

EARLY CAMPAIGN IN STATE THIS YEAR

Pennsylvania next year must elect all membership to the State house of representatives comprising 208, all the membership of the Senate comprising the 25 odd numbered districts, 34 members of Congress, a United States Senator to succeed James J. Davis, whose term expires in 1933, two Superior Court judges, an auditor general, a state treasurer, 5 delegates to the Republican National Convention and 76 to 84 delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

The 75 delegates to the Republican national convention will be elected on the basis of two from each of the 34 Congressional districts and seven at large. There is a question as to how many votes the Pennsylvania Democratic delegation will be allotted, which will not be determined until January 9 at a meeting of the Democratic national committee in Washington.

One faction of the Democratic party insists that the State delegation should be of the same numerical strength as four years ago and another faction insists it should be on the same basis of the present congressional representation cut from 110 to 84.

If the Democratic delegation from Pennsylvania is on the present congressional apportionment the party will elect two delegates from each of 34 districts and eight at large, five of whom would be men and three women, each with a half-vote, total of 72 votes and 76 delegates. Alternatively the party would elect two delegates from each congressional district and 16 at large, eight women and eight men, each with a half-vote, a total of 76 votes and 84 delegates.

The two superior court judges whose terms expire are Robert S. Swarthrop, Chester county, and Joseph Stadfeld, Allegheny county. The primary will be held Tuesday, April 26, and the general election on Tuesday, November 8.

Pennsylvania has 3,859,985 registered electors who may vote at the primary election. This figure was made public on Monday by the state bureau of elections. Of the number, 2,032,465 voted at the municipal elections last month.

This year 2,936,378 Republicans are registered in the State, 1,688,119 being men and 1,295,119 women. The Democratic registration as 724,387, 401,672 being men and 22,665 women. In all other parties there were 26,435 persons registered, 1,098 being men and 12,427 women.

UCKER FISHING IS LURE FOR MANY IDLE MEN

Sucker fishing, always popular with thousands of Pennsylvania fishermen, holds exceptional appeal this winter. Mild days prevalent during the past month have not spurred anglers to try their luck for suckers, which are outstanding food fish, but have resulted in heavy catches of these fish. In winter, the sucker is firm and sweet, coupled with its desirability as a food fish at this time of the year its ravenous feeding habits. When a school of fish are located on an arm of winter, heavy catches result, some of the suckers weighing as much as four pounds.

A tendency on the part of suckers in larger streams to congregate at the juncture of tributary waters, reparatory to their spawning run out March, results in fine catches at such points. Particularly effective as bait are small, angie worms, which winter the ground has not frozen in many sections of the State, and securing bait worms, usually a problem, is not difficult.

Increasing popularity of the sucker with fishermen caused the Fish Commission to distribute over 1,000,000 of this species from its stockeries during the past year. Not only does the sucker stand high in the angler's esteem but its young furnish ideal food for game fish.

On almost any stream noted for a sucker fishing at this time of the year, fishermen are to be observed. When the weather is chilly, nets are built from driftwood along the stream.

Fishing licenses for 1932 are in good demand at the offices of county treasurers. This early demand for licenses is in large part attributable to favorable weather for sucker fishing and lack of anything else to do.

LIND BOY PLANS TO PUBLISH NEWSPAPER

Because he believes blindness would not thwart ambition, Bernard Krebs, 20-year-old blind student of journalism, plans to found a Braille newspaper for the blind as soon as he has finished school. It will probably be in St. Louis, he says or perhaps Chicago. He expects friends of the blind to subsidize the venture.

WHAT VALUE PRISONS?

There are two prime purposes for imprisonment of those convicted of crimes. One is to punish the criminal and the other is to protect society. The imprisonment affords a double protection, as it keeps the offender behind the bars while it tends to discourage others from offending. The punishment of the individual is of secondary importance.

The so-called model prisons of the United States with the introduction of modern attractions and advantages may have a tendency to weaken the punishment and the fear of incarceration. Men contemplating crime may be less deterred by the threat of law. There is always the possibility of escaping detection, but if captured and convicted, what of it? There are worse places than jails on the American plan, what with regular meals, employment, sports, amusements, reading. Only the loss of liberty remains as a form of punishment. Even freedom is extended in the case of trustees, men who have behaved, established good records, and, seemingly, are to be trusted.

Certainly, the lot of the trusty, then, is to be preferred to that of the forlorn and neglected unemployed, the man who walks the streets, who begs for a coin for a cup of coffee. The criminal is assured of work, of food, of shelter, of clothing, of pleasure and a limited amount of liberty, all without the burden of responsibility. Under such circumstances the thought of imprisonment might even become attractive, especially to the hungry idle.

Thus, all of the primary purposes of jail are wiped out. The punishment is slight; the fear, which affords general public protection, is lifted; while the freedom removes the last reason, the protection of society from the individual offender.

How this may work out was revealed in the brutal murder of Betty Hickok, 22-year-old daughter of Dr. A. L. Hickok, chief of the psychopathic ward at the Rockview penitentiary near Bellefonte, Pa. She was attacked and slaughtered by Fred Collins, 37, negro, who was supposed to be serving a 10 to 20-year term for second degree murder. He had already killed and so was dangerous. He should have been confined for punishment and to protect the public. He was mentally weak and foolishly considered as harmless. Imagine engaging such a man as cook and guard in a residence, where he had free access. That was inviting the very crime which was committed.

Immediately the prison officials took precautions to protect the negro. State police were rushed to the penitentiary. Later the killer was transferred to Pittsburgh. It is a topsy turvy world. Every effort is made to guard the safety of the double murderer, but none was taken to guard the public from the slayer. Such insane chances are frequently the rule in our model prisons. The thought is for the criminal and not for society. It is madness for which we pay in blood.—From the Miami, Florida, Herald.

GIRL SCOUTS CARRY ON EDUCATIONAL WORK

The Girl Scout Poster or "Stay in School," posters are sent out by the Girl Scout News Bureau.

In many cities and towns Girl Scouts are being taken out of school and sent to work. This has been due greatly to the lack of employment for their parents.

There is a campaign on at present to try and keep the girls of school age in the school room even though they are eligible for working papers.

This campaign has the endorsement of the President's Organization on Unemployment Relief with which the National Girl Scout Organization is officially co-operating.

The movement to keep them in school has already proven of great value elsewhere not only in reducing unemployment figures but in assuring to the boys and girls of school age a more thorough education. Had it not been inaugurated, there might now, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Education, be some six hundred thousand more potential competitors on the employment market. Being kept in school, these young people are not only occupied, but they are getting a more complete training, in many cases vocational, as a foundation for their future activities.

The campaign will be one of education and will be carried on through the Girl Scout leaders who will urge parents to keep their girls in school and will encourage girls in their troops to remain in school and to use their influence in encouraging their friends to continue their education.

Girl Scouts will also help by taking the place of their elders in escorting the younger children back and forth from school and be glad to report to the children who are in need of clothing.

The participation of the Girl Scout organization in this way as a means of helping relieve the unemployment situation was considered favorable at the annual Girl Scout convention at Buffalo in October, when the matter was introduced by Mrs. Nicholas E. Brady, of New York City, chairman of the National Board of Girl Scouts.

ORIGIN OF BARBER'S POLE

The spiral red stripe on a barber's pole is said to symbolize the winding of a ribbon or bandage around the arm of a patient upon whom the barber had operated in the capacity of surgeon. In former times, when the operation of bleeding was extensively practiced, blood-letting formed a part of the duties of a barber.

CROWN ALONE HOLDS EMPIRE TOGETHER

Britain's Dominions Now Free and Independent.

London.—With the passage of the statute of Westminster, each separate member of the British commonwealth is a self-governing nation, free to make its own laws and in no way bound by any law enacted in London, so that the crown alone now links the British empire together.

Britons have been slow to realize the full implications of the statute. They knew, in a general way, that the dominions have been "free" from the mother country for some time. But the knowledge that this freedom now has the most solemn legal force has come as a shock to those who had not appreciated the profound changes that have been taking place in the empire structure.

Irish State Included. Each dominion now may enter into any relations with a foreign power that it may desire, quite irrespective of the wishes of Britain or any other member of the commonwealth.

The Irish Free State is expressly included among the dominions in the statute. Ireland's relations with Britain are, however, defined in the treaty signed in 1922 and registered at Geneva, as are all treaties between independent members of the League of Nations.

Opponents of the statute argued in the house of commons that a clause should be inserted saying that Ireland's inclusion gave her no power to denounce the 1922 treaty. Government spokesmen answered, that Ireland could denounce the treaty just as well if she were not included in the statute as if she were, and that in any case she had no wish to go back on her solemn obligations.

This point of view carried the day and Ireland thus took her place among the free and independent foreign nations forming the British commonwealth.

Presents Problem.

How a system, in which a single king is "advised" by the cabinets of half a dozen different countries, will function is a problem that is bothering students of constitutional affairs. It is generally agreed that the importance of the crown has been increased greatly by the statute, which in itself is a noticeable reversal of the trend of British history for centuries past.

Whether any two dominions will ever "advise" the king or take two totally opposing courses, or will use the statute as a means for breaking away from the empire, is a moot question among experts on basic laws.

For the present, the English people, as a whole believe that the measure was necessary and that, now they have won their freedom from British parliamentary control, the dominions will be even more willing and contented members of the commonwealth than they were before.

Finds 13-Spade Hand So Many Waste Cards

Churchill, Manitoba.—From the grim wastes of the arctic circle come the tidings of one more tragedy. The scene was the Hudson Bay company post at Chesterfield Inlet.

The bunch of the boys who were whooping it up consisted of two trappers, a Hudson Bay co-official and an Eskimo, and the extent of their whoopee consisted of a rubber of bridge.

Pete, one of the trappers, gasped at the shuffled cards and realized that the fate had dealt him a perfect hand—thirteen spades.

"Seven spades," he gasped. "Then came the tragedy—for the Eskimo, with a smile as child-like and bland as that of Bret Harte's heathen Chinese, deprecatingly murmured 'seven no trump.'"

The lead came from Pete's partner. The Eskimo held invincible command of all three other suits and Pete's spades fell as so many waste cards.

Swedish Motor Growth Revealed by Auto Tax

Stockholm.—The rapid growth of the motor traffic in Sweden is illustrated by the fact that the automobile, fire and gasoline taxes for the last year, 1930-31, amounted to \$13,785,920. Of this sum the tax on cars accounts for \$4,703,400, the tire tax for \$1,975,160 and the gasoline tax for \$7,107,360. The greater part of these revenues are used for the maintenance and improvement of the roads and highways.

Lots of Oriental Bugs in Stockholm; Dead Ones

Stockholm.—Stockholm has more kinds of Oriental insects than any other city in the world—but they are all dead and preserved in the Museum of Natural History. Recently a new addition was received from the Far East, consisting of 6,000 specimens from the Kurile Islands. More than thirty-five books and pamphlets have been written on these flies and bugs.

Burglar Uses Cemetery Chapel for His Home

Limooges, France.—A chapel in a cemetery on the outskirts of the town served as a snug little home for a burglar until raided by police. On the altar, the thief kept his shaving mug, a piece of soap and a wash basin, which he apparently filled from a hose used to sprinkle graves. He utilized two suitcases full of loot for a bed.

DETROIT BANKER'S RISE ENDS IN JAIL

Convicted of Embezzlement. He Gets Prison Term.

Detroit.—The star of destiny, which skyrocketed Robert Moffat Allan, youthful banker, to the peak of Detroit finances a year ago, has fallen, leaving a trail of blasted ambitions.

Allan, who at thirty-three years of age became president of the American State bank, the city's largest independent bank, has been convicted of embezzlement. The conviction carries a sentence of from one to twenty years in Michigan State penitentiary.

The youthful banker's career was meteoric. He started as a messenger boy and rose rapidly through the ranks to a directorship. Three years ago, in January, 1929, his fellow directors elected him president.

Under his control, the bank grew to embrace 30 branch offices in the Greater Detroit area. It was known as a one-man institution, with the youthful "Wizard of Finance" the guiding genius. Robert Moffat Allan became a name feared and respected in Detroit finance.

Allan's star ascended with the "boom" period of 1929 and early 1930. His bank engaged in the pyramiding game of high finance, refusing to be swallowed up by other and larger institutions. Allan himself bought stock in banks, the state charged.

Then the crash: Stocks tumbling, disquieting withdrawals; the annual state banking examination, and the revelation all was not right with the Allan institution; indictment, arrest, trial, and lastly conviction.

During his ascent to power in the financial world, Allan rose to a position of equal importance socially. He joined and later became president of a golf club. He purchased a palatial suburban home, and entertained lavishly. He belonged to a yacht, university, and athletic club, as well as two lodges. His friends included all of Detroit's socially prominent.

Famed Bad Man's Bones Thought Found in West

Helena, Mont.—A skeleton, believed to have been that of James Daniels, early day "bad man," whose career was ended by a vigilante's noose, was found buried in a Helena street by pipe-line workers recently.

The skeleton was turned over to the museum of pioneer history of the Montana Historical society. Daniels was convicted of first degree murder after killing a miner as a climax to a quarrel over a card game and was sentenced to serve a term of life imprisonment in the state penitentiary. He was pardoned, however, by Gov. T. F. Meagher after serving a short time in the state prison.

He returned to his old haunts. A few days after he had returned vigilantes decided to administer justice in their own efficacious way.

He was hanged on the outskirts of Helena and when his body was found, his pardon from the governor was still in his pocket.

Is Whale a Fish? No! Captors Escape Fine

Portland, Ore.—A whale is not a fish. So ruled Circuit Judge Lusk over the varnished and embalmed body of Esbert which hung in the courtyard. He reversed a municipal court which ordered Ed and Joe Lessard to pay a \$200 fine.

The whale swam 120 miles up the Columbia river three months ago and amused thousands by cavorting inside the city limits. The Lessards, father and son, put an end to the show with well directed harping the killing of fish other than by rod and line has nothing to do with whales," said Judge Lusk. "It is little short of absurdity to ask the court to construe this statute to cover whales. Case dismissed."

Cow Leads Horse and Mule to Death in Flames

Newburn, Tenn.—A cow led a mule and a horse to death in a fire here recently. When the barn on the Lawrence Mullins farm caught fire, the three animals pastured in the barnyard became infuriated. Both the horse and the mule began attacking the cow, and to escape their flying hoofs and snapping teeth, the cow raced into the barn. The building collapsed before they could be chased out.

Human Body Worth 94 Cents, Says Expert

London.—Here, according to Dr. Thomas E. Lawson, noted British physician, is what the average human being is made of: Enough water to fill a ten-gallon barrel. Enough fat for seven bars of soap. Carbon enough for 9,000 lead pencils. Phosphorus enough to make 2,200 match heads. Sufficient magnesium for one dose of salts. Enough iron to make one medium sized nail. Sufficient lime to whitewash a chicken coop. Sulphur enough to rid one dog of fleas. All, at prevailing prices, could be bought for 94 cents, he said.

PHILA. MINT COINS VAST SUM OF GOLD IN YEAR

The Philadelphia Mint produced 25,484,250 coins, valued at \$59,273,960, during 1931. These figures compare with 192,600,000 pieces valued at \$4,801,600 coined in 1930.

Value during 1931 was greater than in any year since 1928. During 1929 and 1930 the Phila. mint did not coin any gold pieces. This accounts for the great difference in this year's value compared with that of 1930.

This year the mint produced 2,938,250 "double eagles," or \$20 gold pieces, valued at \$58,765,000 alone. Last year the production consisted largely of pennies.

—Read the Watchman and get all the news worth reading.

PATIENCE

Last week we gave in this space a quotation from Standard Statistics, a leading authority, which was encouraging. The week before a statement from Roger Babson, another authority. Both took a more cheerful view of business prospects.

We publish these more or less cheerful items in the hope that they may aid in sustaining the public's patience, which already has endured a severe test.

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