

If there were a little more prayer for strength there might be less whimpering over the consequences of weakness.

Others may think as they like about the reported break between Al Smith and Franklin D. Roosevelt, but we stick to the belief that Al will be found in Roosevelt's corner when the final show-down comes.

Since we have already been hooked we have no interest in Leap Year other than that it makes it ninety-six days, instead of ninety-five, until we can start out to do a little hooking on our own account.

Tuesday, January 5, 1932, takes a place in our memory something akin to "the big wind in Ireland" and "the wet spring of '34." On that day we saw Nittany valley farmers plowing both sod and cornstalks. Surely that was a sight we never recall having seen in mid-winter.

Governor Pinchot was down in Washington on Monday blabbing about what he is giving to the poor and what Mr. Mellon isn't giving. It would be interesting to know just what proportion of his income Mr. Pinchot was giving to anything before political ambition awakened his generosity.

The Hon. Hampy Moore is again Mayor of Philadelphia and is talking his head off about curbing profligacy and cleaning up that city. All of which might sound good if everybody didn't know that when Hampy was in the same office, just twelve years ago, he didn't do a thing to justify any faith in his present promises.

Maj. Eugene H. Lederer, Burgess of State College, has thrown a monkey wrench into the Chase-Kurtz congressional muddle in our District. The Major has decided to become a candidate for the nomination himself and relieve the two sitting statesmen of any squabble as to which of them is to have the one seat in Congress.

New Hampshire has elected her first Democrat to Congress in ten years. And it can't be said that he was elected because he is wet. His opponent also ran on a wet platform and is a very popular ex-Governor of the Green Mountain State. It was a clean cut victory for Democracy and an unmistakable index of the changing tide of political sentiment in the country.

All the new county officers are at their posts. Here's hoping that their service to the public will be without fear or favor and with an eye single to the best interests of the taxpayers and to the credit of the Democratic party. It made the gratification of their ambitions possible by making them its standard bearers. It pledged its faith in them to the voters of Centre county. It is now their's to see that that faith is kept.

We are not given to blowing our own horn, but because "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country" we get some compensation for our efforts to produce an unusual country newspaper out of the knowledge that the Watchman is probably the most quoted weekly in Pennsylvania. Last year its news or its views were given boxes in the front pages of the two greatest dailies in the State and written into the Legislative Record at Harrisburg during the recent special session of the Legislature.

While walking near the White House, on New Year's day, Mrs. Hoover discovered pansies blooming in a flower bed and pointed out her husband to her distinguished husband. The incident made the front pages of the metropolitan papers. While walking in our back yard on Christmas morning the woman whose sternal "the furnace needs attention" is the news we have no nose for lacked a boutonniere of pansies for our button-hole. We wore them all day Christmas and even the Watchman forgot to mention it last week.

In Bellefonte the New Year wasn't ushered in with the usual tin. Of course some whistles blew, but the sexton of the Methodist church fell down on his job terribly. Usually he hangs onto that old bell rope long after all other welcome have been tired out. A few feeble clangs were all he could do for 1932. On Sunday morning we heard the pastor very adroitly refer to the fact that his own salary for November had not yet been paid and at once we began to wonder whether the sexton's lapse on New Year's eve was due to the same cause.

If we are to believe what Susquehanna county people say the Pinchots have abandoned the old practice of building political fences. They are building roads instead. The Mrs., you know, is going to be a candidate for Congress again in the Fifteenth District and when the Commissioners of Susquehanna county called on Highway Commissioner Sam Lewis, last week, to inquire as to who is bossing location and construction of the roads they are helping to pay for all they could find out was that "Mrs. Pinchot's representative" in the district is the dictator.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 77. BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 8, 1932. NO. 2.

OLD BOROUGH COUNCIL PASSED ISLAND ORDINANCE BEFORE ADJOURNMENT.

New Council Organized by Electing John S. Walker, President, W. T. Kelly, Secretary.

The final session of borough council which has functioned during the past two years was very quiet and orderly, and devoid of any sensational incidents. Every member was present with the exception of the retiring member, Robert Kline, and the last official act was passing the borough ordinance taking over "The Island," in Spring creek under the right of eminent domain. Every one of the eight members of council voted for the ordinance.

When council convened a Mr. Wagner, representing the Travelers Accident Liability company, presented to council a proposition to place accident insurance on the water department for a premium of \$100 per year. The matter was referred to the Water committee.

Secretary Kelly read the annual report of fire marshal John J. Bower, for which a vote of thanks was extended. (The report is published in full in another column.)

The Street committee presented the request of the Johnston Motor Bus company that their allotted parking space in the Diamond be changed from along the side of the court house yard to the north corner in front of same, which was referred to the Street committee with power. The committee also called the attention of council to the bad condition of the pavement long the Decker Chevrolet building, on High street, and the secretary was instructed to notify the owners to make repairs.

Mr. Emerick called attention to the fact that the Linn street sewer, at the corner of Allegheny and Linn streets, is again clogged up and suggested as the only remedy for a recurrence of the trouble is to put down a new and larger sewer. The matter was referred to the Street committee with power.

The Water committee reported minor repairs and the collection of \$350.00 on water taxes.

The Finance committee presented the report of the borough treasurer which showed a balance in the borough fund of \$3668.06 and in the water fund \$2656.69. Notes totaling \$131958.40 were presented for renewal. The committee, however, reported that the treasurer had an opportunity to borrow almost five thousand dollars at five per cent interest and recommended that he be authorized to do so and pay off a similar amount of bank notes now drawing six per cent. Council so authorized.

The Fire and Police committee recommended that the annual appropriation of \$250 be made to each fire company, which was authorized.

The Sanitary committee presented the monthly report of health officer S. M. Nisley.

Neither the Town Improvement nor the Special committees had any reports to offer.

As the final matter of business the Island ordinance was taken up, read for the third time and passed. Borough bills amounting to \$2,868.71 and water bills for \$2152.05, and approximately \$500 for interest and a West Penn Power bill for \$909.20 for pumping during the year (provided it is found correct on investigation) were approved for payment.

The minutes of the meeting were then read and approved and council adjourned sine die.

Burgess Hardman P. Harris, being present, administered the oath of office to the councilmen elected in November—John S. Walker, of the North ward; Harry Badger and W. H. Doll, of the South ward, and M. M. Cobb, of the West ward. He also administered the oath to poor overseers Alexander Morrison and Edward Klingler, and borough auditors C. L. Gates and John W. Smith. The Burgess then called the new council to order and an organization was perfected by the re-election of John S. Walker, as president; W. T. Kelly, secretary, and George Carpeneto, borough treasurer.

The Burgess then made a brief talk to council in which he stated that he had refused to endorse an application for the installation of a new gas and oil service station at the corner of Bishop and Wilson streets, and recommended that no more such permits be granted, and that an effort be made to reduce the number of such stations now on the streets. He also suggested that council make an effort to clean up the streets, alleys and garage lot parking space of the derelicts of old cars which are such an eyesore to any town. He also advocated a general cleaning up of the town, es-

FIREMEN SCORE RECORD DURING THE PAST YEAR.

Bellefonte firemen hung up another record for efficiency during the past year when they held the total value of property destroyed by fire within the borough limits to slightly more than five thousand dollars, according to the annual report of fire marshal John J. Bower, submitted to borough council on Monday evening. Mr. Bower's report, in full, was as follows:

To the President and Members of the Town Council of Bellefonte:

In accordance with the ordinance governing the fire department of the borough I beg to submit the following report for the year ending December 31st, 1931:

The department responded to seventy-five calls, divided as follows: Twenty-eight general alarms, thirty still alarms and seventeen out-of-town calls. In so doing they traveled one hundred and seventy-five miles, laid seventy-four hundred and fifty feet of 2 1/2 inch hose, used seven hundred and thirty-three gallons of chemicals and five hundred gallons of water through booster lines, raised five hundred and sixty feet of ladders, and were in service forty-three and one half hours.

The total value of the buildings involved was \$371,800.00. Contents \$176,200.00. Insurance on buildings \$258,525.00 and on contents \$102,300.00. The loss on buildings was \$4010.00, and on contents \$1208.00, or a total loss in the borough of \$5218.00, or a per capita loss of \$1.08 1/2. This is in excess of the per capita loss last year but the percentage of loss this year is only .00116 as against .0072 last year, and the average loss per alarm was \$10.64 less than last year.

The causes of the various alarms were as follows: Burning fuses 14; defective fuses 9; sparks on roof from fuses 15; back fire in autos 5; cigarettes 2; children playing with matches 2; spontaneous ignition 2; grass fires 2; short circuit 2; fireworks 1; sparks from cupola 1; overheated gas engine 1; defective wiring 1.

The cost of repairs and supplies was \$290.39; care of apparatus and washing hose \$154.50; gas and oil \$72.35.

The department has in service 4300 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose in good condition and 750 feet of 3/4 chemical hose. Fifty feet of 2 1/2 inch hose has been taken out of service during the past year. A thousand gallon pumper has been added to the equipment so that we now have a pumping capacity of 2350 gallons per minute. During the year a new block has been placed in the White pumper and all the equipment is in excellent condition.

Though we responded to seventeen out-of-town calls, not a single dollar was received for this service and I believe, as in most departments, there should be some fixed charge for service outside of the borough, and would suggest that this matter be considered by council.

On behalf of the department, and personally, I wish to thank council for its hearty co-operation and aid.

JOHN J. BOWER, Chief.

EASTER THIS YEAR WILL BE UNUSUALLY EARLY.

Easter this year will fall on Sunday, March 27th, which is unusually early. In fact only a few times in the past fifty years has this feast day been so early in the season. Ash Wednesday will fall on February 10th. Both Memorial day and the 4th of July will fall on Monday this year and Christmas on Sunday. Election day will be the latest, this year, it can possibly be, November 8th.

pecially the approaches thereto, calling specific attention to the dump along north Water street which could be made a beauty spot by cleaning up the old tin cans and rubbish and planting trees and evergreens, which can be secured from the State Forestry department free of cost. To do so now would also furnish work for men out of employment. The Burgess also read a telegram he received, on Monday, from United States Senator James J. Davis asking if Bellefonte is in need of federal aid for the unemployed, and to which he had answered that it is not.

The new council having reorganized secretary Kelly presented the written applications of Harry Dukeman for re-appointment as chief of police and Thomas Howley for re-appointment as police officer, both of which were referred to the Fire and Police committee.

The secretary also presented the bonds of poor overseers Alexander Morrison and Edward Klingler, in the sum of \$2000, which were approved by council.

There being no other business council adjourned.

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

NEW COUNTY OFFICIALS SWORN INTO OFFICE ON MONDAY MORNING

Ceremony Took Place in Open Court, Judge Fleming on the Bench.

For the first time in a quarter of a century every major county office is now in the hands of a Democrat, the county officials chosen by the voters in November having been inducted into office on Monday morning. The ceremony took place at ten o'clock in open court, before Judge Fleming. It was brief and devoid of any unusual features, save the fact that two officials, County Commissioner J. Victor Brunger and Coroner W. R. Heaton, failed to arrive on time, doubtless under the impression that the hour was twelve o'clock noon, and they were sworn in later by the Prothonotary.

S. Claude Herr, Prothonotary-elect, was sworn in by Judge Fleming. Before administering the oath the Judge took occasion to say to Mr. Herr that his relations with him during the past four years had been exceedingly pleasant; that he had made a very capable and efficient court officer and he anticipated another four years of congenial association. He then administered the oath.

Prothonotary Herr then administered the oath to the other officers in the following order: Sheriff John M. Boob, County Treasurer Robert F. Hunter, Register John L. Wetzler, Recorder D. A. McDowell, County Commissioners John S. Speary and Howard E. Holtzworth, County Auditors Robert D. Musser, David A. Holter and Clarence A. Yearick, and County Surveyor J. Thompson Henry.

After all had been sworn in Judge Fleming, in a few brief remarks, extended a welcome to all the new officials and their appointees, assuring them of the co-operation and support of the Court in making their administration in office not only successful but most congenial.

Every one of the new officials had his commissions in hand and ready to take charge of his office at twelve o'clock noon, the hour for the change, with the exception of County Treasurer Hunter, whose commission had not yet arrived.

The retiring County Treasurer, Lyman L. Smith, had on hand approximately \$32,000 to turn over to his successor, which was several thousand dollars more than he received four years ago.

The retiring Sheriff, Harry E. Dunlap, turned over to John M. Boob practically a jail full of prisoners, or to be exact, thirty-one, which was just twenty-one more than he received from Sheriff Taylor four years ago. Sheriff Boob has inducted Mrs. Dunlap to continue in charge of the clerical work in the office, for a while at least, and she has consented to do so. He has also appointed John J. Bower as his attorney.

All other appointees have already been published in the Watchman and they were all on hand on Monday morning.

The Commissioners, at their first meeting on Monday, appointed Mr. and Mrs. John Breon as janitors for the first floor of the court house and Lewis Wian to have charge of the second floor.

ECONOMIES TO SAVE RAISE IN TAX RATE

The new board of County Commissioners, this week, decided to make the tax millage for 1932 8 mills, the same as last year. So far as can be anticipated now there will not be any unusual expenditures during the coming year and, with various economies the Commissioners have in view, they feel that an eight mills tax will not only take care of all regular county expenses but provide enough money so that some can be used to reduce the floating indebtedness.

The Commissioners have also changed the days for holding their stated meetings each week from Tuesdays and Fridays to Mondays and Thursdays. Every person should make a note of this fact in the event they have business to transact with the board.

The passenger train on the Lewisburg branch, due in Bellefonte at 9:03 o'clock a. m., did not reach Bellefonte, on Tuesday, until 1:40 p. m., having been held at Sunbury on account of a big freight wreck on the P. and E. division, near Angle-nook. Ten cars were piled up, one box car being shoved on top of another and both being thrown sideways across the tracks. Nobody was injured.

JUDGE FLEMING REFUSES TO LIFT NON-SUIT IN DETWILER-COLDREN CASE.

In an opinion and decree handed down, on Tuesday, Judge M. Ward Fleming refused to lift the non-suit in the famous Detwiler-Coldren case which has been hanging fire for almost three years, and was brought to determine the ownership of a narrow strip of land on the top of Nittany mountain. When the case was originally tried in the Centre county court it resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff, J. H. Detwiler.

The defendant, Musser J. Coldren, took an appeal to the Superior court and the case was sent back to the lower court for retrial. It came up at the November term of court and when the plaintiff sought to submit certain testimony in contravention to the deed the court refused to admit it, decreeing that the deed, itself, was the proper evidence. It was then that attorneys for the defendant made a motion for a non-suit, which was granted. The court's decree, this week, leaves Coldren the rightful owner of the land in question, but an exception for the plaintiff was noted and he can carry the case to the Superior court if he so desires.

JUDGE FLEMING RULES ON SCHOOL DIRECTOR CASE.

Down in Liberty township two school directors were to be chosen at the election in November. Four names appeared on the ballot: L. S. Bolopue and Norris I. Harter, Republicans, N. I. Harter and Raymond Gardner, Democrats. Bolopue received 184 votes; Norris I. Harter 114; N. I. Harter 58, and Raymond Gardner 119.

In counting the votes the return board did not consolidate the vote of Norris I. Harter and N. I. Harter for the reason that they had no way of knowing if the two names represented the same man and the matter was left up to the court to decide. In an opinion handed down, on Tuesday, Judge Fleming stated that any man who had his name placed on the ballot, first with his christened name spelled out in full, and in another block with only his initials was misleading to the voters, some of whom might, and in this instance probably did, vote twice for the same man. Under such circumstances it would not only be illegal but might work an injustice to other candidates. And while Mr. Harter, if all the votes he received were counted for him would have 172 votes and thereby be the second highest man, in common justice to all only the votes cast for him as Norris I. Harter could be considered, and as this vote of 114 was five votes less than that of Raymond Gardner, who received 119, the latter was declared the duly elected school director.

While this was the only case at the last election in which there was any doubt as to the result there were a number of instances where a man who was a candidate on both the Republican and Democratic tickets used his full name on one party and only his initials on the other. This decision of the court should result in candidates being more careful in the future and, when candidates on more than one party ticket they should use their names the same way on both.

POLICE AND ROBBERS BATTLE IN PHILIPSBURG.

Philipsburg was aroused at 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning by a regular cannonading on the lower end of Presqueisle street. Watchman Hickson of the First National bank discovered two or three men trying to break into the Moose home just across the street. He called night policeman Claude Jeffries and the two opened fire on the robbers. The shots were promptly returned and there was a regular fusillade that brought Mickey McDonald, watchman at the Swift plant, near by, into action with his gun.

Shots flew thick and fast, windows in Small's barber shop, the Hudson building and a parked car were broken and Cochran got a bullet through his trouser leg. The robbers escaped, however. The Moose have been robbed twice recently.

For a fortnight special meetings are planned for the Bellefonte Methodist church beginning Sunday, Jan. 24. The pastor will be assisted by Dr. G. S. Womer, of Philipsburg, Pa., and B. Vincent Galbraith and daughter, Miss Katherine V., who specialize as pianist, guitarist in wonderful sacred song programs.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Four masked robbers held up fourteen men at a card game in Philadelphia and escaped with \$300 in cash and jewelry valued at \$500.

According to a compilation made by the State election bureau there are 3,359,885 registered voters in Pennsylvania. The census report for 1930 fixes the population of the State at 9,631,350, so that there are approximately 5,771,365 who had not attained voting age when the last census was taken.

A nephew to whom he had given a home eloped with his wife, Arthur Hosler, of Beaver township, Columbia county, told police in asserting he wanted his wife back. Hosler's wife, 28, and Frederick Hosler, 23, left with their belongings several days ago, Hosler said. He said they tried to steal his car and when they failed took his new license plates.

Thirty-seven persons, among them a number of cadets returning to West Point after holiday vacations, were injured near Stoystown, on Monday, when an east bound bus left the highway, overturned and caught fire. The accident took place on a curve on a hill. The bus, a great Eastern stage, left the Lincoln Highway, leaped a two-foot ditch and overturned. Fire broke out immediately. Stoystown firemen extinguished the blaze.

A bullet from a New Year's celebrant's revolver wounded Miss Dora Smiley, 53 years old, as she leaned from a window at her home in Dunbar. She is in the Conellsville hospital. The revolver was fired by John Burnice, 40, whose home is about 100 yards from that of Miss Smiley. Miss Smiley and a niece had gone upstairs to retire. The former leaned from a second floor window to listen to the noisy greeting of the New Year when she was hit by the bullet.

Thomas S. Stephenson, of Altoona, was on Monday named by President Hoover to be Surveyor of Customs at Philadelphia. The appointment is expected to be ratified by the Senate next week, when Mr. Stephenson will assume the duties of the office. Mr. Stephenson succeeds James E. Rininger, also of Altoona. He was chairman of the Davis-Brown committee of Blair county in the 1930 primary. Rininger, a candidate for re-appointment, supported former Senator Grundy during the 1930 primary.

Eight-four Pennsylvania farmers qualified for membership in the famous Keystone 400 bushel potato club in 1931. Three 600-bushel yields were recorded. H. J. Walton and Sons, Chester county, who grew 696 bushels in 1928, the highest yield in the history of the club, again have the leading yield of the year 637.3 bushels on a measured acre. Gustafson Brothers, McKean county, produced 605 bushels and Harry Callie, Northampton county, raised 604.5 bushels, the first time either had qualified for the club.

The Baltimore and Ohio railroad company took possession of the B. R. and P. offices in Clearfield, Friday, the change being part of the re-allocation of railroads approved some months ago by Federal authorities, and which has been unofficially in existence since then. The personnel of the office was not changed, however, they will adopt the Baltimore and Ohio system of managing the office. The Clearfield office, and line running into Clearfield is now known and operated as part of the Baltimore and Ohio system.

Three armed men who last week held up a truck loaded with sixty bales of silk valued at \$30,000, near Mount Pocono, are still at large, although details of State police are searching the mountain region for them. Horace Marsh, of Scranton, driver of the silk truck, was on his way through Mount Pocono when the gunmen jumped on his truck, he told police. They ordered him from the machine and he escaped through the woods and gave the alarm. State troopers quickly on the scene found the bandits had fled and left the truck of silk behind them.

The equivalent of a train nearly six miles long will be turned out of the Berwick shops of the American Car and Foundry company, in filling its order for 500 all-steel subway cars for New York city. In each of the new cars will be 10,371 feet of electric wire, varying from 19 to 637 strands which, if made into a single strand, would be 43 miles long. Other items in each car will include 20,000 rivets, 12,800 screws, 1200 cotters, 1200 bolts, 5000 nuts, 4600 lock washers, 737 pieces of conduit with a total length of 2200 feet, 431 pieces of air pipe, and 1600 different pressed, forged or cast items of steel or aluminum.

Ridgway and St. Mary's police captured three men early on Sunday at a roadside between St. Mary's and Ridgway for the robbery of the Sheenac Garage in Ridgway. The thieves drove their car into the garage and loaded in it a small safe, a radio set and some accessories. Police raided the roadside known as the New Moon and arrested the proprietor, H. E. Rosenhofer, who, it was understood, implicated Roy Rogers, 25, and Lyle Shaver, 25, of Ridgway, in the robbery. The safe was found buried in a 12-foot well. The bottom had been knocked out. All valuables, papers and the \$4000 worth of diamonds were found except one ring and a diamond. Police say three more are implicated in the robbery.

What his wife leaves of his estate at her death is to be turned over to First National bank of Shickshinny, as trustee, for investment and re-investment until it reaches \$1,000,000. Dr. Ellis A. Santie, former health commissioner of Cortland, N. Y., and retired lecturer who died recently at Muhlenberg Luzerne county, directed in his will filed on Friday for probate. When and if the fund reaches \$1,000,000 it is to be used, according to the will, as gifts under the direction of the education board of Pennsylvania State Grange. If the education board fails to function, the net income of the trust is to go to the Children's home of Cortland, N. Y., a residuary legatee. The estate is valued at \$15,000. Use of the estate and household goods is left with Dr. Santie's widow, Jane Wood Santie, during her life. From the fund the will proposes deductions are to be made for the care of burial lots and caretakers.