

The "Afaletics" have gotten off to a rather hopeful start and the 'hillies—well, it would be the most successful season they have had in years if it were to end right now.

Just for fear we might go to 'labbin' about having nice crisp onions and new peas out of our own garden before you have gotten a chance to blab about yours we want to go on record as not having made an inch of garden this spring.

Dr. Riddle, who has been doing research work in experimental evolution, is of the opinion that science is pointing the way to the development of the human stature so that man may eventually be ten feet tall. Cellular control through more intelligent diet, exercise and rest is the probable means to the questionable end. We can see little advantage in our being Goliath. Besides having that much more anatomy to harbor aches and pains think of the cost of buying silk stockings for the legs of our ten foot women.

The announcement that Judge H. Walton Mitchell is to retire from the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania State College is far from pleasant news to the friends of the Centre county institution of learning. While there have been many men who have given devoted and intelligent service to it as trustees, sacrifices in time and thought that is only compensated for by the consciousness of having done something well for their fellows, here has been but one other whose service was just the ceaseless, constructive, loving devotion that has characterized that of Judge Mitchell. He is a man who writes his name high as Beaver and Mitchell should be engraved on the scroll of unselfish service as a trustee of the Pennsylvania State College.

If Governor Fisher signs the judge's salary raiser bill, that passed his recent session of the General Assembly, Judge Fleming will get two thousand dollars a year more than he salary of the office was when he voluntarily sought it and achieved almost the pinnacle of a lawyer's ambition when he won the honor. It is needless to say that Judge Fleming can't be a two cents better Judge at even thousand per year than he would have been at five. It is needless, also, to say that the voters of Centre county would have seen themselves in h— before they have heard of the Judge a gratuity of two grand. Be that as it may, if the Governor signs the bill, we believe that our own Judge is and will be quite as deserving of the increased emolument as any of the eminent jurists who race the bench in Pennsylvania.

We'd like to say something nice to the Pennsylvania Railroad company because it is giving a dinner to old Rube Freeman at the Bellevue-Stratford, in Philadelphia, tomorrow night, but we're not quite in the superlative mood that is Rube's desert. The greatest railroad system in the world is necessarily an impersonal corporation and that is the reason stockholders will never know that the value there is in their holdings was put there by the Rube Freeman who, fifty years ago, were giving them a present day president's worth of loyal service at a track-walker's wages. Doubtless it will be proper testimonial to a deserving employe, but the guest of honor will not get the real heart thrill out of that he would if all the old gang—Lowland, Baird, Wilson, Anderson, Hibbs, Farrell and the rest of us could have just one more apple blossom party at the Nittany country club.

Like Banquo's ghost in Macbeth that sugar bowl that Anthony Latens is credited with having pilfered from Gen. Robert E. Lee's tent at Appomattox, has turned up again. This time it appears nestling in the arms of seventy-nine year old James Hils, who was with Lee at Appomattox, but was evidently so guileless that he never thought that while Grant was taking the Confederate leader's sword Anthony might also be "snitchin" his sugar containing the Kiwanians at Morganfield, Va., when his photograph was taken for reproduction in one of the papers of that city. That's how we saw the sugar bowl again, for he was holding it tenderly and memories of the sad days, sixty-four years ago, were doubtless flitting through his mind. Dave Kelly owns the sugar bowl now and he's the fellow, beyond doubt, who sent us the Silks picture, or he just loves to rub it in on us. We owned the bowl several times, but not at the right one. Anthony had the habit of presenting it to his various friends as preparation for a "touch" of several dollars. It was sort of an Indian gift, for a few weeks later he would call and get it back on the pretext that he wanted to show it to someone who had never seen it and didn't believe he had it. Well, it happened that Anthony died a few days after he made the last presentation of it is trophy and it stuck with Dave. If its number had been up four weeks sooner, he wouldn't have done that last rendezvous with D. J., and we would have had the sugar bowl among our curios.

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New Rift in the Republican Machine.

Another and a very significant rift in the Republican party of Pennsylvania is shown in the announced purpose of Auditor General elect Waters to appoint Samuel S. Lewis a special auditor general after his term as State Treasurer expires. This is a new office and will convey to its occupant large powers. Mr. Lewis will have "close supervision of all branches of the State government" with no responsibility to the Governor. It is said that Mr. Grundy is responsible for the appointment and that one of the purposes in mind in the selection was to keep Lewis before the public as a candidate for Governor next year. This will cause a serious disturbance in the minds of Mellon and Fisher.

When it was determined, for political reasons, to create the Department of Revenue, Mr. Lewis, then in the sunlight of machine favor, was practically agreed upon as the Secretary. But his attitude on the gasoline gas tax so incensed Mellon and Fisher that they set out to destroy him. Mr. Grundy has always been his "backer" in political enterprises but for one reason or another he refused to take part in the gas tax fight. It is generally believed that a word from him at the psychological moment would have turned the tide against that unpopular measure. But he refrained from uttering the word. The most diligent effort on both sides of the contest failed to get him to "open his mouth."

As conditions appear now, though Lewis was defeated on the gas tax by a sinister combination of the forces of the administration and the Vane machine, he is very much "ahead of the game." Popular resentment against this unnecessary burden upon the consumers of gasoline is increasing and crystallizing in all sections of the State, and by common consent Mr. Lewis is recognized as the militant and capable champion of the cause it represents. With the opportunities this new appointment will afford him to keep in the line light, and the potential influence of Grundy behind him, he stands in position to defy the Mellon organization and the Fisher administration. We are likely to see some surprising developments.

Governor Fisher's alibi on the coal and iron police bill is about as absurd as it is futile.

Hoover Threatens a Veto.

In a letter addressed to Senator McNary, of Oregon, President Hoover has expressed a deep-seated opposition to the "debenture" feature of the farm relief legislation now pending in the Senate. "I am convinced," he declares, "that it would bring disaster to the American farmer." In this opinion Secretary of the treasury Mellon, Secretary of Commerce Lamont and Secretary of Agriculture Hyde fully concur, and it may be accepted as official notice that unless the provision is eliminated the bill will be vetoed. This is an unusual incident in Congressional experience. But the President is an exceptional figure in American politics. Nobody knows exactly what he will do next on any question.

The debenture provision in the pending bill is a substitute for the equalization fee in the McNary-Haugen bill, which was twice vetoed and severely excoriated by President Coolidge. There is no very great difference either in the methods of dispensing the bonuses or distributing the prizes. But that may be said also, with equal accuracy, of the guarantee of profits to railroads, after they were restored to their owners, and of the subsidy granted to the ship corporation now selling booze on the ocean lanes between this country and Europe. But Mr. Hoover's heart, like that of his predecessors, melts at sight of corporate distress while it is indifferent to the sufferings of the farmer.

No doubt Secretary of the Treasury Mellon was in complete sympathy with the lamentation of the President in the McNary letter when he said "the foreign producer of animals would be able to purchase feed for less than the American producing the same animals." For instance, he continued, "the swine growers in Ontario would be able to purchase American corn for less than the American farmer across the border and it would tend to transfer the production of pork products for export to Europe from the United States to Canada." It is a matter of record that the plate glass monopoly which the Mellon family controls, offers and sells its products in Canada for fifteen per cent. less than it charges consumers in this country.

Base Betrayal of Faith.

Governor Fisher hadn't the heart to make trouble for the Pittsburgh Coal company, a corporation largely owned and controlled by the Mellon family. A few months ago thugs employed by that corporation, under the law creating the coal and iron police, committed a most atrocious murder. The Governor pretended to be intensely indignant at the outrage and declared it the duty of the General Assembly to make a recurrence of such a crime impossible. The viciousness of such a police organization, he said, "consists in the surrender by the State into private hands of police powers. These powers," he added, "ought to be jealously guarded by the State and exercised only under its jurisdiction."

This courageous attitude was cordially approved by the press and people of Pennsylvania. It was hailed as the beginning of the end of a condition which had frequently, during a long period of time, brought shame upon the people and disgrace to the State. It resulted in the preparation of legislation which might accomplish the result. But the corporations were not willing to relinquish a power which had so completely served their sinister purposes. They had another bill presented that was less drastic. It made provision for some improvement in the force but omitted the feature essential to efficiency. Both measures were adopted and Governor Fisher approved the defective one.

This betrayal of faith to the people was made possible by a system of legislation adopted by the General Assembly for the first time in the history of parliamentary practice. Two measures purporting to accomplish the same result are enacted and the Governor is given the authority to choose between them. In the coal tax repeal matter the same servile surrender of power was made and probably with the same result. The interest of the corporations will be served and those of the people "may go hang." But the possibilities of evil are not so great in the tax matter. There is no question of life and death involved in it. But the shameful servility to the party boss is revealed in both cases.

President Hoover, in an address before the Associated Press, the other evening, declared that the "wave of crime must be checked." Several other persons have said the same thing but probably less ponderously.

Tariff Tax on Peanuts.

It is interesting to learn that the tariff-mongers of the country have finally awakened to the fact that the peanut has not received that measure of consideration by the tariff thinkers of Congress which its importance as an agricultural product deserves. As a correspondent of the New York Times states, most of us regard it as "a tidbit to be bought, roasted or salted, from the pushcart on the corner or the neighborhood grocery store." As a matter of fact, however, the peanut has become an important article of commerce in Virginia and the Carolinas where the choicest specimens of the fruit are produced.

During the recent Presidential campaign one of the many biographers of the Republican candidate referred to Mr. Hoover's fondness for peanuts and conveyed to an eager public the information that his midday lunch was frequently limited to a five-cent bag of peanuts. That being the case it is small wonder that many Senators and Representatives in the new Congress, anxious for a full share of the patronage at his disposal, should hasten to manifest their admiration for him by dignifying his favorite food with a place in the tariff schedules. Mr. Hoover would be a hard-recognized man, indeed, if he did not recognize this gesture as a personal compliment.

Then there is another consideration which has a potent influence on the mind of the average tariff-monger and may have something to do with the movement to put a tariff tax on imported peanuts. That is the objection that everything ought to be tariff-taxed. It is known that every dollar of tariff taxation costs the consumers of the country five dollars or more, and still the tariff mongers insist on tariff taxes. In the case of the peanut there may be some importations from the Orient which come into competition with the domestic product. But the motive is not so much protection as it is taxation.

Don't be too hard on the Governor. He's simply doing his best to obey orders of Mellon and Grundy.

President Hoover's Message.

In his first annual message to Congress President Hoover has justified his recently acquired reputation as a practical politician. The greater part of it is given to the discussion of farm relief, which he frankly admits is a vital problem, but he recommends no remedy for the evil. "Some of the forces working to the detriment of agriculture," he says, "can be greatly mitigated by improving our water way transportation, some by readjustment of the tariff, some by better understanding and adjustment of production needs and some by improving the methods of marketing." He acknowledges the obligation of the administration and with the sangfroid of a ward heeler "passes the buck."

During the campaign, in his speeches and by private agreement with Senator Borah, Mr. Hoover substantially declared that he had a plan for farm relief. Under that pretense Mr. Borah sold Hoover to the farmers of the middle west. The message to Congress conveys no indication of such a plan. It states that Mr. Hoover "has long held that the multiplicity of causes of agricultural depression could only be met by the creation of a great instrumentality clothed with sufficient authority and resources to assist the farmers to meet these problems." This, he conceives, should be a "revolving fund" of half a billion dollars to be paid to the farmers in the ratio of surplus product remaining on their hands.

The difference between this project and the "equalization fee" in the McNary-Haugen bill, twice vetoed by President Coolidge, is that the equalization fee was to be charged against the farmers who received it and the revolving fund is to be kept revolving by taxing the farmers and everybody else. Mr. Hoover shared all Mr. Coolidge's antipathy to the equalization fee but is entirely willing to register approval of the precisely similar method of reimbursing the farmers for losses incurred by the failure to market their crops. Measuring Mr. Hoover by this expression of inconsistency it will be hazardous to predict the beneficent administration the people of the country hope for.

Two appropriation bills for maintenance and new buildings for the Pennsylvania State College were passed by the General Assembly in its closing sessions last week and await the signature of Governor John S. Fisher. They total \$6,311,000 and include \$2,250,000 for buildings, and are in accordance with the Governor's budget. Final action by the Governor is to come within thirty days of the closing of the legislative session. Funds are for the college use in the next two years. The general college appropriation measure, in addition to the buildings item, would provide \$300,000 for agricultural research; \$650,000 for agricultural and home economics extension; \$711,000 for a deficit, and \$2,350,000 for general college maintenance. A separate bill would provide \$50,000 for oil research. Had the proposed State College bond issue passed last November \$2,000,000 would have been available for college buildings in the coming two year period.

A parasitic fly and grubs in the head are now being blamed for the big mortality rate among the deer herd in Clearfield county. This decision is the result of investigations made by Dr. Norman W. Stewart, of Bucknell University, and Professors Anthony and Overholt, of State College. They claim the flies lay their eggs in the deer's nostrils and as the grubs hatch out they make their way up the nostrils to the brain with the result that the animal dies within a few days. Just why the fly has invaded Clearfield county and no other section in Pennsylvania has not been explained.

We've got to get some short paragraphs into this column pretty soon and we haven't a thought that might produce one unless it might be to say that the last report of Andy McNitt was to the effect that he is in Philadelphia. But whose affair is that? When Andy comes home he'll be perfectly justified in saying: "What business of yours was it where I went and how long I stayed?"

Rev. Wardner W. Willard, who will be remembered by friends in this town of his boyhood, had quite a surprise waiting for him at Camp Hill when he returned to his church there from the recent Methodist Conference. A great reception was given in his honor and he found a new automobile in his garage when he arrived home. It was a surprise from his congregation.

Holy Cross Debaters Win From Penn State.

A fine audience assembled in the court house here, last Thursday night, to hear the young men representing Holy Cross college and representatives of Penn State debate on the question "that the jury system for criminal cases in the United States should be abolished."

Holy Cross had the affirmative and, consequently, the unpopular side of the question. Her advocates, however, were young men naturally endowed with unusual forensic power and aside from the merits of their presentation, might have swayed any jury on form alone.

In Messrs. Sweeney, Caroll and O'Rourke the college in Massachusetts, might be giving to the world another Dan Dougherty, Henry Grady and Bourke Cochrane.

The Penn State debaters, Jack R. Richards, L. Neil Keller and Kenneth Hood, made the negative argument very effectively, but seemed to weaken it through lack of consistency in driving home the sustaining points in the case.

It was a very interesting and profitable evening's entertainment. Kiwanis sponsored it and the committee in charge comprised L. C. Heinemann, James R. Hughes, Clarence E. Williams, Cecil A. Walker and Charles F. Mensch.

The judges were Rev. Stuart S. Mast, Prof. George Reiter and Headmaster Jas. R. Hughes, of the Academy.

West Penn Improving Service at State College.

Announcement is made today by K. G. Fuller, manager of the Keystone division of the West Penn Power Company, that improvements to the electric distribution system in State College are to begin immediately. This work represents a considerable expenditure. It is, however, only the first step in what is to be a comprehensive program of electric service betterment for that community.

This reconstruction work includes the reinforcement of lines, increasing the number of transformers and a general overhauling and reconditioning of the distribution system within the borough.

State College will benefit immediately as a result of this work by receiving better service. This program of improvements also provides additional facilities to meet the increasing local requirements for electric service. Some of the borough streets will be improved in appearance because of joint use of a number of poles by the telephone company and the West Penn.

Fifteen Applications Apply for Naturalization.

Six foreign nationalities are represented in the fifteen applicants for citizenship papers at the regular term of naturalization court to be held in Bellefonte on Monday, June 17th. The list, with the country of their nativity and present residence, is as follows:

- Mike Santelli, Italy, Spring township.
- Alexander S. Buchan, Scotland, State College.
- Svend Pedersen, Denmark, State College.
- John Fetsek, Austria, Philipsburg.
- Pete Gardish, Austrian, Rush township.
- Thomas Andras, Austrian, Rush township.
- Anthony Pokalicki, Austrian, Rush township.
- Mike Sura, Austrian, Rush township.
- Andras Szap, Austrian, Rush township.
- Ernest Lauterbok, Austrian, Rush township.
- Max Finberg, Russian, Philipsburg.
- Albert Hein, Russian, Rush township.
- Gustave Krebs, Russian, Rush township.
- Kurt Mahnke, German, Bellefonte.
- Clara Geier Mahnke, Germany, Bellefonte.

The Pennsylvania General Transit company, a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, has filed an application with the State Public Service Commission for a certificate of public convenience to operate a bus line between Philipsburg and Bellefonte. At the present time it is impossible to make a round trip by train between Philipsburg and the county seat in less than two days, while by automobile or motor bus it is only a two hours trip one way.

Harry Sinclair is on his way and destination is fixed. Tom Cunningham is next on the waiting list.

The South has adopted protective tariff as a policy and inherited labor troubles as a consequence.

The frequent earth shocks in Italy may be attributed to the meanderings of Mussolini.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Peter Scaries, 24, was electrocuted on Sunday when he attempted to pick up a high voltage wire which broke and fell in front of his home.

Despondent over the death of his wife several weeks ago, Joseph Zink, 55, of Pittsburgh, committed suicide at his home, on Monday, by shooting himself through the head.

Work has been resumed on the new State highway at the recently erected bridge across Bald Eagle creek between Mill Hall and Beech Creek on Route No. 64. The highway has been relocated at that point, eliminating several dangerous curves and carrying the road out of danger from floods.

Jay Cook, III, of Philadelphia, and a party of friends are at Ogontz Lodge, near Salladasburg. While en route there Mr. Cooke announced that he expected President Hoover to be a guest at the lodge before July 31. Last summer Mr. Hoover did some fishing in the Ogontz and nearby waters.

The body of a man found lodged against a rock in the Susquehanna river near Lancaster, has been partially identified as Charles Urban, of Lancaster. A receipt carried in a pocket of the man's clothing contained the name but the body is so badly decomposed that positive identification is difficult.

Operations have been resumed at the plant of the Mill Hall Brick company after a period of idleness. Richard W. Kintzing, of Lock Haven, formerly employed by the Pennsylvania Woven Wire company, has replaced A. C. Tevling as manager of the plant, following the latter's resignation after twenty-five years of service in that capacity.

John Herack, borough ordinance officer at Homestead, arrested himself last week for violating an ordinance following a collision between his car and that of Richard Simon. Herack also released himself in \$15 bond pending a hearing. Herack arrested Simon, as well. Herack claimed Simon backed his car into the Herack machine and Simon charged Herack ran into him.

Mrs. Anna Soech, 46, of Titusville, was fatally burned, on Monday, when a can of crude oil with which she was starting a fire in a kitchen stove exploded. Tony Meller, a boarder, was badly burned in an effort to rescue her, and Mary Soech, 13, a daughter of the woman burned, was injured in jumping from a second story window. She is in a hospital. The house was badly damaged by fire.

Harold Pifer was in a barber chair at Berwick, last Friday and asked Donald Bower for a match. Bower lighted the match and then turned to speak to another man before applying it to the cigar. It brushed Pifer's head, to which tonic had been applied, and his hair flamed up. Pifer smothered the flames with his hands and a towel before his hair was more than singed, but his hands were burned.

Silverware valued at \$3000, stolen from the attorney Isiah Schoelme home, at Hollidaysburg, as the family was wintering in Florida, was uncovered last Friday, police digging up thirty-eight pieces buried in a swamp on the Blairmont golf links. Francis Riley, J. A. Radel and George Dobbs, arrested for a store robbery last week, confessed to the burglary, leading police to the spot where the loot was hidden.

Deputy Constable John Edmondson, of Pittsburgh, did a favor for a lady and was arrested for his kindness. Last month he arrested T. R. Roberts on a warrant charging non-support. Roberts' wife, at that time, asked Edmondson to move Roberts' automobile from one garage to another a block away. Roberts swore out a warrant charging the constable with driving an automobile without the owner's consent. Arrested on Monday, Edmondson was released on his own recognizance for a hearing.

A large stable on the Hanover Shoe farm at Hanover, York county, where trotting horses are bred, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire late Sunday afternoon. Twenty-two valuable harness and colts housed in the stable at the farm are Peter Manning, world's champion trotter, and Guy McKinney, winner of Hambletonian stakes in 1927, who has been retired from competition to be used for breeding purposes. The farm is owned by Shepherd and Myers, prominent Hanover manufacturers.

While running up a total of 420,000 miles of highway patrolled in February, State highway patrolmen aided in recovery of 55 stolen automobiles, Benjamin C. Eynon, registrar of Motor Vehicles of the Pennsylvania Department of Highways, reports. State police, private detective organizations and record clerks of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles played important parts in restoring the vehicles, valued at \$30,175, to owners in 32 cities and towns of Pennsylvania and in eight States. The biggest haul made by the thieves was valued at \$2,500 while the poorest was a coupe valued at \$50.

Supposedly dead after hanging himself Harry Kellar, 17, of near Indiana, was revived by a farmer who found the lad hanging from a rafter in his barn. Edward Smith, the farmer, said he found Kellar suspended from the rafter with a rope about his neck. Smith cut him down, placed him in his automobile and started for an undertaker's place at Brookville. Enroute he noticed that Kellar's eyes opened. He stimulated circulation and revived the boy who later was lodged in the county jail. Kellar told authorities that he left his home because his stepfather mistreated him.

The body of a man, believed to be that of an aviator whose plane was reported to have fallen into Lake Erie a week ago, was found, on Sunday along the lake beach 10 miles from Erie. Efforts are being made to identify the body. Saturday, April 13, a man who declined to give his name called an Erie newspaper office and said he saw a flaming plane drop into the lake shortly before midnight. Search by coast guardsmen and others the next day failed to reveal any trace of wreckage or bodies. The body was found on Sunday by Roy Stark and his son, Raymond Stark. They notified Coronar Daniel Hanley, who took charge of it. The man wore a helmet and a heavy blue sweater. Both arms were tattooed and the initial "C" was on his belt.