

General Andrews professes to be satisfied with his achievements as prohibition chief, and everybody else might be if he would tell what he accomplished.

Maurice Rostand is poet-laureate of France. After having read his effusion, in thirteen verses, to Lindbergh, we have come to the conclusion that Sheriff Shearer has a chance of becoming poet-laureate of Centre county.

And the citizens of Montgomery, Alabama, sent Captain Lindbergh's mother a thousand dollar silver chest, filled with candy. How much more sensible an empty candy box filled with a thousand silver dollars would have been.

Say men, don't rail about the wet weather. Don't you know that as long as the ground is too wet you have a perfect alibi for the nagging lady who is eternally asking you when you are going to finish digging the garden.

Because we have always felt that there is more in anticipation than in realization we are not at all unhappy because the streams are muddy. Too muddy for the other fellows to get all the fish before we can get our work caught up enough to get out and get them ourselves.

Dr. Abbot, secretary of Smithsonian Institute at Washington, estimates that there are thirty billion stars in the heavens. Of course he knows more about such things than we do, but it seems to us that every time we get a good crack on the "crazy bone" or a tumble on the ice we see far more than that.

According to the dope the rich man has to squeeze through the eye of a needle before he has much chance of getting into the Kingdom of Heaven. That's some job, but not so hard as that of the poor man who is trying to keep square with the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker in order to squeeze through on earth.

It's all right with us if Mrs. Snyder wants to use cosmetics in Sing Sing. But if she gets painter's colic and dies before the law has a chance to exact its "eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth" the warden of that institution is going to have some uncomfortable moments explaining his consent to converting a death house cell into a beauty parlor.

The million dollars or more that will be Lindbergh's, in consequence of his flight to Paris, looks like easy money; and it will be when measured with the yardstick of labor that others have to perform to amass even ten thousand dollars. But Gene Tunney will get a million dollars for his next fight, that can't possibly last more than thirty minutes and might be over in thirty seconds and Red Grange got nearly as much for playing a few games of football.

An old friend from "out where the tall grass grows" has invited us to visit him this summer. As an inducement he suggests that when the President has set up his summer White House and fishing paraphernalia at Lake Okoboji, Iowa, we will drive up and visit him "and, maybe, catch a sucker." That would be a fine trip and we can imagine nothing much more delightful than a visit with the old Centre countian, D. M. Kerlin, who has lived in Rudd for so many years; especially since it includes a fishing orgy. Orgy it would be, for Iowa must be alive with suckers else Cal. wouldn't be planning to spend the summer there. He knows a good fishing 'ole when he sees one.

The announcement that London papers have refused to support a campaign in that city to raise funds for our Mississippi sufferers startles the sleeping cells in the old been to wakefulness. They carry us back to the wet spring of 1889 when Johnstown was almost washed from the map of Cambria county, and our famous War Governor, the late Andrew Gregg Curtin, was making his last public appearance as the commencement orator at the Pennsylvania State College. All of the nations of the world, except England, had sent substantial succor to the Johnstown sufferers and the notable old statesman, commenting on the relative value of words and deeds, said: "In this time of unprecedented disaster the Sultan of Turkey sends a thousand dollars and the Queen of England sends her sympathy."

Young Captain Lindbergh has thrilled the world by his solitary flight from New York to Paris. It was a feat that might never be duplicated. From his viewpoint it probably wasn't such a wonderful thing, for his plane functioned perfectly and atmospheric conditions were fairly favorable. The world looks at it from another angle. Veteran flyers, in the mechanics of aeroplanes and the science of hydrography, prepare and train for years for such an undertaking and while they are working out a prevention for every possible cause of disaster this youth comes out of the west and does the trick with no other aids than a cool, steady nerve and a machine that held out. Had Lindbergh fallen into the sea and never been heard of again many would have said: What a fool he was. He didn't fall into the sea and he is a world idol today. A wise boy, too, since he has decided not to attempt to fly back.

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Another White House Rule.

A new rule has been issued from the White House governing the twice-a-week conferences between the President and the newspaper correspondents. Some time ago a condition was laid down that in reporting these conferences, though they were with the President, Mr. Coolidge's name should be kept out of the record and a mythical person to be known as "the official spokesman," substituted. The result of this stratagem was disappointing. The discerning public mind soon visualized the President in the cautious and sometimes blundering official spokesman. It is hoped that the new rule will work better, and there are good reasons for this expectation, for it will not only suppress embarrassing questions but unfortunate replies.

It has been asserted upon the authority of some prominent Massachusetts politicians that in 1912, when the late Theodore Roosevelt undertook to smash the tradition against a third term in the office of President, Calvin Coolidge, then a Senator in the Massachusetts Legislature, joined with other supporters of Mr. Taft in an address to the public protesting that there would be infinite danger in electing Mr. Roosevelt or any other man to a third term. This assertion aroused a good deal of public comment and some of the correspondents at one of the conferences asked the question directly of the President. He flatly refused to answer it, and most of the correspondents published the fact that the query had been put and the answer denied.

Of course the public interpreted the refusal to answer as an acknowledgment of the truth of the statement and the supporters of the third term for Coolidge were greatly disturbed. They realize that if a third term for Roosevelt was a menace to the perpetuity of the government, as the Coolidge manifesto declared it was, the election of Coolidge to a third term would be even more dangerous, for the Taft term had intervened since Roosevelt retired, and the dynastic element was less in evidence. But they could conjure up no argument in rebuttal except to muzzle the press, which seems to be a favorite method of the President in dealing with such subjects. He evidently imagines that if he can silence opposition of the press he will have easy sailing.

While Commander Byrd's monoplane "America" was going through elaborate christening ceremonies in New York, Captain Lindbergh's unchristened air craft was scooping up the prize in Paris.

Menacing Attack on Volstead Law.

The most formidable attack upon the Volstead law thus far organized is that of the American Medical Association declared by the convention of that society held in Washington last week. Its strength lies in the fact that its proponents protest that their aim is not to "break down prohibition" but to "prove that no body of law makers is qualified to take over the functions of a physician, and that the curative value of anything is a matter of scientific finding." The attack is upon that provision of the Volstead law which sets a limit on the amount of alcoholic prescriptions which a practicing physician may issue within a given period of time.

Naturally the Anti-Saloon League interprets this gesture as an effort to nullify the Eighteenth amendment to the constitution and restore the saloons, with all the attaining evils of the pre-war period. The physicians stoutly deny this aspersion upon them and allege that the constitutional amendment is not the object of their attack. They have no quarrel with it at all, for it doesn't attempt to interfere with their practice. It is the Volstead law that puts a limit on the prescriptions with alcoholic content and that that provision of the law might be eliminated without impairing its value as a moral agent. The saloons and public sale of alcoholic beverages are ended.

Of course the Anti-Saloon League is justified in its opposition to even this modification of the Volstead law, if it is justified in anything. That law is largely responsible for keeping the league in existence and providing the generous salaries for its officials, and if it is amended once it is likely to be shot to pieces later. The only safety for it lies in maintenance intact, and if the physicians of the country set their faces and forces to the task of eliminating a provision that restrains their professional rights and impairs their usefulness in their communities they will make a strong impression on the public mind. The family doctor is a potent influence.

Captain Lindbergh is a Missionary willing to show as well as anxious to be shown.

Sinclair's Sentence and Cunningham.

The jail sentence of Harry F. Sinclair, multi-millionaire oil operator, who was convicted in the Supreme court of Washington, D. C., accused of contempt because he refused to answer pertinent questions in the Teapot Dome investigation, will inspire confidence in the courts of the country. For some years an impression has been growing on the public mind that "malefactors of great wealth" were immune from punishment for such offenses as that charged against Mr. Sinclair. The action of the Washington court in the early proceedings in this case contributed to this unfortunate suspicion. Sending the defendant to jail will tend to allay if it doesn't entirely remove it.

It has been several years since the complaint against Sinclair was made and irritating delays have followed each other until expectation of justice had about vanished. The conspiracy case against former Secretary of the Interior Fall was defeated, though the evidence in support of it was strong enough to convince the public that all the accused were guilty. This was bad enough, but the delays in this particular case encouraged others to believe that the United States Senate had no power to enforce its mandates. This impression, now refuted, helped to prevent a complete investigation of the slush fund iniquities perpetrated in the Senatorial contest in this State last year.

In the slush fund investigation Thomas Cunningham, of Philadelphia, refused to answer relevant questions and thus postponed for a time the exposure of the wickedness in this State which enabled William S. Vare to temporarily enjoy the fruits of an election obtained "partly by purchase and partly by fraud." But the jail sentence of Sinclair will nullify this palpable miscarriage of justice for it will bring to proper punishment a contemptuous scoffer of law. Sinclair will exhaust every expedient available, at any price, to escape the penalty pronounced, but he will fail in this purpose and Cunningham will learn that the Vare machine is impotent to save him from prison.

A Philadelphia contemporary complains that the City of Brotherly Love is becoming a safe retreat for gunmen and other crooks driven from other cities. Probably the success of official grafters entices them to so alluring a field of operations.

The Question of Time in Office.

State Treasurer Lewis makes complaint, in a published interview, that the voters of Pennsylvania are not sufficiently appreciative of efficiency and fidelity of public servants. "I know men who, during the period they held office, were continuously on the job in behalf of the taxpayers, who were as conscientious as though they were operating their own private business. But," he continued "when these men came up for re-election they were defeated by opportunists. In time, of course, the electorate learned their mistake, but it was too late." There is an inclination on the part of public officials to shirk or shift their duties and therefore some ground for the complaint.

But there is no single thing contributes as much to "loafing on the job" on the part of public officials as repeated tenure incident to repeated re-elections. The official who is conscientious and industrious in the beginning too frequently grows careless after a few years experience and the electorate may be influenced to its attitude on the subject by this fact. Besides there is a deep seated aversion in the public mind to bestowing all favors on a few who soon develop into "professional office holders" and come to imagine that they are masters rather than servants of the people. The thought of a "dynasty of office holders" is repugnant to the average mind.

From the beginning there has been a decided inclination among the voters to favor rotation in office and short terms in public employment. It is possible that some evil has come out of this, but infinitely greater harm might result from long tenure and frequent re-elections. Public officials become as adept in "covering up" malfeasances as in growing careless or neglectful of their obligations. At all events, Mr. Lewis has little cause for complaint. He has been in office a good while, probably a just reward of merit, and has been advanced from unimportant place to high office with considerable rapidity, while his place on the pay roll has been made certain in the future by special legislation.

There are 30,000,000,000 stars, according to scientists, but during the past several weeks most of them have been too modest to show themselves.

Governor Fisher Not a Bouncer.

The pressure of the spoils-mongers for eligible places at the public crib has been exceedingly burdensome to the Governor, since his consideration of legislation left on his hands at the adjournment of the General Assembly. Impertunate office-seekers, during the session, were assured that after adjournment the business of weeding out the Pinchot followers would be attended to. When that time arrived they were told that as soon as the Governor disposed of the legislation the work would be promptly undertaken. About the middle of the month the bills were all signed or vetoed and at once the crush set in. It was a formidable force of hungry and hopeful aspirants for party favor.

Usually when one Republican Governor of Pennsylvania succeeds another equally orthodox Republican few changes in the personnel of the public service is expected. But this time it is different. The adherents of Governor Pinchot are anathema to the supporters of Governor Fisher and a State-wide demand was made for a "clean sweep." Another disturbing element forced itself into the equation. The Vare-Beidleman-Baker contingent had a large number of followers on the pay roll and Grundy demanded their removal. In the case of Beidleman and Baker this seemed easy enough, but Vare continues a potential force in the party organization and it is important to go into the next campaign unencumbered by strong factions.

The result of this mixture of malice and cupidity is that Governor Fisher is greatly troubled. He would like to meet Grundy's wishes and probably feels obliged to obey orders from Mellon who is much more interested in next year's Senatorship contest than in the crumbs which fall from the patronage pie counter. To fulfill his hopes it is necessary to preserve harmony, and scuttling the Vare-Beidleman-Baker ship might relegate Senator Dave Reed to private life and deprive the Steel trust of an attorney on the floor of the United States Senate after the expiration of his present term. To avert this result Governor Fisher has announced that "this administration is not going to act the part of a bouncer."

The Bell Telephone company announces that on and after May 23rd telephone calls to London and the rest of Great Britain may be made at any hour of the day between 6:30 a. m. and 5 p. m., eastern standard time, corresponding with 12:30 p. m. and 11 p. m. summer time in Great Britain. This is an extension of four hours to the daily period during which calls across the Atlantic may be made. When trans-oceanic telephone service was originally opened the service was available only between the hours of 8:30 a. m. and one o'clock.

One of the hardest rain storms of the year occurred on Sunday evening. It was accompanied with thunder and lightning and considerable wind. Two big limbs were broken from one of the old trees in front of the Zeller property, on Allegheny street, and dead limbs were broken from a number of trees. Ploughed fields and gardens were badly washed and Spring Creek looked like a big mud puddle.

One lone one-horse wagon, with rhubarb, radishes and onions for sale, was the opener at the Bellefonte curb market last Saturday morning. As no one had any notice of his coming the huckster was not overrun with customers for his produce.

Sanitation is a wonderful thing. In fact it is becoming so wonderful that it is taking all the joy out of life. Our homes are so darned clean that we can't enjoy them for fear of "messing them up."

Latin America has appealed to the League of Nations to "free them from America." Recent events in Nicaragua and Mexico have spread alarm throughout Central and South America.

A careful analysis of the subject compels the opinion that though Captain Lindbergh's adventure was successful it was a fool-hardy enterprise.

The jail sentence of Harry Sinclair has met with wide popular favor and when Big Tom Cunningham "gets his" there will be few regrets.

Mrs. Snyder is taking exercise in her Sing Sing cell to reduce weight. "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

"Well, here we are," is a simple salutation but it means a lot in certain circumstances.

Common Sense for Crime Commission.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

Pennsylvania, by a resolution of the Legislature just approved by Governor Fisher, is to join the States having commissions studying the increase in crime and seeking more effective methods of combating it. The Pennsylvania commission will have eight members, two of whom shall be prosecuting attorneys, two judges of common pleas courts, one a member of the Senate and another of the House, and two others, at least one of whom shall have had experience in social welfare work. The spirit of this seems to aim at obtaining practical results, with four of the members experienced in criminal prosecution and with the defects in the lay or court procedure that favor the criminal. Judges and prosecuting attorneys alike have complained that their hands have been tied by the law in respect of certain points where common sense and the interests of justice demand that they be free. Yet the State but recently had a commission created by the Legislature to revise the Penal Code. Created by a resolution of the session of 1917 and continued by other sessions, its final report was submitted in 1925, but with practically no action taken on it. This makes clear that if results are to be obtained by the crime commission, the public will have to be aroused to effective support of it.

The way to arouse that support is to get the facts of what is wrong with law enforcement in the State and lay them fearlessly before the public. Let the public recognize that its own attitude of indifference in many instances is, as always in a democratic government, the main defect. Where the citizenship is alert and bearing fully its part of the responsibility of government the criminal laws are not allowed to become full of loopholes for violators or courts and prosecutors to neglect their duties or betray their trusts.

By all means point out what defects there are in the law and in court procedure, but at the same time expose mercilessly the public authorities who may not be doing their duty under the laws that are held sound.

It is but common sense that the first thing to do—and performance of it can and should start right now without waiting for any word from a commission—is to rid the State of the crime-breeding resorts that have developed by vice protection through treason on the part of the public authorities whose duty it is to suppress them. Treason is the only word to apply to that condition. Officers entrusted with public protection and enforcement of the law have entered into partnership with the enemy for a share of the spoils. This, of course, involves exposure—and should bring prosecution—of the corrupt politicians who interfere with the police service or themselves traffic in privileges for law violation.

A crime commission that would ignore the political grafting that undermines law enforcement could scarcely make an effective report. The demand is for the bringing out of the whole truth. With all the facts before it fearlessly, the public would be aroused to support the action required.

Lindbergh's Victory.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The astonishing feat of the amazing and youthful Mr. Lindbergh is wonderfully spectacular and soul-thrilling from every point of view. Here is a boy of whom comparatively few persons had ever heard a fortnight ago. Like young Lochinvar, he comes out of the West, and, undeterred by the fate of two far more experienced aviators, he accomplishes that which no man had ever done before—a non-stop flight of 3600 miles across watery wastes of the Atlantic in unprecedentedly rapid time.

And the youngster did it in such a casual fashion, too. Starting alone, with only a few hours' sleep to invigorate him for unknown perils, with five sandwiches to sustain his bodily strength and with insufficient equipment in his plane to guide him in his flight and to insure reasonable precaution against disaster, he sails through the air at splendid speed and reaches his destination hours before he had been expected. The performance is one that recalls the dashing D'Artagnan and should appeal especially to the imaginative French, who greeted him with wild enthusiasm. It really is one of those achievements that stand out in human history because of their unique interest, and for which the impetuosity and magnificent self-confidence of youth are essential.

Still we venture to hope that other aviators will not be spurred on to attempt trans-atlantic flights in the too foolhardy fashion of Captain Lindbergh. His supreme audacity has carried him safely through many dangers of which he was probably unaware, but such luck is not likely to repeat itself often. If aviation is to make headway as a reasonably safe method of travel too great precautions cannot be taken for the safeguarding of human lives. Young Lindbergh has accomplished a magnificent stunt, for which he is deserving of the highest praise, but his methods should not find any imitators. There must be limits to even his luck.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSONE.

Accused of beating his 9-year-old step nephew with a metal hose, Francis Crowley, 53, of Philadelphia, was sentenced to three years in prison by Judge McDevitt.

Windows were shattered in a score of homes, and many persons within a radius of ten miles were hurled from their beds when two mills at the Moosic plant of the E. I. DuPont De Nemours company in Lackawanna county, blew up on Sunday. The blast was heard within a radius of twenty miles.

Harry E. Keller, of Coatesville, was awarded a verdict of \$2750 in his damage suit against the Conestoga Traction company, of Lancaster, by a jury on Saturday. He had sued for \$25,000, claiming that a pipe extending from the side of a car fractured a leg as he was walking beside the tracks. He was in the Coatesville hospital for 26 weeks.

The wheels of justice in Montour county are becoming rusty. There has been no jury trial in the courts of the county for a year, and jurors who had been summoned for the May term of court, opening on Monday, were notified not to appear as there were no cases for their consideration. Montour county officials fear if the condition continues they will forget the usual procedure, for the next term of court is not scheduled until October.

Putting \$1000 in a tin box with a package of bills produced by two strangers who were "negotiating" for the purchase of his gasoline station near Baumtown, Berks county, Jacob Schostak is minus the \$1000. The strangers left the box, carefully sealed, in his possession, while they went away for a meal. After three hours Schostak began to worry and ripped off the tin cover with a can opener. He found newspapers, cut to dollar bill size and three dollar bills.

Working together in accordance with well-laid plans, two men stole 12 diamond rings, valued at approximately \$2,000 from the Acklin Jewelry company, Tyrone, about noon Thursday, and made a clean getaway before the theft was discovered. Taking advantage of the noon hour, when only one salesman was in the establishment, one of the men took the tray containing the rings from a display window while his companion held the salesman's attention in another part of the store.

The blonde preference of her gentleman friend was worth exactly \$1265 to Miss Annie Vincino, New York brunette, in the eyes of a Schuylkill county jury, which last Saturday awarded her that amount in her breach of promise suit against Stanley Domin, of Coaldale. She alleged she was to have been married to Stanley until he met and wed a blonde. The verdict is supposed to reimburse her for mental and heart anguish and the money she expended in her wedding trousseau.

John P. Hoagland, 21, son of former Mayor A. M. Hoagland, of Williamsport, who was shot and seriously wounded by Dr. J. D. Coney early last week when he attempted to attract the attention of Dr. Coney's daughter by climbing over a porch roof to her bedroom window, is unable to make any statement yet owing to his critical condition. He was wounded twice before Dr. Coney or his daughter recognized the young man. Both families are prominent and no action has been taken by the police.

Coming into contact with a live wire carrying 2,300 volts while helping to tear down a carnival on the Conemaugh show grounds, at Johnstown, Daniel Brown, aged 40, of Elberta, Ga., a member of the carnival, was almost electrocuted early on Monday. The victim was severely burned and is in a serious condition in the Memorial hospital. In an attempted rescue, another carnival man was badly burned about the hands. Brown's life was saved by the means of artificial respiration, applied by two safety experts from the Cambria Steel works.

Convicted of having robbed George Novak, of Centreville, Washington county, a guest in her home, of \$1,500 when he had become intoxicated from wine, Mrs. Annie Casola, aged 38, of Centreville, was sentenced to the Industrial School for Women at Muncy on Monday, by Judge James I. Brownson. She was also ordered to restore Novak's money to him, but she stubbornly insisted she had not secured it. Novak carried \$1,500 on his person, intending to use the money in making a trip to his native home in Europe. After he had "wined and dined" at the Casola home he discovered that his money was missing.

John D. Shaffer, Marlon Hunter, and Charles E. Forbes, members of the Pon-haus gun club, of Huntingdon, were marooned in their club camp Saturday night, by the playful operations of two black bears, who had gained entrance on the first floor. Fearing to attack the bears without fire-arms, which were on the lower floor, the clubmen were kept imprisoned for twelve hours, before their forest tormentors withdrew. In appraising their losses on venturing below, the men found that the bears had devoured and destroyed a bucket of maple sugar, three hams, several cartons of breakfast food and a score of jars of preserved fruit.

A steam shovel engaged in subway construction, in Lancaster, scooped up a sedan motor car last Friday, turning it upside down and spilling out its owner, Harry Sarn, of Park Terrace West. Sarn fell a little to one side, and when the steam shovel dropped his car from a height of eighteen or twenty feet an instant later, it did not strike him. Nevertheless, his left shoulder blade and collar bone were broken. He was taken to the Columbia hospital. The automobile wasn't worth taking anywhere. Emil Schuler, who was operating the steam shovel, said that a mistake had been made. His assistant, he said, should have warned Mr. Sarn that the shovel was shoveling.

A. S. Baumiller, former assistant treasurer of the Commonwealth Trust company, of Harrisburg held for embezzlement of approximately \$700,000 of the bank's funds will face seventeen charges, the district attorney's office announced last Friday. He will be called to trial at the next session of quarter sessions court which opens on May 31. Six charges will be brought against Charles A. Delone, proprietor of a cut rate store, who is under bail of \$20,000 on charges of conspiracy and evading and abetting in embezzlement. Two indictments of conspiracy and two of forgery will face Edward J. Glancey, former treasurer of the Institution. Four other employees of the bank will be called to trial at the same time.