

It is almost Christmas eve, but somehow our thoughts won't rush on to the day of days. Instead, they persist in wandering back to the time of our own childhood when the joy of a Christmas morn was so exquisitely subtle as to leave memories that can never be effaced.

You remember what the Fairy Berylline told little Tyltyl and Mytyl in Maeterlinck's Blue Bird. Of how those of whom we are thinking tonight see and hear and live on and on in the memory of those who have known their ineffable love and then we say:

ALL TO OURSELVES

All to ourselves we think of you Think of the things you used to do Think of the things you used to say Think of each happy yesterday. Sometimes we sigh and sometimes we smile But we keep each other, golden while Quite, all to ourselves.

And then the fairy pointed the wondering little folks to the garden of beautiful flowers. At first they didn't understand, but later like you and like me, they came to understand that it was

LIFE'S GARDEN

Out in life's garden where sympathy grew You planted a soul, 'twas the soul of you. Life's wonderful garden love, seeking, went through 'Till it found a heart, 'twas the heart of you. I sought through life's garden of roses and rue And I found a sweet blossom all jeweled with dew. Love, sympathy, faith—all wondering and true And the heart of my flower, dear mother, 'tis you.

On and on memory carries us through the heartaches and joys of days that are done, but we remember that "Its the set of the soul that determines the goal and not the storm or the strife." And that thought brings us to a paragraph in the "Fifty Years Ago" column in this issue which speaks of us as "Master." When we gleaned that from a file, musty with age, memories of the days when we laid the Watchman at the doors of every subscriber in Bellefonte surged in upon us that our Santa Claus was here beside us, that if you are thinking with us,

Undaunted and fearless he went through life Firm with courage for every strife An indulgent father, a generous friend Example of staunchness for many men.

These are the thoughts we are indulging to-night, not because we are morbid or blue. Oh, no! That is not it at all. We're happy, very happy, because we have such memories. We're happy because we are what we are and hopeful that such memories will inspire us to something more than we are. Something more helpful, something more useful than we have ever been before; for a life of labor, and study and love is the life that fits for the joys above.

While the hearts of the 'little ones burst with joy at the approach of Christmas time ours thrills with something intangible, introspective and fine, for once again the old crowd gathers about the hearthstone of memory and we hear the ringing laughter of the girl who "mushed" through thousands of miles of Alaskan snow to save a little baby. She is here tonight, too, and she knows when we say:

Know what I wish you, why darn your skin. I wish you the careless, old time grin. The freckles, the warts and the tangled hair. And the freedom you had in the days back there. And the wonderful fun in the things you did. In the day, when, by Jinks, you were just a kid.

And so the happy, vibrant hopeful thoughts that memory begets go on through this Yule-tide month—the birthday month of the Love Child—Christ—and the Watchman is heartened for its voyage into its seventy-fifth year, heartened for its continued loyal devotion to town, county, State and nation, and to you while

It's wishing you all a Christmas Of cheer, good will and content. The happiest, nicest Christmas That any of you ever spent.

Together, as one big family. In our town, 'comfy' and gay, We're wishing you each the happiness That comes with Christmas day. And then, when time goes spinning Along the New Year, through, We'll still be wishing gladness In the heart of each one of you

For the inspiration of this column, and the charming verse—thoughts we are indebted to Mrs. Winifred Meek-Morris, of Pittsburgh. We have not been writing of our family. It's your family, too, if what we're thinking now brings memories back to you.

State Library and Museum July 1-30

Democratic Watchman

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The Grundy Appointment.

There is no just cause of complaint against the appointment of Mr. Grundy to the office of Senator in Congress for Pennsylvania. There was a vacancy and it "happened" during a period between sessions of the General Assembly. The Governor had the legal right to make the appointment and the moral right to choose from all the citizens of the State legally qualified. He selected Mr. Grundy because more than any other man in the State Mr. Grundy is in accord with his political and economical ideas. They are of one mind on all subjects, and Mr. Grundy is the owner of the mind. For years he has used Governor Fisher as a medium of expressing his thoughts and purposes to the public.

In the case in point Governor Fisher had other than personal reasons for bestowing favor on Mr. Grundy. They are both Republicans of the Pennsylvania variety. That is to say, differing from the Republican of the West and most of those of other States in the American Republic. Fisher and Grundy would change the form of our government so as to give wealth greater power and worth less. This is a recent concept in the mind of Grundy, approved by Fisher and Senator Reed, and possibly concurred in by the Mellons. In appointing Mr. Grundy to the Senate Governor Fisher probably hopes to popularize that political philosophy. He at least gives it a foothold in the official life of the State.

Then there is the element of gratitude to consider. Fisher owes much to Grundy for the political favors he has received, vastly out of proportion to his merits, in the past. During his service as State Senator the friendship between Fisher and Grundy began. Grundy was lobbying against welfare and labor legislation and Fisher became his willing instrument of expression. In 1922 Grundy tried to force Fisher on the party as candidate for Governor and failing used him to nominate Pinchot. In 1926 Grundy forced the Mellons to accept Fisher as the price of his support for Pepper for Senator. According to his sworn testimony he preferred Vare to Pepper but wanted Fisher as his price.

In small minds revenge exercises a potent influence. In the discussion of the subject in the Senate some of the Senators cast aspersions on the Governor's title to office as well as upon Grundy's fitness to serve as Senator. The Governor bitterly resented this liberty of speech and applied opprobrious epithets to those who indulged it. He imagined that forcing Grundy into fellowship with men who despised him would be fit punishment for their temerity if it may be called that. Probably that had something to do with the affair. To a reasoning mind it would seem that Grundy would be the greater sufferer from such a combination of circumstances. But Fisher's is not a reasoning mind.

Taking all these considerations together the appointment of Grundy was the logical solution of the problem. Clearly Grundy was not chosen because of any valuable service he had ever rendered to the people of Pennsylvania. Certainly he was not selected because of superior equipment in the qualities of statesmanship. He was not so honored above others of his party with the view of enticing other Senators to a kindly feeling toward the interests and aspirations of the State. Then the influencing cause of Grundy's appointment must have been one, some or all of the reasons above given, and considering the mental and moral equipment of those concerned it was a natural selection.

—We fear that the value of the Watchman as an advertising medium is not understood by some people. Last week we gratuitously made mention of a young man's having gone into business for himself in Bellefonte. We did it because he was courteous and interested in our troubles when we had occasion to resort to the place of his previous regular employment. He didn't read the Watchman—probably knew that such a paper is published in Bellefonte—but couldn't understand why he suddenly got a nice run of business until some of his unexpected patrons told him that they had seen what the Watchman said about him and had come to try his wares. As a matter of fact we think the Watchman is a mighty potential advertising medium for two reasons: First it has been fearless in telling the truth about all things so consistently that its readers have a respect for its sayings that they don't have for many other papers. Second: It's readers are the kind of people whose trade is worth having.

Christ = Love

The Spirit of Christmas

Charity—full, free for each day.

Hope—to hearten us on our way,

Reason—to balance right and wrong

Ideals—to "starr" us through the throng.

Staunchness—for friend and foe, alike,

Temptations—enough to prove our might

Love—to broaden our clouded sight,

Order—to place all thought aright.

Virtue—and deeds, and actions done,

Enough to gladden each day begun.

WINIFRED B. MEER-MORRIS, 1929

Mellon Demands Martin for Governor

At a conference held in New York, last Sunday, State Treasurer Edward Martin was selected as the Republican candidate for Governor next year. Those in the conference were Governor Fisher, Senator Grundy, Mr. Martin and W. L. Mellon, Martin is the choice of the Mellon contingent. It is understood that Grundy preferred Samuel Lewis, who has long been a Grundy follower. The Mellon adherents are a trifle afraid of putting too much power in the hands of the new Senator, however, and have asked him to accept Martin, to which, according to gossip, he has acceded. Possibly they will allow the voters of the party to select the candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

The selection of General Martin has not been cordially received by the party leaders outside of the Mellon coterie. His administration of the office of State chairman has not been either successful or satisfactory. It is said that he was responsible for the break in Westmoreland county which resulted in the nomination of a Democrat by the Republicans for judge. He was also blamed for bad conditions in Erie and Fayette counties and the labor element of the party is openly antagonistic to him. Then a strong voice has been raised against him in Philadelphia. The leaders there protest that inasmuch as Vare has been cruelly knifed one of his friends ought to be nominated for Governor and have put the name of Francis Shunk Brown into the running.

After the conference, which was held in Grundy's apartment in a hotel in New York, Governor Fisher boldly proclaimed Grundy as supreme boss of the party in Pennsylvania. This declaration didn't create a tuneful sound in the ears of the Philadelphia crowd. Some of the county leaders also remonstrated against it as too hasty a conclusion. But the Governor relies upon the force of Mellon and Grundy, which pulled him out of a bad hole in 1926. He seems oblivious of the fact that the Mellon influence was at its peak then and has been waning since. It may be able to compel Grundy to accept Martin as his running mate next year, but that invites doubts of the future.

—If all the money is spent in improvements within the next year that has been promised in the various Presidential conferences there will be a scarcity of labor instead of a condition of unemployment.

—We ask Mr. Grundy no recompense for unsolicited information but take the liberty to inform him that his troubles are only beginning.

—The saxophone has been invoked as an instrument in surgery. That is the first valid excuse for the saxophone.

—The deficit of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year last ended was \$85,000,000, but nobody complains.

—General Butler seems to have been talking too freely and too frankly.

An Interesting Scrimmage Spoiled.

If Mr. Vare's health had not so opportunely broken we might have had a lovely scrimmage in the Republican primary campaign next Spring. As conditions were when Mr. Grundy donned the Senatorial toga on Thursday the chances for combinations were exceptionally bright. Grundy is under obligation to enter the contest for the nomination and with Vare and Pinchot in competition, and an alert public watching the distribution of the "sineas of war," it would have been a hard fight with an uncertain result. But it may now be assumed that Vare is out of it entirely and Pinchot is too wise or too timid to undertake a single-handed battle with the Mellon machine.

It is certain that the machine will have a combination but thus far no hint has been given as to the candidate for Governor. According to the "dope" current at Harrisburg and Philadelphia if Mr. Vare's health had not broken Secretary of Labor Davis would have been his candidate for Governor and the ticket would have made a strong appeal to the labor element of the electorate. Upon the same authority it may be said that Marine General Smedley Darlington Butler would have been on the Pinchot slate for Governor as an enticement to the soldier element. It is whispered that Uncle Andy Mellon has a strong inclination in favor of former Ambassador Fletcher for Governor on the Grundy slate.

In such a three-cornered contest one guess would be as good as another as to the result. The Mellon machine has been waning in strength for some time and with Vare in full vigor in Philadelphia the Grundy influence would be of little value. With Vare retired, which now seems more than probable, Grundy would most likely inherit the Philadelphia contingent and renew the lease of the Mellon crowd to control of the State organization for "four years more." But it will not be an easy or peaceful party administration. The opposition of the labor organizations to Grundy is of long standing and deep seated, and though his nomination may be easily accomplished his election is anything but certain.

—Senator Hefflin has been properly kicked out of the Democratic party of Alabama. If the charge of disloyalty doesn't stand the fact that he is a nuisance is available.

—The Soviet government of Russia has given a broad hint to Secretary of State Stimson that it would be wise for the United States to mind its own business.

—Commander Byrd, having flown over the South Pole, says the purpose of his expedition has been achieved but he will continue his work for a while longer.

—Two men trying to get themselves arraigned for murder was a novelty of the Montgomery county court the other day.

—Vare's health again becomes an important factor in the politics of Pennsylvania.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE

—An eight-legged deer was found shot near Laurelton. W. C. Burns, of Northumberland, found it. There were two sets of legs.

—Contending that his wife played "too rough," Sidney Woods, of Newell, Fayette county, has filed a libel in divorce against Frances E. Woods, now of Jessup, Ga. He says she broke his finger with a poker, threw a flat iron at him and was so troublesome that he could not sleep nights.

—The home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stapleton, of Postoria, was visited by thieves who stole 75 pounds of lard and all the meat from two hogs, weighing 200 pounds each which were recently butchered. The meat was in a shed. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stapleton is under quarantine, a child there being ill.

—Six carloads of brick, 21,000 of them, each nine inches in length, were shipped from the Curwensville plant of the American Refractories company last week, their destination being the Philippines islands. They were purchased by the United States government and H. M. Merryman, an inspector for the navy department, approved them before the cars were sealed. The shipment totaled 164,000 pounds.

—A \$20,000 verdict awarded to Mr. and Mrs. William Grimes, of Williamsport, plaintiffs in a suit against Mrs. Dorothy Hergeshimer, wife of Joseph Hergeshimer, well known magazine writer and author, by a Chester county jury, by agreement of counsel, was reduced to \$13,000. Grimes and his wife were injured when their machine was struck by the Hergeshimer limousine at Chester road and West Chester pike.

—After years of search the efforts of the Lycoming county historical society have been rewarded in the acquisition of a dug out canoe such as was used in the early navigation of the rivers of Pennsylvania. The canoe is made from a white pine log with a flat bottom and sharp pointed bow and stern. It is about twenty-five feet long, eighteen inches in width and twelve inches in depth. It can accommodate several persons and was evidently propelled with a long pole.

—Capitalists have recently been seeking information in regard to the water power owned by the Mann Edge Tool company near Mill Hall. The present concrete dam was built several years ago, and succeeded the old leaky dam which was built in the summer of 1889 and was washed out in the flood of that year. The several large streams that empty into the dam are fed from a number of never-falling springs. The water supply is adequate for any demand that may be needed.

—Falling headfirst to the cement floor of the state highway department warehouse below Selingsgrove, Russell E. Yoder, aged 27, an employee of the department was instantly killed. His neck was broken in the drop of twenty feet. Mr. Yoder, who was a graduate of the Selingsgrove High school, had been employed by the department since 1924. He was assisting on electrical work, and it is believed that he fell from a rafter and plunged through the thin sheeting of plaster board. He was dead when fellow workmen reached him.

—Acquisition of a tract of 1648 acres of land in Lancaster county, six miles north of Ephrata, was announced by the State Game Commission today. Two other tracts were purchased in Monroe and Sullivan counties, the three purchases aggregating 8474 acres. The commission now owns 160,034 acres, of which 27,530 are refuges on which hunting is prohibited. The Montgomery County Sportsmen's Association presented at the commission with a check for \$383 to perpetuate the dedication of the Fisher State game farm in that county.

—Guy C. Brosius, of Lock Haven, superintendent of the Clinton county public schools, has interested himself in the advancement of music and art in the county schools during the past several years, and the school districts of Mill Hall, Flemington, Lamar, Beech Creek borough, in Clinton county, and the Liberty township High school board of Centre county, have cooperated in securing a music supervisor for their schools. An organization meeting of these school boards will be held in the near future when a music supervisor will be selected from any applicants who may have presented themselves with the proper credentials at that time.

—Paul Fisher, 77, Phoenixville, must pay the Phoenixville hospital \$5009.02 for medical treatment and board the Chester county court decided this week. The court refused to open a judgment in that amount placed against the aged man. Fisher was seriously injured in August, 1924, when an iron beam fell on his leg while he was working at the Phoenixville iron works. He was removed to the hospital, where he stayed nearly five years. According to hospital authorities, Fisher represented he had no funds, but was able to pay \$5 a week. Later, the hospital learned he had \$6500 in bank and charged him at the rate of \$3 a day.

—Working desperately, a first aid crew restored consciousness to Jeff Devoe, 32, a West Penn Power company employee, after the man had been struck by 44,000 volts of electricity, at Ridgway on Saturday. Devoe was installing new circuit breakers in the Ridgway sub-station of the company when fellow employees saw a flash of light and then found his body on the floor. He was picked up for dead but recovered after artificial respiration was resorted to by the first aid crew. It is believed that the current jumped from the high tension line to Devoe's body rather than that he actually came into contact with the line itself. He was burned about the head and shoulders.

—Entering two Atlantic and Pacific stores in Harrisburg, three youthful and well-dressed bandits held up and robbed the stores and patrons Saturday evening, escaping with \$360 in cash and a watch after binding attendants and customers and forcing them into a closet. The robberies occurred within fifteen minutes of each other, the bandits entering 1294 State street, taking \$200 there and then the store at Seventeenth and Walnut streets, where they struck a clerk, Paul Davidson, over the head with a gun when he did not move fast enough to suit them. The bandits obtained \$140 from the store and \$30 from John Howells, a customer, at the second store. A similar robbery was reported two hours later in York, \$150 being taken.

"Bill" Fielding to Enter Welfare Work in City.

"Every cop is a social welfare worker. Some of them know it and do a good job, but many of them don't know it and that's what causes confusion and misunderstanding," declared Lieut. Billy Fielding, of the Greenwich street police station, New York city, to a newspaper man last week. The lieutenant has spent twenty-five years as a "cop" in New York and on New Year's day he will sign his desk blotter for the last time and retire on a pension. But he don't propose to sit down in a comfortable chair and twirl his thumbs the balance of his life. No, indeed! He's going to devote the rest of his years to welfare work, and from the way he looked the last time the writer saw him he ought to be good for twenty-five years at that job. His field of work is to be with some large industrial corporation and he has several in view.

Lieut. Fielding is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Fielding (or Felding) and was born in Buffalo Run valley 52 years ago. The family later lived at Houserville and for a time at Oak Hall. William was educated in the public schools of the county and was 21 years old when the Spanish-American war broke out. He joined company B and went south for service under Col. H. S. Taylor, but failed to reach Cuba. Of sturdy build he went to New York in 1904 and took the examination for appointment on the police force and made good. During his twenty-five years he has served in every capacity from the ordinary patrolman "cop" to desk sergeant, and that is why he knows that every "cop is" or should be, "a social welfare worker."

Mr. Fielding, by the way, married a Centre county young woman, Miss Sarah C. Keichline, a daughter of the late George Keichline, of Ferguson township, and they live in a very comfortable home at 21 Sea View avenue, Uew Dorp, Staten Island. During their quarter of a century's residence in New York they made it a point to return to Centre county every year or two and their last home trip was in September, 1927, when the lieutenant was driving a new Reo car and was as chipper as the day he donned his first cop's uniform.

Christmas in Russia.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph. Wouldn't you love to live in Russia? The Soviet government has just banned the sale of toys there lest somebody might celebrate Christmas. There shall be no observances of the holiday, the authorities have decided. "Down with religion," cry the Bolsheviks, "down with all things, spiritual. This is a material world."

Poor fools! They're more to be pitied than censured, to use the refrain of an old song. Material! Why Christmas is not only spiritual; it is in its essentials all of that, indeed, but it has another side, too. Christmas in the United States is the occasion for the spending of hundreds of millions of dollars. Many mills and factories exist only because of the Christmas trade. If America should stop celebrating Christmas thousands of people would find themselves suddenly out of work and thousands of storekeepers and clerks would be seriously affected. This must be true of Russia, too, for Christmas was a great feast day in that country in the old days.

For a decade, now, Russians have been told there is no God. They have been preached at and scolded at the score of religion. Priests have been murdered and churches desecrated. But still the urge to celebrate Christmas is so great that the Soviet government must issue an official ukase to prevent the sale of toys and a general observance of the day.

The Bolsheviks apparently are of the opinion that they can change human nature overnight. They are seemingly in utter ignorance of the fact that the feast of Christmas and its attendant customs, developed through centuries, are society's response to a profound human need. The impulse lies beyond the limited vision of those who in the vainglory of a moment of temporal power are attempting to abolish God. Christmas will be celebrated long after the Russian mis-adventure shall have become ancient history—half-forgotten except by students and scholars.

—By way of adding a little to the joy of the Christmas season we want to bid the local shoe dealer who is advertising foot-wear for "women of all rubber construction." Also the Altoona movie proprietor who has a show in which he says there are "1000 girls, all natural color." One must admit that either case presumes something very unusual in feminine composition.

—Tomorrow, December 21st, is the shortest day in the year.