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BELLEFONTE, PA., SEPTEMBER 25, 1931.

THE GOVERNOR HAS ANOTHER BRAIN STORM.

A few months ago Governor Pinchot gave unmistakable evidence of intention to call an extra session of the General Assembly. He was smarting under the defeat of his fantastic proposal to have what he was pleased to call a "Fair Rate Board" substituted for the Public Service Commission.

For a while the Governor had some backing for the project, but as it became generally understood that such a change meant nothing more in substance than placing in his hands the sole-right to "hire and fire" at will the public lost interest in the matter. It was a crazy notion in the first place, because merely changing the name of a commission could accomplish no change in its character. If the Governor had been given the right to "hire and fire" at will he could have seen to it that his "Fair Rate Board," or what ever new name the Public Service Commission might have been given, would be stuffed with members ready to carry out all the diabolical intentions he had of harassing the public utilities of the Commonwealth.

Even granting his intentions were good it would have been a dangerous enactment, for the same power placed in Pinchot's hands last fall might have been passed to a Governor elected by the public utilities three years hence.

There always was a suspicion in the minds of the well informed that the Governor's purpose in calling an extra session was not so much for the public weal as it was to further his own ambition to control the Republican delegates from Pennsylvania to the next national convention.

The matter of spending a quarter of a million dollars in calling a General Assembly together to do in the fall what it had refused to do in the spring probably never occurred to him to be a waste of public money. It wouldn't to a man with a mentality that doesn't click to the ridiculousness of begging alms for stricken (?) Pennsylvania from the Federal government one week and raising the salary of his wife's secretary from \$3600.00 to \$4200.00 the next.

He is so self centered that he failed to realize that his anti-public utility platform was dying on his hands.

Declining stock values, reductions in and passing of dividends awoke the public, however, to realize that industry is staggering under a load that it cannot carry if it is to be continually harassed by laws made for the exploitation of political opportunists. While Governor Pinchot did not bring this condition about certainly his ballyhoo was aiding and abetting it.

When he discovered that he became strangely silent about the "Fair Rate Board" panacea and immediately set about to find another excuse for calling an extra session. He just has to keep his name on the front pages.

At the recent American Legion relief-plan conference in Atlantic City the Governor's Adjutant General let it be known that an extra session of the General Assembly will be called—not for the purpose of bedeviling public utilities, but to provide jobs for the jobless.

"Jobs for the Jobless" should not be banked on by people who last fall heard the Governor offer automobile licenses at cut-rates.

He now proposes to justify his quarter of a million expenditure in calling an extra session and mortgaging our children for a ten million dollar bond issue in order to furnish jobs for us.

Ten million dollars would only be a drop in the bucket by way of relief in Pennsylvania. When we have forty-million surplus in the treasury now why burden posterity with payments of bonds that there is no necessity for floating? And what if posterity were called upon to pay such bonds just at a time when it might be in the same depressed condition we are today?

An extra session of the General Assembly could serve no other purpose than that of keeping Pinchot in the public eye.

A bond issue, however, would not be legal in Pennsylvania, unless approved by a vote of the electorate. By whatever juggling of the laws of the State the Governor might resort to to accomplish such a purpose there would be no money in sight for relief before next spring. By that time, if fundamental economic conditions have not righted themselves, the big interests back of President Hoover will have created a fictitious demand for labor and the unemployment situation will cease to be a smoke screen for political charlatans.

When the public discovered that the cost of electricity in the average American home is no more per day than the cost of a good cigar or a dish of ice cream it realized that Pinchot was making a mountain out of a mole hill. When it understands that voting money out of the public treasury to make jobs for the unemployed is a step toward the dangerous policy of paternalism it will grow just as cold to his latest proposal as it did to the subterfuge he resorted to to make himself the overlord of the public utility corporations.

We do not minimize the serious condition of the country. It is on the verge of panic, but we have brought it on ourselves and eleventh hour panaceas are not going to cure it. The trouble has been cumulative for years. Our manner of living has been raised to a higher plane, but before raising it we forgot to lay a proper foundation on which it might durably stand. Legislatures can't bolster up such a mushroom growth. It is a problem for the individual and the only legislation that might contribute help by way of permanently solving it lies in a reduction of the cost of government.

Instead of that, Governor Pinchot now proposes to add to it by calling an extra session that can do nothing. And all the while he prates about the woes of the taxpayers of Pennsylvania announcements are coming out of Harrisburg daily to the effect that he has raised the salary of this that or the other of his already well paid sycophants.

It cost Centre county \$74,466.78 less to conduct her affairs in 1927 than it did in 1930. A jump of such an amount in three years can scarcely be accounted for in any other way than mismanagement. What have the taxpayers-received for the extra price they have had to pay?

The thing that Centre county needs more than anything else is a new Board of Commissioners. A Board with the courage to stand up against the raids on the treasury that are being made through the imposition of new offices, and costs that for the most part could be eliminated if there were less thought of partisan politics and more of what the taxpayers are able to bear.

Watson Opposes Tax Increase.

Senator Watson, of Indiana, floor leader of the Republican party, is very much opposed to an increase of taxes, not because it would be inimical to public interest but for the reason that it "would lead to the enactment of a dole, unemployment legislation and other radical measures." He doesn't indicate how or why one result would follow the other or in what way the tax favored by Senator Reed, of Pennsylvania, is more objectionable than the tariff system of larceny which he favors in common with Reed and Smoot. A sales tax is an indirect method of robbing the consumer but a tariff tax accomplishes the same purpose in precisely the same manner. It is "a distinction without a difference.

As President Green, of the American Federation of Labor, states, a sales tax "is unfair and unjust" because it discriminates against the poor and in favor of the rich. "The cost of government should rest more heavily upon those who receive the greatest benefits," he adds, which is not only logical but true. But the tariff tax works precisely the same injustice and is equally secretive in its processes. Nobody knows how much tax is levied upon a suit of clothes but everybody realizes that it is considerable and that most of it goes to the dealer instead of the treasury. But the mention of a sales tax makes Senator Watson's heart bleed while a tariff tax floods him with satisfaction.

Senator Watson had just emerged from the President's sanctum when he gave out his views on the subject, but unlike Senator Fess, on another occasion but under similar circumstances, he didn't claim to express the executive mind. On the contrary he declared the President's mind is "open" on the subject. "I do not think any revision will be necessary," he said, "as long as the Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, is on the job and can sell short-term securities." As long as it is possible to borrow there is no necessity to pay and the late Mr. Micawber couldn't have expressed the philosophy in plainer terms.

Monday was the first day of fall and it was ninety in the shade. Since we haven't the wherewithal to flit to the Riviera the Bermudas, Florida or California we wouldn't hold it against the weather man if the twenty-first day of December were to be just as hot. It isn't buying coal that irritates us so much. It is shoveling it and carrying out the ashes.

"Fatty" Arbuckle was arrested in Hollywood on Sunday. While we are sorry that "Fatty" has gotten into the toils of the law again we were glad to hear that he is still among the living. There is a man who worked years to build a career and let "wine women and song" bust in on one night.

Commissioner McGovern, the Pinchot leader in Allegheny county, is scared stiff lest he might be counted out of his primary victory of last week. If counting Pinchot in last fall was sauce for the gander counting McGovern out this year ought to be the same for the goose.

Why a recount of the votes in Pittsburgh? Everything seems to be so rotten out there that no more faith would be had in the accuracy of a recount than there seems to be in that of the original tally.

THANKS.

J. M. Keichline hereby casts a vote of thanks to the Democrats and Republicans of the South and West wards of Bellefonte for having voted to make him the nominee of both parties for the office of Justice of the Peace.

J. M. KEICHLINE

I desire to express my appreciation to the people of Centre county for their delightful treatment to me during my campaigning, and the very liberal support they gave me. Considering that I ran my campaign absolutely alone, without any organization back of me, I shall never forget the pleasant greetings I had from so many, as they met me at their doors.

With very kindest regards,
C. C. SHUEY

The campaign for the nomination for sheriff was a spirited but friendly contest, and I enjoyed every moment of it because I formed many new acquaintances whose friendship I treasure as the most precious jewels in my urn of remembrance. I said nothing unkind about any of my opponents; and, in turn, I hold nothing against them I would ask them to retract. This leads me to the conclusion that there is as much honor in politics as there is in any other game, if properly conducted. I have learned much of the wants and wishes of the people of Centre county, and I hereby pledge myself, if elected, to perform the functions of the high office of Sheriff to the best of my ability. Let us continue to the end the willing spirit of give and take, and earnestly strive to preserve satisfaction than anything within our reach.

Thanking the people of Centre county for the liberal support they awarded me, I remain confidently,
Your friend,
HARRY V. KEELER

White House Censorship; No!

From the Philadelphia Record.

The newspapers of America will not submit to such a censorship as President Hoover proposes, in his usual roundabout way in such matters.

And the American people would not wish to have them do so.

The President is annoyed—because the newspapers told the people about the bankers urged him to extend the war-debt moratorium. Also, about his possible readiness when Congress reconvenes to let it be known to the legislators that he would not kill an act legalizing beer.

Annoyed, because the papers have performed their function of promoting government of the people for the people.

The bankers urged Mr. Hoover to extend the moratorium. We have their word for it—the word of men of unchallengeable integrity—that he not only discussed such extension, but finally favored it.

If the White House had had its way, one of its secretaries would have handed the newspapers a declaration that the moratorium was not discussed.

The White House juggles with news. It has even at times doctored the news, as when it issued an advance summary of the findings of the Wickersham Commission on prohibition, in which those findings were represented as dry, whereas in fact they were anti-Eighteenth Amendment.

Responsible newsgathering is one of the most vital functions of public life today. Swift dissemination of news thus gathered is a public service of supreme importance. The public welfare depends on it. Business depends on it for successful operation in these times of keen competition.

News of Government activities and of policies under consideration should not be suppressed but spread through the land for the Government's own good as well as the good of the people.

There must be some regulation of the output. A Government feeling its way must not be represented as committed to a policy which it may or may not actually adopt.

And that is where responsibility in journalism comes in. Reporters and editors are always willing to co-operate with Government, to withhold publication until the right time.

But that readiness does not and never will, as long as America retains its devotion to free speech, become readiness to accept censorship.

The Bar Association in Favor of Repeal

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Not the least interesting action of the meeting of the American Bar Association at Atlantic City was the announcement of the results of a poll which showed that a great majority of the members—more than two to one—had gone on record as favoring the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. This vote was taken by mail during the past year and was participated in by judges and lawyers alike. It is significant of the feeling in the profession. It must be admitted that these men are in a position to understand the workings of the liquor law better than those in other walks of life. Moreover, most of them are inclined to be conservatives, and that fact gives their views an added value.

It is true that the organization as a whole took no further action in the matter other than to order the results of the poll spread upon the records. But it will be noted that when the president of the association denounced the law in his opening address his sentiments were loudly cheered by the delegates. It is the course of his remarks he called attention to a newly discovered letter written by George Washington to John Hancock, in which Washington cited the "benefits arising from the moderate use of strong liquors." Indeed, the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army urged the erection of public distilleries for the benefit of the soldiers. It will be surprising if the publicity given to this letter from the Father of His Country does not raise a storm of controversy; but it has all the earmarks of authenticity.

It is quite probable that there will be marked differences of opinion on the liquor question until the end of time; but there is obviously a rising tide of sentiment against the Amendment and the Volstead act; and there is sure to be some definite movement toward the repeal of the one or the amendment of the other.

THE FOUR MARX BROS.

AT CATHAUM NEXT WEEK.

The Four Marx Brothers, hilarious lunatics of stage and screen who made you laugh in "Cocanuts" and "Animal Crackers," come to the Cathaum theatre screen on Monday and Tuesday of next week in their latest and best picture, "Monkey Business." Chico, Zeppo, Harpo and Groucho start out to sea as scow-aways and end up in the captain's quarters, after plastering the ship with laughs.

"Monkey Business" is the one big laugh that the whole world needs and you will completely forget all your troubles laughing at those dizzy, daffy demons of comedy. There will be daily matinee showings, starting at 1:30, with the last afternoon program beginning at three o'clock. Evening showings will start at 6:00 and 7:45.

A novelty of the membership roll call in the Methodist church, Sunday morning, will be that each member will respond by letter instead of name. Other features will prove of general interest to all.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN CENTRE COUNTY

Items taken from the Watchman issue of September 30, 1881.

John Mullen, a clerk in Wolfe's store at Centre Hall, came pretty near going up the spout on Sunday. He had a sudden and severe pain in the region of the breadbasket. A friend suggested that laudanum was good for such things, whereupon John, instead of taking a few drops, swallowed a great gulp from a bottle at hand. He became stupefied almost at once. Dr. Alexander was called and worked with him all day and men took relays in walking him back and forth between Centre Hall and Old Fort. By keeping him moving they kept him awake and at about ten o'clock at night he began to regain consciousness of his surroundings.

The Centre County Sabbath School Association will meet in the Reformed church at Jacksonville on Tuesday, October 11.

Mrs. Blair, wife of Gen. Wm. H. Blair, of this place, died very suddenly about noon last Tuesday. A heart affection is said to have been the cause.

Wheat is going up. It is now \$1.35 per bushel.

Lawrence Cooney had the middle finger of one of his hands badly mashed, while working on the foundation for the new Centre County bank building. He got it caught between two very heavy stones that he was helping set into the wall.

The colored men of Bellefonte who are Masons have revived old Norman Lodge, No. 23. They will use the upper room in the colored school building, on High street for their meeting place. The newly chosen officers are: M. S. Graham, George Simms, George Skinner, William Mills, John Palmer, John Monroe, Thomas Stokes and Charles Green.

Al Garman returned from his trip to the State of Maine, on Saturday.

Miss Jennie Martin, the handsome and intelligent daughter of Dr. G. Martin, of Houtzdale, is visiting her friend, Miss Alice Scanlon at Bolling Springs.

After declaring a 20% dividend for last year the Bald Eagle Valley P. R. Co., has found that it is able to put a few new planks in the steps that surround the station here. D. G. Bush has erected wooden awnings in front of the McClain block on High street that completely covers the pavement. Mr. Bush had intended to put plate glass windows in the store fronts, but compromised by putting up something compared with which a sheep shed might be considered a thing of beauty.

A slight fire in the Peter McMahon house on Reservoir hill, Wednesday afternoon, caused a lot of excitement for a few moments. It was soon extinguished and little or no damage was done.

On Monday afternoon the auditorium of the court house was crowded for the exercises in memory of President Garfield. Every business place in the town was closed. The speakers were: Gen. Beaver, Hon. S. H. Yocum, J. L. Spangler Esq., John G. Love Esq., the Rev. Father Patrick McArdie, and Governor Andrew G. Curtin.

The county fair will be held next week. Arrangements have been made that insure large exhibits and extra good horse racing.

Last Friday evening a fire was discovered in the house of Andrew Bell, across the dam from the car works. It was occupied by W. A. Taylor, the meat man. The fire engines were gotten out but they could do no good for there are no plugs in that locality. The main building was saved by a bucket brigade of car works men, but the kitchen annex was entirely destroyed.

A new song "He Sends His Love to You," written as a memorial for President Garfield by Mattie E. Furey, of Altoona, has just been published and is on sale at Bunnell and Aikens music store. The music was composed by Prof. Hayden, of this place.

DISTRICT EDUCATORS

TO MEET AT LOCK HAVEN

The central district of the Pennsylvania State Educational Association will meet at Lock Haven on October 1 and 2.

General guidance, with civic, educational, moral and vocational aspects, will be the general theme to be discussed by noted guest educators and the delegates from the fifteen counties composing the district.

As Centre county is part of the district Supt. F. Glenn Rogers will be in attendance and will appear on the program of one of the departmental meetings. He will address the rural school teachers on "Possibilities in a Rural Guidance Program."

Among the educators of national eminence who will be there will be Dr. Alfred L. Hillquest, New York city; Dr. Chester M. Sanford, Chicago; Dr. Josephine Corliss Preston, Washington, D. C.; Dr. D. Montford Melchior, of Girard College, Philadelphia; and Dr. James N. Rule, Supt. of Public Instruction for Pennsylvania.

The sessions will be held in the State Teachers' College and will open Thursday morning and close Friday with Dr. Rule's address on Friday evening.

Two passenger planes, east-bound, were held in Bellefonte, Monday evening, owing to weather conditions east, the passengers being brought from the airport by bus to the railroad station and sent east by train.

A HODGE—PODGE OF NEWSY INCIDENTS.

Running for the nomination for a county office is no picnic, by any means, and if you think differently ask Harry Jones, who won the Republican nomination for County Treasurer. During his primary campaign canvas he drove his car a total of 13,842 miles, which is equivalent to covering every mile of road in the county about eight times. Conceding that he averaged twenty miles on a gallon of gas he burned up approximately 700 gallons of gasoline, not counting his oil. Every automobilist will be able to figure out for himself about what it cost Mr. Jones for traveling expenses to convince the voters that he was the right man to nominate for the office and he still has his campaign for election ahead of him.

At a bridge party, a few evenings ago, in lieu of nothing better to talk about, the women resorted to a discussion of their husbands—their virtues and their shortcomings. When the various men had been pretty well torn apart and put together again a young matron from Linn street stated that so far she had no real cause of complaint. Her husband doesn't drink, lie or swear, she said, and is not an inveterate smoker. "In fact," she said, "his smoking is confined to a fine cigar after a good meal," and she added, "and that's only about once a month." And the little lady failed to understand why the other women smiled so knowingly.

A brief item in the Watchman last week told about the eels clogging the new turbine water wheel at the Gamble mill pumping station so that it was unable to operate the pump to anything near its capacity, but it didn't tell that all the trouble was caused by five eels. The eels had been literally woven into the gates of the wheel in such a compact way that the flow of water through it was reduced fully fifty per cent. When the pump was stopped and the water drawn off the race water superintendent J. D. Seibert removed the eels. They were dead, of course, and showed evidence of hard usage, but at that they were in the neighborhood of forty inches in length and as thick as a man's arm, and fishermen who examined them aver that they must have been close to four feet long before they became tangled up in the turbine wheel. All of which goes to prove that Spring creek has big eels in it as well as big trout.

A winter of unemployment has no terrors looming ahead for many housewives in Centre county, because they have canned more stuff this year than ever before. In fact they canned every dealer in Bellefonte completely out of glass jars and for almost a week fruit and vegetables went to waste because no jars could be obtained to take care of them. When the jar supply began to run low one or two dealers, it is said, advanced the price but this was the exception rather than the rule. Most every dealer now has a supply of jars on hand and the old prices prevail. Speaking of canning, a number of families in Bellefonte put up five and six bushels of peaches while one woman canned sixteen bushels.

Moving is cheaper than paying rent, but it is hard on the landlord, as one Bellefonte property owner learned to his sorrow. During the past week three of his tenants moved out during one night and so quietly did they go that the landlord knew nothing about it until he saw the empty houses in the morning.

Last Friday evening a young business man of Bellefonte, on his way home to supper, was accosted by a well-dressed stranger, on the corner at the Methodist church, and asked for some money to buy something to eat. The business man had no loose change in his pockets and was compelled to say no. That night the stranger slept on the concrete pavement at the corner of the Presbyterian church and on Saturday morning a charitably-inclined woman, of Spring street, gave him half a dollar with which to buy food. For three hours, on Sunday afternoon, a man again sought repose on the pavement at the Presbyterian church but whether he was the same man who slept there Friday night is not definitely known.

TROOP L TO SPONSOR

NIGHT HORSE SHOW

Troop L, 103rd Cavalry has about completed arrangements for a night horse show that will bring the expert riders of seven Central Pennsylvania Cavalry troops to Bellefonte for Thursday night, October 8.

The rodeo will be held at the post on east Bishop street and a delightful feature of it will be the presence of the 103rd Cavalry band from Sunbury.

Troops will be here from Boalsburg, Lock Haven, Lewistown, Altoona, Tyrone and Clearfield. Capt. Smith will have the detail program completed for announcement next week.

At this time in 1929 furnace fires in Bellefonte homes were practically all lighted. October 1 was the date on which most of them had to be started last year.