

—Vote for Johnston for District Attorney.

—Last night was Hallow-eeen, but Bellefonte was minus her "Black Cat."

—Pity the amateur stock speculators who don't seem to know that whatever goes up is sure to come down.

—Vote for Philip Johnston for District Attorney if you want a capable lawyer in that office who will not pussy-foot or persecute when political expediency suggests it.

—The League of Godless in Soviet Russia is resorting to murder, even, in its effort to stamp out christian beliefs. What, we would like to ask, has God done to the Communists? We might go further and ask those of our own land who are insidiously and eternally working to snatch away the only day which God has pre-empted in which to do His business, what would become of them if the Communist idea ruled here?

—The Attorney General of the United States is quoted as having said, during the inquiry into the fitness of Albert W. Watson for Judgeship in the Federal court for the Middle district of Pennsylvania, that "it might be possible to find an abler man for the judgeship if a selection could be made removed from all political considerations." Every one knows that this is true, but it is terrible to hear it direct from a Cabinet officer. Day by day we are impudently to have respect for law, yet those who administer it must fit into the cogs of machine politics, whether they fit the bench or not.

—Of course it was to be expected that the recent dinner of the Anti-Saloon League in Bellefonte would have a follow up. A lot who attended didn't think that far when they nudged down to the free eats, so they have had some uncomfortable moments trying to frame up excuses or not contributing to the cause. By his time everyone should know that he never gets anything for nothing. Besides, what other purpose could the Anti-Saloon League have had in coming here and staging a dinner unless it was to reach Bellefonte ocket books through Bellefonte tomchats. It might have justified the affair if it had urged all present to go out and work for Phil Johnston for District Attorney, and it probably would have done that very thing if Phil had been the candidate of the Republican party.

—This is autumn and color is running riot. Nature is having a hard me however, keeping pace with the hemes in midday's clothes. Not only in apparel are colors dominant, they have invaded the realms of science, as well. A Prussian has invented a cooker that will preserve meats and vegetables for the table in their natural color and a physician tells us that color is a panacea for many ills. There might be something in all of these new fangled ideas. In fact, we sort o' believe the doctors are right in some of their new color scheme ure. Take a fellow, for example, who is just crazy to lick someone against whom he has a grievance. e goes out to do it and gets a raight right in the eye. Next morning when he looks in the mirror and sees that black and blue ame in which his bloodshot optic poses we'll bet the colors will cure m of such crazy spells for a long ne to come.

—According to the Harrisburg Telegraph a Mr. D. C. Morrow, an expert hydraulic engineer, says the Bellefonte water mains are leaking the rate of one million gallons a y. Mr. Morrow is the gentleman o told the Bellefonte council two eeks ago that Bellefonte's per cap consumption of water is the large c in the United States. Knowing at he was mistaken in the latter tement we are justified in believ g that he is equally misleading in e former and shall pay no atten ion to his alarm signals until he oduces something more convincing an his imagination on which to se them. Undoubtedly there are ny leaks in the mains of Belle e, but only a daring prophet uld make them aggregating a mil on gallons a day. We are pumping o and a half million gallons a day. r industries are using about one r million gallons of that amount if Mr. Morrow's statement that other million gallons are leaking o of the pipes is true then the per al consumption is only one million ons. If this is so our per capita sumption is far from being high in the United States, as Mr. row informed council. As a mat- of fact Bellefonte isn't interested water at all. Quantity means hing to a community where the ply is ten times greater than its s. All we are interested in is cost of forcing it to its consum- and we would be obliged to Mr. row if he would tell us of any munity that is getting all the er it wants to use, all the water ants to waste, all the water it ts to give to its schools, its ches, its drinking fountains, its stries, its lawn sprinklers, its hing machines, concrete mixers, ors and what not, nearly as ap as Bellefonte is getting it to- or half as cheap as Bellefonte d get it were she to harness up power at the Gamble mill and all the pumping by water.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Fall Justly Convicted

It would hardly have been expected that a man whom the Supreme court of the United States had previously declared "a faithless public officer" would be excuplated by a jury for the crime of which he was charged and upon which the judgment of the court was based. Therefore the conviction of Albert B. Fall, former Secretary of the Interior, of conspiracy to defraud the government in leasing oil reserves, in consideration of a bribe, was not surprising. The evidence against him was clear. The stubborn fight he made to delay the trial and the methods adopted to divert the minds of the jurors from the facts, contributed to the result. Any other verdict would have been perversion of justice.

Eight years ago President Harding issued an order transferring control of the naval oil reserves in California and Wyoming from the Navy Department of the government to that of the Interior, of which Mr. Fall was the head. At once he began negotiations with E. L. Doheny to take over the California property, and with Harry Sinclair for the Wyoming property. Subsequently he received from Doheny \$100,000 in currency and from Sinclair \$269,600 in Liberty bonds and currency. At first he denied that he had received money from either of them for any purpose. When the fact was proved he testified that he had borrowed from Doheny and sold part of his New Mexico ranch to Sinclair but the leases had nothing to do with the transactions.

After jockeying to prevent a trial of his case for eight years under one pretense or another his defense was staged in a spectacular manner with the purpose of appealing to the sympathy of the jury. Early in the proceedings he collapsed in court and forced delay. Then his prosecutors asked for a mistrial on the ground that his physical condition was precarious, but he insisted on going on with the hearing. The effect of the incident inspired the belief that sympathy would prevail over justice and he was brought into court each day wrapped in blankets. But their expectations have been disappointed. The jurymen and women were deeply affected, no doubt, but they proved faithful to their obligations and returned a just verdict with a plea for mercy.

Next Tuesday will be election day. Go to the polls and vote. Don't stay at home and rail, afterwards, because those who did go elected an official you thought incompetent. Your vote might not change the result but you will have the satisfaction of feeling that you did your duty as you saw it.

Northern Sheep and Southern Goats

Two weeks ago we had the pleasure of expressing cordial approval of President Hoover's promise that "no longer shall public office be regarded as political patronage." It implied that "shaking the plum tree" has gone out of vogue and that during the present administration, at least, the primary responsibility of the President would be "to select men for public office who will execute the laws of the United States with integrity and without fear, favor or political collusion." Such a policy would make for greater efficiency, cleaner government and better service.

Since that sincere praise of the President facts have come into view which cast shadows over the hope of improvement. Out in Kansas, some months ago, there occurred a vacancy on the bench of the Federal district court and the politicians presented the name of a rather inferior lawyer to fill the post. The President demurred and even protested that he would not make the nomination. But last week, for some unexplained reason, he changed his mind and presented the name of the politician's choice for confirmation. The Senate has not yet acted in the matter but as both the Kansas Senators are in favor of the candidate he will probably get through. The Judiciary committee of the Senate, during the consideration of the nomination of Albert L. Watson, of Scranton, for judge of the federal court of this district, called Attorney General Mitchell to testify as to his fitness. The custom has been to accept the judgment of the Attorney General in the selection of judges and his very conservative statement, under oath, was that "Mr. Watson is not exactly the sort of timber we would like to have but the Republican machine of Pennsylvania and President Hoover insists on his confirmation."

The latest Paris fad is to make the finger nails match the jewelry. That will be all right until black jewelry becomes vogue.

Sugar Lobby and Tariff Taxation.

The testimony of witnesses before the Senate lobby investigators increases in public interest and indignation. In addition to the vast amount of money expended by the beet sugar producers to influence legislation increasing the tariff on that essential of life it appears that \$75,000 has been expended by the Cuban sugar interests to keep the rate of taxation at the figure fixed in the existing tariff law. The Cuban producers include the National City bank, of New York, as well as some other capitalists and concessionaires on this side of the Rio Grande, and their aim is to keep the rate low enough to admit them to the American market. The aim of the beet sugar fellows is to keep them out.

If the beet sugar growers and refiners were to produce to full capacity they could supply less than ten per cent. of the quantity of sugar annually consumed in the United States. At the present tariff rate they have been able to draw enormous profits out of the industry. It is true that they employ cheap labor imported from Mexico and China, but even if they used high-class American service their profits would be generous and above the average yield of capital. But they want more than enough and in order to procure it spend millions of dollars for propaganda to deceive the public mind and influence legislation. The Cuban operators are equally selfish but less expensive to consumers.

If the beet sugar producers of the far west and the cane sugar producers of Louisiana would save the money they waste in propaganda they could operate their plants profitably without any tariff tax protection at all. Under the existing law some of them declared dividends as high as fifty per cent. on their investment, and the average industry yields less than ten per cent., while the average farmer is satisfied to break even. If there were no tariff tax on sugar the price to consumers would be little, if any more, than three cents a pound and the saving in the family budget of the country would amount to hundreds of millions of dollars a year. This is a subject for community thought.

Nobody will deny that Senator Borah has the correct measure of Grundy. "Far be it from me," the Idahoan said, "to intimate that any Senator has been influenced by a man of the character of Grundy."

Grundy's Evidence Disappointing

We own to a more or less deep disappointment in the testimony of Mr. Joseph R. Grundy, president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' association, before the Senate committee investigating the lobby evil. We had every right to expect some interesting developments when the nimble-witted Senator Caraway got the hard-bolled Bucks county tariff monger before him. But nothing happened to either amuse or instruct the committee or the public. Mr. Grundy frankly admitted that he is a lobbyist and expressed pride in the fact. He declared he spent about \$25,000 to put the pending bill over. But it was his money, he said somewhat boastfully, and asked "what are you going to do about it?"

Of course Mr. Grundy will levy an assessment on his fellow beneficiaries if the bill goes through and his associate victims if it fails. In his testimony before the Slush Fund committee, several years ago, he said he had contributed three or four hundred thousand dollars to elect the Republican ticket in Pennsylvania, as a business investment, and expected to be reimbursed for all but his share. The public reaction to that statement was discouraging, however, and he was less candid this time. But he didn't fool anybody by his reserve. It is quite generally understood that when Mr. Grundy is lavish in expenditures he is disbursing other people's money.

More than two hundred years ago a distinguished philosopher said, "patronism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." It was the defense set up for the crimes perpetrated by Albert B. Fall as Secretary of the Interior in the Harding administration. It was natural for Joe Grundy, who for years has opposed humanitarian legislation, to say that he was obeying utilitarian impulses in supporting legislation which adds half a billion dollars annually to the tax burdens of the people of Pennsylvania in order to increase his own profits by a few thousands. It is not surprising that Mr. Grundy still cherishes the absurd fiction that the exporter pays the tariff tax.

The writing off of thirty-five billion dollars of the national wealth within a few days makes quite a dent in the prosperity of which President Hoover talked so freely during the campaign.

Reasons for Selection of Reed

What impulse or idea influenced President Hoover to select Senator David A. Reed, of Pittsburgh, as one of the delegates to the impending naval conference at London is a subject of speculation in Washington and elsewhere. Senator Reed has not always been subservient to the wishes of the President. He led the fight against a provision in the immigration law which the President urged and that was the first bump administered by the Senate to the President. Senator Reed's position on the Committee on Foreign Relations could not have been the reason for his list on the bottom of the majority list instead of at or near the top. He is not a seaboard resident or a specialist in naval affairs.

The appointment was quite a distinction and might have been induced by favoritism, by superior knowledge of naval equipment or values, or eminence in public life. But it can hardly be said that either of these elements entered into the equation. It is barely possible that the Pennsylvania Senator's readiness and force in debate might have been considered. It is reasonable to expect that there will be opposition to the ratification of whatever agreement is made at the conference and that the President wanted to make sure of efficient support. In the selection of the two best debaters in the Senate to help write the agreement he practically guaranteed capable defense of it.

Other reasons might be conjured up though probably the last named is sufficient. But to any doubters it may be worth-while to mention that Senator Reed is of counsel for the Steel trust, and that giant corporation has great interest in ship-building and ordnance construction. Observers at the Paris conference, a few years ago, were expensive as well as scandal breeders, and the appointment of Senator Reed would serve the purpose without either expense or scandal. Then again the purpose of the President might have been to humiliate Senator Johnson, of California, who next to Borah, who declined, had highest claim to the honor. Johnson defeated the flexible provision of the tariff bill.

Centre county residents are not in favor of establishing a county home for poor and dependent people, as not two thousand signers could be secured to the various petitions to put the question up to the voters at the coming election. Centre county, like every other county in the State, has people who need aid regularly and others who must be helped occasionally. There are probably families in some sections of the county who are suffering for the actual necessities of life, but in most sections the poor situation is almost negligible, and that is the main reason why the county home question could not loom up bigger.

The opening of the hunting season, today, took hundreds of hunters to the woods to try their luck on such game as squirrel, rabbits, wild turkey and bear. Most of the hunters will naturally try for squirrel and rabbits but quite a number have turkey on their mind while a number of parties are out making an attempt to shoot one of the bears that have been making themselves rather conspicuous during the past few weeks.

The only place in Centre county where enough voters are sufficiently interested in voting machines to want to vote on the question of installing one is the Third ward of Philipsburg, and if we remember correctly that was one of the election precincts in the county in which a recount was asked after the Fleming-Walker judicial election.

The new government of France is fortunate in getting Briand into the cabinet. He is not only the brainiest man in the country but the most sincere patriot.

Senator Watson, Republican floor leader, is a trifle cruel to Joe Grundy when he says Grundy's lobby activities didn't influence a single vote.

Lloyd George may be hopeful but he is far from confident of the best results from the conversations between MacDonald and Hoover.

Senatorial courtesy may save Senator Bingham from formal censure but it can't justify his methods in properly trained minds.

Senator Bingham's little scheme would have worked well if it hadn't been found out.

Oil, Navy and the Public

From the Philadelphia Record. Public attention in the Fall trial concentrated upon the bribe taking of which the former Secretary of the Interior was convicted, but there is another phase that cannot be skipped without distorting the story.

Admiral Gleaves, serving in Asiatic waters in 1921, submitted to the Navy Department confidential reports which pulsed with the navy highups' favorite fear of war with Japan. They don't call it a war with Japan; at least, not in public. There is always a mysterious, unnamed Power plotting to attack us on the Pacific. And the odd thing about it is that the navy highups get as much kick out of this imaginary peril as if it were real. They do not try to fool the people; they actually fool themselves.

On the strength of Admiral Gleaves' representations, Admiral Robison at Washington urged Doheny to bid on the Elk Hills oil lease, because he wanted to see oil tanks built and filled at Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, in preparation for this war on the Pacific. Admiral Gleaves thought his suspicions of warlike intentions in Japan to be justified by facts. Admiral Robison thought so, too, and was unquestionably honest in making his recommendations for preparation in the Pacific. These navy officers were using their professional ability with patriotic purpose—for the nation's good as they saw it. But they saw it with biased vision.

The right "slant" on their beliefs and acts cannot be had unless one imagines that war had been planned and started. In that event, the full fuel oil tanks at Pearl Harbor would have been a lifesaver for the navy, charged with the nation's defense. Now, in connection with the Fall trial, in answer to the Court's request for the Gleaves reports of 1921, Secretary Adams withheld them on the ground that to have their contents published would be "incompatible with the public interest."

Well, the situation in the Pacific is as "serious" now as it ever was. Japanese aggression is no more or no less probable now than it was then—and it was not reasonably expectable then and is not now. Japan has received affronts from the American Congress, and they rankle; but Japan is too much the realist to have any belief that she could successfully attack America. (We are taking, purposely, the least sentimental view: in actual fact, we simply can't picture Japan aflame with desire to lick America, as the jingoes would like us to believe.)

But in view of the mere existence of jingoism and of public unfamiliarity with the underlying facts of our relation with Japan, it is regrettable that the attitude of secrecy continues to rule in the Navy Department. The navy needs the people's friendship, and would command it much more surely and effectively were it to take the people into its confidence. It is "just too bad" if Secretary Adams is going to run his department on the Wilbur plan, as if he owned the navy instead of being hired by the people to run it for them.

Why Not Here?

From the Harrisburg Telegraph. Officials of the State Department of Agriculture and the State Health Department are attending a great dairy show in Toronto. Representatives of the United States and Canada are among the delegates. Canada is thinking in terms of increased milk production and acting accordingly. It may not be generally known, but on a number of occasions Harrisburg firms have purchased cream in Canada and shipped it, still sweet, all the way to Florida for use at the winter resorts.

What is profitable for Canada ought to be equally profitable for Pennsylvania, with its great yield of milk and even greater possibilities, and its ever increasing markets. Why not, then, a dairy show for Pennsylvania, and if for Pennsylvania, why not in Harrisburg. Once the new Farm Show building is finished, we shall have here unequalled facilities for the holding of such an exposition, and it could be conducted in the fall of the year without interfering in any way with the Farm Products Show in mid-winter.

New York and Philadelphia already are drawing heavily upon the Pennsylvania farms for their milk. More and more ice cream is being eaten. More and more milk products are being turned out by Pennsylvania industry. Milk production is the farmer's best bet. The semi-monthly milk check is the dairy-ov's best ticket. The farm that goes in for milk is usually more profitable than that which does not specialize in this line. To encourage milk production is to make for prosperity. There is little danger of over-production in Pennsylvania. The peril, if any, seems to lie in the other direction.

Even the New York Tribune admits that the tariff bill is dead.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Three Clinton county residents, Robert Huff and Oscar Marshall, of Westport, near Renovo, and Raymond Bryan, of Lock Haven, were fined \$480 and costs last Thursday, for the illegal killing of deer and bear and having in their possession several raccoon skins.

—Although an exploding gas-coal range blew out seven windows in his home at Columbia, Pa., F. P. Salzman, standing in the kitchen, was unharmed. Flying pieces of steel from the shattered stove imbedded themselves in the plaster of the walls and ceiling and broke panels in a door.

—A. Walter Banks, trusted employee of the E. Richard Meinig company Inc. of Reading, silk underwear manufacturers, pleaded guilty in court to theft of about \$5000 in money and merchandise and was given six months to three years in prison and ordered to make restitution to the extent of \$2500.

—When the tobacco in John R. Gubo's corn-cob pipe failed to burn, he impatiently poured kerosene into the bowl and struck another match. The explosion set fire to Gubo's clothing and to the barn in which he was working, in Allegheny county. The barn was destroyed and Gubo, 50, died from burns.

—David Alghier, of near Mattawana, Mifflin county, was gored badly by a bull on his farm. He was crossing a field when the animal attacked him, knocked him down, striking him in the abdomen and then trampled him. When the bull left him he crawled to the railroad tracks, where friends found him.

—When Clyde Crouse, of Dry Run, found a valuable cow on his farm so sick that he had to shoot it, he decided to find out what caused the sickness. Upon examining the stomach he found six nails, two pieces of wire and several lead washers. Two of the nails had penetrated the stomach walls.

—Although only 65 years old, Charles H. Andrus, of Sinking Spring, has been pensioned by the Pennsylvania railroad. He has a record of fifty-four years of service, and is probably the only man on the railroad's roster with such a service record at the age of 65. He started as messenger in 1875, when only 11 years old. Later he became an engineer.

—Rossiter is experiencing one of the worst epidemics of typhoid fever ever recorded in that section. At the present time twenty-five cases are under the care of physicians and as the source of the disease is not definitely known, the epidemic continues to spread. The epidemic developed from eight mild cases to twenty-five cases, most of which are serious.

—Overbalancing and falling into the water near a sewer intake, last Tuesday evening at 5 o'clock, Erma Luella Laing, aged four, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Laing, of Coalport, was carried through the upper ground sewer which crosses Main street in Coalport, and was dead when she reached the opposite side of the street where there is an outlet.

—Here's another record! Dave Reed, 97 years old retired farmer, lumberjack, oil man, and railroad, of Oil City, estimates he has chewed three tons of tobacco or thereabouts. And he wishes he had it now. His longevity he attributes to "working hard and chewing tobacco. Some people like neither, but I like both. I've chewed three ounces a day since I was 6. Figure it up, 6000 pounds, three tons. It is a lot, and I wish I could chew it all over again."

—Charles F. Lindig, nominated on both tickets for school director at Lewisburg, made \$1 as a candidate, his expense account shows. The extra dollar was donated to the alumni association of Lewisburg High school, which backed his campaign. Expenditures were for printing and distributing 1000 newspapers and handbills. Advertising space was sold to other political candidates. He received a few small contributions and received sufficient to pay the expenses with \$1 left.

—The most extensive dairy cattle owner in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is in connection with State institutions herds range in number from 50 to 250 cows, with a total of more than 1500 head. Every possible effort has been made during recent years by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, to place these herds on a transmissible disease-free basis and to guard them from new and re-infections.

—Decision to give a wedding ring and an engagement circlet to every bride at weddings at which he officiates was announced last Thursday, by J. Henry Follmer, Lewisburg, independent candidate for justice of the peace. "I am sincere about it," he said, "and would like to see everybody happy. Furthermore, any couple not satisfied after a year of married life may come to me and get their wedding fee back." Follmer will receive \$5 for each marriage under the law, and at this rate could hardly expect to buy much of a pair of rings. Politicians pointed out today, unless, they added, he digs down in his own pockets.

—Edward J. Donovan, of Oswego, N. Y., escaped from the Lycoming county jail in Williamsport, on Monday, by scaling the wall. Donovan was in the jail yard with other prisoners for morning exercise and he is believed to have hid when the others were returned to their cells. Using a lead pipe which had been left in the jail yard he made a hook on one end and scaled the rear wall. He then swung to a telephone pole nearby and reached the ground. Donovan was arrested last week on charges of burglary and forgery in connection with the theft of some blank checks and a check protector machine which he is charged with using to pass several checks.

The curtain fell, on Tuesday, on one of the most atrocious murders in the history of Bedford county, when Harvey Feathers, 17, slayer of Huston B. Croyle of near Queen, in company with sheriff J. M. Fink, was removed to the western penitentiary where he will spend the remainder of his life. Feathers, self-confessed slayer, was sentenced to die in the electric chair but his fate was commuted to life imprisonment by the State board of pardons at Harrisburg last Wednesday, after alienists, who examined the youth, declared that he was mentally deficient. Willis Feathers, 25, also implicated in the slaying, and a brother of Harvey, is serving a life term for the killing of Croyle. The latter, a deaf-mute, stood trial, and was recommended to serve life imprisonment by the jury. The brothers lay in wait and killed Croyle with a shot gun, robbery being the motive.