

—Wise ones say that the recent frosts didn't hurt the fruit.

—Now that the hospital drive is on keep this in mind. Bad as the hospital needs funds right now, you might need the hospital far worse some day.

—The best way to be sure of a mess of fish is to cultivate the friendship of someone who can catch them. This isn't an invitation, however.

—Get out the swatter and sock it to every fly you see. A few deaths now mean millions less of the pestiferous insects when the sticky, humid August days come.

—If Prince Carol, of Roumania, can find no other asylum the larch string might be hanging out at Doorn. Misery loves company, you know.

—Eighteen inches of snow one week, ninety-four in the shade the next and four two mornings of the third week are surely enough to try the adaptability of both animal and plant life.

—The old fashion of a dark sack coat and light trousers is coming back again for men and who can say it was not an effective sartorial combination.

—The further the German and Irish fiends penetrate the hinterlands the more evidence they will have to confirm their express conviction that "America is a great country." However, it is doubtful if they will find another Jimmy Walker.

—Now that the work of resurfacing Bellefonte streets has begun it is reasonable to suppose that what tar isn't needed to ornament the underside of your motor fenders will be carried home and smeared all over the house by your young hopeful.

—The lady on the fountain at the Big Spring has been rugged and lined so artistically that she looks entirely too modern for her long dress. Couldn't manager Seibert tuck the trailing robe up to her knees, put a pair of bloomers and a brassier on her?

—Senator Jim Reed, of Missouri, has spent fifteen hundred dollars thus far in his presidential campaign. The money is wasted, of course; just as the rest that he probably will spend will be, but think of the good time the gentleman from Missouri is having.

—The Pittsburgh conference of Methodist preachers recently went on record as being opposed to "heredity wealth." Having a rather general acquaintance with ministers of the Methodist persuasion we are rather inclined to the belief that that Pittsburgh group were not voting as they pray.

—If Sam Lewis was right when he declared that nine million dollars would be sufficient to buy up all the purchasable land in Pennsylvania that is suitable for forest preserves it does seem improvident to authorize a twenty-five million bond issue for that purpose besides, bond issues are getting entirely too frequent in Pennsylvania.

—Present tabulations on delegates to the Republican national convention place the balance of power in the Pennsylvania delegation. Secretary Mellon is certainly sitting pretty. He controls the delegation and the Republican who expects to be his party's choice won't be that at all. In fact there won't be any party choice, Andy will name the candidate.

—We would view the advent of the circus season with far more pleasurable anticipation were the showmen advertising over-stuffed seats. Our natural cushion has been deflating for some years and nowhere are we so conscious of the fact as when perched on one of those hard seats under a "big top." Often we have wondered what kind of hard wood is used for making circus seats.

—Dr. Ham, recent aspirant for the Republican nomination for the Legislature, has filed his expense account and, as was to be expected, it is very Hanesque. Among other items listed is twenty-five hundred miles by auto at four cents a mile. The Doctor certainly did some traveling to get nowhere, but that was but fulfillment of our pre-primary statement that he didn't know where he was going, but he was on his way.

—Griorgia Mario Suriani, an Italian baron, who has been trying to peddle his title in this country for some time, was left waiting at the church in New York, on Tuesday. He expected Winifred Barry to join him in matrimony there, but the lady reneged. Foreign titles are not as marketable in this country as they once were and that is another evidence that the modern American girl has more sense than her older sisters had.

—Charles Evans Hughes is said to be willing to take the Republican nomination for President should the Kansas City convention be forced to take a compromise candidate. Not long ago Mr. Hughes is supposed to have said: "I am too old to run," when his name was suggested. Now it is being made to appear that he didn't mean exactly what his words implied. What he did intend to say was that he would be too old to run for a second term. That is probably true, but Mr. Hughes needn't worry about it at all. If he should be given the nomination he won't even have a first term.

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Senator Walsh Withdraws.

The formal withdrawal of his name from the list of contestants for the Democratic nomination for President by Senator Thomas J. Walsh, of Montana, expresses a willing obedience to the will of the majority. There were many reasons why Mr. Walsh might have aspired for the party honor. He is a distinguished lawyer, a great statesman and a faithful Democrat, who has unselfishly rendered distinguished service to the country and the party. He is precisely the type of man that ought to be chosen to administer the government, for he measures up to the Jefferson standard of capability and integrity. But he realizes that at this time the voters of the party prefer another candidate.

There seems to be a discordant element in the party which is determined to prevent its success at the approaching election. For months these mischief makers have been industriously striving to discredit one of the leading candidates by insinuations and half-truths that might, and were intended to be, detrimental to his availability. Having failed to destroy public confidence in, or divert support from, him they are now bending their energies to an effort to frighten his friends by threatening a third ticket in the event of his nomination. The answer made by Joseph Daniels, of North Carolina, to an overture in this direction has probably put a quietus on this contemptible expedient.

That public sentiment is overwhelmingly in favor of the election of a Democrat to the office of President this year, is beyond question. The signs point to that fact from every direction and the result can be prevented only by blunders at the Houston convention. The mischief makers are now trying to organize such blunders. They are willing to condone all the crimes which have been perpetrated in Washington during the present and the previous administration and renew the license of the Republican machine to plunder indefinitely rather than allow the popular choice of the party to be nominated and elected. Senator Walsh serves notice that he will not be a party to the conspiracy.

—The Senate investigation of campaign expenditures just started may not reveal any corrupt use of money but it may put a wholesome restraint on rich politicians who want to buy future public favors.

Concerning Reforestation and Loans.

The statement by State Treasurer Lewis with respect to the proposed loan of \$25,000,000 for the purpose of reforestation the other day, "listens good," as they would say in Lebanon county. The idea of authorizing such a bond issue originated with former Governor Pinchot, who was more or less obsessed with the subject. As he reasoned it there was a strong appeal to popular favor. Abundant forests afford so many advantages and involve so little expense, comparatively speaking, that it is difficult to make an argument against any movement looking toward that achievement. But, desirable as it is there is no justification in either profligacy or waste in accomplishing it.

Mr. Lewis figures that the interest on \$25,000,000 at four per cent would amount to \$1,000,000 a year, and that the appropriation of that amount annually, for the purpose of reforestation, would accomplish all in that direction that is possible within that period of time. Moreover, it is alleged that the State Game Commission proposes to invest \$200,000 a year, out of the hunters' license fund, in the purchase of forest land, and in Mr. Lewis' opinion an appropriation of \$500,000 a year to the Department of Forests and Waters for reforestation added, would supply all the money that can be economically used in the work of reforestation. If that be true the proposed loan would be waste.

If \$25,000,000, or even double that amount, could be economically used in reforestation, and there were no other way of obtaining the funds, the loan ought to be authorized. But if the work can be performed as completely and expeditiously out of the current revenues, and without impairing the efficiency of the public service in other directions, then it would not only be foolish but criminal to burden the public with an obligation that costs a million dollars a year and does no good. Mr. Lewis has started something in his speech at Harrisburg that ought to make the taxpayers think seriously. Public as well as private debts have to be paid, and it is waste to incur them unnecessarily.

—Maybe Japan's threat to invade China will unite the factions in that country and make a real power of it.

Plainly the Price of Perfidy.

The appointment of Joseph S. MacLaughlin, of Philadelphia, to the office of collector of internal revenue for the Eastern district of Pennsylvania, reveals the corrupt methods by which the Vare machine is maintained in power. MacLaughlin had been affiliated with the Washington party for some years and prevented a merger of all elements against the Vare machine in the mayoralty campaign last year by securing the nomination of his party for Mayor. While pretending to be opposed to the machine and anxious to defeat it he refused to enter into any agreement that would consolidate the elements favoring clean politics and good government.

His attitude aroused suspicion at the time that he was serving the base purpose of a stool-pigeon for Vare, but he protested vehemently that he was influenced by the highest motives. He had been nominated by his party, he said substantially, and to withdraw, even for the righteous purpose of defeating a corrupt organization, would be a betrayal of his obligations to the Washington party. The result was that he diverted several thousand votes from the reform candidate and materially impaired the morale of the organization supporting him. It is still firmly believed that if he had joined the forces supporting Mr. Moore in the early period of the campaign the Vare machine would have been beaten.

When the vacancy occurred in the revenue office a number of regular Republicans entered the contest for appointment. It carries a salary of \$6000 a year and is a desirable position in many ways. But all the faithful followers of Vare were turned down in order to bestow the favor on a renegade who had performed a sinister service in an emergency. The appointment is plainly the price of perfidy and President Coolidge is as much a part of the corrupt bargain as either Vare or MacLaughlin. Unless the Republican Senators are willing to be made equally culpable they will defeat an odious conspiracy by refusing to confirm the appointment.

—There will be a third party candidate for President this year if the Republican machine can raise money enough to finance a Democratic "boit."

Caucus of Great Importance.

It may be safely predicted that the question of Herbert Hoover's nomination by the Kansas City convention will be settled to-morrow, in Philadelphia, when the Pennsylvania delegation assembles in caucus. If that august body of servile politicians decide to support Mr. Hoover, "the stuff is off." At this writing the official returns of the primary vote in Indiana has not been made public, but it is of little consequence. The candidacy of Senator Watson, favorite son of that State, is simply a gesture without significance. No sane man can contemplate with complacency a widespread preference for big, blustering "Jim." Since the result in Ohio his aspiration has been a joke.

All that stands between Mr. Hoover and the nomination is the uncertainty of Secretary Andrew W. Mellon's attitude, and all that envelops Mr. Mellon's attitude in uncertainty is the shadow of the third term. If the elimination of Mr. Coolidge were a settled fact there can be little doubt that the friends of Hoover and Mellon would come to a speedy agreement. But the friends of Coolidge refuse to believe that he is eliminated. The Washington correspondent writes that the nomination of Hoover is still "very much in doubt." The shadow of Coolidge still darkens. With only a month before the convention meets the President has not spoken the words that would eliminate him as a possible candidate.

Chairman Butler goes to the convention with the entire delegation of Massachusetts under control. From Mr. National Chairman Hillis still clings to the hope that Coolidge will be nominated, and the supporters of the late Senator Willis, of Ohio, are voluble and vociferous in demands for a "draft." One prominent newspaper in that State intimates that unless Coolidge is the candidate Smith may carry the State in November. It has even been suggested that Senator Fess was chosen to make the "key note" speech in the convention because of his activity in the third term movement. In view of these facts the caucus in Philadelphia to-morrow becomes a matter of very grave importance to Herbert Hoover.

—President Coolidge doesn't want to veto the McNary-Haugan bill for party reasons, but unless he can bluff the corn belt bloc he'll have to.

—The weather might be all right if the changes were not so sudden.

Lobby Work in Pennsylvania.

The investigation of the activities of the power trust by the Federal Trade Commission, in progress in Washington, has revealed some of the reasons why former Governor Pinchot's "giant power" legislation failed during the regular and special sessions of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania of 1925 and 1926. Some \$50,000 were spent by lobbyists in the interest of the trust to defeat the measure. The money was paid to attorneys, witnesses and propagandists, the largest amount having gone to William S. Vare's legislative lieutenant, who received \$14,103. The witness who uncovered these facts was the "chairman of the public policy committee of the Pennsylvania Electric association."

Walter H. Johnson, who occupied this important office in the electric organization, enjoys an obliging memory. To all questions as to the distribution of the funds he replied, "I don't remember," but he was emphatic in his declaration that "it was all spent honorably and lawfully." Mr. Healy, counsel for the commission, questioned this interpretation of the operation. He said he was unable to believe that "paying witnesses heard by legislative committees as supposedly independent citizens, was honorable or lawful." It partook more of the nature of bribery and unquestionably the purpose of the payment was to influence the witnesses to confuse rather than inform the Legislators.

The investigation of the Electric Power Trust was given to the Federal Trade Commission for the reason that the trust were afraid of a Congressional investigation, as contemplated by Senator Walsh, of Montana, author of the movement. The trust lobby in Washington hoped that the Trade Commission would be responsive to the demands of Big Business and suppress all damaging evidence. That this expectation is being disappointed is a matter for popular congratulation. The facts already brought out are sufficient to prove the sinister purpose of the trust. But that is not enough. It has yet to trace the corruption to its source.

—We hereby pay our respects to Joseph McCusley, artistic painter, for the deft way in which he handled the brush in painting the lady on the fountain at the big spring, donated to the borough by Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Lansdy. He painted the drinking fountain and the base of the big fountain a bronze color but when it came to the lady he was uncertain just what kind of paint they are using now. Water superintendent J. D. Seibert suggested the natural flesh color with a dark cream for the lady's clothing. Because of his natural modesty Mr. McCusley balked on the proposition but superintendent Seibert finally induced him to go ahead with the result that the lady now presents quite an attractive appearance, and most every man who passes there stops to admire the handiwork.

—Dr. William R. Ham, of Boalsburg and State College, who stood third in the race for the Republican nomination for the Legislature in Centre county, was the first to file his expense account, and to the writer's knowledge is the only candidate in the county to make an entry of his own automobile operation. The doctor gives one item, "Automobile, 2,500 miles, at 4 cents a mile, \$100." Another entry is \$40 for meals, and \$74.32 to Keystone Gazette for advertising and printing. His entire expenses are given as \$287.32.

—The withdrawal of Senator Walsh from the contest for the Democratic nomination for President is proof that the distinguished gentleman from Montana does not choose to be a political dog in the manger.

—There is a widespread impression that Jim Watson, of Indiana, is "fighting" in the last ditch" with his back against the muddy side.

—The Republican National committee may as well understand that Will Hays will not undertake to pay campaign debts hereafter.

—Then Mr. Hoover is not altogether immune from factional perils. The corn belt threatens a third party if he is nominated.

—Roumania's royal family is threatened with real trouble now. Two hundred thousand peasants demand the dismissal of Bratinau as regent.

—Senator "Jim" Reed, of Missouri, has plenty of nerve and vastly too much sense to be enticed to run as a "bolting" candidate for President.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

Senator Walsh's Recognition of the Obvious.

From the Philadelphia Record.

If any doubt remained as to the likelihood of Governor Alfred E. Smith's nomination for the Presidency by the Democratic National convention it has certainly been removed by the withdrawal of Senator Thomas J. Walsh, of Montana, from the field. Senator Walsh is a particularly attractive figure—an exceptionally able lawyer, a man of excellent judgment and a public servant with a fierce hatred of everything that savors of official corruption. He is, indeed, the very embodiment of personal integrity, and we think that it is no exaggeration to say that during the past half century no United States Senator has rendered a more valuable service to his country than he has in his ruthless exposure of the rascals implicated in the oil scandals. Because of this record he has been regarded as exemplifying that sort of official honesty as against official knavery, which undoubtedly will be one of the most important questions submitted to the voters in the approaching campaign.

The fact that such a man, standing for such an issue, regards the result of the Democratic primary in California as indicating that "the Democrats desire Governor Smith as their candidate," and that his own chances at Houston would be hopeless, speaks volumes for the popularity of the Governor of New York and for his strength not only with his own party, but with many Republicans as well. Under the circumstances the Senator's withdrawal is not only a recognition of the obvious, but also a graceful personal gesture. While other candidates, notably Senator Reed, of Missouri, still remain as contestants, their chances of success are not to be considered seriously. It now looks as if Alfred E. Smith would be made the Democratic nominee by acclamation.

Willis and His Type.

From the New Haven Journal-Courier.

Senator Willis in his career illustrated at once the strength and weakness of his type of politics. The emphasis on schools and country life and the menace of mediocrity and the imperativeness of an aristocracy of character, ideals, manners in a government where one vote counts as another. Having was an agreeable man and would attract voters as the result showed, but the counsel was not wise; it was indiscriminating and sloppy; it was ethically flabby and dangerous. The unthinking crowds in the street were entitled to be protected by their leaders from this sort of thing. But Frank Willis could hardly know this.

—The social system under which he was brought up had not thought of the menace of mediocrity and the imperativeness of an aristocracy of character, ideals, manners in a government where one vote counts as another.

So, too, when Daugherty was brought to book, it was Willis who promptly declared him "as clean as a hound's tooth." Daugherty, who was much less scrupulous, had recognized Willis' power among the voters. Willis profited by the association and in ordinary gratitude stood by his friends, hoping all was right. The whole Harding chapter was off the same piece. This hurrah, impulsive, hand-shaking, emotional school of politics, whether East or West, is defective because it does not enlist the mind—it riots in emotionalism. It despises research. It is a form of fundamentalism. It does not put truth at any cost first.

Camouflaging Political Maneuvres.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

Our great American republic is constantly put in a false position by little men bobbing around in the seats of the mighty. It's not enough that all manner of investigating committees shall engage in manufacturing political campaign ammunition at Washington; these must now summon before a new committee all the candidates for President to tell about their campaign expenditures. Not only must the candidates themselves appear, but they must furnish a list of all responsible agents of the candidates so that the probing may go on with renewed activity. Information on campaign funds is the alleged purpose of this latest game of probing, but the real effect is to create doubt as to the honesty of men in the public service from the President down the line. Reams and reams of testimony will be taken and out of it all will come nothing but confusion and a false impression of the integrity of those serving their country in public position.

—Thirteen preparatory and High schools were represented at the annual interscholastic track and field meet, at State College, on Saturday. Kiski won the meet with 47 points to its credit. Bellefonte Academy athletes scored 6 points, the Bellefonte High school 4 and Gregg township vocational school 2.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Millions of dollars in securities and valuable papers were moved from the vaults of the Northern Central branch of the Lycoming Trust company, in Williamsport, to the new vaults at the main office of the company Friday morning under heavy guard. Hundreds walked past the truck never suspecting what a fortune was being carried along the street.

—The body of Thomas Gordon, 30, who jumped into the Shenango river, near New Castle, two weeks ago in an effort to escape after engaging in a gun battle with police officers, was found on Saturday night floating in the stream. The pistol fight ensued when efforts were made to arrest Gordon on charges of robbery. The body was found by two policemen.

—Because of the prevalence of typhoid fever in the vicinity of Broad Top, Huntingdon county, the State health department has ordered a motorized laboratory moved there from Pittsburgh, to try to locate a probable carrier of the disease on a milk route, now under departmental suspicion. More than twenty-five cases have occurred.

—The Mosser tannery, at Gleasonton, suffered a \$4000 loss when the tops of four large bark sheds were blown off at the tannery by an explosion and bark was scattered a distance of 400 feet much of it being lost in Young Woman's creek. The force of the explosion shattered the show window in the Albert Benshaw store, near the tannery, causing a loss of over \$100.

—Dr. Keffer Hartline, son of Professor and Mrs. D. S. Hartline, of the faculty of the State Teachers' College, at Bloomsburg, has declined an invitation to go to the South Pole with Commander Richard E. Byrd. Dr. Hartline was invited to be the physician of the expedition. Hartline is engaged in research work at Johns Hopkins University and he did not like to lose two years from that work.

—The project to purchase the Cook forest by subscription and State aid has been accomplished and before the summer is over the beautiful tract of virgin timber will belong to the people of Pennsylvania for all time to come. Thomas Liggett, of Pittsburgh, who has been doing the bulk of the work in getting the money subscribed, announced Friday, that not only was the forest an assured thing as a State park, but that Chariton river, which flows through it, would be cleaned up and brought back to its pristine glory.

—At the federal court for the Middle district of Pennsylvania, which opened at Harrisburg, on Monday, J. Edward Ruppert, former cashier of the National Bank, of McVeytown, Mifflin county, was sentenced to thirty days in the Huntingdon county jail and fined \$2000 for violating a national bank act. He misapplied \$2,500 of the bank's funds in 1925. Joseph Buz and Joseph Dedzsky, of Leighton, Carbon county, were fined \$150 each for possessing stills on their farms. They said they used the liquor for themselves.

—Testimony at the inquest into the death of Anthony Novak, of Chester, a section hand on the Pennsylvania railroad, who was killed by a Washington-New York flier, revealed that he sacrificed his life while endeavoring to prevent a wreck. Novak was working on the adjoining track when the express train approached, but had a pinbar wedged beneath a rail in its path. He heard a warning horn and a shout of "approaching train," but ignored it while attempting to free the bar.

—Lightning played queer pranks with the hand and foot of J. W. Dodson, of Jonestown, Columbia county, Sunday night. Dodson was eating supper when a bolt struck close to him, but did not damage his home. He was holding a fork in his right hand, and six holes were burned in the palm of that hand. A metal disc was attached to the rubber heel of one shoe, and both the heel and the metal disc were melted, burning in his heel to the bone. While the injuries are painful, they are expected to have no serious results.

—The most deserted wife in York is believed to be Mrs. Melvin Eckenrode, who told the court that since she married her husband he left her exactly thirteen times. Eckenrode has been in jail on a charge of desertion and when he appeared for a parole his wife opposed it. Eckenrode did not like his wife's advice to the court, so he appealed to the court prothonotary, L. David Keesey, to vouch for the fact that he made payments for his wife's support. The officer told the court that "he is absolutely no good." He was returned to jail.

—Gold has been discovered upon the farm of E. L. Moore, in Damascus township, Wayne county, near where the Land family, ancestors of Colonel Charles Lindbergh, lived. An assay of a small quantity of dirt and mineral taken from a bore for a well was made at State College, Pa., revealing a gold content of 0.12 ounces, equivalent to \$3.51, and a silver content of 0.24 ounces of a value of 15 cents. Copper and coal are also in evidence in the ledges of the township. A bed of graphite lies in the Delaware river valley a short distance from where gold has been discovered.

—A charge of involuntary manslaughter was lodged against Herbert Johnson, of Jamestown, N. Y., attendant at the North Warren State hospital for the insane, when he was arraigned in connection with the death of Elvia Roberts, aged 40, of Courtsport, an inmate. Roberts died on Thursday night and a coroner's jury held that he came to his death as a result of improper treatment, contrary to the rules of the institution, and poor health. Johnson was an attendant in charge of Roberts' ward, and Clifford Delip, another attendant, testified that Roberts had been roughly handled and that a towel had been twisted around his neck. Johnson was held without bail for the June term of court.

—Tying a stick of dynamite about his neck, George Malinovsky, aged 51, a Pole, set fire to the fuse attached to it, and watched it burn up to the cap, and then was blown into eternity at his home in Blackburn, five miles from Houtzdale, on Wednesday evening, May 2nd, about 9 o'clock. Neighbors found the body the next day, decapitated, with the breast mutilated, and the entire body torn and twisted by the explosion. The interior of the room where the man committed suicide was badly wrecked, while windows in the house had been shattered by the explosion. Malinovsky was alone in his home at the time of the explosion, having driven his wife and two children out of the house on Tuesday. He continually abused his family, it was reported.