

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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INK SLINGS.

And this is New Year's day. We hope that 1926 will be the happiest, most prosperous and satisfying one that you have ever known.

It is time for turning over new leaves. We are sure that all of you have turned a lot of them and just as sure that none of them will stay turned.

As for us, mere turning of a leaf won't suffice. We're going to start a new book. From this day on—through 1926 at least—just to see how it eventuates—we're going to call spades spades.

For seventy-one years it has been working for the community and the other fellow. Its going to continue doing so but he's got to show us that he can balance more peas on his knife than we can.

The Governor is only lending to the plan of his enemies to do nothing at the special session by adding more subjects for it to consider.

Now what would you do with a wife who gave you a pencil sharpener and a son who gave you a whirl-gig for a garden hose, as Christmas presents?

If Mayor Kendrick had fired Smedley Butler a year ago we up-country lookers-on might have had more respect for him. That's when a lot of us knew he wanted to do it.

Bishop Manning may think Sunday polo and foot-ball would be "as beautiful as a service in a Cathedral," but there are countless others who won't.

The Republican part of the country rained h—when it discovered that a Sphinx from Texas in the person of Col. House, was in the confidence of and observing things for President Wilson.

Our Congressman is making a noise like a bid for a third term. The Hon. Billie has proposed federal censorship for moving pictures.

Col. Geo. Knox McCain consumed nearly two columns in Monday's Philadelphia Ledger in an effort to tell the world what is going to happen, politically, in the Twenty-third congressional District—which is ours.

We sat in the Bellevue-Stafford and heard George Wharton Pepper exude verbal tears big as horsechestnuts in his efforts to urge everyone to uphold the policy of President Wilson.

Striving to Destroy Pinchot.

All the mental and physical energies of the Republican machine of Pennsylvania is now centered, and will continue to be for some time, in a purpose to destroy Governor Pinchot.

The coal strike could be settled in twenty-four hours if the miners would openly repudiate Pinchot. They are hanging onto Pinchot, however, for purely selfish purposes, because they imagine he can do for them in the present wage controversy what he did to the cost of the public, to settle their last demands.

The present purpose of the Republican machine managers is to prevent a third candidate for Senator. They believe that with the active help of the coal operators, the carrying corporations and other predatory combinations they can nominate Senator Pepper for re-election.

Opposition to World Court Vanishing.

The opposition in the Senate at Washington to the entrance of the United States into the World Court is rapidly diminishing. Senator Norris, of Nebraska, yielded to the influence of the majority the other day and on Monday, Senators McMasters and Norbeck, of South Dakota, announced their purpose to vote for the measure.

This is a gratifying result of a long drawn out controversy. It is nearly four years since the then Secretary of State Hughes, with the concurrence of the late President Harding, recommended the action by the Senate.

The fight which is now drawing to a successful conclusion has been led by Democratic Senators from the beginning. Every man in the group would have preferred entrance into the League of Nations, thus qualifying for membership in the court in the proper manner.

An advertisement in this paper always brings the answer. Try it.

Scheme to Defeat Reform Legislation.

If the machine methods in the coming extra session of the General Assembly result in the defeat of effective reform ballot legislation Governor Pinchot will have himself to blame.

The only question of real urgency embraced in the Governor's call for the extra session is legislation to guarantee honest elections, and that becomes urgent because if delayed beyond the period for the next primary election the machine may, by fraudulent votes and false returns, fasten its grip upon the State for at least four years more.

In view of these facts the Governor ought to have confined the activities of the extra session to the two urgent questions, ballot reform and the bridge toll. This limited the opportunities for "log-rolling and filibustering," could have been reduced to the vanishing point.

Senator Pepper spoke in Reading, on Monday evening, and renewed his pledge of fidelity to Coolidge.

Republican Leaders Alarmed.

An effort is being made to get the leading Republicans of the State into conference before the date fixed for the special session of the General Assembly. At first a disposition was shown among certain leaders to treat the coming session as a joke.

Colonel George Knox McCain, of the staff of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, has been making a survey of the field in the interest of Senator Pepper and after visiting several sections of the west writes: "The new year brings a crisis in the affairs of the Republican party in Pennsylvania."

The meaning of this admonition is plain. It is that unless Mr. Pepper is nominated for Senator and Governor Pinchot defeated the element which is supporting him will bolt and the party will head for the "demnition bowwows."

General Smedley having withdrawn his resignation can now "tell his troubles to the marines."

General Butler's Great Achievement.

In an address delivered in Pittsburgh, on Sunday evening, before the adult bible classes of Allegheny county, General Smedley D. Butler not only revealed the real reason for his summary removal from the office of Director of Public Safety, of Philadelphia, but a true statement of his experiences while in that office.

There have never been any genuine confidential relations between the Director of Public Safety and the Mayor of Philadelphia since the administration of Mayor Kendrick began two years ago.

The conflicting purposes reached a climax early last week when the Mayor refused to proceed against certain prominent hotels, the managers of which had repeatedly and willfully violated the law.

The holiday business at the Bellefonte postoffice exceeded that of any previous year by a big per cent.

While it was impossible to keep a record of the number or weight of packages handled, the number of letters and cards sent out on the four days preceding Christmas was just 8172 greater than during the same period last year.

Two hundred and five arrests for wreckless driving were made on the highways of the State during November. We knew the fools are not all dead but had no idea that so many of the survivors are malicious.

If Pinchot defeats Pepper for the Senatorial nomination the Republican party of Pennsylvania will go into "voluntary bankruptcy."

The Christmas spirit is growing in strength and increasing in usefulness. Never before have so many useful presents been given.

It is a safe bet that Senator Pepper would give anything within reason to learn exactly what Joe Grundy has "up his sleeve."

It may be predicted that Mayor Kendrick, of Philadelphia, will interpose no objection to sending General Butler to California.

According to the advertising pages of our Republican contemporary Mr. John K. Tenner is still running for Governor.

Tariff taxes are likely to give the Republicans in Congress more trouble this year than usual.

On the other hand there is no evidence that moss is of any real use to a stone.

Would Beat Burning It for Fuel.

More than any other commodity, the United States depends on corn for prosperity. The corn crop is usually worth more than the cotton crop and the wheat crop combined; it is worth twice as much as our annual output of iron and twenty times as much as the gold mined in the United States each year.

Corn is grown in every State of the Union. A hundred million acres are planted in it. It is the principal crop of millions of farmers. The annual harvest of maize in the United States is close to three billion bushels.

To counteract this undesirable condition George Kuhns, president of the Bankers Life Company, of Des Moines, advocates the housewives use corn sugar on the table for cereals and fresh fruits.

Out of a bushel of corn there can be made twenty-five pounds of sugar, with one and one-half pounds of corn oil, fifteen pounds of molasses, and fourteen and one-half pounds of gluten stock food and oil meal as by-products.

According to Mr. Kuhns, if corn sugar, made in the United States, should be substituted for one-fourth of the cane sugar which we import from foreign lands, principally Cuba, a new market would be created for nearly one hundred million bushels of corn "right here at home."

Growing corn is the chief business of a large section of the population and when the growers fail to find a profitable market the whole country feels the effect of their misfortune.

Much better than to burn it is to convert it into a wholesome sugar. Considerable time may be required to educate the American people to the use of corn sugar.

Take a Real Part or Stay Away.

President Coolidge and the "irreconcilables" of the Senate are reported to have reached an agreement on conditions under which the United States may send delegates to the coming conference at Geneva on arms reduction.

Let it be trusted that President Coolidge will hold to the course that world peace is of infinitely more importance than a mere political peace by compromise with opponents of international co-operation.

Pennsylvania Values.

At different times during the past few years people have stood aghast at the big prices which real estate has brought in the downtown section of Greensburg.

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Coasting with her little brother, Annie Orzechowski, aged 3, of Bellwood, was run down and killed by an automobile.

A wall of the burned Grossman Building, at Waynesburg, collapsed, causing damage of \$15,000 to adjoining structures.

While paying a bill to the Penn Central Light and Power Company, John B. Reichard, an Altoona carpenter, aged 50 dropped dead.

Following the loss of his job at a York wagon works, Harry J. Peters, 55 years old, killed himself while seated in an automobile at Emigville.

William G. Morgan, for many years a business man of Altoona, left his estate, valued at \$14,700, to his barber Emil A. Vetter, according to papers filed on Monday.

Nominations of Fred M. Sheaffer, Democrat, and Robert Hudson, Labor party, both of DuBois, as candidates to fill the vacancy in the Second Clearfield Legislative district, were received at the State Election Bureau.

Miss Silva E. Ridasill, 24, of Altoona, died on Sunday in the hospital from burns received when her clothing ignited at a gas stove. Clayton Ridasill, 21, a brother, was badly burned about the hands and face in trying to save his sister.

When a highly charged wire of the Penn Central Light and Power company fell across the lines of the Bell Telephone company in Cambria county, early on Tuesday, Miss Della Plummer, an operator at Cresson, was shocked falling unconscious from her position at the switchboard.

Run down on the county road near Hollidaysburg last Thursday night, Robert Palmer, 29 years old, of Johnstown, an attendant at the Blair County hospital, died in the Altoona hospital a short time later from a fractured skull. The driver of the car did not stop after striking Palmer.

Anticipating that something of value might have been lost in the big tabernacle which was occupied by Billy Sunday Evangelistic campaign in Williamsport recently, the sawy dust which covered the floor had been sifted and \$26.00 in change was recovered. It was turned over to the Salvation Army.

Miss Emma Walters, 75 years old, of West Newton, died last Thursday from burns suffered in her home Wednesday night when she attempted to light an oil lamp. The lamp over-turned, igniting her clothing. Miss Walters was president of the local branch of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for fifteen years. She also took active interest in church and civic affairs of the community.

Loot of \$3,935 in cash and checks, receipts of last Thursday at the Swisvale station of the Pennsylvania railroad, was seized by a lone bandit from M. L. Lewis, passenger agent at the station, about six o'clock the same evening, while waiting on the platform for a train to Eitzburg. No one but the agent and bandit was on the platform at the time. Lewis described his assailant as about 20 years old and wearing a khaki overcoat.

Former State Treasurer and Auditor General Charles A. Snyder was on Monday elected county solicitor of Schuylkill county for his nineteenth consecutive term. The county commissioners, who employ Snyder, re-elected eighteen clerks at the same salary as last year. Snyder's salary was fixed at \$1800 a year. Snyder continues holding State offices and with his present job at Harrisburg under Auditor General Martin he will continue to be the legal adviser for the county commissioners.

Only the visor of his cap saved Police captain W. Hayes McKinney, of Reading, from losing an eye and a possible skull fracture last Thursday, when he captured, in a lane near the Berks Almshouse, Walter Francis, of that city, an insane patient in the almshouse hospital who had escaped from the institution. Francis, who was adjudged insane last week, was to have been taken to Harrisburg State hospital on Saturday. He attacked McKinney with a small hammer and cut the officer's head open, causing a long gash. McKinney finally overpowered the man.

Police are searching for two bandits who held up the Joseph H. Fox jewelry store at Milton, but were scared away by Mrs. Fox. She seized a revolver and chased them a block before they escaped in the darkness. The men broke into the store, but were surprised by Fox, who came in a few minutes later. "Hold 'em up," shouted a bandit. Mrs. Fox just then appeared on the scene, seized a gun and pointed it at the bandits. "Get out," she yelled, and they ran. Mrs. Fox followed and twice snapped the trigger, but the gun was not loaded. Nothing was stolen.

Shortage of fuel is causing little worry to the families of Thomas Phillips and William Law, Wilkes-Barre employes residing in Kirby Park. Natural gas, taken from near their homes, is being used for heat and cooking purposes. When the houses were erected, large quantities of gas were noticed. Some one conceived the idea there might be a sufficient supply for cooking purposes. A pipe was sunk and the flow found to be heavy enough for general use in both homes. It is said there is enough gas in the vicinity to heat fifty homes, provided they could be erected on the property which belongs to the city.

A total of \$42,500 is given the borough of Berwick, in trust, the income to be paid to the Berwick band for playing brass at the graves of Dr. D. H. Montgomery and a friend, Dr. Little, under the terms of the will of Miss Carrie L. Montgomery. The report of the auditor in the estate, filed in court shows that the Bloomsburg public library, residuary legatee, will receive the income from \$41,232.24; the trustees of the First Presbyterian and First Methodist churches of Berwick, each \$4,525, the income of which is to be added to the pastors' salaries and the Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, \$9,500, for endowment of beds.

Applications of the Clarion River Power company for the construction of the two highest, if not the largest, power dams in the State are under consideration by the Water and Power Resources Board. The proposed dams are to be erected in the Clarion river and would form part of a super-power system being developed in that stream. The proposed Mill Creek dam would be 375 feet high. The reservoir created by its construction would extend almost to Ridgway and it would have a water surface of 16,000 acres. It would furnish power for four 25,000 kilowatt electric units. The Foxburg dam would be about 300 feet high and the surface of its reservoir would approximate 2250 acres.