a thousand dollars on Chautauqua this year. DuBois, Clarion and Punxsy all failed so miserably that they didn't feel justified in signing up for next year. Why? Because the tea-hounds are running wild, spreading saxaphobia everywhere and saxaphobia gets to the heels faster than Chautauqua can get to the head.

—The impressive manner in which Herby Anman ran away with Orin Kline for the Republican nomination for tax collector in Bellefonte has the leaders of their party guessing. Orrie has long been recognized as one of the men who make and unmake aspiring Republicans, so his failure has caused a lot of surprise. It needn't. We'll explain it. Herby advertised his wares in the "Watchman."

—Mrs. White, of Knebworth, Herts, England, claims the grand long distance championship among umbrella owners. She has had one in her possession for sixty-one years. The ancient White parachute is probably king of some of the two-quart lids that our Masonic friends don when they turn out with a twig of spruce in their hands and a "so moted be" on their lips for a departed Sir Knight.

—Wouldn't there be an awful holler if the Commissioners of Centre county were to refuse to print ballots for the Prohibition party. As a matter of fact neither the Prohibitionists nor the Socialists are legally entitled to put the county to such an expense. Neither one of these parties—if such there are—cast enough ballots at the last general election to entitle them to a ticket. Time and again we've called attention to their inconsistency. We can't recall a single dry candidate who owes his election to a Centre county office to the votes on the Prohibition ticket recorded for him and we can name a dozen or more soaking wet ones who have held office because they got their names on it. Why should the county be asked to pay for printing a ticket for a party whose president didn't even register as a Prohibitionist. There was only one Prohibition vote cast in the North ward. It was for Keller and Rebecca Naomi didn't hand that one in.

—Senator Geo. Wharton Pepper has finally made good on his threat to "spit in the eye of a bull dog." Made good in a way that must command the respect of the voters of Pennsylvania no matter what may have been their opinion of him prior to his statement of last Thursday. His declaration that his candidacy to succeed himself in the upper House of Congress must stand on its own legs might have been regarded as a mere political gesture, had it not been accompanied with a fearless endorsement of Judge Renshaw for re-election to the bench in Philadelphia county. Judge Renshaw is a Democrat, an appointee of Governor Pinchot and an official whose scalp Bill Vare, the political boss of Philadelphia, has determined to have dangling at his belt. We are at a loss to recall a parallel in Republican leadership in Pennsylvania to the courageous announcement that Senator Pepper has inaugurated his candidacy with. He has appeared in the stature of a big man.

Democratic Watchman

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Pinchot Making Progress.

Governor Pinchot seems to think that there is still good political fishing in the coal pool. On Saturday he entertained Mr. Inglis, chairman of the operator's scale committee, at his home near Milford and presumably "listened to his tale of woe."

Governor Pinchot has been scoring strong in promoting his political ambitions during the last month. His tour of the State has yielded dividends far in excess of expectations, and if he is able to compromise the differences between the coal producers and miners on terms fairly satisfactory to the public he will easily appear as the outstanding figure in the equation.

In any event, recent events have shown that the Governor is a shrewd and resourceful politician. He may not be able to accomplish as much with his money as he did in 1922 when he fooled the most experienced manipulators in his party by releasing a golden stream at the psychological moment.

Rising to a question of inquiry it is pertinent to ask what has become of Vice President Dawes and his celebrated fight on the Senate rules.

The Air Service Scandal.

Rear Admiral Moffett is justified in his somewhat heated defense of the charges against the administration of the bureau of aeronautics, for he is the head of the bureau and largely responsible for its operation. President Coolidge is equally justified in directing an investigation of the charges recently preferred by Colonel Mitchell, for he is head of the service.

Admiral Moffett declares that the charges are false and were inspired by selfish ambition and malice. A vast majority of the flying men, in and out of the service, believe that they are true and were inspired by patriotic impulses. The author of the charges, Colonel Mitchell, is an air man of recognized ability and considerable achievement.

When Colonel Mitchell wrote his last complaint the officials in Washington as well as the public in general believed that the crew of the PN-9 was lost and the conditions attending the apparent tragedy favored the view expressed in the complaint. Happily the machine has been recovered since and the crew saved. But the charges have not been refuted.

After what Senator Pepper did to Bill Vare Grundy took a long chance in offering the olive branch.

Now they are talking of muffs for the bare knees of the flappers. What's the use.

Senator Pepper's Courageous Act.

Senator Pepper revealed a courageous spirit in declaring his purpose to support Judge Renshaw and announcing his candidacy for re-election. That was literally defying the boss and figuratively "spitting in the eye of a bull dog."

Yet Senator Pepper's action ought to have a helpful influence upon the morale of the city. It sets a splendid example to the independent voters of the city and the State. It asserts a leadership which self-respecting men and women may follow.

It may be added that Senator Pepper's declaration was timely as well as daring. Governor Pinchot's tour of the State made a considerable impression on the public mind and his arraignment of the Vare machine struck a popular chord.

The Governor will begin the third leg of his State-wide tour tomorrow. He may take advantage of the opportunity to declare himself on the Senatorial fight.

The Glen Campbell Forum.

"The mountain labored and brought forth a mouse." The long heralded and much discussed gathering of Pennsylvania Republican politicians at Glen Campbell, former State Senator Clark's "sylvan retreat" in Indiana county has come and gone.

But at that it developed some surprises. Mr. Grundy's candidate for Governor is John S. Fisher, who was Banking Commissioner in the Sprout administration. His candidate for Senator in Congress is George Wharton Pepper whom Governor Sprout appointed Senator.

There is no evidence that the Grundy ticket will be accepted by the machine but thus far no protest has been entered against its adoption. As a matter of fact there is a wide spread impression that the conference was called in the interest of Mr. Fisher and that Grundy has offered the other names as a lure for suckers.

The primary election revealed the vast difference between the Democrats of New York and the Republicans of Philadelphia. No boss can muzzle the Democrats.

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Wisconsin Disappoints Coolidge.

The result of the primary election in Wisconsin, on Tuesday, carried little comfort to President Coolidge. It not only guarantees an opponent of the administration in the Senate in the immediate future while a friend was expected in the seat but indicates continued opposition to the administration policies in the middle west.

President Coolidge had freely expressed his hopes of carrying the State for the Senatorial candidate of his choice and had cheerfully given all his moral and material help toward that result. Before the vote it was confidently predicted that Mr. LaFollette would run far behind the administration candidate.

Other evidences of continued, if not increasing, opposition to the administration in the west have been appearing at intervals. An organized movement against Secretary of the Interior Work has been in progress for some time. A group of Senators have been demanding his removal and it is believed were gaining ground before the Wisconsin primary.

It will be recalled that when "Ma" Ferguson was elected Governor of Texas it was a mournful year for Democracy everywhere but in the "Lone Star" State. So hard was it to find voters to crow over that the only rooster the "Watchman" had the nerve to drag out of the coop was the one for "Ma."

Governor Pinchot is scheduled to visit Centre county on October 5th, ostensibly on his tour of inspection of State institutions, but in reality to strengthen his fences for the Senatorial fight next year, but Senator Geo. Wharton Pepper stole a march on the forester from Milford by coming into this section last Saturday in company with his colleague, Senator David J. Reed.

Following a month's spell of dry weather Bellefonte had hard thunder showers both Saturday and Sunday, but the rain was entirely local in character. In fact while it rained unusually hard here on Saturday only a few drops fell out at the aviation field, less than four miles away.

No reasoning person expected Judge Renshaw to win at the primary but if the people of Philadelphia are not corrupt he will have a chance at the general election.

Senator Pepper threatens to assume the leadership of the party in Pennsylvania which suggests the adage "there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip."

Probably Joe Grundy will become the party boss. The Glen Campbell conference has given him a good start in the contest for that job.

When Governor Pinchot throws his hat into the ring he will probably use the sombrero presented to him by the Governor of Texas.

The Glen Campbell conference appears to have been a convention for the ratification of the Sprout administration.

Agricultural Improvement.

Commercial news regarding agricultural affairs is far more impressive than the stories carried to Swampscott by Republican politicians who want to believe in any cheerful news, and wish to please the President by telling it to him. However, the cheerful news has foundation, and we are very glad of it. We are anxious that the farmers should have as much prosperity as they can get under a protective tariff which enhances the price of almost everything the farmer buys and of very little that he sells.

A dispatch from Minneapolis speaks of combined efforts of banks to find customers for the farm lands that they have been obliged to take over in the last few years. This dispatch speaks of the collapse in 1921; but the most acute point in the farm situation came two years later. The price of wheat got under a dollar in Chicago, partly because of the unprecedented crop in Canada, and the mortgages given in 1918 for the purchase of farm lands at war boom prices matured in 1923.

The farmers are digging themselves out of the hole of 1921-'23. Some have paid off their debts. The aggregate values of crops have been advancing during the last three or four years. A boom is always followed by a collapse, and the collapse is followed by recovery. Agriculture is now well advanced on the upward road.

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Stranglehold on the Public.

The anthracite coal strike is nearing the close of its third week with no apparent action from any source to bring it to an end. Of course no one expected a labor battle of such magnitude to end within such a brief period.

Regarding the merits of the controversy the people generally have no decided opinions. They have come to view these periodical disputes, involving suspension of hard coal mining, as inevitable incidents of the practically monopolistic control of the anthracite industry and are gradually realizing that the surest way to bring both operators and miners to their senses is to make the widest possible use of other fuels equally available and in most ways satisfactory.

By submitting to a little inconvenience the people can loosen the stranglehold that the anthracite operators and miners have on the public throat.

And We Used to Unscramble Them.

The news that President Coolidge expects to place before Congress next winter a proposition to force the railroads of the United States into a series of consolidations, after six or seven years, is a further reminder of the apparent right-about-face of public sentiment from the days when the chief demand was to unscramble the common carriers as far as possible. While there still is the same insistence as of old against combination in restraint of trade, it has dawned that the Interstate Commerce Commission has a regulatory grip upon the railroads that seems unlikely to leave much leeway for the charging of exorbitant rates.

Election Democratic Governors Nothing Unusual.

Mayor Hague, of Jersey City, who is also Democratic National committeeman from New Jersey, has returned from abroad with renewed confidence that J. Harry Moore, the Democratic candidate for Governor, will be elected. Stranger things than that have happened in politics. New Jersey has been electing Democratic Governors pretty steadily ever since Wilson won the State in 1910.

The Miller Construction company and J. M. Hutchinson, contractors on the state highway through Bald Eagle valley, had gangs of men at work on Sunday pushing the work so that the road can be completed before cold weather comes.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Walter G. Shelly, of Hazleton, aged 20 years, who was to have left on Sunday for State College to start his junior year, died quite suddenly Saturday night from a stroke of apoplexy. He was a son of Warren A. Shelly, former city councilman.

The Couther Shoe company of Halifax, Pa., will locate a factory for the manufacture of babies' shoes at Lewistown, in the near future. S. M. Andres, president of the company, has notified the Chamber of Commerce of the acceptance of the site offered for the plant. It will employ 25 to 30 men regularly.

Robbers early last Saturday morning entered the home of George Bollinger, on the Blairsville-Derry road in Indiana county, chloroformed members of the household, and escaped after stealing \$50 from a bureau and several locks of gray hair which they clipped from Mrs. Bollinger's head, as she lay sleeping.

Captain Wilbur Day and Lou Lawrence, of Pittsburgh, escaped injury on Sunday evening when their exhibition flying machine crashed into a fence as it was about to take off from a landing field at Somerset. The plane was badly wrecked. The two men were starting for home after spending the week-end there.

Charged with robbing the poor boxes in several Allentown Catholic churches, Michael Kalock, aged 21 years, of Hazleton, was taken to Allentown on Saturday, from the Norristown jail, where he served a year for a like offense. Kalock was committed to prison and will be tried in October. The robberies were committed early last year.

Mistaking a rustle in the bushes for a hawk, which she said had been killing her chickens, Mrs. Bertha Baxter, near Honeybrook, Lancaster county, fired a shot last Thursday and fatally wounded George Koffroth, 60 years of age, a neighbor. He was taken to the Lancaster General hospital riddled with buckshot and died shortly after being admitted.

The death on Sunday morning of Louise McWhorter, one year old, at the juvenile court detention home in Pittsburgh, was due to prolonged crying, morgue officials said. The child had cried continuously since taken to the home last Thursday by her mother, who said she had been forced to leave her home because she was unable to pay her rent.

Within sight of a number of neighbors, Mrs. Molly May McGinnis was beaten to death when a piece of lead pipe in front of her home at Vernon, Allegheny county, on Friday afternoon by an unidentified man, who escaped into a woods while being pursued by the victim's husband. A man who had attempted to obtain lodging in the McGinnis home a number of times, is suspected.

Thoubah Taylor, of Juniata Terrace, Lewistown, has been held in \$500 bail to answer a charge of having failed to stop and give assistance after causing an automobile accident. Taylor was arrested by state patrolman J. M. Snyder, after he had crowded a coupe off the road near Bellefonte on Wednesday night and injured Mildred Briggs, of Blandburg, and Jean McCoy, of Lewistown.

Frank J. Powell, of Sharon, arrested early Thursday morning in Pittsburgh, while carrying an automatic pistol, 25 cartridges, a flashlight and a screwdriver, was held for court on Saturday following a hearing in Penn avenue police court. He was charged with carrying concealed weapons. Powell said his wife had run away with \$700 belonging to him, and that he was out looking for her.

The Frohofer Baking company, of Philadelphia, on Saturday morning completed a deal which resulted in the taking over the plant of the Altoona Baking company, one of the largest of its kind in Central Pennsylvania. The price is said to have been in excess of \$200,000. Work will be started immediately in enlarging and improving the plant to increase production. The battery of ovens will be enlarged and a cake and pastry department will be added.

James Donato, 28 years of age, and John Luigi, 24 years old, Italian shoemakers of Mahanoy City, were asphyxiated by gas last Friday afternoon and Mrs. Mary Dagregorio and two daughters, Helen and Gladys, with whom they boarded, were almost overcome. A gas leak in the cellar where a pipe had rotted away was the cause of the trouble. Mrs. Dagregorio was just able to get out on the porch and summon neighbors before she collapsed. The men were dead when the neighbors arrived.

Accompanied by a furious wind which for a time assumed cyclonic proportions, a heavy electrical storm hit Scranton late on Sunday, paralyzing all traffic, demolishing a number of small buildings and leaving property damage estimated at \$100,000 in its wake. Only one serious casualty was reported. George Hunter, of Lancaster, was riding on a roller coaster at an amusement center when a tree blew down, striking him across the face. He sustained a fractured nose and other injuries to his face. Others received slight injuries.

Personal property valued at \$200,000 and real estate valued at \$10,000 are disposed of by the will of Mrs. Rachel H. Hepburn, of Jersey Shore, which has been filed for probate. Included among the provisions of the will are bequests of public and denominational nature which total \$20,000. Chief among these bequests is one of \$10,000 to provide for the erection of a chapel with modern, fully equipped reciving vaults in the Jersey Shore cemetery. In the event of such a chapel not being erected within a period of two years, the amount of the bequest reverts to the residuary estate. The land upon which the chapel is to be built is to be donated by the cemetery company.

The mystery surrounding the sudden disappearance of county treasurer R. V. Hissong, of Huntingdon, three months ago, with no knowledge of his whereabouts, was cleared up Saturday night with his arrest in Pittsburgh by deputy sheriff Abraham Corbin. Hissong was arrested on a bench warrant issued on his default to pay alimony to his wife and in absencing himself from a court action while under bail. Mrs. Hissong, a helpless paralytic, had obtained a court decree for her maintenance. Hissong, then living apart from his wife, it was charged at the special court hearing, had been devoting his attention to another woman with whom finally, it is alleged, he eloped. For two months the couple remained in the vicinity of Sunbury, until ten days ago, when Hissong's companion notified her friends she had been deserted, and asked for funds to pay her way home.