

The Centre Democrat.

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EDITORIAL.

You don't hear the political blackguard blowing around these days about Bill Berry's famous brickyard.

"STAND by the organization" advice in the Penrose-Gazette last week means opposition to President Roosevelt.

THE NEW deer law allows the shooting of deer only that have horns, and makes it unlawful to kill a doe. What will be done with the does when they become old and helpless? Pension them of course.

It is time for the political blackguards who abused State Treasurer Berry last fall, in the papers, to publicly apologise to their readers. They admit he told the truth, but at the time he was denounced as a liar by these blackguards.

FROM Washington comes the announcement that John P. Elkin has been designated by Roosevelt to succeed Bois Penrose in the U. S. Senate. Elkin is a cleaner man than Penrose, and might win out. This news is a straddler again for the Penrose-Gazette of our town.

"STAND by the organization" is the cry of the gang. Had the independent voters stood by Lee Plumber you never would have heard of the \$13,000,000 capitol steal. Pennypacker was elected by "standing by the organization." The rottenness in Philadelphia is due to standing by the organization.

AN ACT of assembly passed March 21st gives county commissioners and town councils the authority to appropriate annually a sum of money to aid posts in defraying expenses on Memorial day. It will be noted that this only gives them the privilege and does not make it mandatory.

IT APPEARS that some of the Capitol chandeliers are embellished with bronze grapes which cost the taxpayers \$47.50 a bunch. Still, we ought to be thankful that it didn't occur to Huston and Sanderson to introduce watermelons into the decorative design. Up to this time Berry's famous brickyard never cost the state one cent.

EMINENT democratic authorities are now busily engaged in discussing the interesting question: "What is a democrat?" And they seem to be all at sea when it comes to finding the answer. This question is asked by a republican gang organ. We might say a democrat is one who opposes graft and every species of corruption. Then when the question is asked. What is a republican, we can simply point to the capitol robbery, and the machine robbery for a quarter of a century, and that answers it.

WE have had several instances recently in this county of newspapers attempting to indicate the course of justice, or interpreting acts of assembly, endeavoring thereby to create public sentiment. Some try to convict men of murder in the first degree, without even a trial by jury; while others are endeavoring to pull them out of prison cells by appeals to public sympathy. When newspaper men invade the province of our courts, it is evidence that they lack a sense of propriety, or are affected with monumental impudence.

THE RESPONSIBILITY.

Former Representative John L. Wilson, who represented Crawford county in the Legislative session of 1901, has published in The Titusville Evening Courier the motion made by Representative Haag, of Schuylkill, on June 6 of that year to strike out from the Capitol Commission bill the provision requiring that a Democrat should be a member. The motion was agreed to, and McClain, of Lancaster, now Speaker of the House, made the following speech.

"Mr. Speaker—If the gentlemen on the other side of the House insist upon having no representative on the Commission, well and good. The responsibility in the carrying out of this work will thereby be fixed with the Republican party of Pennsylvania. The present State Republican administration is responsible, and this is a responsibility which that party and that administration will assume with the fullest confidence that when its work is completed the people of the Commonwealth will rise up and say, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

GETTING SCARED.

Since the capitol investigation began the public has been more than startled by the corruption that has been unearthed. Attorneys Scarlet and Stranahan have been getting close to the grafters and as a result the names of the leading republicans have been associated with the steal. In the past few days things have taken a serious turn. Leading witnesses have disappeared, some are out of reach and others are traveling in Europe.

The work of the investigators appears to be growing more difficult for the reason that persons of political influence are becoming overly active. Important documents are vanishing, witnesses to be summoned appear to have a tip and skip out before the legal process can be carried into effect.

This indicates that there is a "leak" somewhere, and the honest investigators are greatly hampered in accomplishing anything. When this investigation began republicans were confident and democrats believed that it would be a "whitewashing," or an "immunity bath." The machine was disappointed, now it seems enormous political and official influence is being exerted from this on to prevent any more exposures.

If this is true, as there is evidence, the real facts in connection with this capitol steal may never become public, and the real grafters who shared the loot may escape the penitentiary.

What the outcome will be remains more uncertain than ever, for the reason that it has become a desperate game to save big politicians from exposure and disgrace.

AN ORDINARY COOK.

The wife of the famous oculist, Duke Carl Theodore of Bavaria, and mother of Princess Elizabeth, who in 1900 married Prince Albert, son of the Count of Flanders, is taking a regular course in Munich. She does ordinary kitchen work like other students.

The girls in American towns might use the above as a pointer, and "follow suit" instead of being ashamed to perform housekeeping duties, especially in the kitchen department. Many depend upon dress and society fads to cover up and hide a deficiency that should be the chief adornment of womanhood, acquired by the female sex.

AN OVERSIGHT.

It is a wonder, or rather it was an oversight, that the Republican thieves, robbers, liars and grafters, at Harrisburg, left enough money in the State Treasury to permit the House to report a bill appropriating \$5,000 for a statue of Gov. Curtin to be placed on the capitol grounds. Curtin, if he could come from his tomb and take a trip to Harrisburg, would blush with shame to see his monument among those of Quay, and the heads of the dirty bunch that through fraud and misrepresentations were placed on the bronze doors at the entrance of the Sandersonized Palace of Graft.

SEND US THE NEWS.

It is the aim of the Centre Democrat to have correspondents send us news from every town in the county regularly each week. It is an advantage to have your community represented in this way. Send us the news, and we will publish it.

THE "Penrose-Gazette" run by an unpopular postmaster, last week contained an apology of almost a column, pleading with decent men to stand by the organization, which means Penrose for reelection to the U. S. Senate. President Roosevelt prefers John P. Elkin, and the respectable element are thinking that way.

HARTER and Love, Penrose's political hirelings in Centre county, ought to have their mugs emblazoned on the Capitol doors at Harrisburg and the gang would have all been there. There was no difference between the fellow who stoned Stephen and the fellows who held their garments.

THE CURFEW LAW.

Monday evening the curfew blew its first blast in Bellefonte, and the youngsters seemed to understand the meaning, for instantly they turned on their heels for home with a laughing yell. It was amusing to notice the effect and the skeddaddle it caused. It was not necessary for the police to grab any urchin by the seat of his pants, neither by the collar, and march him off. There was no appearance before Mayor Curtin in consequence of the prompt response to the deep base whistle, and every little chap found himself by the side of his ma-in-stanter—if she was at home. Really the curfew, as it showed itself Monday at 8.45 o'clock, is not a bad thing. The roughish little street urchins, washed and unwashed, obeyed the whistle with military precision. If any of our neighboring towns are curious to know how a curfew works, let 'em come to Bellefonte and see it, free of charge. It is an amusing sight to see how Young America will scatter when the whistle gives the command. Well, to be brief—the curfew is not to be sneezed at. Let's keep it.

But, to vary the subject just a little: There are CURFS, not a FEW, taxed and untaxed, that are greater nuisance on our streets in day time, than Young America at night. They take possession of the court house lawn and gambol on its green carpet from morn till eve. Can't the boro dads invent some kind of a blast that will rid this town of some of its bow-wow nuisance? It would be popular to do so. Such would be a real CURFEW.

LEADING EVENTS AT HARRISBURG

Continued from Page 1.

the same into bottles or smaller packages of less than one quart and to sell the same packages of malt or brewed liquors in quantities of not less than twelve pint bottles and of spirituous liquors in quantities of not less than one quart.

Providing for the repair, maintenance or improvement by the proper county, city or borough authorities of turnpikes heretofore or hereafter abandoned, here the company or association owning the same has been or may be dissolved.

Providing that borough councils may elect solicitors for the term of two years.

Making ex-officio fire wardens of constables and justices of the peace in boroughs and townships and of the employees of the department of forestry.

Fixing at \$2 the annual mercantile license of restaurants, eating houses and cafes, and one mill additional on each dollar of the gross annual business.

The following bills were passed finally by the house: Prohibiting the sale of game birds and animals.

Making unlimited the number of rods, poles and hand lines used by any one fisherman.

Legalizing fishing for any fish not game or food fish in private waters at any time or by any method.

Authorizing boroughs to erect and maintain garbage furnaces.

PENROSE'S WORK.

Restored and confirmed in political power stolen on the strength of his reform platform, the Republican party in the Legislature has thus far failed largely to keep its pledges. Of seventeen important reform laws promised, only two the Dunsmore 2-Cent Fare bill and the Homsher Trolley Freight bill—have been enacted, and the end of the session is but two weeks away.

No one pretends that this is due to the press of Legislative business, and no one pretends to believe that the dominant party, particularly as represented in the Senate, has any intention of giving the right of way to bills promised on the stump last fall. Indeed, the whole tenor of the Senate's course strengthens the feeling that most of the reform bills which have passed the house will get no farther than the Senate committees.

This attitude on the part of the Senate is in direct opposition to the policy of Governor Stuart, who is known to hold every platform pledge should be made effective, and who intends, so far as he is able to do so, to see that the party promises are lived up to.

As machine influences predominate in the Senate, it is clearly an issue between the Penrose Gang and Governor Stuart, who is being hampered by their obstructive tactics.

MAY KEEPER PENSION BILL.

The bill appropriating \$5,754,000—for five quarterly payments—for pensions for veterans of the Civil War residing in Pennsylvania may be submitted to voters at the November election this year. By this means legislators expect to shift responsibility for its defeat upon the people. There are scarcely a score of members of both houses who favor the pension bill introduced by Senator Cochran, of Lancaster, a Democrat, who said that it would cost between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 a year to comply with its provisions. With this understanding it passed the Senate. An investigation of the Federal pension roll showed that it would cost the state nearly \$5,000,000 a year. To smother the bill in the House Appropriation Committee, or to report negatively would give offence to all the old soldiers in the state and their friends. It was finally decided to send it back to Senate with the necessary increase in the appropriation.

Since it was reported leading legislators have learned that, if it becomes law, the Governor will have to cut down all the hospital appropriations 75 per cent and veto bills for the relief of local taxation.

AGAINST CLEAN ELECTION.

True to its traditions, the old Gang element in the house elections committee Tuesday decided to report negatively the Minehart voters assistance bill. Six Philadelphia members usually sway the voting in this committee by attending in a body.

Minehart's bill not only required a voter to swear to disability before receiving assistance, but also required the assistant to take an oath not to divulge how the vote was cast. Such innovations would naturally upset preconceived Gang notions of how an election should be carried, so the bill had no show.

Representative Minehart is disgusted with the way the bill has been held in committee.

NEW DEER LAW.

Section 1 sets forth the time during which the killing of deer in this Commonwealth is lawful, which is from the fifteenth day of November to the first day of December of the same year, and that it is unlawful for any person to kill in any one season more than one deer, which in every instance "shall be a male deer with horns." Each and every person violating the provisions of this section shall be liable to a penalty of \$100 or suffer imprisonment in the county jail for a period of one day for each dollar of penalty.—Act April 15, 1907.

SALARIES INCREASED.

The Pennsylvania Representatives, if the new bill becomes a law, will receive \$3000 for a term which covers two years in time, but means usually a term of less than five months. An extra session will not add to this income. This salary would make the office more tempting than formerly.

On Tuesday, the Capitol investigating commission, brought out the fact from a witness, S. M. Williams, who was choked off from being a bidder for some of the work, and was offered \$10,000 if he kept quiet and would not tell what he knew about the iniquitous robbery. The party who made the offer is a high official of the U. S. government. What are our penitentiaries for? Now cry "liar" and keep the public in the dark by saying nothing of the robbery.

The payment of \$10,000 was made to Williams in the form of a note for a year, without indorsement and without any judgement clause. The note is due August 15 next, indicating the time when it was given, and upon his promise that he keep silent during the campaign last fall.

CHOICE OF U. S. SENATOR.

With only Gang representatives from Philadelphia against it, the North bill giving the voters at large the power to nominate United States Senators passed

the House finally Tuesday, by a vote of 129 yeas to 16 nays. The senate, which killed the McCord bill, must face the issue once more.

There was not a word of debate in the House, the Gang members apparently thinking it not necessary to tell why they opposed a bill which would do away with the old system of buying a seat in the Federal Senate.

This is the third time the House has passed favorably on bills looking toward popular choice for senators, and in no case has any person advanced an argument against a change.

Each of the sixteen men voting against the bill is recognized as a persistent organization follower. The bill provides that on petition of 500 voters the secretary of the commonwealth shall see that the name of the person they favor is put on the official primary ballot, and the returns of the primary elections are to be certified to every representative and state senator.

ADJOINING COUNTIES.

Three million small trout have been placed in the streams of Blair county. Two weeks were required in the distribution. The fish measured from one and a half inches to two and a half inches in length. Seventeen cans were placed in Tipton run. Of these not half a million will be caught by legal and illegal fishing. What becomes of the rest?

Friday, while Walter C. Winter, of the firm of Smith & Winters, of Lock Haven, was sitting at his desk, a box of matches which he had in the side pocket of his coat, accidentally became ignited and in Mr. Winter's effort to smother the flames his right hand was badly burned and the coat, vest and trousers were completely ruined before he succeeded in quenching the blaze.

The Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the General Synod will hold its fourteenth Biennial Convention in St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Broad and Mount Vernon Streets, Philadelphia, May 7th to 10th. About two hundred and fifty delegates are expected to be present, and will be entertained by the ladies of the Missionary Societies connected with the Philadelphia Conference.

John Kift the oldest Odd Fellow in the state, attended the twenty-third annual session of Pennsylvania Odd Fellows, at Lock Haven. Mr. Kift will be seventy-nine years of age next July and has been an Odd Fellow for fifty-six years. He joined Fairfield lodge at Montoursville, on June 5, 1851. He is now a member of Lyncroft lodge, No. 112, of Williamsport. He has filled every station in lodge work and is yet active, not only in the lodge, but socially and politically as well.

The jury to investigate the mystery surrounding the death of Mrs. Mary Viske wife of John Viske, of Bellwood, met on the 23rd. The husband and eldest of the dead woman's three boys were examined, and the pistol which had been used was displayed to the jury. After some experimenting the jury decided that it was beyond a woman's strength to pull the trigger of the revolver four times in succession, and that the revolver was held by some one not herself. The verdict was that "Mrs. Mary Viske's death was caused by gunshot wounds by the hands of a person or persons other than herself, who are unknown to the jury."

The majority of the 300,000 young trees planted in the nursery at Hollidaysburg by the Pennsylvania Railroad company sometime ago will be transplanted at Altoona this year. In the vicinity of the latter city a tract of 14,000 acres is available for the planting and preservation of trees. The company is making arrangements to treat softwood ties with

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