

—What we would like to know is where the scullery maids on the Graf Zeppelin throw their dish water.

—A Shamokin printer was held up and shot by bandits on Monday night. All of which goes to show that bandits don't know that printer's have lots of things but money isn't one of them.

—A new mile stone has been set to mark the flight of time in this locality. Now, "before or after I saw the Zep" will take its place with "before the big wind in Ireland," "the Johnstown flood" and "the World war" as a basis for reckoning time.

—The entry of Edward Klinger in the contest for Republican nomination for tax collector of Bellefonte might, or might not, mean more than the belated announcement indicates. Mr. Kline is the gentleman who should worry about that, however. Doubtless he knows just what it means.

—Leaves are falling from the trees as though they had been nipped by a hard frost. There was a light frost in many parts of the county on Saturday morning, but the falling leaves are probably the consequence of the prolonged drouth, rather than of the frosts. We have had a frost very month thus far in 1929.

—Circling the globe in twelve days something that even the fanciful mind of Jules Verne didn't conceive; et that is practically what the Graf Zeppelin did. The thing that Dr. Hugo Eckner its pilot, did in selecting a course from Cleveland east that brought the great dirigible over Bellefonte dragged a lot of people out of bed earlier than they have ever been up before.

—Some are getting excited because they think they have discovered that Mayor Mackey, of Philadelphia, is sitting up his pins to be the next governor. Goodness me! The Mayor has been doing that for several years. We knew it the moment we began receiving releases of speeches he was scheduled to deliver. And, by the way, the Mayor is fully as well qualified as most of the men Pennsylvania has been in the habit of calling as Chief Executive.

—The Lindberghs were on our aviation field for twelve minutes last Sunday and apparently nobody knew for there wasn't any more common over the distinguished arrivals an there was over us when we raked, several weeks ago, at Fifth Avenue at Forty-second street. We wondered at the time why there was no fuss made over their arrival in New York. It certainly was an unusual event, but we presume New Yorkers didn't know any more about our being there than we do about the Lindberghs being here.

—The death of G. Washington Reesakened a lot of memories we cherish. Away back in the eighties, when came to town, our life was circumscribed by the environs of the old me on Cheap-side." Isaac Haupt ned and occupied everything west our line to Thomas street. The s now occupied by the Gray and k houses were his truck patch and their rear were a rambling lot of bles, ware-houses and a tin shop it were the haven through which boys of the neighborhood romped rainy days. The Haupts had a le of everything in those days: rses, cows, pigs, chickens, hound's, a tin shop and a cigar manufactory. In the latter we had our glimpse of G. Washington. He ne there to roll cigars. The pars of those days were not gold es in which their children had on dig. We knew nothing of parks, vies and sports models. If we had icked to spend in a week we were owed about by playmates hopeful 'alling heir to a bit of the licorice e we squandered the money for. y were the days when children ined their gizzards churning the cream freezer when promised the her to lick. And on baking day g around the kitchen with the e of swiping a finger full of cake er out of the crock when moth- back was turned. We weren't ed stiff because there was "noth- to do." The day wasn't half-long igh for all we wanted to crowd it. And the thing that a lot of loved most was to ride up to pt's farm, on Purdue mountain, a springless one-horse wagon wn by old "Carey." Trailing be- on the tortuous route would be ed" the leader of the pack of ad and the thrill of velvety glid- over paved roads in a Rolls- today seems as nothing com- d with the perfect joy of those d. All of the Haupt boys who old enough, John, "Dode," Newt Bill, worked in the cigar factory there's where we established quarters always when we heard a trip to "the mountain" was in spect. It was the custom then for who loafed about a place to a hand at the work, so some of arned to strip tobacco and it was e doing that we had our first pse of G. Washington when he ed as "the new cigar maker." gone and soon will be only a ory. Whatever others might of him he's one of our sou's for was he not a link in the a that holds us fast to those dead days beyond recall.

Mr. Ford's Extravagant Statement.

When Henry Ford said that "if booze ever comes back to the United States I am through with manufacturing," he was "talking through his hat," a weakness that is becoming a habit with him. Mr. Ford is a prohibitionist, and has always been, and he was probably serious when he said "I would not be bothered with the problems of handling 200,000 men and trying to pay them wages which the saloons would take away from them." He may have been equally sincere and he was certainly 100 per cent right when he added, "I wouldn't be interested in putting automobiles in the hands of a generation soggy with drink. Gasoline and booze don't mix; that's all." But it is not likely that he would scrap a billion dollar business on that account.

Henry Ford has had a wide experience in business and has proved himself a supreme master in the art of building and selling automobiles. But he made a good deal of his vast fortune before "went out" in the United States, even though the saloons may have taken in a considerable part of the wages of his employees. If he had said in his magazine article that in the event the saloons were restored he would employ only strictly prohibition workmen his statement would have carried an element of good sense and wise purpose that had strong appeal to the public. But his broader and manifestly sillier declaration, that he will quit business in that event, is too absurd to arrest the serious attention of well balanced minds.

The fact is that Mr. Ford is a bluffer and doesn't expect to be taken seriously, and too frequently his statements and actions are so absurd that they provoke ridicule rather than command respect. At an inopportune moment during the World war he organized an expedition at great expense to "get the troops out of the trenches" within a brief time. In that enterprise he considerably embarrassed the administration at Washington by meddling in matters of which he had no knowledge and led a bunch of light headed adventurers on a wild-goose chase through various sections of Europe. His statement on the question of business and booze is equally foolish, though happily much more harmless.

—Maybe Harry Sinclair wants to get out in order to make room for Tom Cunningham to get into Washington jail. There ought to be space for both.

When War Might be Justified.

General Sherman correctly appraised war as it was conducted in his time nearly three quarters of a century ago. He said "war is hell," and he was a highly qualified expert on the subject. Since that time it has steadily increased in horror. The famous "march from Atlanta to the Sea" was a pleasure journey, through "Elysian fields," compared with the trench struggles during the World war. And since that period the "best minds" of the world have been industriously working to create more forbidding forms of inflicting punishment and death. The thought of war is abhorrent to every worthy human instinct. Yet there are times when the prospect of war may be contemplated with feelings of satisfaction when it seems the only solution of involved problems. For example, in the communication which the Chinese government has sent to the signatories of the Kellogg treaty it is alleged that the Soviet government of Russia has been "promoting secret plans to nullify China's unification, to overthrow the Chinese government, to organize secret forces for destroying the Chinese Eastern railway and to carry out a policy of wholesale assassinations and thereby bring about a world-wide revolution." These are grave charges and the record of the Soviet government justifies a large measure of faith in the validity of them.

A war at this time between Russia and China might, and probably would, accomplish two highly desirable results. It might completely unify China and make of the warring factions in that distracted country a progressive government capable of much good in the affairs of the world. It might also administer to the present government of Russia such a castigation as would cause reforms in administration of domestic and foreign policy that would promote the peace and prosperity of the civilized world. A few years in the horrors of war would be hard to endure but such an achievement would be worth the price and maybe more.

Governor Fisher Turns Reformer.

Governor Fisher's mind seems to have adopted an economic slant. He has pronounced definitely against increases for State employees. A few weeks ago he entertained a different opinion on the subject. In fact he lent his assistance to juggling the constitution in order that several members of his cabinet might at once enjoy salary increases provided by the Legislature during its last session. But these cronies, having been provided for generously, he imagines things have gone far enough in that direction. The other day he issued orders to the heads of the several departments to "soft pedal" on the subject of increasing salaries. This new, and in view of past records, surprising step of the Governor has taken the form of "a thorough survey of salaries and personnel in the State government." When the survey is complete, according to capital hill gossip, the Governor will have at his finger tips charts showing the position of each employee, his or her salary and work. When a vacancy occurs or a request for increase of salary reaches him for approval he will have the information at hand to help him in his decision." It may be added that he will also have the several employees "under his thumb" for political services that may be required for the benefit of the Mellon machine.

The Governor also admonishes heads of departments against too frequent requests for salary raises. It seems that heretofore the several secretaries in the cabinet were in the habit of rewarding favorites by increasing their salaries at will. This privilege is to be curtailed hereafter and limited to "once a year" and the amount of increase to be awarded to any employee shall not exceed the amount of a single increment fixed for the classification of the grade." This is also a wholesome improvement on the system which has recently prevailed. However high in favor the employee is held he can't have his remuneration doubled every month while Fisher remains "watchdog of the treasury."

—What a week the Granger's have had! If they have nothing else to be thankful for we think from every tent at Centre Hall there should be dispatched a posse by the weather man.

"Hammy" Moore and Vare.

There is some measure of reason in the attitude of J. Hampton Moore, former Mayor and professed reformer, in the pending campaign for county and municipal offices in Philadelphia. One of the organizers of the Republican League, and frequently the candidate of the "better element" for important offices, he has resigned from the League and refuses to support its candidates. The League was formed by Mr. Moore and others "in the interest of cleaner elections and better municipal government." Its alliance with a group of politicians, headed by Mayor Mackey, is interpreted by Mr. Moore as subversive of this laudable purpose. If his appraisal of the movement is correct he is absolutely right.

Harry Mackey is an infinitely greater menace to clean elections and good government than Vare because of his greater capacity to do harm. Vare's mental equipment is small while Mackey's is large. Vare could get nowhere without the guidance of Mackey and other political racketeers to point the way. In his campaign for Senator Mackey was his manager and Greenfield his "angel." Without the help of these two and Cunningham his campaign for Senator would have been a joke. If he had agreed to give Mackey what he estimated to be his share of the spoils in framing the ticket this year there would have been no revolt in the camp. Justly or unjustly Mr. Moore imagines that the defeat of Vare will work the elevation of Mackey with all its possibilities for evil.

Of course that is a provincial view of the case, but "Hammy" is a commercial politician. If the real reformers who are supporting the Republican League ticket had adopted that view when Mr. Moore was a candidate for Mayor a few years ago, the Vare control would not have been even temporarily checked. Political managers want votes and don't demand a pedigree of voters who offer them help. Mackey has aligned himself against Vare for selfish reasons, no doubt, and in the event of the success of the contest will want the lion's share of the plunder. But that should not influence reformers to support Vare. There is a chance of improvement, and failure to seize it is stupid.

Insincerity of Tariff Mongers.

The action of the Republican members of the Senate Committee on Finance has again revealed the absurdity of the pretense that tariff taxation has even a remote relation to the rates of wages in this country. The present tariff law carries a rate of one cent a pound on the manganese content of ores imported. Its principal source of supply is Russia, and it is an important element in the manufacture of steel. The pending House bill continued the old rate but the Grundyites demanded a considerable increase and the Senate Committee raised the levy to one and a half cents a pound. While the measure was still under consideration an announcement was made that the Steel trust had bought from Russia between 80,000 and 150,000 tons of manganese ore a year for five years.

That being an adequate supply of manganese for that period, at least, the tariff tax of one and a half cents a pound became a burden rather than a benefit to the steel makers in this country, and the Senate committee struck out the tax provision of the bill and put manganese on the free list, thus making the steel manufacturers a present of thirty dollars on every ton of their product of which manganese ore is a constituent. The matter of wages to the workmen who produced the steel was eliminated from the equation entirely, but the United States Steel corporation, the Bethlehem Steel company and other steel producing corporations are guaranteed a speedy return of the money they contributed to the Republican campaign fund last year.

This incident presents clearly the purposes of tariff taxation as expressed in the present and pending tariff bills. But it is not an entirely isolated case. At the outset of the consideration of the pending measure the most active operator in the work was Senator Smoot, of Utah, whose obvious purpose was to secure advantages for the Mormon church, which is largely concerned in the sugar beet industry. He had secured in the House bill a rate on sugar so high that the whole country protested. Thereupon the Senate committee reduced the rate and Smoot promptly lost interest in the matter and turned the leadership of the movement over to Senator Dave Reed, of Pennsylvania, who is the representative of the Steel trust on the floor of the Senate.

—The Huntingdon gentleman who writes to flatter us into believing that we hold an enviable position in our profession sings in music dulcet to our ears, but if we had been galloping along on the road to success like he is we would have had a bulging bank account instead of having to buy new filing cabinets in which to preserve our treasures. In these days a stack of blue chips talk louder at the gas station than a cabinet full of wilted bouquets.

—British Chancellor Philip Snowden seems to be hard to get along with, and if he wrecks the Hague reparations conference he will assume obligations equal to his obstinacy.

—A former St. Louis prohibition officer has sued Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt for libel claiming \$1,000,000 damages. If he wins it will take most of Mabel's pin money.

—The board of road and bridge viewers met in the court house, on Monday morning, to consider four separate projects for new township roads.

—The hope of Haiti for complete independence will be disappointed. A Republican administration never gives up anything that is worth anything.

—The ward leaders are flocking to the Vare standard in Philadelphia, but there are only a few ward leaders and a vast number of voters.

—Vare government costs money. Within nine years the public debt of Philadelphia has increased from \$182,973,450 to \$530,545,600.

—If Russia is responsible for the Mongol massacre it is another reason why the Soviet government should be "wiped off the map."

—The girls of this merry world have the assurance of a Philadelphia health officer that lipsticks contain no poison.

—Mayor Mackey's "eleventh hour conversion" fails to make a strong impression on the public mind.

BIG GRAF ZEPPELIN FLIES OVER BELLEFONTE.

Like ships that pass in the night the big Graf Zeppelin, its huge motors sending forth a muffled roar of defiance to the elements which sound ed like a pean of victory, sailed majestically over Bellefonte at exactly 3:01 o'clock yesterday morning. Its course was due west to east and it was apparent that Dr. Hugo Eckner was piloting his ship direct for Lakehurst.

Only confusing reports of the big airship could be obtained all day, on Wednesday, and the gist of these were that the Graf would fly over New York State. In fact it was not until Wednesday evening that anything definite was obtained and then the wireless station at the Bellefonte airport reported it as having passed over Detroit, Mich., at 7:17 p. m., flying about 65 miles an hour and apparently headed the shortest route to Lakehurst. The natural course then would be from Detroit to Cleveland and over the airmail route east.

Working on the assumption that the Graf might fly this course J. H. Caum, manager of the Bell Telephone company for this district, got officials along the line as far west as DuBois with a request that he be kept informed of the progress of the Graf, if it should come this way, and arrangements were also made to sound the fire alarm as a signal that the ship was approaching. As it sailed over Detroit at 7:17 at a speed of 65 miles an hour it was quite evident it would not reach Bellefonte until around three o'clock in the morning.

And it was just two minutes of three when the fire alarm warning was sounded. Hardly had the echo of the alarm died away when a roar of an airplane motor was heard, but it proved to be the east-bound mailplane. A minute later, however, another roaring sound came out of the western skies, and it was so different from the noise of an airplane that it was at once manifest that the Graf was approaching.

At first sight the beacon light on the ship looked like a bright, twinkling star in the western skies, but it was only the space of a few seconds until it was discernible as a moving star which grew bigger with the nearer approach of the big ship. As the Graf neared Bellefonte other lights flashed on and through the hazy fog the big ship was quite distinctly outlined in the light of the moon. With field glasses the Graf showed up fairly plain, both front and rear cabins, dimly illuminated, being visible.

Forest W. Tanner, manager of the Bellefonte airport, estimates that the Graf was flying at an estimated height of five thousand feet and a speed of approximately eighty miles an hour. When the big ship flew over the Bellefonte airport light signals were flashed which were construed at being more a salute of recognition of the field than a message of information, then all lights were turned off but one as the Graf was lost sight of on the trail of its flight to the east.

The Zep reached New York at 6:06 o'clock yesterday morning, circled the Statue of Liberty then flew south to Lakehurst and by 7:50 o'clock was at rest in the big hangar. All on board were well and in fine shape. In it's trip around the world the Graf covered a distance of 18,980 miles and as it passed over Bellefonte yesterday morning it was on it's 18,781 st mile.

Through Chicago.

From the Des Moines Tribune-Capital. In connection with the Wabash plan for a new eastern system, it is suggested that this road will be the first to run trains through Chicago without transferring passengers. At present it is the boast of Chicagoans that no train goes through there: every one is made over.

A railway man of long experience says that in the old days Erie was a transfer point because of old narrow gauge and new standard gauge lines met there. From every train goods had to be unloaded, moved by horses and drays to the other width cars, and reloaded.

Most of Erie lived by hauling goods from one depot to another. So when the narrow roads were made standard width there was consternation. Nearly everybody in Erie thought the town would disappear. Outbreaks in violence to prevent the change were common.

We cannot expect Chicago to disappear, nor will the people there be greatly concerned, probably, over the prospect of a through train. But it will be an improvement in service, no doubt. It seems odd that for these many years great transcontinental trains have had to stop and make over just because they were in Chicago.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—A gas well producing between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 cubic feet daily has been brought in on the Joseph Hortle heirs' farm, near Clarion, by the People's Gas company.

—Details for the transfer of the property of the Susquehanna Valley Telephone company are being worked out and the concern will change hands September 1. Exchanges of the Susquehanna Valley company will be operated for some time until line changes can be made to consolidated exchanges in towns where there is duplication.

—Valdessa Saltsman, aged 17, is in the Renovo general hospital in a critical condition as the result of being seriously burned late Monday afternoon when she attempted to use gasoline instead of kerosene to start a fire in the kitchen stove. Her screams attracted the attention of Mrs. Edmund Hugar, who lives next door, and she rushed over to find the girl enveloped in flames from head to foot.

—The last request of Joseph Yost, 48, proprietor of the Colonial Inn, at Allentown, that the best hand in Allentown be hired for his funeral and that there be no flowers and no minister, was complied with at his funeral on Saturday. Yost shot and killed Frank Frey, 52, Trumbauersville barber, in revenge for Frey and his wife giving information which resulted in a raid on his inn. He then committed suicide.

—Complaint against an overhead bridge on the Tyrone-Alltoona road crossing the Pennsylvania railroad right of way, near Gracerville, was filed with the Public Service Commission on Saturday by the Tyrone motor club. The complaint charged the bridge is unsafe for present day traffic. The railroad, the Logan Valley trolley company, the highway department, Blair county and Snyder township were named as respondents.

—The mystery of the disappearance of a china nest egg from the chicken coop on the farm of A. A. Dimm, in Perry county, was solved in a very unexpected manner recently when an unusually large blacksnake was killed in the yard of the Dimm home. Dissecting the snake to discover the cause of a large lump near the middle of the snake disclosed the nest egg, which was probably swallowed in mistake for the real egg.

—Taking advantage of his idleness while he was laid off from work, Benjamin Hemker, of Shamokin, employed as a machinist in the Susquehanna collieries, has made application to the United States patent office at Washington for a patent on a muffler for a whirlwind airplane motor. Experts in the patent office declare it is one of the most ingenious and valuable devices that was brought out in the recent research work.

—Politicians and office holders in New Columbus borough, a municipality of 130 voters on the north-western fringe of Luzerne county, apparently are not much concerned over the primary for not a single petition for any of the nine offices at stake has been filed. Clerks at the county commissioner's office discovering the blank pages in the section devoted to recording the nominees from New Columbus borough, started an investigation.

—In the act of disrobing in his chamber preparatory to retiring one night last week, Luther Steele, a retired Perry county farmer, narrowly escaped being killed by a rifle ball that crashed through his bedroom window and buried itself in the plaster of the wall six inches from his head. Several nights previous chicken thieves had been chased from the farm buildings and it is believed that the shot through the window of the Steele home was in retaliation by the thieves.

—James Martin, 15 years old, of Latrobe, is in a hospital there with a shattered right arm, the result of a rifle shot wound suffered on Saturday, when he and two companions were in the orchard of Earl Stauffer, farmer near that city. Stauffer was released on \$1,000 bond pending a hearing on charges that he shot the boy. The boys said three shots were fired when they started to run as the orchard owner appeared. The farmer was said to have fired in an effort to frighten the boys into stopping.

—Three inspectors to examine voting machines submitted by manufacturers for use in Pennsylvania under the Harris voting machine law, were named this week by Robert R. Lewis, Secretary of the Commonwealth. The Harris act passed by the 1922 Legislature, provides for appointment of the inspectors. They are Jonathan S. Green, of Pittsburgh; John F. Horting, Lancaster, and Ray Rathfon, Harrisburg. Green is a patent law attorney the law providing that one of the inspectors shall be an attorney. So far the Automatic Voting Machine Corporation of Jamestown, N. Y., is the only firm that has offered a voting machine for sale in Pennsylvania.

—Picking up a heavy charge of dynamite and throwing it into the Allegheny river, Edward Nicodemus, son of G. M. Nicodemus, Altoona, saved one of Pittsburgh's most crowded traffic bridges from possible destruction early on Sunday. Until two years ago, Edward Nicodemus lived in Altoona. He is a veteran of the Spanish American war. At 4:30 Sunday morning, Nicodemus was crossing the Nineteenth street bridge on his way from East Liberty to Sharpshurg, when he saw a man place a bucket on the bridge and run. He ran to the bucket, saw that it contained a box which held a powerful charge of dynamite and hurled it into the river. Police have recovered the dynamite for evidence and are searching for the man who attempted to destroy the bridge.

—The three "sheik bandits," who robbed a jewelry store and tailor shop at Mt. Carmel, shot Leon Eisenhart, a Shamokin printer, and stole his car Sunday a quarter of a mile from Mt. Carmel, robbed Irvin Rhoads, of Aristes, and his fiancée, then stole the youth's borrowed car and escaped towards Locust Gap. The car was parked near the Mt. Carmel cemetery morning. Nicodemus was crossing the Nineteenth street bridge on his way from East Liberty to Sharpshurg, when he saw a man place a bucket on the bridge and run. He ran to the bucket, saw that it contained a box which held a powerful charge of dynamite and hurled it into the river. Police have recovered the dynamite for evidence and are searching for the man who attempted to destroy the bridge.

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