

Centre county Democrats properly saw to it that the Hon. Robert M. Foster ran well ahead of the field for delegate-at-large to the national convention.

—Somebody seems to have taken a pretty good wallop at the Scott-Fleming forces in the North ward of Bellefonte on Tuesday. Both Ham and Foster carried it.

—Mr. Gene Tunney's recent lecture on Shakespeare to the students at Yale will cause some to wonder whether Eli is slipping back or Fisticiana is creeping up.

—Isn't it nice that the D. A. R. congress adjourned without declaring war on anybody. The ladies were most skillful in evading several more or less difficult issues.

—We take it that Dr. Ham is not feeling so badly at having ran third in the local Republican legislative race. We spotted the Doctor as an optimist at our first meeting; one of the kind so constantly looking forward that they don't have time to grow morbid over post-mortems.

—My, how Phillipsburg does upset the dope. Really, it's getting on our nerves how they blast our political prophecies over there. Just when we had grown so cock-sure that Heverly was it in Phillipsburg they give us the laugh by turning in for Holmes.

—Why not investigate this idea that radio waves are disturbing the elements so that they can't function normally. All the broadcasting stations in the country might be closed for a month and if the weather should become more normal then there might be sufficient color to the suggestion to justify further investigation.

—One of the interesting results of the primary on Tuesday was the way the Democrats voted for delegates-at-large to the national convention. If there was a drive for any particular set of delegates we knew nothing of it. If there wasn't the result shows the advantage of position on the ballot. The four first men received more than twice as many votes as those whose names appeared lower down on the ticket. As four men and four women had to be voted for it looks as though most people just marked opposite the first four men and then started to hunt for the women's names.

—While a lot of us, imbued with the idea that we are "The Compleat Angler," are whirling around in swivel chairs or basking in rockers waiting for the waters to clear and fall and the weather to warm up the fellow who is smart enough to know that if one wants fish he must go out and fish, is gettin' 'em.

Last Saturday afternoon Ben Bradley dug a few garden worms. He didn't feed them brick dust for a week, nor did he imbue them in coffee grounds. He didn't put a lump of asafetida in the can with them nor did he resort to magic "spit." Ben just picked up his worms and walked down below town, less than a quarter of a mile, and after a thrilling two hours away from the worries of getting houses completed for impatient home builders, walked back up the railroad track with eight beautiful trout. The largest was sixteen inches long, none of the others were less than a foot in length.

After he had cleaned up and had his dinner, Ben-like he walked up town and presented the catch to a friend who probably couldn't get a mackerel out of a kit with a meat hook.

That was Saturday afternoon.

On Monday morning it was still raining, cold and entirely too disagreeable for The Compleat Anglers to think of venturing away from the swivels and the cozy freside chairs. We happened to be coming down High street about ten. At the corner of High and Water we spied Will Garman coming up the stream. In one hand he had a rod. In the other he carried an old fashioned "wooden" stringer. On it were five trout that averaged twelve inches and weighed four pounds and a quarter. He had been gone less than two hours and he hadn't been further than a hundred yards below the Lamb street bridge.

What's this all about you ask?

Let's tell you.

Ben Bradley works just as hard as any man anywhere, has quite as much to worry about as the rest of us. We know when he came back up that line of steel Saturday afternoon there was no such word as "tired" in his lexicon. Worry? He was thinking that that was something he knew nothing about.

"Bill" Garman's hand that held the "wooden stringer" on Monday morning was red as vermilion. Water was dripping from his shoulders, yet "Bill" didn't know he was either cold or wet. He'd had two hours that had carried him completely out of worries that at times seem wholly overwhelming and yet are only the mirages that delude those who haven't the will to go out and puncture them.

Fishing is like everything else in life. There is no magic about it. If one wants fish he must go after them, not only when he wants them to bite, but when they are feeling the urge to dine on angle worms or flies.

Mrs. Pinchot's Surprising Mistake.

Mrs. Cornelia Pinchot rather impairs her record as a game sport and sagacious politician in her complaint, addressed to Governor Fisher, that the Governor allows "State employees to use State time and State automobiles to campaign against her." Mrs. Pinchot was a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Fifteenth district against a prime favorite of the Mellon machine while she is the "pet aversion," of that organization. The defeat of Congressman McFadden under existing circumstances would have been nothing less than a calamity to the Republican machine of Pennsylvania and a personal bereavement to the supreme boss of the party, Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon.

Mrs. Pinchot might have, with perfect reason and complete propriety, protested to the voters of the District that such a perversion of public property is immoral and appealed to the sense of fairness of those concerned to resent it. In fact she did declare in a public speech that she believed the "voters of this district are independent enough to resent this interference from Harrisburg and Pittsburgh." But in addressing her protest to Governor Fisher she revealed the meager intelligence of a rank amateur in the game as it is played in Pennsylvania by the Mellon machine in which the Governor is a rather unimportant cog without influence in the policies or management.

When Mrs. Cornelia's distinguished and somewhat ambitious husband occupied the Executive Mansion at Harrisburg a rule was promulgated and to an extent practiced, that State officials could play politics only "on their own time," that is while off duty. But that is an ideal interpretation of the matter which has never penetrated the practical brain of Andy Mellon. His idea of conducting campaigns is "to get what you want when you want it," without much consideration of the methods of achievement. Mrs. Pinchot has had enough experience in politics and sufficient time to analyze the Mellon methods and realize that a protest to the Governor was useless and waste movements are not only futile but foolish.

—Now buckle up for the general election and if some Democrats work as earnestly for the ticket as they did against a certain candidate they will be forgiven for past follies.

The Acquittal of Sinclair.

The moral sentiment of the country was plainly shocked when the announcement came from Washington last Saturday that Harry F. Sinclair had been acquitted by a jury of the charge of conspiracy to swindle the government in the Teapot Dome oil lease. Upon much less complete evidence the Federal Court of Appeals in St. Louis had previously declared that "the entire transaction is tainted with favoritism, collusion and corruption," and in affirming that opinion the Supreme court of the United States unanimously denounced the transaction as "the culmination of a conspiracy to circumvent the law and defeat public policy" and ordered the cancellation of the lease and the restitution of the profits.

In a previous investigation by a Committee of the Senate Secretary Fall's son-in-law, who received the bribe from Sinclair and conveyed it to Fall, refused to testify on the ground that his evidence might incriminate him. Subsequently by legislation Congress removed this cloak and the son-in-law acknowledged the facts, removing all doubts in the minds of reasoning men and women as to the guilt of the accused. The "favoritism, collusion and corruption" having been established and the payment of the bribe by Sinclair and Fall, clearly shown, it was universally expected that just punishment of the culprits would be meted out. But for some inscrutable reason the jury decided otherwise.

For years the courts of Washington have been little less than legalized shelters for criminals. When Harry F. Sinclair was convicted of contempt of the Senate a few months ago, though the mildness of sentence indicated sympathy for the accused, a hope was aroused that better things might be expected in the future. But the preposterous verdict in the Sinclair case on Saturday completely dissipates this hope and forces the conclusion that the people of the District of Columbia are not fit for self-government. The fault does not appear to be on the bench. The judge who tried the case seems to be both capable and just. But the jurors are simply stupid and criminally inclined.

—President Coolidge may be able to control Republican conventions but he hasn't even a slip-knot hold on the Republican Congress.

Tell the Truth or Go to Jail.

Big Tom Cunningham, the debonaire Philadelphia sub-boss, is marching to slow music but heading for the District of Columbia jail. Last week Judge Dickinson, of the Federal District court in Philadelphia, summarily dismissed his petition for release on a writ of habeas corpus and on the same day he was indicted for contempt of the Senate in the Supreme court of the District of Columbia. Like Hamlet he may well complain that "one woe may tread upon another's heel, so fast they follow." When he ventured outside of the dirty pool of Philadelphia politics he got into deep water. The Vane cloak doesn't cover the whole world and Big Tom finds himself submerged in adverse currents.

With absurd confidence he faced the Slush Fund committee of the United States Senate and defied it. He had collected a large sum of money from one source or another and contributed to the Vane corruption fund. If it was obtained from the public officials of Philadelphia the laws of the State were violated. If it came from the criminals of the city the laws of morality were outraged, and it is commonly believed that both these fountains were tapped. For the purpose of concealing the facts he refused the information demanded and foolishly imagined he "had turned a smart trick." The decision of Judge Dickinson, in Philadelphia, and the action of the court in Washington, might change his mind.

With the assurance that influenced him to defy the Senate committee he attempted to bluff the Federal District court by offering to answer the questions if the Senate would agree to give Vane the purchased victory he covets. If he expected to succeed in that enterprise he has been disappointed. The Senate wants the information which Big Tom can give but it is not essential. The decision in Vane's case will be against Vane in any event. It may not be possible to compel Big Bill to tell the truth but it is possible to punish him for contempt, and though the process may be tardy and the movement slow the result is inevitable. Big Bill will answer the questions or go to jail.

—Sandina, the Nicaragua revolutionist, will make the public believe he is a bandit if he continues to arrest and detain American civilians in business there.

Borah's Queer Foreign Policy.

Senator Borah continues to make thoughtful people tired by preaching one doctrine and practicing another. The other day, while the Senate had under consideration Senator King's motion to cut out of the naval appropriation bill the provision for paying the expenses of maintaining a force of marines in Nicaragua, Senator Borah said, "I have no doubt in my own mind but that we are waging war in Nicaragua at this moment. I accept the sound rule laid down by Andrew Jackson that the President of the United States has no right to take aggressive action or steps of any kind toward any foreign country without first coming to Congress for its consent." That rule is laid down in the constitution.

Then if that rule is sound why does Senator Borah not only assent to, but encourage, the violation of it? Section 8, paragraph 11, of the constitution, vests in Congress the right to declare war and bestows on no other agency that power. There can be no war without a declaration and Congress has made no declaration of war against Nicaragua. Yet in one breath Senator Borah says war exists there and in another that "the President should be empowered to use all the troops necessary to conduct a free and honest election." Interpreting bayonets as instruments in procuring "free and honest elections" is a novel idea to say the least. It must have been imported from Mexico.

Senator Borah is chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and shares with the President responsibility for the misuse of power, military or civil, in foreign countries. "We should never have gotten ourselves into the mess in that country," referring to Nicaragua, he adds, "but having gotten in and having made a formal agreement to stay till elections are over, we cannot prematurely pull out and precipitate chaos afresh." But when the elections, controlled by foreign bayonets, are over the defeated party, with much show of reason, will dispute the result, organize a rebellion and commit the United States to perpetual military occupancy.

—There ought to be a greater reward for achievement in aviation than a big reception at the landing field.

—It is a wise provision of the law that denies residents of Washington the right to vote.

Harry Sinclair "Gives a Party."

The evidence for the defendant in the Teapot Dome oil lease conspiracy on trial in the Supreme court of the District of Columbia, reveals some of Harry Sinclair's free and easy methods of transacting business. The other day Captain J. K. Robinson, retired, of the Navy, who seems to have had a good deal to do with the negotiations leading up to the lease, was the principal witness. He stated that on the day the lease was signed Mr. Sinclair entertained Admirals Lattimer, Gregory and himself at a dinner, presumably after the signing. After the dinner the party engaged in a poker game and that during the play he had learned from Mr. Sinclair "how to lose at poker."

As Captain Robinson had won only eight dollars in the game the information was probably of little concern to him, personally, but it may be interesting to others who may be curious on the subject that Mr. Sinclair "had laid down a winning hand to his brother Earl." As the money remained in the family, anyway, the sacrifice was trifling, and as Mr. Sinclair estimated the value of the lease he had just acquired at approximately \$100,000,000, he may have been in a generous frame of mind, just as he seems to have been when he gave elder Will Hays \$160,000 for the use of the Republican National committee. The amount of the "puot" true magnanimously relinquished was not revealed and may have been much or little.

Whether or not Mr. Sinclair was equally generous to the other participants in the game is left to conjecture, but the incident proves that Mr. Sinclair is "a game sport" and plays poker not for gain as a gambler but for his own diversion and the pleasure of those who "sit in" with him. If, on the other hand, Mr. Sinclair discriminated in favor of his brother Earl, in dispensing his generosity, he was unfair to the distinguished gentlemen who comprised his party. According to the evidence brought out in the trial the high officials of the Navy were eagerly helpful to the lessee and if he was "laying down winning hands" to anybody he ought to have given them preference.

—On Thursday of last week the Centre and Clearfield county commissioners met at Phillipsburg and inspected the recently condemned Pruesquele street bridge over Moshannon creek. The Clearfield county officials decided to place a barricade at their end of the bridge to prevent any one from being injured while attempting to cross it. Whether the bridge will be repaired or a new one built has not yet been determined.

—There is a possibility that he doesn't even know it yet, so we rise to inform Dr. White, of Phillipsburg, that he has been chosen by the Democrats of Centre county as their member of the State committee. He was not an aspirant for the office, his name wasn't printed on the ballot and he might not have known that he was running, but he got more votes than several candidates who thought they were.

—Twenty-four forest fires have occurred in the Sproul district so far this spring, burning over a total of 506 acres. Six of the fires were caused by brush burning, eight are ascribed to railroads, two to transients, two incendiary, one unknown and six miscellaneous. The cost of extinguishing the fires was \$452.10.

—Mr. Wilson's reply to Vane's demand for recount where there was no suspicion of fraud is what you might call a "solar plexus." That is it is a complete "knock out."

—The oil magnates are not as "cockey" as they used to be. Both Sinclair and Colonel Stewart say they are willing to "tell everything" now.

—Gene Tunney thinks Shakespeare would be a boxing fan if he were living now. The old man did put a good deal of punch in his poetry.

—The Pittsburgh election crooks are being convicted as rapidly as the processes of the law will allow and that is all justice asks.

—The new motor code has been in operation four months but the list of automobile casualties has not perceptibly diminished.

—Hoover certainly "has the edge" on the Kansas City convention but the people still hold the axe.

—Congressman McFadden ought to have known that "hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

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

Holmes and Fleming the Victors. Win over Ham and Heverly by Safe Margin. Fleming Gets County Chairmanship.

Centre county Republicans have broken the third term hoodoo, so far as nominations are concerned, by re-nominating the Hon. John Laird Holmes, of State College, at the primaries on Tuesday, for a third term as member of the Legislature from Centre county; and also electing Wilson I. Fleming for a third term as the party's county chairman.

The landing of Mr. Holmes was accomplished through a system of thoroughly organized political mathematics. He could not have been nominated with only one candidate to contend against, but with two in the field all that was necessary was to divide the opposition pretty evenly between the two and the result would bring Holmes under the wire in the lead. The support given Holmes in his home town, State College, and over in Phillipsburg, where Heverly was thought to be the favorite, is what turned the trick.

Fleming's re-election for a third term as county chairman was accomplished through his own organization, but it was a hard and close fight, as he won out over Philip D. Foster, the harmony candidate, by only 210 votes. Those two contests were the only ones of interest in the Republican party, but they were sufficient to bring out a vote of close to five thousand.

In the Democratic ranks there was only one contest, and that for delegates-at-large to the national convention. There were thirteen candidates, with eight to elect, but as none of them were pledged to any particular man for President the rank and file of the party felt little interest in the outcome, and the result was only a few over a thousand Democrats went to the polls to vote.

Democratic nominees are T. E. Costello, for Congress, and Andrew Curtin Thompson, of Phillipsburg, for the Legislature. Though not a candidate on the ticket Dr. F. K. White, of Phillipsburg, was elected as Centre county's member of the Democratic State committee, and John J. Bower was re-elected county chairman.

Eliminating the Republican Legislative and county chairmanship contests the primaries were the most uninteresting ever held in a presidential year in Centre county. In North Benner precinct only 15 votes was the total cast, and the cost to the county was about three dollars a vote. A number of other districts did not make a much better showing.

Detailed returns of the vote will be found in the tables published on 4th page.

THE PRIMARIES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

There was but one particularly exciting contest in the recent primaries in Pennsylvania. That was the attempt of Mrs. Cornelia Bryce Pinchot, wife of the former Governor, to get the Republican nomination for Congress in the Fifteenth Pennsylvania district away from Louis T. McFadden, the sitting Congressman and favorite of the machine. They conducted a very acrimonious campaign which has wound up in the apparent defeat of Mrs. Pinchot by something over 2000 votes.

Six of the eight Democratic delegates-at-large to the Democratic national convention are known to favor Gov. Smith, of New York, for President. Sufficient returns from the congressional districts in the State had not come in at the time of our going to press to indicate what the complexion of the entire delegation to Houston will be. Our local aspirant, Hon. Robert M. Foster, is apparently ninth in point of votes in the State, so has probably missed going to Houston by a very narrow margin.

In the Republican primaries in the State Mellon candidates were the only ones running for national delegate and they are all favorably, though not committed, to Hoover.

—Lee Francis Lybarger, of Lewisburg, acting referee in bankruptcy, who has charge of the disposal of the Harris block, Bellefonte, for the benefit of the creditors of the Centre County Banking company, has sent out notices that unless exceptions are filed before him, at the office of W. Harrison Walker Esq., in Bellefonte, on or before May 4th the sale will be ordered. As the sale will be advertised four weeks, any sale that may be decided upon cannot be held before some time in June, as the very earliest date possible.

—Because so few were out to the primaries in Centre county on Tuesday and because preparations for a full vote have always to be made, whether it is cast or not, each vote cost the county one dollar. It was the highest average of cost on record here.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—John Welsh, of York, Pa., had been suffering from severe pains in his jaw and consulted a dentist. An X-ray was taken and Welsh discovered that a new set of teeth—his third—were growing in. He hopes soon to be able to show a complete set of new canines, incisors and molars.

—The State Aeronautics Commission is preparing a new type of map of Pennsylvania. It will show the airports as they are located throughout the State. There are about sixty of them that have been recognized by the commission and they will be designated by a white circle, with the name of the landing field in large type.

—Charged with indirectly causing the death of Mrs. Julia Forcash, Mt. Carmel, Stephen Troop is being held there until authorities have decided what measure of action to take. It is claimed that an aldermanic hearing he slandered the woman to such a point that she fatigued and died a short time later. Her husband and relatives are demanding restitution.

—The Department of Forests and Waters has issued a permit for the construction of a 180-foot steel bridge over Bald Eagle creek, near Mill Hill, on the State Highway, between Mill Hill and Beech Creek. With the dredging and relocating necessary in order to get the road leading to and from the bridge out of the high water, the project will cost approximately \$100,000.

—Mrs. S. Weis, 75, is recovering from the effects of having been imprisoned in her home at Selingsgrove twelve hours under a heavy chest of drawers that fell upon her while she was cleaning house. Mrs. Weis lives alone in a large home-stead. Her screams were heard by a Susquehanna University student who went in a window by means of a ladder and rescued her.

—During the terrific windstorm, last Thursday, the Rev. Milton K. Foster, aged 91 years, pastor of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist church, was blown by a gale from the sidewalk into the street near his home in Williamsport. He suffered a fracture of the hip, and his condition is serious. Rev. Foster at one time filled the pulpit of the Bellefonte Methodist church.

—Mrs. Thomas White, colored, of Bloomsburg, has been given separation papers, thus ending an argument with her husband that started in church and ended on the street when her husband grabbed her and threw her down. White admits it, but he said he grabbed her only after she threw a stone at him. Then, he says, his wife sprang to her feet and threw a brick at him and tore his coat.

—The Berwick Lumber and Supply company has been awarded the contract for additional buildings at the Laurelton Home for Women. The State Welfare Board has approved the contracts. The bid was \$180,000. W. F. Sutter, manager of the company, was at Laurelton recently making arrangements to break ground this week. The new gasoline shovel of William Yorks will be employed in the excavating.

—A honeymoon broken when parental objections separated them shortly after their marriage 40 years ago, have been resumed by E. J. Burch, 65, and his wife, Anna, 61, in the county home, at Greencastle. The couple lost trace of each other following their separation. Recently Burch, almost blind, was sent to the county home from Vandergrift, Pa. In the dining room of the institution, he recognized his wife's voice and the reunion followed.

—A motion picture record of the activities of the Pennsylvania National Guard will be made this year. Plans were completed today to have a trainee man spend four weeks at the various infantry, cavalry, field artillery, anti-aircraft, air service, tank company and other training camps at Mt. Gretna and Tobyhanna with a view to making a picture that will portray in permanent form the life of the National Guardsmen in all its ramifications. When the picture is completed it will be made available to various local units for showing in their communities.

—Amelia Bleecher, 17, who, with two other girls, escaped from the Shelter Home at Lancaster, two weeks ago, asserts there is no honor among runaway girls. She was arrested in Washington, and on her way back to Lancaster, after she had been robbed of all her clothing, except one old dress, by one of the girls with whom she escaped. The other girls, Elmiria Brown, 16, of Lancaster, and Verna Burchett, 16, of Virginia, are still at large. The three made their way from Lancaster into Virginia, to a point near Washington, by obtaining "lifts" from tourists.

—Herman Goldberg owns a property at 402 Wyoming avenue, Kingston. Simeon Lewis owns the property adjoining, an alley nine feet wide separating the properties. Saturday Mr. Goldberg started three men at work to pave the alley. Mr. Lewis at once put three men at work digging a ditch. Then Mr. Goldberg's men were taken off the paving job and set to work refilling the ditch. All Saturday three men were busy tossing dirt out of the ditch and three were busy tossing it back in. At quitting time it was about an even break—no ditch or no pavement.

—Eight federal prisoners left Pittsburgh, on Wednesday, in the custody of a United States marshal for Atlanta penitentiary where they will serve sentences ranging from one year and one day to two years and six months. Frank Baldino of Sharon, will serve the longest sentence—30 months—for alleged violation of the motor theft laws. Frank Locke, of Farrell, an alleged accomplice, will accompany him, having been sentenced to a term of one year and one day. William A. Baker, of Altoona, and Charles C. Curtin, former postmaster at Mues, Washington county, have been sentenced to serve a year and a day each for embezzlement.

—Two children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lines were burned to death when the barn in which they were playing at the Lines home, near DuBois, was razed on Thursday morning by a fire that broke out about 11:00 o'clock. Fire also communicated to the house, which was an entire loss, very little furniture being saved. The dead boys were Arthur Lines, aged 3 years, and John Lines, aged 4½ years. They had gone to the barn to play. When their mother first noticed the fire it was raging so fiercely that she was unable to go to their aid. From the barn the flames communicated to the house, burning it to the ground. Only a small part of the furniture was saved by the neighbors.