

-One after the other two paragraphs appear in the County Correspondence columns of this issue. One tells of the purchase of a new automobile by one family. The other records that a neighbor has purchased a cow. Neither is unusual, but they started us to thinking. In this instance we happen to know that the purchaser of the automobile can very well afford the luxury, but there are thousands of others who might more advantageously have bought cows instead of the motors they race over the country in.

-Last week we suggested that instead of building the levees along the Mississippi higher it might be better to dredge the channel deeper. Having since been informed that the old Mississippi is two hundred and fifteen feet deep, just opposite the city of New Orleans, we hasten to beseech the government not to follow our suggestion. Were the channel scooped out much more water might seep through and make it necessary for the Chinese to carry umbrellas every time the Father of Waters goes on a rampage.

-Just as we predicted months ago, when we argued that Congress should unless the Senate refuses to ratify have reduced taxes further than it his appointments, which happens fredid, a great surplus is piling up in the quently. treasury. Secretary Mellon, the financial wizard of the age, told the world that the government couldn't ing troops of marines to Nicaragua stand even the paltry reduction that the Democratic minority in Congress forced the Republican majority to make. On Monday he announced that at the end of the current fiscal year more than half a billion will have piled up as surplus in the treasury. We call attention to this fact because we believe that the country has been wilfully, needlessly and exorbitantly taxed so that the Administration" can start in paying the public debt and reducing taxation on the eve of its bid for retention in power.

-Next week the drive for enrollment for the local hospital will be made. The call from each individual is so small that very few will have real reason for refusal to respond. Some will be honest when they say they don't have the dollar to spare. Others will conjure up varied excuses for getting out of a contribution. Mark this prediction: More evasion will be based on the intimation that "I don't like the way the institution is run" than any other cause. We've had some experience in helping to run a hospital. W know something of the criticism that always was and always will be heaped on the heads of those who gratuitously try to do something



BELLEFONTE, PA., MAY 6, 1927.

Identity of the Official Spokesman **Revealed**.

VOL. 72.

The identity of the "Official Spokesman" at the White House has been revealed. This mysterious and interesting individual was born in Vermont and in early life settled in Massachusetts. He promptly entered into the political activities of that State with the result that after receiving several lesser favors he was elected Governor. He is a rather small man, dresses well and in good taste and has a long and pointed nose. By good luck he was elected Vice President in 1920 and by accident advanced to the office of President in 1922. He punctually pays his political debts in the currency of public patronage

Some months ago the administration at Washington began dispatchfor the ostensible purpose of conserving the lives and property of American citizens who had gone there to "get rich quick." A great many American citizens who had not ventured into such enterprises questioned the propriety of the proceeding and a vast majority of the leading newspapers of the country, irrespective of party affiliation, vigorously protested against what seemed like an attempt by force to control the politics and policies of a friendly but weak sister Republic. Thereupon the newspaper correspondents of Washington were summoned to the White House and the Official Spokesman was born. He lectured them freely on their lack of patriotism.

The other evening, in New York, a number of newspaper publishers and editors were assembled and President ate Committee on Foreign Relations, Coolidge addressed them. The principal feature of his speech was a plaintive plea to the public press of the country to support the President's Michelson states, this timely interforeign policies, right or wrong, in ference aroused the country "to a reorder to maintain the prestige of the alization of what lay ahead," and the power to employ or dismiss in nation in the sight of the civilized stopped the blustering as well as the every department and those who are in ation in the sight of the civilized world. Curiously enough the burden of the speech of the Official Spokes-man on the occasion of the conference in the improvement in our relations wise. He began with the assembling with Mexico, to which the President of the General Assembly by dictating the assembly by dictating the the formation of the conference with Mexico. to which the President of the General Assembly by dictating the the formation of the relations of the conference with Mexico. to which the president of the formation of the conference with Mexico. to which the president of the General Assembly by dictating the formation of the conference with Mexico. The formation of the conference with Mexico. to which the president of the General Assembly by dictating the formation of the conference with Mexico. The formation of the conference with the formati world. Curiously enough the burden of the speech of the Official Spokes-were subsequently begun and resulted to his usurpations, meekly or otherat the White House some months ago was the same plea in almost the same referred in his New York speech, the the officers of both branches and taken from the sayings and writings, sions of economy, this claim is false of others it can hardly be said that he and fraudulent but is now being used clusion is that the Official Spokesman | term in the office of President. is Mr. Coolidge.

Our Relations with Mexico.

Charles Michelson, Washington correspondent of the New York World, writes: "When President Coolidge made his announcement of the improvement in our relations with Mexico, at a Press Association dinner in New York the other day, he neglected to tell what brought it about. Senator Borah is more responsible for dispelling the war cloud than anybody else. If it had not been for him in all probability Ambassador Sheffield would have been withdrawn. in the service would guarantee his The arms embargo would have been lifted and Mexico would have been in chaos again. He raised such a row when the extent of the administration blustering was revealed that he woke the country to a realization of what lay ahead if the ship of state continued on the course charted by the captain."

A group of mercenary American capitalists, who had by one means or another acquired valuable concessions, were operating some of them in violation of the laws of Mexico. The government of Mexico had declared a purpose to require strict observance of law in the exercise of these concessions, and while a considerable number of the concessionaires agreed to comply, a few protested and appealed to the administration at Washington to "protect their property rights." Obviously without investigation of the subject the Secretary of State in Washington, in the expectation of terrorizing our weak job, Samuel Eckles, was immediately sister Republic, issued threats of appointed to the vacancy. severing relations, lifting the arms embargo and even sending troops to invade and devastate the country.

At this stage of the proceedings Senator Borah, chairman of the Senarrived in Washington and promptly entered protest against this ruthless and inexcusable action. As Mr. with Mexico, to which the President of the General Assembly by dictating

Invisible Government in Action. The incident of absorbing interest

in political circles last week was the resignation of William H. Connell, of Philadelphia, chief engineer of the State Highway Department, and for some time acting as secretary of that department. Rumors that his resignation was desired by the administration had been current for some time but were not confirmed by those in authority and his friends hoped that his fitness for the office and efficiency retention for "four years more," notwithstanding the clamor of Pittsburgh politicians for one of their number to be put in the \$12,000 a year job. Mr. Connell had supported Governor Pinchot for Senator and had no claim for favor. One of the newspaper correspond-

ents at Harrisburg, and apparently a close observer of the movements on "Capitol Hill," in summarizing the strife for this fat job says that "for some time Connell is said to have disagreed with Stuart and Mellon organization leaders on requests for rebuilding of roads in various parts of the State. The situation became more and more acute until these politicians went to W. L. Mellon and demanded the deputy's dismissal." That settled the question. Mr. Mellon promptly issued orders to have Connell dismissed and to avoid the humiliation of that process he resigned. The Pittsburgh aspirant for the

This is an exhibition of the power of "invisible government" more flagrant than is usually shown. W. L. Mellon is no part of the State administration. He has not been commissioned by the people of Pennsylvania to either appoint or remove public servants. He is responsible to nobody for the good or bad service rendered by public officials in the employ of the State. But he assumes and exercises Good Work by the Governor.

NO. 18.

From the Philadelphia Record. Governor Fisher has met public expectation in signing the so-called election reform bills passed by the recent Legislature. Indeed no other looked for, for the measures were very largely of his own framing and constituted an important part of the program laid down in his inaugural message. It is natural enough, there-fore, that he is vastly pleased with what has been accomplished and that he expatiates at some length on the benefits he expects to flow from these bills, with some rather fulsome com-mendation of the part played by the Republican leaders in putting this legislation through. Some advocates of election reform may be disposed to differ with the Governor on this point, but will nonetheless welcome the approval of the measures, on the ground that half a loaf is better than

Of greater significance is the Gov-ernor's veto of the bill intended to bring about the division of the Twenbring about the division of the Twen-ty-second ward by providing that all wards of over 70,000 population should be split up. This is a direct slap at the Vare machine and can be construed in no other way. No one in the Twenty-second ward wants it divided except a small group of gang politicians headed by ex-City Treas-urer Tom Watson, who represents it in the Republican City Committee. Mr. Watson finds this burden so oner-Mr. Watson finds this burden so oner-Mr. Watson finds this burden so oner-ous, especially as the people of the ward are notoriously given to inde-pendent voting, that he wants it lightened by the creation of a new ward, which would be assigned to some other equally altruistic states-man. The people of Germantown and Chestnut Hill have defeated this prop-position several times and it was the people of the ward, which would be assigned to some other equally altruistic states-man. The people of Germantown and Chestnut Hill have defeated this prop-nosition several times and it was the people of the ward, which would be assigned to some other equally altruistic states-man. The people of Germantown and Chestnut Hill have defeated this prop-

position several times, and it was to deprive them of all further voice in the matter that this very objection-able measure was jammed through the Legislature. It was a direct blow at self-government under the guise of seeking to advance the public wel-

Governor Fisher gives excellent reasons for his veto, which comes as a bitter pill to William S. Vare and his henchmen. It serves notice upon

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE

-A buck deer, wandering into the center of Altoona, jumped through the windshield of an automobile, injuring Mrs. J. B. Krebbs, 42, a passenger. The deer was so badly injured that it was shot by police.

-Over fifty deer grazng in one herd were seen by motorists on the top of Hyner mountain, between Lock Haven and Renovo, on Monday morning early. Herds of deer are grazing nightly on the mountain tops along the Coudersport pike.

-Frank Hartzell, an Allentown bricklayer, aged 56, last Thursday was the second man killed in the construction of the new Pennsylvania Power and Light building, that city's tallest skyscraper. Slipping on the fourth floor, he fell sixty feet down a hoist hatch and broke his neck.

-The belfry of the new John S. Bell memorial chapel of the Masonic home at Elizabethtown, Pa., is soon to be endowed with a large bronze chime of bells, shipment of which has been made by the Meneely Bell company, of Troy, N. Y., after nearly a year was consumed in its manufacture.

-From \$150,000 to \$200,000 will be expended in the erection of a new Scottish Rite cathedral at Coudersport, and the ceremonies for breaking ground for the new edifice will take place in June, when hundreds of members of the organization from all parts of the State will return to Coudersport for the annual reunion.

-Twenty-seven years to the day from the time he became a rural mail carrier at the postoffice in Gettysburg, John H. Eckhart will become postmaster, succeeding R. C. Miller, who recently resigned. Announcement of the appointment was made by the Postoffice Department at Washington. The appointment is temporary.

-While 14-year-old Johnny Fedder was recovering in the Butler county Memorial hospital from an operation for the ampu-

The hair of the child, Jasper, was coal black and nine inches long at birth. It so disturbed the infant that he was unable to sleep the first two nights following birth, but since the hair cut, his disposition has improved greatly.

-William Hunsicker, an excentric but highly successful farmer, who died last week at his home at Hamlin, Lebanon county, left an estate of nearly \$100,000, which is disposed of in a will probated at Lebanon in 146 bequests of cash to neighbors and friends for miles around, ranging from \$50 to \$500, and in about a dozen other bequests to churches and dispos-

-At the request of

for the public. The present board, some of the members of which thought the preceeding board incompetent, have doubtless heard the same thing said of themselves .. Humanity would be very unhappy if there were not something to kick around and, naturally, the job that there's nothing in and few people want is the one on which the anvil chorus always harmonizes. Let us get that spirit out of our hearts and minds next week. Let hasn't made a mistake has never done anything. Let us tell you that the hospital, with the means at hand, always was and is today being conducted just as well as most and better than many of the hospitals in the State. Let us rise above the petty grievances of self and rally to a movement in which there is no proper place for selfishness.

-On Sunday a seventy-two year old murderer died at Rockview. A hapless old, colored man who had shot another of his race to death, but slipped away to the great bar of Justice without knowing that in his cyanotic fingers there laid a pardon. A belated forgiveness in the name of the State for a crime that a just God probably forgave the instant it was committed.

Charles Newell was sent up for having killed a drunken acquaintance who was trying to rob him. He had always been known as one of those intensely spiritual old negro persons. One, per chance, who might recall to some of us that mysteriously inspired christian character Edward "baber" Stevenson.

In the eyes of the law Newell was a condemned convict of Rockview. In the eyes of those who are authorized to administer the law there he was a saintly, simple child of God who had wandered into a strange path and, though bewildered, never forgot that he was the good Samaritan and not the Pharisee.

Scant ceremony is that of the burial of the dead in our penal institution. But the prison life of Charles Newell made friends who demanded that the dark casement of a white soul be laid away in a shroud purged of stripes by the esteem of his fellow inmates.

Instead of being hurriedly buried in the prison lot the body of the righteous old character is resting in a beautiful cemetery in Centre county. Five hundred friends assembled for the funeral service Monday evening. There was a real casket, flowers in tribute, women to sing and a chaplain to do more than read "the service for the burial of the dead." The soul of the old Christian negro was gone, but its lesson was vibrant among those mourners and also in the heart of the chaplain of the institution, so he took the very unusual ceremony as his text to get across the message that merit will always find its reward.

-Judge Gordon, of Philadelphia, revealed something of the mettle of us remember that the person who his distinguished father in sentencing spoils they are alike. a grafting magistrate.

Grafting in Public Life.

Last week the courts in three counties in Pennsylvania were occupied in the investigation of charges of graft against public officials. In Philadelphia voluminous testimony was given to prove that one of the magistrates had been collecting money from defendants charged with the violation important is that without any comof the Volstead law for ten months to the amount of \$87,000. In Wilkes-Barre the board of school directors of Hanover township, Luzerne county, had been in conspiracy with contract- unnecessary expense in preparing ing eastern audiences that the "corn ors to loot the school treasury to the extent of several thousand dollars, which they divided among themselves. In Chester, Delaware county, the members of the school board were on trial for a similar offense.

In the Philadelphia case it was ward leader, sitting in one of the sistance of his son and a clerk, levied tribute upon every defendant brought burgh a blanket license to loot indisbefore him and either "discharged" some unexplained reason, one of them it exists in the two great cities of charge was letting contracts without forts of many good men seem inadecompetitive bidding.

This is certainly a shameful record for one week of court activities for piece of legislation lies in the hatred Pennsylvania. There might have been which the managers of the Vare maother cases of the kind in other coun- chine hold against the Committee of ties if the authorities had been vigi- Seventy. That hatred has existed for lant or the reformers militant. But many years and was further inflamed "it is enough." Yet it is not surpris- by the activity of the committee in ing. Malfeasances and misfeasances exposing the frauds perpetrated at are the logical consequences of the the last primary and general election machine methods of selecting public in that city. If the Committee of officials, which is the rule in the domi- Seventy had been quiescent it might nant party in this State. From the have been possible that the "stolen highest to the lowest positions in the and purchased" majorities in the two public service the consideration is cities would have secured to Mr. Vare not the fitness or integrity of the a seat in the United States Senate. aspirant, but his or her ability to get votes for the party. Grafting is the natural result of this system and will always be.

----The "Watchman" is the most readable paper published. Try it.

of all the President's speeches are feloniously taken. Like his profes- initely. is a plagiarist, and the inevitable con- as a basis for his claim for a third

> -It's hard to tell which is the "wicked" member of the Mellon-Vare partnership, for in eagerness for

Governor Fisher Vetoes a Bad Bill.

In properly vetoing that vicious piece of legislation enacted during the closing hours of the recent session of the General Assembly, obviously intended to prevent any organized effort to expose graft, Governor Fisher said: "There are a number of Philadelphia are anxiously waiting objections to this measure. The most for Mr. Grundy to make up the Govpensating advantage it would require ing a successor to Magistrate Roworganizations of public-spirited citi- land, now in jail. zens who have associated themselves together for public purposes to incur with scrupulous care, and in causing belt" is "solid" for Coolidge, but the to be registered in two public offices, the names and addresses of all of declare Willis do their members." That is surely a is talking about. valid objection but not the most important.

The most important objection lies shown that Magistrate Rowland, Vare in the fact that if that malignant measure had become a law it would minor courts of that city, with the as- have bestowed upon the political pirates of Philadelphia and Pittscriminately and stuff ballot boxes. the case or suppressed the record in make false returns of elections and consideration of payment. The clerk utterly destroy every effort for civic turned "State's evidence," and be- improvement. Organization is as escame the star witness against him. sential in a fight against the evils of In Luzerne county the entire school misgovernment as it is in setting an board entered into a conspiracy with army on the field of battle. No indian architect and building contractor vidual, however wealthy and strong, and let contracts at an enormously could achieve success in a contest excessive price. Subsequently, for against organized vice and crime as "squealed." In Delaware county the Pennsylvania. Even the united efquate.

The inspiration for this atrocious Fortunately the committee asserted its right to investigate with the result of Harry Lutz, Centre county, chargthat William B. Wilson will occupy the seat or it will remain vacant.

-The Watchman publishes news when it is news. Read it.

language. While a considerable part credit for which he has somewhat seemingly intends to continue indef-

-The season of the year will soon be here for the opening of the From the Altoona Tribune.

Bellefonte curb market, and farmers and truck growers generally have probably arranged their garden plots accordingly. Last year Bellefonte had one of the best curb markets of any of the surrounding towns, farmers coming here from the lower end of Nittany and Bald Eagle valleys, from as far down Pennsvalley as Aaronsburg and from College and Ferguson townships. They came because better prices were obtained in Bellefonte than anywhere else.

The Vare machine managers in ernor's mind on the question of nam-

-Senator Willis, of Ohio, is tell-

----Now that the Highway Department is completely under control of Pittsburgh politicians those wanting road improvements will find it to their advantage to see Mr. Mellon.

The young man who shot himself because his "sweetie" refused to marry him is hardly to be commended, but it is a better way than shooting the girl.

It is a safe bet that if Coolidge is not nominated by the Republican convention the favor will go to Hoover. Obviously they are working together. 1

-Insurance rates on stored liquors in New York have been increased 150 per cent. because of the activity of bootleggers in stealing stocks.

-Former Magistrate Rowland now knows how Wolsey felt on that mournful occasion referred to by the late William Shakespeare.

-The boys are having a "halcyon and vociferous" time this week, and so far as reports have been received they have behaved becomingly.

Among the pardons granted at Harrisburg, last Thursday, was that ed with breaking and entering. Clare Jamison, Centre county, breaking and escaping, and George Gables, also of Centre county, impersonating an officer, were refused.

ard. will return thanks to Mr. Fisher. He has saved them from a particularly obnoxious gang trick.

What Will Calles Do?

The horrible massacre of a trainload of passengers on a Mexican railroad will focus public attention on conditions in Mexico as it has not been focused heretofore. It matters nothing whether the barbarians who burned and shot the inoffensive travelers are rebels or revolutionaries, if there be any real distinction between the two types of opponents of the Calles administration. What is impressed upon the minds of people everywhere is that such a desperate and inhuman deed could be provoked only by intolerable wrongs_inflicted upon a people. Therefore President Calles is looked to for redress of the grievances and the pacification of his country in manner to make, impossi-

tent to pursue the culprits and dispatch them without mercy when caught. It has acted so in numerous other instances of lesser gravity. Some scores of bandits, rebels or revleading newspapers of that section olutionaries, have paid with their declare Willis doesn't know what he lives for the murders of foreign citizens, Americans among them. It is

apparent that wholesale executions do not meet the need. The cause of the Athens-Towanda state highway. The the outrage lies deep. It is not to be eradicated by force. Experience over Birney was starting out on a machine he a long series of years has demonstrated that.

Conditions in Mexico steadily grow worse. Conditions affecting the Mexican millions, and not foreigners. This is the fact for President Calles and his advisers to consider. If they would have an orderly country they must provide conditions acceptable to the Mexican people. They only can do it. If they do not apply appropri-ate correctives very soon they will be unable to remedy a situation for the continuance, if not the making, of which they are largely responsible.

The Money Value of an Education.

From the New York Yorld. Dean Lord of Boston University is undertaking a new country-wide survey with a view to ascertaining the effect of an education on one's earning power. Some years ago he made similar study which indicated that the average earning power of a college-trained man, from graduation until the age of sixty, was increased \$72,000 by his collegiate preparation. By similar statistical methods the average earning power of a high-

school education was gauged at \$33,-000. As compared with a grammar school education, therefore, a college education should be worth \$105,000.

An Optimistic Thought.

From the St. Paul Pioneer Press. If all laws were rigidly enforced it would be necessary to build a fence around America and call it a jail.

-Subscribe for the Watchman.

tor club, the New York Central Railroad company has unofficially signified its in tention to place an electric warning device at the King crossing, between Lock Haven and Beech Creek, when the large crew of men laying new rails at that point have completed their work. The crew is living in ten box cars while constructing the road, which are on the siding near Beech Creek.

-Because a little girl threw a stone at him while he was at target practice on Monday, 12-year-old William Urich, son of W. J. Urich, Steelton's assistant postmaster, is being held at the Dauphin county house of detention on a charge of murder He is charged with killing 10-year-old Norma Gray, a negress, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gray, of Steelton, by shooting her through the head with a 22caliber rifle in a field near the girl's home.

-Harvey Schlee, aged 54, of Renovo, sustained injuries which necessitated the amputation of the left leg midway between the knee and the ankle when he was struck by a car in the Pennsylvania ble a repetition of the outrage. Already the administration at Mex-ico City has given earnest of its in-in the Renovo yards, was taking cars to the end of the yards to make up a train Monday night about 9 o'clock, and was crossing the track to return, when a car coming from the opposite direction struck him, inflicting the injury.

> -George Birney, 22, of Athens, was still alive in the People's hospital at Sayre on Tuesday more than 48 hours after his neck was broken in a motorcycle accident on had had in his possession only about 20 minutes. His attention was attracted to something at the side of the road and as he looked, the motorcycle ran into a tree His right leg was broken and his skull fractured besides his neck being broken.

-Walter Darlington, connected with the Department of Welfare, has been dropped by Mrs. E. S. H. McCauley, secretary, Mr. Darlington was former State editor of the old Philadelphia North American and is considered one of the best political writers in the State. He has been with the department since shortly after that paper ceased publishing almost two years ago. The position paid \$5,000 a year. Mrs McCauley said to-day she did not plan to fill the vacancy. Mr. Darlington looked after welfare legislation in the General Assembly and since adjournment the new Secretary found little for him to do, she said, so gave him thirty day's notice of dismissal.

-Biddle Wood, 57, member of a prominent Conshohocken family, lost in the dense fastnesses of the mountains of Union county on Monday of last week, was found late on Friday three miles west of Buffalo Mills and about five miles from the point where he became separated from his attendant. Mr. Wood, an invalid, was found by Charles Sterling and Samuel Barnitz, of Mifflinburg, who were fishing along Buffalo creek. He appeared dazed when they came upon him, the fishermen said, and was unable to tell of his experiences. Physicians were summoned to care for him as he was very weak from hunger and exposure. A reward of \$500 was offered by the Wood family and many farmers, woodsmen and forest rangers were engaged in the search. The hunt was directed by district fire warden Miles

Reeder.