

—Appropriately the President offers an apology to the country for approving the Grundy tariff bill.

—Up to this writing nothing has developed to prove that our old friends the "Afaletics" are so hot. And Mr. Al Simmons' bat. hasn't been making a noise that would justify his spring hold-out.

—Now that the sweet girl graduates have had the spot-light shifted from them they're out on the mad chase for most anybody who has money enough to pay for an occasional five cent drink at a fizz club.

—That Sharkey-Schmeling contest for the heavy weight championship had the aroma of over-ripe fish and if you've ever been kissed by a Siwash squaw after she has dined on that Siwash delicatessen you'll know exactly what we mean.

—The new tariff bill is passed, the President has signed it and nobody seems to be happy. Everyone knew that Mr. Hoover was a good engineer, but there are many who are beginning to fear that good engineers are not necessarily good Presidents.

—Wednesday news from Harrisburg was to the effect that the east wall of the new State building is eighteen inches out of plumb. Inasmuch as none of the engineers have offered an explanation as to how it got that way we venture one: Secretary Dorworth might have used it as a leaning post while pondering over his political future.

—Wheat is under a dollar a bushel, grass is short and thin, cut worms are in the corn, milk prices are down thirty per cent and receiving stations are grading two milk as three and the pledge of the St. Louis convention to do something for the farmers—which Mr. Hoover thinks he is keeping—is being kept like the old woman kept tavern out west.

—The new tariff bill has passed both the Senate and the House and the people who think a tariff is anything more than a local issue are seeing things already. They are seeing the farmer getting two dollars for his wheat and they are seeing men greasing up the wheels of industry and they are seeing a helluva lot of things being done by a tariff that only the natural law of supply and demand can do.

—So far as we have heard the Hon. Holmes has not started his campaign for the Legislature yet. When he does we'll bet he won't be pinning any roses on himself for having voted for the gasoline tax bill. Everytime you take a ride in your car just remember that the gas that is making it go cost you two cents a gallon more than there was any necessity for it costing you and the Hon. Holmes voted to put the tax on you.

—Jean Millet has gone to jail for a year for selling paintings as his grandfather's, painter of the "Angelus," own work. Poor Jean! It's just too bad. Especially so, since the chances are great that not one who bought the spurious canvases knew or ever would have known that they were not genuine Millet's. People who buy books by the foot and paintings by the square yard aren't worth sending the person who sells them to jail a minute for.

—The appeal we made last week for all our readers to get paid in advance has met with some response. While it has not been nearly as general as we would like it to be, we have hope that everyone of our subscribers will take it as seriously as it was intended and get into the advanced class before the thirty days have expired. We know our readers. Uncle Sam doesn't. And we'd like to introduce him to a subscription list that will tell him on its face that it should be the least of his worries.

—Mr. Morrow's overwhelming majority in the New Jersey senatorial primary is another straw that shows which way the wind is blowing. He was the first Republican of any eminence who had the courage to stop trying to ride a "wet" and a "dry" horse at the same time. His victory means just two things: The public is tired of pussey-footing politicians and the public comprehends many people who are gaining courage enough to vote their honest convictions, regardless of political expediency or ranting fanatics.

—The lady who wrote from State College to tell us that she didn't want to see us have to go to jail is a dear. During the eight years that ended last June seventh so many ladies thought jail was far too good for us that we had lost some faith in the gentler sex. The idea of going to jail isn't so horrible after one becomes inured to it—the idea we mean. Life has become such a struggle and turmoil that nine or twelve or eighteen months surcease from fighting to get the meal ticket each Saturday night seems almost like basking in the Elysian fields with nothing but a "sun suit" on. Gosh, we must snap out of this morbid frame of mind. The first thing we know we'll be batterin' on Sheriff Dep's big door and be asking for our number.

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Grundy Tariff Bill Passed.

The monstrous Grundy tariff bill passed the Senate finally on Friday of last week with forty-four votes in the affirmative, five of which were cast by Democrats, against forty-two negatives. It carries a burden of taxation much higher than any previous legislation in the history of the country. It has been forced to passage in violation of the Kansas City platform, and in contempt of the wishes of the President and against the protest of more than a thousand of the leading political economists of the country as well as a majority of the foremost manufacturers, farmers and business men. What malign influence led to this result can only be conjectured.

There was no excuse for increased tariff taxation at this time. The pretense that tariff taxing agricultural products will benefit producers is absurd. Products of the farm have never been, are not now and never will be imported in sufficient quantity to make a tariff tax beneficial to farmers. The statement that manufacturing interests need additional tariff taxation is deliberately falsifying the facts. The only purpose which the legislation achieves is the fulfillment of the pledges made by Joe Grundy that contributors to the Republican campaign fund would be reimbursed by increased tariff taxation. This will be accomplished at an expense of a billion dollars a year to consumers of the country.

The temporary triumph of the tariff mongers in the passage of this larcenous legislation will be short-lived. Past history proves that voters of the country resent such crimes against justice and reason. The tariff law which President Taft first denounced and subsequently signed, not only defeated his party in the following Congressional election but made him a one-term President. The Grundy law will not be an exception. If it has not already taken Mr. Grundy out of official life it will take his party out of control of Congress next November. And it will prevent for all time the establishment of an organized trading post on the floor of the Senate chamber.

—The President-elect of Brazil is having a fine time in this country but the new tariff bill is likely to undo the friendships he is trying to establish.

Chairman Huston's Lame Defense.

Chairman Huston, of the Republican National committee, shows scant respect for the intelligence of the members of that body in his recent letter justifying the misappropriation of funds entrusted to him as a lobbyist. In a form letter sent to each member of the committee he protests that "the charges against him growing out of his activities concerning Muscle Shoals legislation are the result of a campaign directed by partisan opponents in the hope of injuring the Republican National organization, the National Administration and myself." As a matter of fact the accusers of chairman Huston are mostly friends of the National administration who are striving to shield the President.

The complaints against Mr. Huston are that he was a conspicuous figure in a conspiracy to convert an immensely valuable property of the government to the ownership of the power trust and thus defeat a laudable purpose to provide cheap fertilization to the farmers of the country, and that he had misused funds contributed by a subsidiary of the power trust to strengthening his margin account in Wall Street speculative operations. To both charges he pleads guilty in his form letter to the committeemen and then trusts to their credulity to swallow the statement that the charges are based on malice.

On the day that chairman Huston's limping defense was made public the newspapers of this State carried an account of the suicide of a Wilkes-Barre banker who had embezzled a large sum of money from the bank in which he was employed. His trial for the crime was approaching and to escape the certain penalty he took his own life. In using money contributed to Muscle Shoals lobby fund for another purpose chairman Huston committed the same crime and the turpitude of one rests upon the other. Instead of trying to injure the National administration by making the charges against Huston the complainants are trying to save it. It is Huston who is injuring the President.

—It looks as if King Carol's profession of reform was a thinly disguised false pretense.

Interesting But Useless Adventure.

A new altitude record in aviation has been set. On June 4th, at Anacostia Field, Washington, Lieutenant Sousek, United States Navy, drove his small plane to a level of 43,166 feet above the surface of the earth. His ship is a Wright Apache, powered with a supercharged Pratt & Whitney Wasp engine. Lieutenant Sousek had previously acquired the world's seaplane altitude record, having just a year previously, in the same plane, fitted with pontoons, made a record of 38,560 feet. The previous record for all types was 41,829 feet and held by Will-Neuhenhoffen, of Germany. The rules required that that figure be exceeded by 328 feet. Lieutenant Sousek had more than 1000 feet to spare.

At the 43,000 feet altitude the temperature was 89 degrees below zero, an almost intolerable cold. "In this blasting cold," he says, "with this air so thin that it held the plane with difficulty, I remained twenty minutes trying to force the machine cockpit 'and letting everything go.' But he didn't do anything of the kind. When the feeling of despondency came upon him he 'pressed the valve of the oxygen tank tube and gave himself a good shot of the gas.' This restored his strength and courage and he repeated it as often as necessary. But when he returned to the earth he was very much exhausted.

These daring and grueling experiences are interesting to see or read about but to the average mind they are of little practical use. They contribute little, if anything, toward promoting the art or science of aviation. They are of no value either in offensive or defensive war operations, being too high for encounter with an enemy and too far from the target to drop bombs with efficiency. They may serve the purpose of gratifying adventurous spirits or flattering the vanity of ambitious operatives, careless of the lives of themselves or others. Of course Lieutenant Sousek showed wonderful courage, splendid endurance and much fortitude, and he is welcome to all the glory of his achievement.

—The Senate lobby committee kept itself alive too long. In the beginning it rendered some valuable service but in the end it degenerated into a public nuisance.

Interesting Problem to Politicians.

It may be assumed that the political minded element of the public will await with intense interest for further developments in the controversy between the Lobby committee of the Senate and Bishop James Cannon Jr. The Bishop has been treating the committee rather cavalierly since he appeared before it as a voluntary witness and finally, the other day, practically "thumbed his nose" at those members who were interrogating him. In other words, instead of answering pertinent questions relative to the subject under investigation he declared he would answer no more questions and left the room in a manner which led Senator Walsh to believe was "for the purpose of defying the committee."

Since the general conference of his church, in session at Dallas, Texas, recently, exculpated Bishop Cannon from charges of misconduct in connection with political activities and speculative operations of questionable character, he seems to have grown bold. The evidence of another witness revealed the fact that he had received a considerable sum of money for use in the campaign against Governor Smith which had not been accounted for, and the records of New York broker's office indicated that he had been engaged in some spurious transactions in bucket-shop speculations. But for some reason, against the protest of many members of the conference, that body gave him a clean bill of moral health.

When the Bishop first defied the committee by refusing to answer relevant questions, the chairman, Senator Caraway, justified his attitude. But Mr. Caraway insisted on answers to similar questions by other witnesses, even to the extent of threatening them with contempt proceedings. Other committees of the Senate charged with the same service have sent witnesses, including the multimillionaire, Harry Sinclair, to jail for refusing to answer questions. In view of these facts what will be done in this case is an interesting question. It is true that Tom Cunningham, Philadelphia politician, has escaped the penalty for several years. Probably Bishop Cannon will be put in his class.

The Only Sure Remedy.

Both the major political parties of Pennsylvania have reorganized for the impending campaign. The Democratic State committee assembled at Harrisburg and by unanimous vote and with much enthusiasm re-elected John R. Collins chairman, The Republican State committee met in Philadelphia and after an exceedingly vitriolic contest, re-elected General Edward Martin, State Treasurer, chairman. The Democratic meeting was cordial, confident and harmonious. The Republican session was acrimonious and spiteful. Each convention accurately expressed the spirit and temper of the party it represented.

The Democratic party is in the best form for a successful battle in Pennsylvania that it has been in for a quarter of a century. The Republican party is in the worst. The Democratic ticket, chosen by unanimous consent, is composed of persons of highest type. Each measures up to the Jeffersonian standard and commands not only the respect but the admiration of all right-minded men and women. The Republican ticket, with the exception of the candidate for Governor, is the hand-picked product of the Vore machine, which Mr. Pinchot has denounced as a band of thieves bent on looting the treasury of the Commonwealth.

It is for the people of Pennsylvania to decide between these two offerings. It will not do to say that Mr. Pinchot's election will afford a guarantee, or even a promise, of integrity in the government of the State. He may be as deserving as his friends claim, but in the event of the success of his party the Legislature and all the fiscal offices will be under control of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh political pirates, and the looting which Mr. Pinchot deplored will become inevitable. One man can't check the flood of corruption. The only way to guarantee honest administration of the government of Pennsylvania is to elect the Democratic ticket.

—Senator Reed admits that the Grundy tariff bill is bad, but he voted for it for the reason that a bad bill is better than no bill.

Hoover's Lame Apology.

President Hoover's apology for approving the Grundy tariff bill was a lame performance. A measure with the faults which he admits impair that piece of legislation, ought to have been vetoed. That it is so burdened had been previously pointed out both by Senator Reed and Senator Grundy, of Pennsylvania. Even the Republican floor leader of the Senate, Mr. Watson, of Indiana, lamented its weaknesses. The Senators may offer the excuse of political expediency. They are slaves to partisanship. But the President of the United States can present no such alibi. Besides, Mr. Hoover's is palpably insincere and deliberately misleading.

At the outset of his apology Mr. Hoover states in substance that the Grundy bill fulfills the Kansas City platform promise of tariff legislation that will benefit the farmer equally with the manufacturer. He certainly knows that is not true. As a matter of fact it provides no benefit to the farmer for the reason that farm products are rarely imported. But the increase in the tax on shoes, sugar, implements and many other commodities which the farmer has to buy affects him adversely and multiplies the burdens he has to bear. If Mr. Hoover imagines he can fool the farmer with such talk he is mistaken.

He will be equally disappointed in his expectation that the general public will be deceived by his platitudes with respect to the operations of the flexible provision. Before that feature of the bill can be employed a tariff commission must be appointed and the commission must make investigations and reports. These proceedings will consume so much time that both the patience and the resources of the farmers will be exhausted before relief can come to them by that process. It is a purely manufacturers' bill and a complete fulfillment of Joe Grundy's promises to campaign contributors.

—Anyways Joe Grundy is much better equipped to adorn a seat in the lobby than to occupy one in the Senate.

—The smoke screen raised by Senators Reed and Grundy was entirely too transparent to fool anybody.

—Read the Watchman and get all the news.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Items from the Watchman issue of June 25, 1880.

—The Democratic National Convention held in Cincinnati last week concluded its labors with the nomination of Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock for President. Only two ballots were necessary. Hon. W. H. English, of Indiana, was the unanimous choice for Vice President.

—Citizens of Spring Mills are engaged in making a public picnic ground among the lofty spruce trees that cover the base of "Egg Hill" just to the south of the rail-road station in that place.

—The large addition to the barn of Chaney and Thompson near Port Matilda was raised last Saturday. About seventy-five men turned out to help and every thing moved with more than one mishap. That occurred when a stick fell and slightly injured Frank Foust.

—James Marks, of Port Matilda, has in his possession a gun barrel that was found on Muncy mountain with nothing but the muzzle sticking out of the ground. It is four feet, nine inches long and has large open sights. Some think it must have been the weapon of an Indian.

—They are cutting wheat on some farms in Spring township.

—The new census gives Bellefonte a population of 3,005.

—W. F. Reber and Miss Gertie Butts, both of this place, were married on Wednesday the 23rd inst, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. Wm. A. Laurie. Miss Butts is the eldest daughter of the late Jere Butts and is a rather fine looking young lady. Mr. Reber is the court reporter for this judicial district, a lawyer by profession and a very clever young man.

—The new census gives the population of the principal towns of the county as follows: Bellefonte 3005, Philipsburg 1780, College Twp. 1430, Unionville 398.

—Words fall to express how hot the weather is.

—John Martin, a citizen of Howard, was killed at a barn raising on the farm of James Garner last Tuesday.

—A fire in the wood house of Samuel Decker, below Zion, destroyed the building, a lot of wood and some farm implements. Just when the fire was at its height a shower of rain came on, which probably saved Mr. Decker's house and barn.

—Last Monday a stock of wine rhubarb from the garden of G. W. Lonberger, on Nittany mountain, was brought into this office. The leaf measured thirteen feet in circumference, three feet across and three feet and a half from butt of stem to end of leaf.

—On Sunday night last, between 9 and 10 o'clock, quite a portion of the main steeple on the Presbyterian church here fell with a terrific crash, startling residents about Spring and Howard streets and crushing the church steps and side walk. For a long time some people have been saying that the steeple is unsafe while others insist it is the strongest part of the church. However that may be the Rankins who live on the corner across the street are uneasy and have a right to be.—(This steeple blew down during a windstorm in the afternoon in the fall of 1915, and the church was not damaged ED.)

—Mr. Frank P. Blair, of this place, was burned badly in the face and eyes by the explosion of a large fire cracker with which he was attempting to create consternation in a crowd at the Brockert-hoff house. He was standing on the balcony dropping the crackers to the pavement and while watching the effect of one he had just dropped another still in his hand went off with direful results to him.

—The Logan Hose Co., sixty men strong and accompanied by the band, will go to Altoona to participate in the big firemen's parade there on the 5th.

—Our citizens are all gratified to learn that there is now a prospect of getting a new rail-road station in Bellefonte. Last Tuesday Supt. Fugh of the main line and Supt. Pugh of the Tyrone Division, were here. After they left some hemlock seed and acorns were sown and just as soon as they grow into lumber we will have a new station.

—Ambassador Dawes has been offered the job of cleaning up Chicago, and if he accepts the offer it will be his biggest undertaking.

—There is likely to be something doing in Washington now. Bishop Cannon has ordered swift action on the prohibition bills.

—One source of present satisfaction lies in the certainty that the session of Congress will soon adjourn.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Coming in contact with an electric wire in the Gautier mill of the Bethlehem Steel corporation at Johnstown, on Sunday, Anthony Costlow, 27, electric repair man, was killed. He was working alone when the accident occurred and the body was found by a fellow workman.

—The insurance department of the Lock Haven Chamber of Commerce has been instrumental in securing a 7-cent cut in the fire insurance rates for mercantile buildings in the city of Lock Haven, because of the improvements to the Lock Haven water system made covering a period of more than a year.

—While seated at his desk calling the roll of officers a few minutes before midnight, last Thursday night, Wesley W. Guthall, 70, captain of the night watch at Pennsylvania State Industrial Reformatory, at Huntingdon, died in his chair. He had a record of 30 years continuous service at the reformatory.

—Franklin J. Graham, of Philadelphia, former assistant U. S. district attorney of Pennsylvania, was indicted by the special federal grand jury in Williamsport on Friday, on a charge of conspiring to violate the national prohibition law. The indictment presented against him was on one count. If convicted he faces a jail term of two years, a fine of \$10,000, or both.

—Several of 400 money orders stolen from the Rennerdale, Pa., postoffice have been cashed in different sections of the State and warnings have been broadcast to be on the watch for the forged orders. The person who has been cashing the stolen orders is described as follows: Between 40 and 50 years old, dark complexion, heavy, dark beard, stocky build, about five feet, seven inches tall, weight 175 to 190 pounds, and has the appearance of a farmer.

—Alfred C. Marshall, Jr., of Warriors Mark, and Camden W. McConnell, of Punxsutawney, are listed among those who have received commissions as second lieutenants in the United States army, having been graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point this year. Both students were active in scholarly and athletic lines. Both have left the academy for Baltimore, Md., from which point they will proceed to a regular army post to receive further military training.

—Dr. T. C. Harter, former member of the Legislature from Columbia county, was arrested on Monday, charged with the sale and possession of liquor, and was released in \$1000 bail to appear at the October term of court. Seven gallons of alleged whisky were found in a raid on the doctor's office. A youth arrested for drunkenness told police he had obtained the liquor from the doctor. Monday State trooper Unger visited the doctor and bought half a pint for \$1. The raid by State and local police followed.

—In the first year that graduates of the landscape architecture course from the Pennsylvania State college were invited to compete for the Rome Fellowship, which provides \$2500 annually for three years to be expended in study in Europe, H. Gordon Whiffen, a member of this year's class, was selected as one of the six finalists from the preliminary contest. Whiffen, who came to Penn State from the Selinsgrove High school, will start on his final problem this week, being given one month in which to complete it.

—Radio station WNBO, of Washington, Pa., was off the air two days following the snapping of a 100-foot radio mast three feet thick, after a family of wood peckers drilled a hole through the cedar pole. The station cancelled its program from 8.30 o'clock Friday night and resumed under temporary arrangements Sunday afternoon. It is believed the whining and singing caused by the tension of the antenna caused the birds to believe the pole was full of worms. Not only was the program interrupted, but hundreds of dollars of extra expense was caused, as the big poles are very expensive.

—Two bandits who held up and robbed a Pittsburgh bank messenger of \$2,300 on Monday morning were captured shortly after by police who used armed riot guns and tear gas bombs when the bandits abandoned their auto in which they were attempting to escape and fled into the cellar of a house at McKees Rocks. The men held up Joseph Stauff, the bank messenger for the South Hills Trust company, grabbed the money in a satchel and fled. Stauff was enroute to the Union Trust company to deposit the money when the holdup occurred. The officers were attracted to the men in the cellar by the barking of a dog.

—A rail road telegrapher who set the "stop" signals on his block before he dropped dead in his tower near Mt. Carmel, last Thursday, was credited with averting a collision of two trains with averted heart attack. Evan Frothero, operator at the Mount Carmel junction tower of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, managed to flash the fact that he was ill to the train dispatcher at Shamokin. The latter quickly sent back word to set the signals. Several minutes later a freight train pulled to a stop at the tower in response to signal and the crew found Frothero dead in the tower. Another freight pulled up a few minutes later and railroad men said had the signals not been set the two trains would have collided.

—The biggest subterranean body of water in the eastern part of the State lies underneath Shamokin and Coal township. One year ago the lower levels of the old Cameron mine were abandoned, pumps withdrawn, and the sections permitted to fill up with water. This week found the water up to the level of the present workings and all pumps in the section working at top speed in an effort to hold it back. Officials were confident this could be accomplished but if the force of the water accumulated underground proves to be great, a serious situation will develop. A new double slope with electric hoists is being sunk at the mine just beyond the abandoned area. It is down 170 feet and must go down 140 feet more before it reaches the basin. Here, again, officials feel the huge subterranean body of water will have no effect on the progress of the work but should the calculations prove amiss the new slope will be ruined.