

—Are we to presume that Japan has the world by the tail? The supine way the other nations of the earth submit to her operations in China certainly suggests the idea.

—We think we speak for the entire country when we express the hope that the poor Chinks may be able to muster enough men and munitions to lick the devil out of the Japs.

—The Republican organization of Allegheny county having shot all its legs out from under itself is now trying to inveigle the Vore organization of Philadelphia into providing something for it to stand on.

—Thanks to Mexico, for having offered to help should Japan attack us. If memory serves us right the only war vessel possessed by our friends south of the Rio Grande was blown up a year or two ago by a pea-shooter in the hands of a revolutionist.

—Notwithstanding all the super-legislative schemes to restore prosperity to the country we adhere to our belief that nothing will do any good until people come to a complete understanding of the fact that money doesn't grow on thistle bushes.

—For the first time in seventeen years the city of Cleveland has elected a Democratic Mayor. That, some will say, is another straw that shows which way the political wind is blowing, but we opine that Miller's having been a famous Notre Dame football player was some what a factor in the equation.

—Talking about the plight of those who own farms we know of one that has been turned in at a value of \$5000.00 for tax purposes that will show a net yield of \$49.18 for the year. April 1st, 1931, to April 1st, 1932. It's a good farm, tenanted by a splendid farmer and outside of the landlord's share of fertilizer and a few rods of new fence no unusual item of expense has been charged against its income during the year.

—According to the latest information from Washington President Hoover is perfectly willing to let the national convention of his party decide just how wet or how dry he will have to be if he wants to run for President again. Isn't such a stand a perfect likeness of our President. Four years ago he couldn't decide what party principles he wanted to espouse until the Republicans told him that theirs were the only sure road to the White House.

—Mr. Mills, new Secretary of the Treasury, suggests raising enough money to balance the government's budget by increasing postal rates and putting additional tax on incomes, theatre tickets, stock transfers and gasoline. Inasmuch as the common people are more concerned about direct taxation than the really burdensome indirect processes of getting money from them, there is likely to be a storm of protest against any tax on movie tickets and an increase on gasoline.

—On Tuesday word came out of Harrisburg that twenty-five more were added to the State's pay-roll and thirteen cut off. Certainly our Governor can't be charged with lack of diligence in solving the State's unemployment problem. It's all right with us, but we are wondering how the Centre county farmers who think Gif. put up the moon are going to raise the money to pay the salaries of all the boys he is giving meal tickets to. With hogs selling at four cents a pound, milk at \$1.86 a hundred, corn, oats and wheat below the cost of production the farmer is in a bad way, but he'll still cheer for Pinchot—maybe.

—Already three candidates are in the field to succeed Wilson I. Fleming Esq., as chairman of the Republican county committee. Former Recorder Lloyd Stover, former Register Harry Rossman and Bond C. White have all tossed their hats into the ring. Mr. Stover is said to have the backing of Senator Scott. Mr. White, of course, will expect the support of Pinchot forces. Mr. Rossman is probably figuring on the leftovers. While we can't see any need for their having a chairman at all the Republicans of the county must have their fun and since their pleasantries always mean water on our mill we say: Let them have it.

—And the Hon. Holmes is out for a fifth term in the Legislature. We've tried to lick him for eight years and have made such dismal failures of it that somebody else will have to engineer the job, if it is to be done. Really, it is to laugh. In face of the fact that Centre county never gave any of her sons more than two chances to represent her in Harrisburg the gentleman from State College broke a century old precedent. Certainly there is nothing of record to explain how he did it. Appropriations to the Pennsylvania State College, the Philipsburg and Centre county hospitals would have been just the same if "Wesley" would have been our Representative. The Hon. must be to Centre county politics what Clara Bow is to the screen. He must have political "It."

Democratic Watchman

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COUNCIL GETS PLANS FOR REPAIRING RESERVOIR FROM BOROUGH ENGINEER

Estimated Cost Will Be Approximately \$3500 for Reinforced Concrete Top.

Considerable time was taken up at the regular meeting of borough council, on Monday evening, in the consideration of plans submitted by borough engineer H. B. Shattuck for the repair of the reservoir, a new survey of the proposed sanitary sewer line down Spring creek, and a discussion of the boundary lines of the Phoenix mill property.

The plans for repairing the reservoir provide for tearing away the top or brick-reinforced wall down to the top of the old stone wall and putting a reinforced concrete wall on top of the latter to a height of eight feet. The plans provide for a wall 30 inches in thickness at the bottom tapering to 18 inches at the top. Council was of the opinion that such a wall would be much heavier than necessary and suggested one two feet at the bottom and tapering to 16 inches at the top, to be topped with a concrete slab. The matter was finally referred to the Water committee and borough engineer with power.

The new plans submitted to the Street committee for the Spring creek sewer were revamped to conform with the requirements of the State Water Power and Resources Board and will have to be submitted to the Board for approval before the sewer can be put down. Mr. Shattuck expects to send a copy of the plans to Harrisburg within a few days.

Regarding the survey of the Phoenix mill property the borough engineer said he had located the old Valentine line which is in the neighborhood of 300 feet south of the other survey and which, he believes, is the correct line. While it will not give eight acres in the mill and dam property it will, at least, include the entire site of the dam and a portion of the slag pile. The borough engineer was instructed to confer with adjoining property owners and if they agree to the survey being the correct line, then have it permanently marked with concrete posts or pins sunk to the level of the ground.

Secretary Kelly presented the indemnifying bond in favor of the Gamble heirs for the taking of "The Island," which will be properly executed by council. He also presented the bond of borough solicitor N. B. Spangler in the sum of \$500, which was approved.

The Street committee reported various street repairs and "cleaning off snow." The committee also reported that out at the intersection of Wilson and Linn streets there is a "brush hole," partly on the street and partly on the armor property, which is being made a dump for old tin cans to the detriment of that neighborhood, and residents there have appealed to council to abate the nuisance. Referred to the committee. Mr. Badger stated to council that up to the present time Charles Baney has been keeping a horse and wagon for borough use in cleaning the streets for which he has been allowed 75 cents a day, and he didn't think it was sufficient pay. He suggested a dollar a day as more equitable and a motion was passed fixing the pay at that figure.

The Water committee reported some minor repairs and the collection of \$950.00 on water taxes and \$37.50 for garage rent. The committee further reported that a meter had been placed on the High school building in order to ascertain the quantity of water being used and the amount in two weeks was 328,005, which at five cents per thousand gallons would amount to \$16.40, or approximately one dollar a day for the water used at the one building alone. Mr. Cobb also reported that the antiquated fire fighting apparatus had been moved from the Gamble mill to the Phoenix mill. Also that Mr. Eby, of Lancaster, expected to be in Bellefonte the latter part of this week to take a look at the blue spruce, at the spring, and determine if they should be spread apart.

POLITICS PERKING UP IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Politicians are perking up in Centre county. To date there are three candidates for Republican county chairman and we are loath to admit that we cannot fathom the attraction in the job. Years ago, when the chairman handled all the money, there might have been something in it, but nowadays there is a committee treasurer who must make an accounting, under oath, of every penny received and spent.

Of the three men after the chairmanship Lloyd A. Stover is credited with having the backing of State Senator Harry B. Scott and County Commissioner H. E. Holtzworth. Bond C. White naturally represents Governor Pinchot's administration while Harry A. Rossman is the adhesive candidate who claims that his only object in being a candidate is to cement the two factions. In other words he is standing in the middle of the road with a welcoming arm out ready to gather both factions into his chairmanship fold.

Then there is the Hon. John Laird Holmes, who has heard the call from party leaders all over the county to come out for another term in the Legislature, and the call was so insistent that he just couldn't turn it down, so he has officially announced as a candidate. The Hon. Holmes was first elected in 1924, and two years later he tried it again and went in with colors flying. Then in 1928 he was anxious to find out if he could bust the third term hoodoo and tried it again. He did, and by that time he was thoroughly acclimated to the job and two years ago he went through without any opposition for the nomination.

This year he has answered the call because there isn't any other Republican anxious to face a possible defeat, and Mr. Holmes is not so sure of it himself, but he is willing to give it a try.

Last we have C. P. Long, of Spring Mills, who wants to go to Chicago as a district delegate to the national convention. Our friend Charlie isn't asking much and Centre county Republicans owe it to him to support him to the limit. The Watchman can afford to give Mr. Long this boost because his ambition isn't running counter to a Democrat.

FOUR MIFFLINBURG MEN MUST FACE COUNTY COURT FOR ILLEGAL HUNTING.

Dewey Haire, Luther Weller, Clyde Smith and Harvey Shemery, four Mifflinburg men who were placed under arrest on December 1st, by A. H. Hartwick, game warden, of Spring Mills, when he found them in the vicinity of Hairy John's park with what he claimed was the carcass of an illegal deer in their automobile, were given a hearing before Squire E. T. Jamison, at Spring Mills, recently, but refused to pay the fine of \$100 each and costs, stating they would appeal the case to the Centre county court.

Out at Karthaus, on Monday of last week, Squire W. B. Folmer imposed a fine of \$100 each and costs on Henry Glace and James Maney, of Pottersdale, who were charged with killing a male deer near their home on January 31st. The men settled.

Thomas Bathurst, Merrill Robb and Ray Miller, of Blanchard, and James Heffner, of Beech Creek, were each fined \$100 and costs, at a hearing before Squire George W. Eaton, at Blanchard, on Monday, for killing a deer, recently, while spending a few days at a hunting camp near Beech Creek. The men settled.

Grading of the county jails of the State is based on 1000 points by the Department of Public Welfare. The Allegheny work house is highest with a grade of 860 and the Centre county jail is among the five lowest with a grade of 287.

missioners. On the 1927 duplicate, Miss Sarah Love, collector, exonerations of \$649.00 were asked, she having entered liens for \$521.80.

The Fire and Police committee recommended the re-election of John J. Bower as fire marshal, which was done without a dissenting vote. Mr. Badger stated to council that street superintendent W. E. Hurley thought it unfair that his salary had been given more of a cut than that of the water superintendent, and was considering an offer to take a job away from here. After some discussion a motion was passed allowing Mr. Hurley the same salary paid Mr. Seibert, \$1620 a year.

HICKOK GIRL'S SLAYER INDICTED FOR MURDER IN THIRTY MINUTES.

Fred Collins, Negro, will be Tried Next Week for Killing Miss Elizabeth Hickok.

It took a Centre county grand jury exactly thirty minutes, on Tuesday afternoon, to find a true bill on the indictment charging Fred Collins, negro, with murder. Collins, it will be recalled, is the prisoner at Rockview penitentiary who, on the morning of January 12th, criminally assaulted and then murdered Miss Elizabeth Hickok, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Asa Lee Hickok, in the bathroom of her home during the absence of the parents in the eastern part of the State.

Collins was an inmate of the psychopathic ward, at Rockview, of which Dr. Hickok had charge. He had been sent there after having been convicted of second degree murder in Beaver county. Though confined in the psychopathic ward he was considered harmless by Dr. Hickok who had him employed as an outside man at his home during the two years he had been at Rockview. When the opportunity came, however, beastly passion prevailed over reason and the dastardly double crime was the result.

Collins was taken back to the Pittsburgh institution the day of the murder for safe keeping and it is understood that he has been examined by three alienists, all of whom have pronounced him sane. He will be brought here next week for trial. The court has appointed Johnston & Johnston attorneys to defend him. While it probably will not be necessary every precaution will be taken to protect the negro from bodily harm and prevent any disorder. State police will be on guard at the court house and the doors leading into the court room. While so far there has been no intimation as to what day the trial will be called, it will probably be towards the latter part of the week, as there is a large list of Commonwealth cases, and the minor ones will probably be disposed of first. It is believed the case will be reached on Thursday.

In the murder indictment against Warren M. Heaton, charged with killing Robert Moore, at a hunting camp in the Allegheny mountains, on Saturday night, February 6th, a true bill has also been found. Spangler & Walker will defend Heaton.

TRUCK TIRE EXPLOSION RESULTS IN MAN'S DEATH

John J. McCord, who for a number of years lived in Philipsburg but of late has resided at Indianola, Iowa, met a peculiar death about ten o'clock on Sunday morning. He conducted a truck service between Indianola, Iowa, and Minneapolis, Minn. He was out on a trip, Sunday morning, when he had tire trouble. He undertook to fix the tire when it exploded with terrific force, inflicting injuries which resulted in his death in a short time.

He was a son of James and Barbara McCord and was born at the Black Moshannon on May 28th, 1892, hence was in his fortieth year. Prior to going west he lived for a number of years in Philipsburg. He is survived by his wife and five children. He also leaves his mother, now living at Windber, and one sister, Mrs. Max Fleck, of Philipsburg. Burial was made at Indianola on Wednesday.

A \$25.00 CHECK COST CARELESS BOY OVER \$100.00

Some time ago a young man who lives in Niagara Falls presented his brother's check for \$25.00 at the window of a Bellefonte bank. The payee was known so the check was cashed.

In a few days, however, it came back protested by the bank on which it had been drawn. Both the maker and the payee were written to, but paid no attention to requests that it be made good. Having exhausted all friendly means of collecting the check the local bank turned the matter over to legal processes with the result that an officer went to Niagara Falls with warrants and then it was a case of go to jail or pay.

They paid. But principal and costs then amounted to more than \$100.00.

Just another one of those cases that show that playing square with your banker is the better policy.

REFORMED CLASSIS WILL MEET AT STATE COLLEGE FOR THE 1932 SESSION.

At the yearly meeting of the West Susquehanna Classis of the Reformed church, held at Selingsgrove recently, it was voted to hold the 1932 meeting at State College on February 7th and 8th. Rev. Robert Thena, of Bellefonte, was chosen president of the Classis; D. K. Keller, of Centre Hall, treasurer, and Rev. James B. Musser, of Hublersburg, corresponding secretary.

Among the delegates elected to the General Synod, which will be held at Akron, Ohio, on June 21st, are Prof. J. Frank Wetzel, of Centre Hall, and E. E. Arbery, of Bellefonte. Rev. Thena and E. E. Arbery, of Bellefonte, were chosen among the representatives to attend the State council of churches to be held at Harrisburg next January.

SUPERVISORS MUST CUT BRUSH AND GRASS IN BROWN'S CEMETERY.

Up in Worth township, not far from Martha Furnace, is an old burying ground known as Brown's cemetery. It is filled with graves of departed residents of that locality and no provision has been made for its care.

Back in 1923 the State Legislature passed an act authorizing township supervisors to take care of old and unused cemeteries and, taking advantage of the provisions of the act twenty-four residents of Worth township signed a petition to the court of Centre county asking that the supervisors be empowered to care for Brown's cemetery. Consequently, on Monday, the court made an order directing the supervisors to have the brush and grass cut twice a year, before the 15th of May and before the 15th of August, at a total cost not to exceed thirty dollars.

CENTRE DEMOCRAT PLANT DAMAGED BY FIRE.

What might have developed into a disastrous conflagration occurred at the Centre Democrat plant, last Friday morning, when fire destroyed a small building in which were stored a large quantity of waste paper, a quantity of old cuts and other miscellaneous articles. The building was close to an old stable in which was stored the paper's entire supply of news print, but fortunately the firemen were able to keep the flames from reaching this building.

The fire originated from a spark blown from a refuse fire in the open lot some distance away, and was discovered before it had gained much headway. While the damage was not great it was covered by insurance.

On Monday evening the fire department responded to two alarms within an hour and a half. The first, about 6 o'clock, was at the home of councilman J. C. Jodon, on Willowbank street. A spark from a fuse fire set fire to the roof of the house but the firemen extinguished it with chemicals after it had burned a hole less than a foot square in the roof.

The other alarm was for a fuse fire at the home of Mrs. C. F. Ripka, on Pine street. No damage resulted there.

POLICE RAID HOME IN FERGUSON TOWNSHIP.

County detective Leo Boden, A. E. Yougel, of State College, and two members of the State police raided the home of John Coble, in Ferguson township, on Wednesday night of last week, and confiscated six and a half cases of alleged beer, caps, bottle cappers and two crocks. When the officers entered the home Coble and his wife were at work capping bottles. Coble was charged with the sale and possession of alleged intoxicating liquor and in default of \$1500 bail he was sent to jail.

—After twenty-five speeches expressed in one hundred and twenty-seven thousand words the Geneva disarmament conference has arrived at two conclusions: One camp says "security first," the other says "disarmament first." And that, if you should ask us, is exactly where they stood before the delegates went to Geneva.

—The Centre County Engineering Society will hold a meeting at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College, next Monday evening.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—State city and county police at Wilkes-Barre, late Tuesday night, arrested five youths while they were dividing \$5,000 cash which the officers believe three of them obtained in a hold-up of the Shenandoah Citizens Building and Loan association in Shenandoah, Pa., earlier in the evening.

—George Spudich, 60, a mechanic of Pittsburgh, on Tuesday got back \$4000 stolen from the lining of his coat three weeks ago, plus \$20 which the thief evidently threw in for good measure. The money was taken from Spudich's coat while he was at work. The thief returned the money through an attorney.

—Stab wounds, blows from a crowbar, and a bullet failed to halt Albert Law, Negro, of Franklin, Pa., from beating his father on Saturday night—but a ginger ale bottle landed on his head dropped him. Law, police said, for more than an hour battled five relatives who sought to halt an attack on his 80-year-old father.

—The Clearfield Underwear corporation, a new industry established in Clearfield last fall, is now employing 168 persons and during the month of January turned out 15,000 dozen garments—180,000 pieces. In order to keep up with orders some of the sewing is being done in the Philipsburg S. & S. Shirt company's plant.

—The body of Earl D. Price, 43, of Coburn, Pa., near Altoona, was found late Sunday at the foot of a 60-foot cliff near his home. He had been missing for several days. Death was caused by a broken neck, apparently received in a fall over a precipice. Harold Price, 6, a nephew of the dead man, found the body while at play.

—Three bandits late Saturday night held up Frank Leveille in his butcher shop in a residential section at Pottstown, and forced him into a refrigerator while they took \$150 from the till. The robbers did not entirely shut the refrigerator door, and Leveille shouted through the crack to his uncle, John Leveille, who was in a back room of the shop. By the time the uncle reached the front room the bandits were leaving in their car.

—The contract for the construction program at the Bloomsburg State Teachers' College was awarded to the Berwick Lumber company for \$22,500 at the opening of bids at Harrisburg Thursday. Twelve construction firms, including Thomas B. Evans and Sons, bid on the work. The contract calls for the erection of a fire tower at the school, construction of bleacher seats in the school gymnasium and a motion picture booth at the auditorium.

—A Cambria county father and son are occupying the same jail, but facing different charges. Anthony Mazur, of Cresson shaft, who pleaded guilty to assault and battery on his wife, was placed in the jail at Ebensburg for further investigation. His son, Luther Mazur, has been in the jail since January of this year, awaiting grand jury action on charges of murder in connection with a fatal freight train wreck on the Bennington curve, last December.

—A neighbor boy on Saturday asked T. A. Hartman, Fishing Creek township, Columbia county, farmer, for the "piece of rope" he saw hanging from a window in the haymow of Hartman's barn. The farmer investigated. The "rope" was a fuse leading to a bag stuffed with gasoline soaked straw. It had burned as far as the bag, but failed to ignite the straw. Hartman said he knew of no enemies he had, and was unable to account for the attempt to burn the barn.

—Warning has been given to banks, merchants and the public generally, to be on the lookout for two men who are circulating counterfeit \$5 bills. Several of the spurious bills were passed at Tyrone. District attorney Richard H. Gilbert, of Tyrone, notified state police headquarters and a message was sent out over the State by teletype with description of the bills and the counterfeiters. The bills are said to be poor imitations. The coloring is a much lighter shade of green than the genuine bills.

—Ruth Taylor, who has been confined to Pike county jail for the past six weeks, charged with attempted murder of policeman Elenor and Henry Lovell, of Matamoras, escaped on Tuesday afternoon. The woman, who is about 30 years old and attractive, slipped out of that part of the jail reserved as a residence for the jailor while the jailor's wife was busy at her work upstairs. She shot Lovell, a Matamoras shoemaker, and fired two shots at Elenor when he attempted to place her under arrest.

—Merchant Fleck, Selladasburg, convicted six months ago on a charge of running down a deputy game protector, who was attempting to stop him in connection with alleged illegal game killing, has been sentenced to serve from eighteen months to three years in the eastern penitentiary. Sentence was imposed by Judge Robert R. Lewis, of Coudersport, who especially presided at the hearing in criminal court in 1930. A motion for a new trial, filed by Fleck's attorney, was denied in an opinion filed just last month by Judge Lewis.

—Chief of police George Schultz, of Shamokin, will explain in court how he lodged Marlin Miller, 26, of Harrisburg, behind the bars in the city jail at Shamokin, on Sunday after Miller said it couldn't be done. Schultz was arrested on Tuesday on Miller's charge of assault and battery. Miller found a police tag, charging illegal parking, on his car on Sunday. He promptly went to police headquarters and got into an argument with Schultz. The chief says Miller declared he couldn't lock him up. In the melee that followed Miller sustained three broken ribs, due, he declares, to the fact that Schultz kicked him downstairs.

—The Board of Game Commissioners at a recent special meeting outlined a plan whereby it will be possible to relieve nurseries, fruit growers, truckers, and other horticultural establishment owners of considerable damage caused by rabbits. Under the proposed system, the Commission will pay 50 cents each for rabbits in all cases where the owner is willing to box trap alive, such animals to be delivered to the local game protector for restocking elsewhere. This plan does not apply to ordinary agricultural lands where hunting is prohibited. Also, such trapping may be done only under special permit issued by the Game Commission.