

Advice to those who expect to attend the spring farm sales that will take up all of the month of March: Be sure of whose note you go on.

The war in the Republican party in Pennsylvania isn't to give the State better government. It is to get the jobs for others than them that have them.

Five Lyons, Nebraska, youth died because they drank an anti-freeze solution thinking it to be home made wine. We don't know how old or how large a place Lyons is, but we would like to know whether five other persons ever drank themselves to death there in the whole history of the town.

Since Easter won't get here until April twentieth most of the new spring bonnets then will be looking like the hat that the Dean of Men at The Pennsylvania State College wrote an elegy about last fall. If what we mean is not quite clear to you it is evident that you never saw the Dean's hat. It looked like the thing Tom Heflin always raises when the Pope looks cross-eyed at the United States.

We are advised by an anonymous correspondent to watch Cal. Our informant calls him a "cutie." She says he is "visiting around among his friends, after shunting the inevitable onto the shoulders of Hoover, merely to get ready for 1932." Being a guest every where he goes costs Cal nothing. She even suggests that the butt of a cigar he threw to the mob of sycophants in California would never have reached them had not the original been given to him.

If Kiwanis sponsored the debate that was held in the court house here last Friday night then Kiwanis ought to be ashamed of itself. We don't know yet whether that young man from Asbury college who got up and opened his address with a very graceful expression of gratitude for the splendidly cordial reception Pennsylvania was greeting him and his colleague with was being satirical or merely repeating something that had been memorized in anticipation of something that didn't materialize. If there had been Texas hot welters strewn along the bar rail we'll bet all of the Kiwanians would have been after the attendance prize.

Zaro Agha, a Turk who says he is one hundred and fifty-six years old, is to be brought to this country and exhibited by the Anti-Saloon League. He says he never took a drink in his life. This might be so. But if we are to believe what our Near East Relief friends—and our Near East Relief friends are nearly all Anti-Saloon Leaguers—have to say about what the Turks do to the Armenians we should think they ought to be knocking old Zaro Agha in the head. Giving him such a nice long trip won't convince many Americans that total abstinence would insure their matching his longevity. Besides, it might encourage more Turks to refrain from the cup that cheers and thereby give them a few more years to knock off a few more Armenians.

We want advice. The fifteenth of April is approaching and we must have a cabin in which to rally all our expert piscatorial friends. If we don't have such a rendezvous we don't have much luck on opening day. Because, left to our own resources, we become prone to reminiscence of how easy it was to get them thirty years ago and discouragement over how hard it is to get them now. We have a new cabin all planned with a perfectly appointed kitchen. We know it will not be lacking in a single utensil because we are going to do what most everyone else just starting to house-keeping does. We are going to have a kitchen shower. All that is needed to complete the cabin is for some one to tell us how we can pull a lumber shower, a carpenter shower and a plumber shower. The latter is especially desirable because we prefer to be singing in a bath tub to singing in the rain.

The report of the last meeting of the Woman's Club of Bellefonte encourages the thought that the good women of the town are concerned for the welfare of the children who are permitted to roam our streets at night. At least they discussed ways and means of keeping them off the streets and we add a fervent amen to any endeavor to that end. However, in the light of what happened in the Centre county Court, on Wednesday, we think the Club ought to be just as concerned about keeping young girls and boys out of the Temple of Justice when such filthy cases as were up for trial that day are being argued. While it is probable that "flaming youth" knows all and more of the degradation that was dragged out of the pitiable girl who was on the stand it seems to us that common decency should aim to shun rather than permit such exposures in the presence of those of tender years. If what has reached our ears is true it was so hot that some of the old "attending court" fans would have taken off their coats had they not been afraid of being invited to leave and consequently missed something.

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A Ticket for Democrats to Consider

The meeting of the Democratic state Executive Committee in Harrisburg, on Tuesday, stimulates hope that the party will present a solid front with a strong ticket for the coming campaign in the State.

While the hold-backs—and there are always a few abroad—will justify their political lethargy by charging that the Executive Committee was trying to cram a ticket down the party's throat, such an attitude will stand on an exceedingly flimsy basis.

The Committee attempted nothing of the sort. In fact it went back to a plan that nearly brings back to life the old and satisfactory convention system of making nominations. It merely canvassed the field of possible nominees and selected from them those who would be willing to run and, at the same time, have character and personality strong enough to encourage hope that they could rally votes. These names have been placed on a tentative ticket and forwarded to the committeemen of the party in every county in the State for consideration and report. If the advice of the county committeemen is adverse to anyone of the nomination papers will not be filed. On the other hand the State Committee will interpose no obstacle in the way of anyone else who might aspire to a place on the ticket.

It seems to us that chairman Collins has handled a delicate situation most tactfully. Some one has to plan for and lead the party in order to make it a cohesive, militant force in the State. He has done a fine job thus far and it will ill become any Democrat to try to distort a merely suggested ticket into a boss-made one.

Mr. Collins doesn't want to be a boss. He is an old fashioned Democrat and is only trying to rally enough of that spirit into the party to get it to stand up and discover how strong it really is in Pennsylvania.

The suggestions of the Executive Committee include the following: Lawrence H. Rupp, who is recommended for the gubernatorial nomination, is a lawyer in Allentown. He is widely known throughout the State. As a speaker he has few equals. His ability as a lawyer is outstanding.

He has been a leading figure in the party for many years and has been a strong advocate for humanitarian and welfare legislation.

Sedgwick Kistler, recommended for United States Senator, is the member of the Democratic National Committee from Pennsylvania. He comes of an old and well-known Pennsylvania family. His home is in Lock Haven, where he has large leather manufacturing interests. He is regarded as a wealthy man with strong charitable instincts and has made large contributions to numerous institutions.

Colonel W. C. Bambrick, for Lieutenant Governor, was former superintendent of the Orphans' Home at Scotland, Pa. He also served as county treasurer of Franklin county.

Mrs. Lucy D. Kinston is the first woman ever nominated for a major State office in Pennsylvania. Her home is in Mechanicsburg. She is president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Judge Henry C. Niles, of York, for the Supreme Court, is one of the most prominent jurists of the State. He has taken a strong stand against the Volstead law. Both Aaron E. Reiber, of Butler, and George F. Douglas, of Philadelphia, for the Superior Court nominations, are outstanding lawyers.

In these modern times: A statesman is one with a bar'l large enough to make it worth while for politicians to exploit him. A politician is one who makes and operates political machinery that will grind the largest grist for him.

A lieutenant is one who rounds up the voters in the hope that the politician will throw a small political job his way.

A voter—on the average—is one who thinks he is saving his country and is really only saving jobs for whichever gang he falls in with.

On January 17 we said that if Sam Lewis knew his political strategy as well as he knew figures in the fiscal affairs of Pennsylvania he could force the Republican organization to make him its candidate for Governor. Sam evidently knew what we thought he should for Grundy has declared for him, Fisher has swallowed him and all their satellites are yellin' for him.

It is estimated that each person in the United States is worth \$3000. May be that is true but the distribution is sadly uneven.

The Grundy-Lewis Petitions.

The fact that the Grundy and Lewis nomination petitions are being distributed from the office of State Chairman Edward Martin, in Harrisburg, would seem to confirm the impression that they have been adopted as the candidates of the Grundy-Mellon organization and that the campaign expenses of the candidates are to be "cut to the bone." Over 700 of the petitions were mailed to county chairmen and other influential Republicans on Thursday of last week, the labor having been performed by the employees of the Auditor General, who are paid for their time by the State Treasurer. A considerable saving was effected by that shift of expenses from the candidates to the Commonwealth.

Mr. Grundy is a very wealthy man and in the nature of things his resources will be vastly increased when the new tariff bill goes into operation. It has been estimated that Pennsylvania industries will stand to gain several millions of dollars annually by the increased duties. That being true it might be presumed that Grundy would be able to pay all the expenses of his campaign for Senator out of his own pocket. It is not likely that campaigning will be as expensive in Pennsylvania this year as it was four years ago, when Mr. Grundy contributed about \$400,000 to the nearly \$2,000,000 fund spent to nominate Pepper and Fisher for Senator and Governor, respectively.

Possibly the resolution introduced by Senator Norris, the other day, to create a "Senatorial watch dog" on campaign expenses had something to do in the matter. But even if such a committee is authorized it is not likely to scrutinize the source of the slush fund as closely as the disbursement. There is no law on the statute books which forbids public officials from giving their time to promoting the political ambitions of a candidate. But there is an unwritten law which requires public officials to give their time to the State, and diverting them from their routine service to dispatching nominating petitions for machine candidates might be construed as a sort of moral delinquency.

The Wilkins South Pole expedition has discovered 300 miles of hitherto unknown Antarctic coast. But it hasn't discovered any practical way of using it.

Rotten System of Government.

According to evidence submitted to the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce, the other day, three Pennsylvania public service corporations padded their capital accounts to a total of \$9,200,000 for the purpose of fixing the rates of service to consumers. One of these companies put in a charge of \$700,000 paid for lobbying. The others were less specific as to the cost of organization and simply dumped in lump sums, one of \$9,000,000, which was \$3,000,000 in excess of actual investment and the other \$11,000,000, which was exactly double the actual investment. The presumption is that every corporation of considerable proportions in the State padded in about the same ratio.

The rates for service of these corporations are fixed by State and Federal Public Service Commissions upon the basis of capitalization. That is, each corporation is allowed to charge consumers a rate which will yield a fair profit on the capital investment. In one important case, recently decided by the Supreme court of the United States, the rate fixed as reasonable was eight per cent and the corporation was allowed to enter as capital an item of \$5,000,000 for a franchise which had been given by the city free of charge. Thus the corporation was handed a license to rob the community of approximately \$400,000 a year perpetually.

This system of looting the public is what Senator Joseph R. Grundy appraises as progressiveness. The "backward" States of the West and South have not adopted these methods of development and because of their failure to take advantage of opportunities he would deny them an equal voice with Pennsylvania in framing the laws of the country. As a matter of fact, however, the people of Pennsylvania are boons for permitting corporate bandits to thus despoil them of their resources. The election of Grundy to the Senate will be a popular approval of a policy which Senator Couzens, of Michigan, denounced as "one of the rottest exhibitions of government" he has ever seen.

Blaming the Wrong Persons.

President Hoover may have a just cause of complaint against some body because of the failure of the Senate to enact a tariff bill within a reasonable time. It is a certain sign of delinquency on the part of the leadership of his party. But in his recent statement he, by inference at least, blamed the wrong persons. The so-called insurgent Republicans in the Senate are not responsible for the failure to legislate. The Democratic Senators are under no obligations to serve his partisan purposes. Those Senators who set out to impose upon the country an unjust burden of tariff taxation, for a sinister purpose, are to blame, and President Hoover ought to tell them so.

The call for a special session of Congress was to meet to enact legislation that would assure to farmers equal benefits of tariff protection with manufacturers and incidentally bolster up languishing industries. But the leaders of his party prepared, and tried to force to passage, a measure which would guarantee to campaign contributors such unearned bonuses as would reimburse them and convert their contributions into profitable investments. This deliberate purpose to loot the treasury was resented, not only by the Democratic Senators but by every Republican in the chamber who is influenced in his official action by conscience. They had no other course to pursue.

A tariff bill such as was pledged by the Republican National convention and was recommended by the President in his call of the special session might, and probably would, have been enacted by both branches of Congress and approved by the President within sixty days from the beginning of the session. But Joseph R. Grundy and other malign influences appealed to the cupidity of tariff-mongers and the wishes of the President were sacrificed to the avarice of political piracy. What the President ought to have done on his return from his fishing trip was to call the leaders of his party in the Senate to the White House and inform them they are wrecking his administration.

Senatorial togas are all right for exhibition purposes but they have no influence on the question of taxing manufacturers in Pennsylvania. That is why Grundy is so anxious about the Governorship.

Properly Pruning the Tariff Bills

When Senator Norris proposed to amend the tariff bill by inserting a provision that "all duties would be suspended on any commodities on which a monopoly in the domestic field might be shown to exist," he touched a tender point in the armor of the protectionists. The amendment would authorize any citizen to initiate proceedings in the customs court "on evidence that there is interference with the free conditions of competition with respect to the production, sale or distribution of any article given tariff protection." In other words, it is not the purpose of tariff legislation to foster monopoly under the pretense of promoting industry.

It was this idea which Senator Walsh, of Montana, had in mind when he proposed to cut the Finance committee's levy on aluminum approximately two-thirds. That proposition rather shocked the tariff mongers in charge of the bill but the Montana Senator justified it by submitting evidence indicating that "the Aluminum trust has violated the consent decree of 1912 at which time there were accusations of monopolistic practices." The Aluminum trust is composed largely of the Mellon family, of Pittsburgh, and is one of the units of the great wealth of that family. Uncle Andy is greatly concerned in the matter of protection for this industrial infant, which only earned a trifle less than one hundred per cent on its capital last year.

Senator Watson, Republican floor leader, is in dispar over the tariff bill. After a disappointing session, the other day, he expressed the belief that the measure will pass the Senate on or soon after the 1st of March. "But," he added dolefully, "it will not be a good Republican bill." For that the country may be grateful. A good Republican tariff bill would give the monopolies, trusts and giant corporations unlimited license to loot the consumers of the country in order to guarantee more liberal contributions to the campaign slush fund in the election of 1932. The country has had enough of such legislation and is fed up on the corruption which follows.

The Philadelphia police department seems to be "electioneerin' for a hickin'.

Futile Fight but Worth While.

The somewhat prolonged discussion of the qualifications of Charles Evans Hughes for the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme court failed of its purpose but it was worth while. The object which Senators Norris and Borah and Walsh and other high-minded and well-meaning Senators had in mind in opposing the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Hughes was to secure in the court of last resort a preference for human rights, rather than property rights. The tendency during recent years, not only in the courts but in the legislation of the country, has been in the direction of exalting property rights. Charles Evans Hughes has become easily the most conspicuous advocate of that philosophy.

When Chief Justice Taft resigned his seat on the bench President Hoover, an apostle of the property rights 'cut, without consulting the bench, the bar or the public, named Mr. Hughes as his successor in such haste as to arouse suspicion that he was afraid to submit the question to calm consideration. This suspicion was strengthened by the prompt support volunteered by the monopolies, trusts and corporations which have interests in litigation before the court and their representatives on the floor of the Senate. The Senators who opposed confirmation had no selfish interests to promote or no personal prejudice against the nominee. But they raised their voices to protect the people from a grave danger.

The discussion, if a one-sided debate can be so called, was calm, dignified and free from vituperation. It is significant that the supporters of the nominee remained silent while the opposition was expressed in forceful and eloquent language. But the new philosophy, the philosophy of Grundy and Bingham and Hoover, had the power and exercised it. The nomination was confirmed by a two-to-one vote and was confirmed byeo v o shrfdwlll the doctrine of property rights against human rights is made more secure than ever in the highest court of the country. But in the process of achieving this result the mighty force of public opinion has been aroused as it has never been before and the victory of monopoly may be brief.

Anthracite coal from Russia is being delivered to New England ports at a dollar less a ton than Pennsylvania mines can put it there for. The explanation lies in the fact that Soviet Russia pays miners seven cents a day and forces them to work for that or to do without food tickets. The anthracite regions of Pennsylvania are full of miners who are trying to Sovietize America, yet they would dynamite everything in Luzerne and Schuylkill counties if anyone were to try to make them work for less than seven dollars a day.

Most of the past week has been unusually spring-like, with a range of temperature higher than has been experienced here in many years. Wild geese have been flying north, spring birds are making their appearance. On Sunday the writer saw a wasp in flight through the air, tulips are pushing through the ground, lilac buds are swelling and the grass is showing quite green. But remember, this is only the last day of February and we have all of blustery March ahead of us. Then Easter is unusually late this year, the 20th day of April.

Secretary of Labor Davis wisely reminds the world that he is still a candidate for Governor. But his statement of the fact lacks corroboration.

It is said that Mr. Grundy is more concerned about who shall be Governor than as to who shall serve the balance of Vore's term in the Senate.

President Hoover has called on Secretary Mellon to force the Senators to action and if Uncle Andy can't turn the trick it's hopeless.

It is a safe guess that the most interested spectator of the present political confusion in Pennsylvania is one Gifford Pinchot.

Maybe Governor Fisher is drawing comfort while listening to "what are the wild waves saying."

"Dummy" Mahon, boxer, has found out that parachute jumping is no cure for deafness.

Mr. Vore's conduct may not be a bluff but it is certainly a good imitation of one.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE

—Driving over the Seven Mountains from Centre county to Lewistown, Frank M. Hines ran over a small animal on the roadway. He found it was a porcupine, a rare animal in that section.

—The Dauphin county court on Friday sentenced George Parker, of Harrisburg, to serve six months in jail for selling his mother's furniture to secure funds for a trip to New York. Parker admitted he disposed of the goods while his mother was away from home at work.

—The body of Mrs. Castner, 32, was found last Friday, in the cellar of her home at Avoca, near Scranton. Her husband, Gervis Castner, who the police said had been drinking, was arrested on suspicion. State troopers and detectives said the body was cut in half with a saw and placed in two bags. The woman, it was said, was not outside her home for a week. A niece found the body.

—Harry A. Miller, 43, postmaster at Rockwood, Somerset county, has been paroled after the court was informed he had returned the \$1438 in postal funds he admitted embezzling while "on a spree." Miller pleaded guilty to the charge recently. Federal Judge F. P. Schoonmaker paroled him for two years, ruling, however, that Miller must go to jail if he drinks intoxicants during his parole.

—Uncontrolled dogs in 1929 killed 3338 sheep and 5438 chickens and caused a total damage to every class of livestock and poultry amounting to \$72,182, according to a report from the bureau of animal industry, Department of Agriculture. The number of animals killed by dogs follows: Hogs, 144; cattle, 25; goats, 13; horses, 3; ducks, 583; turkeys, 460; geese, 160; guineas, 56; domesticated rabbits, 762.

—Officials of the State Game Commission expect a record output from the farm in Juniata county where wild turkeys will be raised during the coming summer. The entire 500 acre farm will be enclosed with an eight foot fence to permit the birds to be raised under conditions similar to those which surround their totally wild mates, so that when they are released they will be able to care for themselves.

—Prompt action on the part of the health authorities has apparently succeeded in stamping out the smallpox epidemic, at Smethport, as no new cases have developed and the contagion period has been enforced at the homes of those ill with the disease, and also exposed persons. As the result of these wise precautions, the disease has had no chance to spread. Smethport physicians vaccinated over three hundred persons during the first few days of the epidemic.

—Northumberland county court clerk's office employees opened their eyes on Tuesday when a \$10,000 Liberty bond, something they had never seen before, was offered as bail for Irving A. Freedman, Shamokin merchant, convicted of arson. It will be held pending disposal of an application for a new trial. The bond is the property of B. A. Freedman, Mt. Carmel, the accused's father, whose name and that of M. H. Markley, Sunbury, as bondsmen for Freedman, had been objected to and a surety bond demanded by the District Attorney's office.

—Two men escaped last Friday after taking \$200 from the McGara Brothers' hardware store at Trafford. One robber entered the store and asked to have a bill changed. J. F. McGara, one of the owners, made the change from money kept in the safe and the man left. Soon a second man entered and asked for a pane of glass, which request sent McGara to the basement. The first man then came back and robbed the safe, and as McGara came upstairs he was forced to return to the cellar at the point of a revolver, and after rifling the safe the men made their escape.

—Three Shamokin young men, charged with robbing a Reading freight car were sentenced in county court at Sunbury, on Tuesday. Alfred, Bowman a pugilist, known as "Tiger Al," was sentenced to two to four years in the Sunbury jail and Joseph Strauser and Howard Heck to from one to four years. Each must pay \$25 fines and costs. All are married and under 20. Bowman and Strauser's wives, each 17, pleaded guilty to receiving the stolen goods, because they wore slippers from the loot. The court said: "You are mere children. Your husbands got you into this. I am going to send you home."

—Because she had her fingers crossed during her marriage ceremony, Mrs. Mary Frances Wilson, of Connellysview, told her husband that she had a right to break her marriage vows, according to testimony given by David Wilson, a railroad conductor who formerly resided at New-ell, but who now lives in Uniontown. The husband, who was granted a divorce said that when he objected to his wife's conduct she gave him the cross-finger ailment. Wilson declared that his wife's good-by each morning when he left home for work was the hope that he would be ground to pieces before the day's work ended.

—Mrs. Maria Tiliotta, 38 of Bristol, was sentenced on Monday, by Judge Samuel E. Shull, of Stroudsburg, sitting in Bucks county criminal court, to life imprisonment for her part in the killing of her husband, John Tiliotta. On December 29, 1928, Tiliotta was beaten by three men in the outskirts of Bristol. He died two days later after implicating his wife and Joseph Guido in the attack. The woman and Guido confessed plotting to hire the attackers. Guido was electrocuted at a Rockview penitentiary, on February 3. A friend of Guido, Giacomo Guiccardio, of Brooklyn, N. Y., accused as the man who arranged the attack on Tiliotta, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

—Forest ranger John Zeigler, of the Rothrock forest district, recently trapped a golden eagle in the mountains near East Waterford, Wind's Gap, Jackson township, Perry county. During the hunting season a deer was shot on the mountain and its carcass was left in the woods. Zeigler noticed that a large bird was feeding on the body of the animal and he set several fox traps nearby in an effort to ensnare it. Recently he sent Charles V. Long to visit the traps and he found a golden eagle trapped by one foot. After much trouble he succeeded in tying the bird. He took it to East Waterford and from there sent it to the State Game Commission office in Harrisburg. It is about the size of a turkey and measures 6 feet 4 inches from tip to tip.