

—Everybody except the contestant has grown tired of airship contests of various kinds.

—Let us hope that all the ain we ought to have had during the last six weeks is not being saved up to douse the Grangers with when they go into their encampment at Centre fall next week.

—The new moon is lying further in the southern heavens than we have seen it for many years. If that means continued warm weather, well and good. If it means continuation of the drought—not so good.

—We're only interested in the fight favor Mackey and his gang are making on the Vare organization in Philadelphia because we think the favor ought to be given a chance to show wherein his political wares differ from those of the boss who made him.

—The latest announcement from the Hague is to the effect that "The owners" are to quit the Rhine by Christmas time. What Christmas, the dispatches fail to designate. Probably it's the Christmas time that Henry Ford's peace ship was going to get the boys out of the trenches.

—William Feather says "the hardest thing in the world is to find a ten thousand dollar job for a forty-five hundred dollar man." William's philosophy is usually very straight but his way off this time. Lots of dirty cents an hour men can get in ten thousand dollar jobs as long as their dads have enough money to finance the corporation that gives them them.

—When councilman Cunningham heard of the earthquake the first thing he thought of was the Big Bang and away to the source of the water supply he flew. His concern was fear lest while Earth was reshuffling her limestone ribs some of them might have cracked and made an opening large enough to lead our water in another direction. And just that could happen, but it didn't.

—Reports from the President's week-end fishing camp in the mountains of Virginia are to the effect that he rolls fifty-pound rocks around handily as the average idler otheates nostril pills. Making trout for the trout is very commendable occupation for the President on turday, but he'd better get busy Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays making rain out of the potatoes and corn or he won't be anything to fill his dams except the damns of the gillies who say that Hubert Hoover, or any other man, can ever change the weather.

—According to the seismographs the scientists Centre county was the center of an earthquake on Monday morning. Hurrah for Centre county! Since 1800 she's been the center of most everything, but we've been terribly handicapped because in those years we have never had an earthquake to brag about. Earthquakes are not like Governors and trout. We make the latter, but we've nothing to do with the intestinal indigestion that old Mother Earth gets every once in a while; using the gases that start the internal rumblings. If we had we'd have had an earthquake to brag about with pride to years ago. It is rather embarrassing situation, too, like the whole scientific world was waiting to Bellefonte as the home of the latest terrestrial upheaval ordered Order of Town Boosters were sending sheepish because they had seen a trick. Only one man in the community admits that he felt a nor. With all due respect to his spicacity and veracity we believe he would never have thought he felt a tremor had there been no announcement in the evening papers, of Monday, of the fact that there had been an earthquake. We've at this conclusion because of gentleman's reaction to the seismic disturbance. As we have said, community had never had an earthquake before and it seems to us when a man's bed would get to quaking and the pictures on the wall doing the "Varsity drag" he'd come to one of two conclusions: Either, that was awful "moonshine" I drank last night or something is happening that never happened before and I'd better start praying. We know that he didn't drink "moonshine" the night before. He didn't say anything about praying in he told us of his experience in such an unassuming sensation one's first earthquake, so we believe that he really didn't know anyone about the cataclysm than any the rest of us did. However, we all imagine we felt it and if we list in imagining hard enough it'd be long until we're all positive we did feel it and; Then! Gosh, will have added another to Centre county's many claims to a large place on the map.

—Talking about being on the map, nobody in this or any other community ever doubted that Centre county and Bellefonte were there the bells on until about ten years ago. Then everyone who built a dog stand claimed a niche in the local immortality because he was the only building it to put Bellefonte on the map.

—The purpose which influenced Mrs. Willebrandt to expose the responsibility for injecting religious intolerance into the campaign of last year is a matter of conjecture. By many thoughtful persons it is believed that she would like to "alter the public's conception of herself." She is no longer on the payroll of the government and must look to popular favor for maintenance. Her speeches during the campaign plainly inviting the union of church and state, provoked widespread opposition and indignation and possibly she now believes that it militates against her success in her professional aspirations. Others imagine that she is resentful at the manner in which she was separated from office.

—In any event her exposure has created a good deal of excitement and some apprehension among the politicians who profited by her speeches. At the time of their delivery Mr. Hoover repeatedly declared he had no sympathy with that method of campaigning and Hubert Work, chairman of the Republican National committee, openly professed abhorrence of such campaign policy. But Mrs. Willebrandt now plainly asserts that they were responsible for her actions and utterances and not only edited but cordially approved her manuscripts. In other words they inspired the policy of inflaming religious prejudices to influence partisan results and subsequently concealed themselves behind Mrs. Willebrandt's skirts.

—Mrs. Willebrandt's statement that a large sum of money accumulated through collusion between the Pennsylvania Republican machine and the criminals engaged in violation of the prohibition law was discovered after the death of a political leader is comparatively unimportant. The fact that a Republican Congressman and a number of prosecuting officials have been in league with the bootleggers is insignificant. But the fact fully established by Mrs. Willebrandt's "confession" that the President of the United States and the official head of the Republican party, Hubert Work, chairman of the National committee, not only tolerated but encouraged the bigotry of the last campaign, is a matter of grave concern.

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Vare's Vanishing Ambition.

The Republican leaders in Washington have become weary in bolstering up the absurd claim that William S. Vare was honestly elected Senator in Congress by the people of Pennsylvania. No longer able to impose upon popular credulity, on the pretense of physical infirmity, and realizing that the Senate is morally bound to dispose of the case against him, he recently asked Senator Reed of Pittsburgh, and Senator Watson, of Indiana, to join him in conference to devise means for his defense. Senator Watson is the floor leader of his party in the Senate and Senator Reed is representative of the party for Pennsylvania and has stood the brunt of the battle for Vare thus far.

Both of these influential Republicans declined the invitation to "talk things over." They have taken the measure of public sentiment in Pennsylvania and arrived at the opinion that there is nothing to talk about that can possibly justify further contention that Vare is entitled to the seat he purchased. It also appears that the President acknowledges no obligation to Mr. Vare that would require his intervention in the Senatorial contest. His trick on Mellon was an important gesture. It didn't contribute an atom to the Hoover strength in the Kansas City convention. It only added to Vare's self-conceit and arrogance and laid lines of enmity in the mind of Andy Mellon.

With these developments in Washington and a formidable revolt organized against his machine in Philadelphia the immediate future of the whilom boss is not promising. It is expected that soon after the assembling of the Senate, next week, a motion to accept the report of the Slush Fund committee will be made and carried by a substantial majority. That report declared that Vare was not legally elected and is not entitled to a seat in the Senate. It is a sad story but a just ending of a preposterous ambition. It may also serve as an admonition to others who have no qualification for important public office, other than great wealth, and there are many men of that type.

Bishop Cannon Justly Defeated.

There is something more than political significance in the overwhelming defeat of Bishop Cannon's bunch of mercenaries in the Virginia primary election last week. It implies a sharp and richly deserved rebuke to an arrant religio-political bigot who had endeavored to betray the people who had honored him beyond his merits into the hands of their political enemies for his own profit and aggrandizement. In the recent campaign he became the mouth-piece of an intolerant group which injected bigotry into the reckoning and deceived them by willful and malicious falsehoods. Since then he has been striving to perpetuate his leadership of a faction by equally unethical methods.

Recently Bishop Cannon formed a sort of "plunderbund" with Bascom Stemp, an office broker by profession and a Republican leader, in defiance of every principle of decency. Cannon engaged to secure the nomination of a recreant as the Democratic candidate for Governor and Stemp is said to have promised that the Republican party would endorse and support him at the election in November. The administration at Washington contributed both moral and material support to this unholy alliance and an unusually active campaign ensued. The primary was held last week and the plunderbund aggregation was defeated so badly that it has already practically disintegrated. It is said that Cannon has left the State.

But no matter where he finds a habitation he will be shunned by all men and women who have respect for good citizenship. During the World War the government found it necessary to prohibit large accumulations of food stuffs by individuals. Ignoring this humane order Bishop Cannon purchased and stored several hundred barrels of flour and appropriated the profits of his nefarious enterprise to his own use. Preaching against gambling in stocks he secretly gambled in "bucket shops," and when his operations were discovered by an insolvency he tried to justify himself by declaring that gambling in stocks is no greater evil than buying and selling real estate for profit. Out upon such hypocrisy.

—Professor Gregory, famous London economist, says the Smoot tariff bill will "put a nail in the coffin of European reconstruction." In accomplishing that it will put a knife in the heart of American prosperity.

Tariff Bill to be Delayed.

It seems that the Republican majority in the Senate will not be ready to begin consideration of the tariff bill when that body reassembles next Monday. The farmers of the country are not willing to accept a tax on sweet milk and a levy on peanuts as fulfillment of the promise to put agriculture on a parity with manufactures in dispensing the benefits of tariff legislation, and chairman Smoot, of the Senate Committee on Finance, wants more time to hypnotize them. Accordingly it has been arranged to dilly-dally for several weeks. This can be done by interspersing two or three day recesses between sessions.

The Republican members of the Finance committee of the Senate have been considering the measure in secret sessions since the adjournment of Congress on the 4th of March, under the supervision of Joe Grundy and a few other tariff-mongers. A majority of even the Republican Senators favor such legislation as will guarantee moderate rate increases. But the big contributors to the campaign fund of last year demand speedy reimbursement, and prohibitive tariff taxation is the only way of accomplishing that result. The bill, as framed, is certain to be defeated, and its sponsors are sparing for time to reconcile the tariff-mongers to their disappointment.

There is no need for increasing the tariff tax rates at this time, and there is no justification for organizing a trade-war with all the commercial nations of the world at any time. The administration and the Republican leaders of the country profess to want universal peace and they are pursuing a course which will make world-wide war practically inevitable. Nothing so directly leads to war as unfair treatment in commerce, and a tariff system which excludes the products of other industrial and commercial nations from fair competition in markets is certain to provoke enmities that will lead to war.

—The "sliding scale" on sugar may serve as a toboggan for the tariff bill for this season, at least.

Vare Machine Tottering.

In utter contempt of Mayor Mackey's protest Boss Vare has named the candidates of the Republican party in Philadelphia for all the "row offices." He has placed upon the slate Mr. Hadley, for controller, but not because of the Mayor's preference for that gentleman. He accepted Hadley because he knew that failure to do so would wreck his machine and Mackey favored him for the same reason. There is nothing in common between these political pirates and a man of Hadley's type except detestation on one side and fear on the other. Hadley openly flouted Vare and has frequently snubbed Mackey. But the decent voters of all parties admire him and they are afraid to fight him.

The purpose of Mayor Mackey's recent expression of independence was to force Vare to put one of Mackey's cronies on the ticket for an important and lucrative office. If Vare had been in the least afraid of the Mayor's veiled threats of revolt, he would have yielded to that demand, for like most political bosses he is a moral coward. But he knew there is nothing to fear from that source. Since Vare elevated him to the office of Mayor of Philadelphia Mackey imagines that he is a leader. The people have his measure, however, and he feels nobody, least of all Vare. He is simply a servile follower of the machine masters ready to promise anything and perform nothing.

The people of Philadelphia have a great opportunity at this time to perform a good service for the city. The Vare machine is on the verge of disintegration and a good, hard shove would demolish it. There are plenty of honest and fair-minded voters in the city to accomplish this result if they go about it in the right way. But following the leadership of disappointed political hacks is not the right way. Mackey is no better than Vare and the defeat of Vare to enthrone Mackey will be "jumping out of the frying pan into the fire." Select leaders who have character and courage and vote for candidates who will serve the city rather than the machine. That will turn the trick.

—Congress will be asked to pass a law forbidding armen from dropping lighted cigarettes from their ships as a precaution against forest fires.

Bellefonte Reported in Earthquake Limeright.

The old saw that "you can't keep a good man down," evidently applies to towns as well, and Bellefonte is up towards the head of the class in this respect. There is always something happening here to keep the "Home of Governors" in the limelight and this week it was an earthquake, which experts of the United States government maintained "centered near Bellefonte" at an early hour on Monday morning.

The quake, according to news dispatches, was perceptibly noticeable by residents in towns through the northern section of Pennsylvania and southern New York. In fact people living in Punxsutawney and at Clearfield aver that they felt the tremor of old Mother Earth. The disturbance took place at 6:30 o'clock in the morning, and though the writer of this article was up and around he failed to notice anything unusual. But James H. Potter, of the Potter-Hoy Hardware company, avers that he felt "a very distinct tremor of his bed at the time of the reported quake.

The operator on duty at the wireless station at the Bellefonte aviation field said that he didn't notice anything unusual on Monday morning, but stated that he heard a low, rumbling sound at noon which he had not been able to account for.

So there's the situation in a nutshell. Experts say we had an earthquake and whether we knew it or not makes little difference.

—Philadelphia is searching for a "new spending plan." If the voters would "turn the rascals out," they would discover an efficient new efficient saving plan.

—Our esteemed friends, the Athletics, are still in good position but the activities of the Yankees are warning to "mind your step."

The Census Inquisition.

From the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Personal questions of the type that end friendships when asked in ordinary life will feature the 1930 census, although the advisory committee of experts now at work in Washington devising the queries have done no little eliminating of proposals and even of queries propounded in other decennials. The information wanted is pertinent and the compilations when made will be decidedly useful.

The facts are those which people wish to know about others, even if they are backward about declaring themselves. The coming census will tell "Who's Who" and "What's What" as well. A main endeavor may be to classify families according to incomes, but this will not reach the embarrassing stage. The bracket system will be used, in the present form of the proposal. It is suggested that persons be grouped as to incomes over \$2,500; between \$2,000 and \$2,500; between \$1,500 and \$2,000, grading down to the group below \$500. Another proposed question deals with the rent paid. An old question eliminated will be that of mother tongue in the case of foreign born. Another elimination is the year of naturalization, although each foreign-born will still declare whether he is naturalized, has taken out first papers or is still an alien. A literacy question of some type will be retained; it may merely indicate ability to read and write.

The committee showed that extraordinary effort will be made to obtain accurate information. A correspondence school for supervisors and enumerators will make certain that those entrusted with the counting will be versed in the work. A close economic view of the country is the object and the study being made by the experts insures that this will be the result. To count and classify a hundred and twenty millions requires a degree of system seldom attained in human affairs. This can be reached only by long and careful planning.

Small or Large Farms.

From the Pittsburgh Press. Six million small manufacturing plants competing against each other would probably solve some of their problems by merging.

The six million farms of the country cannot do that, says Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, in a speech before the American Institute of Cooperation.

One reason why they cannot is because the country wishes to preserve its individual farms.

"The one-family farm is a valuable social unit. Its independence must be maintained," says Hyde. This is true, of course.

But here is something else interesting. Purely from a financial viewpoint alone, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce has been making a survey to see if large-scale farming is more successful than small-scale.

The large-scale farm can make its labor specialize more, can buy and sell in larger quantities to financial advantage, and if the weather would just cooperate, it could make more efficient use of machinery.

But the large-scale farm cannot meet the small-scale farm in what may be called the human elements. Its labor has no personal interests. There is no heart in the work.

When everything is weighed and analyzed, it is found that the small-scale farm makes just as much money as the large-scale, proportionately.

Hence there would seem to be no adequate reason for looking forward to a time when we would do our farming wholesale.

Farming calls for different organization methods than does industry. The only type of merging being advanced by the leaders today narrows down to membership in co-operatives.

Refuge in the Air.

From the Philadelphia Record. When Red Jackson and Forrest O'Brien passed all former records for keeping a plane aloft through aerial refueling and started blithely adding hours, literally by the dozen, to the old figures, the thrill of mark-smashing lost its edge, and as the marvel grew, for the professionals, it was replaced in our minds with a much simpler reaction.

It was cool up there. Domestic troubles could not reach them. Bill collectors had to cross them off the list. Business worries ceased to be. All those boys had to do was to sail along through the air, keeping fellowship with the clouds, while mundane toilers, far below, continued to be chained to the wheel of life's dull routine.

The flight has of course its scientific and technical value. It contributes to the progress of man's conquest of the air. But how it does appeal to the imagination of those pagan creatures who yearn for absolute freedom!

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Trapping instructors of the State Game Commission, during the last month, have removed beaver from Centre, Potter, Union, Clearfield, Columbia and Snyder counties to localities where the busy little animals will not cause damage.

—Since August 1, fifteen carloads of apples have been shipped by the Franklin county orchardists, most of them going to Nashville, Pittsburgh and Indianapolis, while others were sent to various vicinities. According to the growers the crop is of better quality and larger than that of last year.

—Found on a pile of pig iron at the Berks Foundry and Machine company plant, at Watsonown, on Friday, George C. Gold, 52, of McEvensville, is believed to have been electrocuted. He clutched a piece of wire in his right hand and there was a burn over the heart. The wire led to a motor-operated trailer.

—The machinery of the North Bend plant of the American Refractories company is being moved to the Lock Haven plant where it will be installed to meet the needs of the company. The North Bend plant has not been in operation since August 1, and the brick on hand when it was closed are being transported to the Lock Haven plant.

—Enraged at the high cost of operating his automobile, Hiram Mervine, 62, of Ashland, Pa., used a saw to cut through four tires on the machine in his garage. He then took a sledge hammer, smashed the radiator and dented the body. Finally he took a rope and hanged himself from a rafter of the garage. When his wife went to call him for supper she found him dead, hanging beside the smashed machine.

—The Renovo-Snow Shoe road by way of Hall's Run is now being used by motorists. The road has been well graded and is wide enough for comfortable travel. Work on this route, which passes through the Sprout Forest district, was begun in August of last year, when \$25,000 was allotted for the project. The road is a short cut from Renovo to Snow Shoe, Bellefonte and Clearfield and will prove a great convenience to many motorists.

—Refused a purchase of a revolver, with which he intended to take his life, Otto Phillips, of Punxsutawney, entered a store at Homer City, bought a box of lye, mixed it with a bottle of pop and raised it to his mouth when Burgess William Blythe knocked the mixture from his hands. He is then said to have gone to another store and proceeded to mix a similar cocktail when constable A. I. Campbell arrived on the scene and stopped the second attempt.

—After reading a fiction story about a boy who killed himself by hanging in the bathroom of his home, Patsy Marletto, 14, of Sharon, tried it himself last Friday, with fatal result. The lad's mother said he told her two days ago about the boy in the story, and added that he had a notion to try it. The parent told him not to "try anything like that," and dismissed the incident. Friday, the father, Michael Marletto, found his son's body hanging by a towel in the bathroom.

—Charles C. Hartman, 56, who said he was a Greensburg (Pa.) minister, and a woman identified as Ethel Chapman, 42, of Pittsburgh, were arrested on Tuesday at a tourist camp near Erie. Hartman was held in connection with charges that he issued a bad check. Federal authorities were investigating reports that the couple had traveled together in Ohio and Pennsylvania for six weeks, according to the police. They had a ten weeks old child with them when arrested.

—Cow herds in Clearfield county, have been attacked by a malady which has resulted in the deaths of a number of valuable animals during the past week, and steps are being taken to prevent a general spread of the disease. Eleven of the blooded Holsteins in the herd of W. F. Moore, of Luthersburg, have already died from the malady, which has been identified by state experts as a hemorrhagic septicaemia, the same disease that played havoc among the deer herds of that region a year ago. State authorities will endeavor to stop the progress of the insidious disease through the use of a vaccine serum.

—When an oil derrick on the Pennsylvania Gas company lease about four miles from Kane caught fire, two leaseholders narrowly escaped cremation. The men are Andrew Wilkinson, driller, and Ralph Jones, tool dresser. The drill had reached the depth of 1100 feet when it hit sand. The men shot 60 quarts of nitro-glycerine into the well, but it had no effect in showing either gas or oil. They were just about to pull the tools away when oil and gas shot up in the air and shot up in flames. The wooden derrick, but the workmen were able to save most of the tools about the fire zone.

—Five thousand persons have resided in Montgomery county for fifty years or more, comprising the Fifty Year Club, held their fifth annual reunion and picnic yesterday, at Normandy farm, the estate of Ralph Beaver Strassburger, in the Gwynedd valley. This is the only organization of its kind in Pennsylvania and the one qualification for membership is the half century of residence in that county. Mr. Strassburger, 82, as host, provided an elaborate program of entertainment, including musical and vaudeville features and luncheon. The business session, at which officers were elected for the year, and the concerts, were held under an immense circus tent. Thomas V. Smith, of Norristown, president of the club, died during the year. The members range in age from 50 to 103 years.

—Worms in the apples or bugs in the lettuce had never occasioned any great alarm for Charley Gutilla, fruit dealer, in Pittsburgh, but when a baby boa constrictor shyly poked its head from a bunch of bananas, he became very indignant and left his store immediately to complain to the police, the board of health or whoever it is that takes care of such matters. Several customers accompanied him. In the street they met Dr. A. H. Jahn, a student of snakes, who had long bemoaned the fact that he had no little boa constrictor in his home. The doctor hastily accompanied the men to the store, enticed the little rascal into a cake box, and went happily home with his new found pet. The snake was four feet long and four inches in circumference. If allowed to reach maturity it will grow about a foot a year until it reaches a length of 18 feet.

—Read the Watchman for the news