

# The Centre Reporter.

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## NO DIVIDED GOVERNMENT.

The New York World.

In the midst of war a national election is a national misfortune, which may easily be turned into a national calamity.

This fact is universally recognized. The parliamentary system of Great Britain has made it easy for that country to avoid a general election during four years of war, but there is no escape for the United States. The mandate of the Constitution is inexorable. A House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate must be chosen in November, come what may.

In the circumstances the only issue of the campaign is whether the American people will carry on the war and establish peace through a united government or try to do it through a divided government. That is what the election will decide, and by that decision the country must abide until March 4, 1921.

No question of patriotism is involved in this election. No sane man doubts that a Republican Congress will be as patriotic, in the accepted sense of the word, as a Democratic Congress. No sane man doubts that a Republican Congress will be as loyal to the flag and as eager to win the war as a Democratic Congress. There are individual Republican candidates who ought to be beaten on the issue of patriotism, and there are individual Democrats who have proved equally unworthy, but these particular cases do not affect the general rule that there is nothing to choose between the patriotism of the two parties.

Nevertheless, the election of a Republican House or a Republican Senate might readily work more injury to the United States than Germany itself is capable of inflicting. That could come about for the simple reason that politics is politics and politicians are politicians.

A Republican victory in the Congressional election would be interpreted by the Republican leaders as proof that the country had repudiated President Wilson's conduct of the war and his terms of peace. They would have a right so to interpret it, and to act accordingly. They would inevitably seek to wrest the conduct of the war from the President's hands, as they did once before, when they seized upon the scheme for a War Cabinet. They would likewise put forth their own peace programme however much it conflicted with the President's programme. They could well say, in answer to all criticism, that that is what they were put in power to do and that if the country had been satisfied with President Wilson's way of doing things it would have kept the President's party in control of Congress.

All this would mean a kind of political war within the Government of the United States while the Nation was engaged in the greatest foreign war of all history. Unless the President was prepared to abdicate and resign he would be bound to resist the encroachment of a Republican Congress, and whoever triumphed the war-making power of the United States would be weakened, while the peace-making power might be nullified.

These are not idle conjectures. They are supported by the whole political experiment of the American people. Just how the election of a Republican Congress would be interpreted in Germany we can only guess. No other man in the world is so bitterly hated within the Kaiser's realms as President Wilson. No other man's political discomfiture or embarrassment would be so enthusiastically welcomed. All the power of the German propaganda was thrown against him in 1916, and if he were to lose Congress in 1918 every German newspaper would point to the result as conclusive proof of the familiar German contention that President Wilson forced the United States into the war contrary to the wishes of the American people.

This, however, is the least serious aspect of the foreign situation, because Germany is going to be beaten regardless of what the Germans think of the November elections. What is far more important is the effect in Great Britain, France and Italy in respect to President Wilson's foreign policies. He is recognized to-day as the leader of world democracy, but it must be remembered that his foreign policies have never been accepted by British, French or Italian imperialists, who have no more liking for a democratic peace than the Junkers themselves. These elements have been submerged by the great waves of popular approval that have been accorded to President Wilson's peace programme, but they will quickly come to the surface again if they have reason to believe that the President has been repudiated by a majority of the American people.

To divide the United States Government in time of war is a dangerous and desperate expedient which can be justified only by the gravest of political reasons. No such reasons exist. No argument can be advanced in favor of a change which is not trivial and foolish in view of the tremendous consequences involved. We do not mean by this that the Democrats in Congress are collectively superior to the Republicans in any respect whatever, for we do not believe they are. The fact is that both parties in Congress are bankrupt in leadership and have failed miserably in every field of statesmanship to which war opened the doors of opportunity. If Congress has become merely an instrument to register the war policies of the President it is because Congress itself has been without a single constructive policy of its own, and except for the President's intervention the country would be floundering in a bog of legislative incompetency.

The World holds no brief for the Democratic Congress as a Congress. No newspaper has spoken more freely of its limitations and its lack of vision, and we should be ashamed to advocate the election of a Democratic Congress for any reason so base and sordid as partisan advantage. But whatever its faults, the present Congress has been a Congress that has not obstructed the conduct of the war, and thanks to party discipline the President has been able to obtain from it the greatest and best war measures that any Congress ever enacted. An army of 1,800,000 American troops in France who are the military equals of any troops in the world, with reinforcements crossing the ocean in an uninterrupted procession of 300,000 a month, is the unanswerable reply to all criticism of these measures and to the manner in which they have been carried out.

The words Democratic and Republican have little real meaning to-day, but the old party lines still exist, the old party prejudices and passions and ambitions have not been eradicated by the war. Politicians remain politicians, and the smaller they are the greater their capacity for evil when they are intrusted with power.

The American people want President Wilson to win this war. We believe they want a peace in accordance with the President's enlightened programme which has appealed so vividly to the imagination and idealism of the common people of the whole world. If that is the case, the least they can do is to give him a Congress that will not harass him, that will not bedevil him, that will not obstruct him—a Congress that will be compelled by the unwritten law of American politics to support and sustain him in carrying through this mighty task. They cannot expect the President to succeed if they wantonly or frivolously add to his burdens by electing a Congress to oppose him. When they go to the poles they must remember that his failure will be their failure and his success will be their success. No divided government ever marched triumphantly to victory.

## "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER"

From the New York World.

How many of the Americans who are shouting for "unconditional surrender" know the meaning of the words they use? Except in the cases of nations destroyed there is no such thing as unconditional surrender by Government. Armies are said to surrender unconditionally, but that is not completely so even in their case. As armies they submit to the conqueror, but as individuals they cease hostilities subject to all the provisions of international law.

It is well to remember that this war began with a demand by Austria-Hungary, inspired by Germany, for what amounted to an unconditional surrender on the part of the Serbian Government. Attacked, overwhelmed and finally driven by superior force into alien territory, neither the Serbian Government nor the Serbian Army has surrendered unconditionally.

The unconditional surrender which Gen. Grant exacted at Donelson, Vicksburg and Appomattox were of armies and not of a Government, and in spite of the phrase, there were in each of these cases conditions which the victor, impelled no less by humanity than by wisdom and the law of nations, was glad to concede. Every Confederate officer who carried away his side arms and every Confederate soldier who went home with his horse was the embodiment of a condition.

Governments do not surrender unconditionally, even when their last resource is exhausted. They simply disappear. If they still possess power of resistance, as was recently seen in Bulgaria, they make the best possible terms, whatever those terms may be. If the war continues more than one German Army may surrender, as the phrase is "unconditionally". Germany itself will be compelled to accept terms, but these

## ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000) DOLLARS.

### Centre County Subscribes That Amount to Deliver Knockout Punch to the Kaiser.

Although there were many hindrances and obstacles, chief of which was the closing of halls to public gatherings, to the success of the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign, nevertheless Centre county came across with One Million Dollars toward helping Uncle Sam raise the Six Billions of Dollars he needs to finish up the tottering Kaiser and his Potsdam crowd.

Chairman McCurdy, of Bellefonte, in giving the figures to the Reporter on Monday afternoon, felt well satisfied with the result of the campaign, and found especial delight in the number of subscribers—which he considered to be the real test—to the fourth loan. The exact number of bond holders are 4,577, or about one thousand more than the number who subscribed to the third Liberty loan.

The amount of subscriptions taken through the Penns Valley bank, at Centre Hall, was \$46,000 representing a total of 250 subscribers. The Reporter hopes to print a list of these subscribers in its next issue.

### Letter from Camp Lee.

E. S. Ripka, District President of the P. O. S. A., has received an interesting letter from W. W. Kerlin, in training at Camp Lee, Va., and a member of the local Camp, which is published herewith:

Camp Lee, Va.,  
October 14, 1918.

My dear Mr. Ripka:

Was very glad for your interesting letter received some time ago.

You are quite right. Spanish influenza has taken a first-class hold on Camp Lee and it got me by the neck September 29 and today is the first that I have been strong enough to wear my uniform. This disease is a real one and I would not even wish it to a German soldier.

Eight of our Company have died, several of them my best "pals"—all good, clean fellows. Five more sick men have been brought here from the barracks today. None of them are in a serious condition. I believe the epidemic is being checked; I certainly hope it is.

Have been advised that eighty-eight of our Company have left for over-seas. It makes one feel like jumping out the hospital window after them. Every week we see thousands of men in full "over-sea" attire leaving for Newport News, enroute for France. They are a jolly lot of boys and we all envy them. I was just now issued my identification tag—a lead piece a little larger than a quarter, to be worn on a ribbon about the neck. It contains my name and number—4091401. I feel perfectly safe now as it is against the law to shoot a dog wearing a license tag.

I hope these few lines will find you and all the members of the Camp enjoying good health.

I shall be very glad to receive letters from the members of the Camp at any time. The soldier boys are always anxious to hear from the home-folks.

It is almost time for mess (supper) so will close the faucet on my pen for this time.

With best wishes to you and the Camp, I am

Fraternally yours,  
W. W. Kerlin,  
Co. E, 20th Bn., Inf.,  
Tr. & Repl. Camp,  
Camp Lee, Va.

### Do Your Christmas Shopping Early This Year.



Do you know of a better gift for the money, than a miniature bond (War Savings Stamp) of the U. S. Government, earning 4 per cent. interest, compounded quarterly, and selling in October for \$4.21. Suitable and bound to be appreciated by every member of the family, whether at home or over-seas.

For the week ending October 12th, Centre County had a per capita of 15 cents, or a total per capita to date of \$16.04. We retain fourth place in the list of Counties in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,  
W. HARRISON WALKER,  
Chairman War Savings Committee  
for Centre County.  
Bellefonte, Pa.  
Oct. 21, 1918.

(Continued from previous column.)

terms in themselves will carry conditions.

For these reasons we deplore the present thoughtless and irresponsible demand for an unconditional surrender. It is only a phrase, and no issue of magnitude was ever settled by a phrase.

### Wm. A. Sandoe, Sr., Dead.

Word reached friends in Centre Hall on Monday morning of the death of William A. Sandoe, Sr., a former resident of this place, at his home at 10 Dallas Ave., Ingram, Pa. Death was the result of an attack of acute indigestion and occurred Sunday morning at 4:30 o'clock. The evening previous he was active and upon retiring gave no indication of sickness or distress. An hour and a half before his death he became ill and soon passed away.

Deceased was born in Millintown, February 27th, 1859, hence was in his sixtieth year. He resided in Centre Hall for a number of years and was engaged in his trade as a tailor, at which he was skilled. The family has many warm friends in Centre Hall who extend their sympathy in the family's loss of a kind husband and loving father. The widow and three children survive; namely, James L., of Allegheny; William A., Jr., and Miss Helen H. Sandoe, at home. One other child died in infancy at Centre Hall.

Funeral services were conducted at the home on Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock and interment was made Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock at Pittsburgh.

### Fred Shultz Dies in Virginia.

Fred Shultz, aged about twenty-one years, and who for the past two summers worked for George Heckman, east of Centre Hall, died of pneumonia, following an attack of Spanish influenza, last Thursday morning, at Leebhall, Virginia. On August 1st he went into the service and was detailed to guard duty at the above named place. His mother lives at Milesburg, to which place the body was shipped.

### Hagan-Rohrbacher.

Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock, at the Reformed parsonage in Centre Hall, by Rev. R. R. Jones, Russell R. Hagan, of Farmers Mills, and Miss Lillian E. Rohrbacher, of Pittsburgh, were united in marriage. The groom is a son of John F. Hagan and only recently passed an examination for entering the Navy. The bride is a school teacher, and it was while attending the summer session for teachers at The Pennsylvania State College that the couple met and struck up a friendship which in due time ripened into love.

### Will Breed Silver Foxes.

A pen of Silver foxes has been started by Edward Igen, at Farmers Mills. The young man recently secured from the northwest a pair of fine Silver foxes which he will use as foundation stock. The sly, sleek animals are counted highly bred and their owner may expect to secure choice offspring. The Reporter wishes the young man abundant success in this new venture.

### Two More Boys for the Navy.

Russell Hagan, of Farmers Mills, and Harry Finkle, of Spring Mills, went to Williamsport for examination to enter the Navy. Both young men successfully passed the rigid examination and will add two more first class youngsters to that important body. The former is a son of John F. Hagan, and the latter a son of Calvin Finkle.

### No Winter Daylight-Saving.

The ill-advised effort to have Congress continue the daylight-saving plan through the winter has failed and the country's clocks will officially be set back an hour on Sunday, Oct. 27, as was originally provided for.

### Teachers' Institute, Nov. 11-15.

The Centre County Teachers' Institute will be held at Bellefonte, from November 11th to 15th, 1918. Superintendent D. O. Eters expects to have a good institute program again this year.

### Mifflin County's Grand Record.

Mifflin county sold \$8,767,250 worth of bonds in the Fourth Liberty loan, more than a half million dollars over their quota, which was one million, two hundred thousand dollars.

### State College Training 500 Army Mechanics.

More than 500 selective men from all parts of Pennsylvania have arrived at the State College for training in mechanical and technical subjects. They form the vocational section of the State College unit of the students' army training corps, and they will remain for two months.

The soldiers were inducted by the local draft boards and detailed for the special instruction. Engineering experts will teach them the following branches: motor truck mechanics, electricity, carpentering, topographic drawing, surveying, machinery, blacksmithing and trench telephony. Nine officers are at the college to supervise the military training of the vocational men.

Buy the baby bonds. They are the best of security; return good interest; and, if you buy liberally, you will feel that you did your duty in support of the boys over there.

## PENNSYLVANIA CROPS SHOW FAIR YIELD FOR 1918.

### Wheat in State Averages 18.3 Bushels; Corn a 90 Per Cent Crop; Potatoes Poor.

L. H. Wible, statistician for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, has issued an advance report showing estimated conditions of crops for the state, as follows:

**WHEAT.**—The average yield of wheat per acre is estimated at 18.3 bushels and the total production 26,023,674 bushels. The average yield last year was 19.1 bushels and the total production 26,386,796. The increase in acreage accounting for the difference. The weather last fall was adverse to the proper germination and growth of the grain and at the breaking up of winter the condition of the wheat was poor, but from the time of the heavy snow about April to the weather was propitious and developed the plant and grain splendidly. This together with the favorable weather during harvest and while the grain was in shock accounts for the good quality of the grain. The yield is slightly better than an average one but even at that it is an agreeable surprise. Lancaster County ranks first as usual, York second, and Berks takes third place.

**RYE.**—It appears that the yield of rye is 17.5 bushels per acre which is just an average crop. The total production amounts to 4,676,500 bushels as against 4,573,259 bushels last year. Since this grain cannot be used in the manufacture of alcoholic liquors, and people have been obliged to learn more about its food value during the war, it is probable that more attention will be given to growing this cereal for human consumption in the future.

**OATS.**—The oat crop is a large one and is estimated at 39 bushels per acre as against ten-year average of 31.5 bushels. The total crop amounting to 44,105,214 bushels compared with 38,800,769 bushels last year. The quality of the oats is good. Reports indicate that the oats will average much better than the standard 32 pounds to the bushel.

**CORN.**—The late rains improved the corn. Present forecast is that the yield of corn will approximate 90 per cent of an average crop, or 36 bushels per acre. On this basis the total production will be about 59,925,000 bushels as against 65,260,000 last year. This is the most valuable cereal crop in this state. The acreage is probably the largest ever planted.

**POTATOES.**—The potatoes seem to be the poorest crop in Pennsylvania. Weather conditions have not been favorable to this crop and then the blight and aphid had their detrimental effect. The present outlook is that the crop will be something over 21,000,000 bushels compared with 30,653,000 last year. The average for the past five years has been 24,235,800 bushels.

**FRUIT.**—It appears that the final figures will show 75 per cent of a normal or full apple crop. Reports indicate that the peach crop is three-fourths as large as last year which is approximately 1,080,000 bushels. The pear crop is four-fifths as large as last year's which is 358,400 bushels.

### Tractor Demonstration.

Every farmer in Centre county will have the opportunity of seeing several makes of tractors in operation on the same field on Thursday, October 31st, at one o'clock. Try to be on hand at the start as all the tractors will be started at the same time and the fuel consumption recorded in plowing one acre of ground.

Without a doubt more tractors will be sold in Centre county during the coming fall and winter than ever before. If you are interested in buying this fall or not this will be your opportunity to see them in actual operation and help to make your selection. Come and look them over at least. Plan to take that half day off. Bring your neighbor if he doesn't have a way to come.

Place: Beaver Farm, Bellefonte.  
Time: Thursday, October 31st, at one o'clock.

R. H. OLMSTRAD,  
County Agent

### Uniforms for Boys Working Reserve.

Thousands of American boys below draft age will soon be wearing an official United States uniform. Secretary of Labor Wilson has authorized and the War Department has approved an olive drab uniform which may be worn by all members of the United States Boys' Working Reserve.

Already there are many units of the Boys' Working Reserve throughout the country which have been awaiting the announcement of the official dress of the organization and many more units which will be organized as a result of the proposed expansion of the Reserve under the co-operation of the War Department will at once discard "miff" for the natty olive drab of the Reserve uniform.

Election day is only twelve days away.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

Read the article headed "No Divided Government", printed in this issue.

The local price for new corn in Nittany Valley is \$1.50 per double bushel.

The Reporter has another interesting letter from Lieut. W. "Ned" Keller, from France, which will be published next week.

Russel Smith, grandson of Mrs. Isaac Smith, of Centre Hall, has sent his father, W. H. Smith, a German helmet which he picked up on the battlefields of France.

On Thursday noon a Liberty loan car passed through Centre Hall on a trip to various points in the county in an effort to fully arouse its citizens to the need of subscribing to the loan.

The apple crop was not taken care of in many orchards throughout Penns and Brush Valleys. Many bushels of drop apples went to waste that could have been sold at one-half cent per pound.

The Peachey sale of Illinois horses and colts was held last Friday at the farm barn of M. H. Smith, in Millheim. The sale was well attended and the stock was readily sold at an average price of \$188.20 per head.

C. E. McClellan, the Millheim merchant, shot a big fat raccoon on the first day of the squirrel season in Brush valley. Two loads of fine shot failed to dislodge the 'coon from the tree, but a load of buckshot brought the 'coon a tumblin' down.

Grant Royer, a lad of thirteen, son of William O. Royer, of Altoona, formerly of Millheim, was bit in the jaw by a stray bullet from one of the guns carried by a bunch of boys on a rat shooting expedition. The lad is a nephew of Mrs. H. E. Weaver, of Centre Hall.

A 12-pound baby girl was born to Mrs. Gurney Boob, in Millheim, on Sunday morning. Both the mother and the baby are getting along exceedingly well. The father is with the American expeditionary force in France and will no doubt be elated when he receives the tidings.

Considerable corn has already been husked and cribbed, but there remains much more to be shucked. The fine weather throughout the first half of this month gave farmers an opportunity to get away with a great deal of work done usually previously by putting away the corn crop.

Rev. J. H. Keller, of China Grove, North Carolina, laid the cornerstones for two new churches, two weeks ago. The one was the new Mt. Zion Reformed church, replacing the one destroyed by fire last April, and the other was the First Reformed church at Landis, a short distance from China Grove. Rev. Keller is pastor of both churches. The houses of worship will cost over \$20,000 each.

Lanson L. Burris, accompanied by his uncle, Daniel Everhart, of Bellefonte, were callers at this office on a bit of business concerning subscriptions to the Reporter. Mr. Everhart, at the age of eighty-five years, persists in helping raise potatoes, so Mr. Burris says, where he and his daughter, Miss Mary, are guests. He spent his life working in wood, first as a carpenter and later in a planing mill.

Participation in some form of outdoor sport is now required of the 1500 members of the Students' Army Training Corps at the Pennsylvania State College. Massed athletics, long a part of the physical education experts, but with few instances of practical application, this week took concrete form at Penn State when the military authorities compelled each student soldier to select his favorite sport for daily exercise.

Reports seem to indicate that the "flu" epidemic is not yet on the wane. In fact, it seems to be spreading, in some localities at least. This is valid reason why those convalescing from the disease should not jeopardize the health of others by leaving the house too soon and mingling with other persons. A little thought for the health and safety of others will have the desired effect. The Board of Health has not made necessary a quarantine, but unless a little more common sense is exercised, a strict quarantine may be enforced.

The wires carrying the current from Bellefonte to Centre Hall, across Nittany mountain, have been the means of killing numerous pheasants. The road men, while working on the mountain road, have time and again come across a fine big bird lying dead directly under the electric line wires. A short time ago, I. A. Sweetwood, of Centre Hall, picked up one bird with a view of having it skinned by a taxidermist for mounting, but discovered that the bird's neck was broken, the bones of the neck protruding, which would have made a good job of mounting impossible. It is supposed that the birds come to their death in flying against the wires in the gathering darkness of evening and at the first dawn of day.