

PALMER MADE SERIOUS CHARGES

REGARDING CORRUPTION IN THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

NOW PROVEN TO BE CORRECT

Government Lost Many Thousand Dollars—Federal Official Arrested—Why Some Were Removed—Berry Will Be Confirmed.

More or less interest is manifest over the delay of the U. S. Senate to confirm William H. Berry for Collector of Customs at the port of Philadelphia. The name was sent to the senate several weeks ago by President Wilson, and opposition immediately developed to his confirmation.

Several weeks ago the writer sat in the gallery of the House of Representatives at Washington and witnessed a sensation when the Hon. A. Mitchell Palmer arose and made some pointed remarks in reference to the manner in which valuations had been made on importations at the Philadelphia port.

It came like a thunderbolt in the midst of the dry debate on the various tariff schedules. Republicans were disconcerted, the Democratic members were jubilant, the galleries were aroused, and Mr. Palmer sat down amidst great applause.

The sensation sprung by Mr. Palmer created great excitement, and what he said no doubt had much to do with the resignations demanded by President Wilson, and the immediate naming of four new men in the place of the former members of the Philadelphia port, to succeed the Republicans, whose regular terms had expired.

The following extract of that speech is taken from the Congressional Record of Tuesday, April 29th: Mr. Palmer said: "Mr. PALMER, Mr. Chairman, I want to say a word in answer to the old-fashioned, stock Republican argument which has been presented here by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Fordney) against the ad valorem rates in this bill. It is true that all through the bill, in accordance with Democratic belief, we have written ad valorem rates wherever we thought they were practicable and workable."

"I want to say one further thing: That I think gentlemen will find that under the present legislation conducted by the party which believes that the first interest in the receipts of the custom-house is that of the Government rather than that of interested parties, either producers or consumers will be during the next four years, during the operation of this law, less under-valuations than you have found under the Payne law. Why, it is in Philadelphia, a great merchant in the city of Philadelphia, a man who in days gone has performed great service for the Republican Party, who has collected enormous campaign funds from the beneficiaries of the tariff laws in the State of Pennsylvania for the use of the Republican Party, and who has held a high place in the Government under a Republican administration, came to Washington on the 3d of March, within 48 hours of the time that a Republican administration was to go out of power, and settled with the Treasury Department fraudulent-entry cases at the port of Philadelphia, extending over 10 or 12 years and involving an amount of more than \$100,000."

"On the very eve of the Democratic administration coming into power that was done, because of the fear that the Democratic administration would look out for the interests of the Government and see that the revenue honestly levied should be honestly paid into the treasury. "I am glad to say that, that act was largely responsible for the cleaning out of the Philadelphia customhouse by the present administration, and the President has appointed for collector of the port of Philadelphia a man under whom no such conduct can prevail in the future, a man who made his reputation in Pennsylvania by prosecuting capital grafters, robbers, a man whose only enemies are ex-Republican State officials and State officeholders, now or recently residing in the State penitentiary. (Applause on the Democratic side.) I am satisfied that these ad valorem rates will bring the amount which the Government is entitled to under the law. (Applause.)"

The above remarks greatly annoyed the Republicans, and while they did not deny the main facts a reply was attempted by Congressman Moore. The next morning every Philadelphia daily paper was carefully scanned and large headlines were naturally expected. Imagine the surprise when there was not a line or word concerning Palmer's charges that John Wannamaker had planked down \$100,000 in the U. S. Treasury, just 24 hours before Woodrow Wilson was inaugurated, for undervaluations at the Philadelphia port, extending over a period of ten or more years. Instead of seeing any reference to the \$100,000 undervaluation scandal, each paper contained full page advertisements of the John Wannamaker store in Philadelphia, and since then these same papers have studiously avoided any reference to the matter. It looks as though these great publications have deliberately suppressed important news in order to maintain the favor of a large advertiser.

What Representative Palmer's speech had to do with the delay of Mr. Berry's confirmation we can not say. Republicans generally are opposed to Berry's confirmation. John Wannamaker, also, may have in mind the scandals that Berry exposed at Harrisburg and does not favor any further "lifting of the lid" in the Philadelphia Customs department where at least over \$25,000,000 are collected from Philadelphia merchants each year.

Are they afraid of the Hon. Wm. H. (Continued on page 6—3rd Col.)

THE DIFFERENCE.

Some publishers in Bellefonte are continually berating the business men of our town for not engaging space in their papers to exploit their wares. Almost every week offensive language is applied generally to the business men of Bellefonte.

On the other hand the Centre Democrat has a different complaint. There is a common contention at this office, every week, with these same business men, as we do not have sufficient advertising space at our disposal to meet all demands. Our trouble is that there is too much advertising offered us, at good prices, which we cannot accept, as the size of the paper is limited. Bellefonte merchants are accustomed to inquire whether we can spare them space, and in most cases engage it ahead of time.

We find Bellefonte merchants wide-awake, aggressive and with a due appreciation of the value of printers' ink. They further are intelligent advertisers who appreciate the full value of a live paper with a wide circulation, that reaches the people of Centre county. From past experience, they know that circulation is what counts and brings the best results. Our trouble is that Bellefonte merchants offer us too much advertising, for the size of the paper. It is the difference and "there is a reason."

FELL FROM HOUSE ROOF.

On Monday morning about half past seven o'clock Edward Hepburn, the carpenter, met with a serious mishap, which will lay him up for some time. He had just started to work shingling the roof of the property on East Lamb street, owned by John P. Harris and occupied by the Brown family. The recent rains had made the roof slippery and he suddenly lost his foot hold and fell to the ground below, a distance of about twenty feet, landing on a concrete pavement. His fellow workmen and others in the vicinity hastened to his assistance and later Dr. J. Coburn Rogers was sent for. He conveyed Mr. Hepburn to his home on Blanchard street, where an examination was made, and it was found that while his injuries were serious, they were not fatal. Two ribs were broken and he was badly bruised about the body.

This is the second time Mr. Hepburn has fallen off a house roof, a similar accident having happened to him while at work on the roof of Mrs. Mary Rapp's house on Half Moon hill about five years ago. Mr. Hepburn is getting along nicely and congratulating himself on his second narrow escape from death.

William Reed Killed.

Wm. Reed, who had been drinking heavily for a week or more, left Philadelphia Friday morning with a view, it is believed, of going to Buffalo. The first sign of him was in the evening about six o'clock, when a message reached Philadelphia, that he had just a few minutes before been killed by a B. & P. passenger train in the N. Y. C. yards at Clearfield. He was removed to the Clearfield hospital where it was found his greatest injury was internal—a rupture of the bladder—and while everything possible was done to save his life, the vital spark fled at 5 o'clock Saturday morning.

Colevillians.

On Monday evening Stephen Hajostek, a subject of the Emperor of Hungary was brought before Justice Wm. H. Musser on a charge of kicking and abusing his wife, so that from the effects she was confined to bed and could not appear as a witness. The evidence showed that he was drunk and disorderly, and whilst a serious charge could have been sustained, he was convicted of being disorderly and sentenced to ten days in the castle on the hill and to pay \$10 fine and the costs. The Justice lectured him severely and said that he regretted he could not administer corporal punishment, as he would like to kick him all over the town and back to Coleville. There is one state in the Union, viz: Minnesota where wife beaters who are drunk are publicly whipped until the bad blood all oozes out of their hides.

Hospital Appropriations.

Among the appropriations reported to House recently by the House appropriation committee was one of \$14,000 for the Bellefonte hospital, \$12,000 for maintenance and \$4,000 for other purposes. Two years ago it received \$10,000 for maintenance and five thousand for new building purposes. Other appropriation bills recommended were as follows: Altoona hospital \$95,000; Mercy hospital, Altoona \$6,000; Lock Haven hospital \$27,000; Renovo hospital \$6,000; Westmountain Sanatorium, Scranton, \$6,000; State Hospital for Northern Anthracite Coal Regions, Scranton, \$200,000; Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home, Erie, \$230,000; Western Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Edgewood Park, \$145,885; State hospital for the Insane, Warren, \$185,000.

Railroad Trunk Regulations.

On June 1, the new baggage rules will go into effect, on practically all the railroads in the United States. Every trunk which is more than 45 inches in length, breadth or height, will have an excess levied upon it to the amount for five pounds excess of weight. If the trunk measures 72 inches in any dimension, it will have to go by express or into "chancery."

PROCEEDINGS IN MAY TERM OF COURT

LIST OF CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED.

JOHN TAYLOR FOUND GUILTY

Of Aiding Harry Mease Escape From Jail—List of Verdicts Rendered—Reported by S. D. Gettig, Esq.

In the case of Comm. vs. Taylor the defendant is charged with aiding in an escape on the night of the 6th and 6th of June when Harry Mease escaped from the county jail, and when the defendant's cell was searched there was found in his cell two small hammers, a pair of pliers, two files, two knives, and a broken fork made into a screw driver, and some of the Comm. witnesses alleged that the defendant urged Mease to escape, had given him a board with which to prop up the cellar door and offered to put the hose out the jail window with which to get over the jail wall. The defendant denies the giving of the board, the assistance to Mease to escape, and under the testimony of Mr. Mease it develops that Mease got into cell No. 1 which was not locked, took up some boards, dug a hole through the wall into the cellar of the residence part of the jail which he had done something previous to the night he escaped, and that it was by this way that he escaped by lifting the cellar door in the hall between the jail and the residence part and passing from there into the jail yard where he procured a board and placed it upon the porch roof by means of which he gained the top of the jail wall. Other prisoners testified that Taylor had been saying to Mease that he was a coward and had lost his nerve. All of which the defendant denies, excepting that he might have said in a bantering way that he had lost his nerve, that all of the prisoners in the jail knew of Mease's proposed escape. Verdict on Thursday afternoon of guilty.

Other criminal cases for the week were disposed of as follows:

Comm. vs. Malin McCloskey, charged with larceny, prosecutrix Laura Fye; continued. Comm. vs. Jacob Levi, charged with larceny, prosecutrix Emma Barlet; settled. Comm. vs. Thomas Symmonds, charged with larceny, prosecutrix Beulah Bryan; settled. Comm. vs. Jesse Sowers, charged with larceny, prosecutrix Bessie H. Heaton; continued. Comm. vs. Bert Parks, charged with assault with a knife and attempt to rape, prosecutrix Annie Heaton. Defendant appeared in open court and pleaded guilty, whereupon the district attorney gave binding instructions to the jury to find in favor of the garnishees and against the plaintiff.

M. M. McLaughlin, a member of the Mifflin County bar, was in attendance at this morning's session. The next case for trial being Sarah J. Homan vs. J. H. Weber and S. E. Weber, trading as J. H. Weber and S. E. Weber, and C. P. Long. Being an action for breach of contract to sell to the jury to find in favor of the garnishees and against the plaintiff. All jurors not empaneled in this last case were discharged on Wednesday afternoon.

Farmers' Institutes.

The County Board of Farmers' Institute Managers, will meet at the County Commissioners' office on the second Tuesday of June, to arrange for the place where institutes are to be held this season. All of our people who desire institutes, ought to attend this meeting and present their claims. This Board is composed of the Local Members of the State Board of Agriculture, and one representative from each County Agricultural society, the Pomona Grange, County Alliance and other kindred organizations. The board will find that you cannot attend this meeting, address a letter with your request to Chairman of Board of Institute Managers, care of County Commissioners.

A Wreck on the Bald Eagle Valley.

On Monday morning at 5 o'clock an empty engine number 3161, in charge of Engineer Joseph Schell, en route from Tyrone to Lock Haven, ran into the rear end of number 88, a Sunbury train, at a point one mile west of Unionville. The engine and cabin car were badly damaged and brakeman H. L. Berry, of Sunbury, received a number of scratches and bruises.

The early morning hours were quite foggy and the first train had reduced its speed to go into a siding at that point, when the collision occurred. The Sunbury train was in charge of Conductor F. R. King. The track was blocked for two hours and the morning train from Tyrone was delayed.

Pennsylvania's Appropriation.

Among the appropriation bills reported out of committee last week was one of \$450,000 for the Panama Exposition commission for the state display at San Francisco, also \$36,000 for the purchase of the Cook tract for a state park and bills providing for state hospitals for the insane. One of the bills reported carries \$600 for a formal transfer of the battle flag of Pennsylvania regiments from the state museum to their final resting place in the rotunda of the state capital. Penn State College receives \$6,000 for tobacco experiments. The Topographic and Geological Survey Commission for Pennsylvania, \$30,000, and the Huntingdon Reformatory \$269,000.

Plans for New Penitentiary.

Governor Tener, on Tuesday, received the new plans for the Western penitentiary, to be erected in Centre county, recommended by the inspectors. After a full explanation, the Governor expressed his approval of the plans, which contemplate formidable buildings in a plot of thirty-eight acres, all enclosed by a wall high enough to discourage escapes. The buildings will be grouped in the centre and are designed for the accommodation of one thousand prisoners, who will be required to work the land on scientific schedules. The buildings will be constructed of Centre county rocks.

CLINTON COUNTY FILES AN OBJECTION

DOES NOT WANT TO ASSOCIATE WITH THE HALLS.

OPPOSED TO NEW DISTRICT

The Proposed Congressional Re-Appportionment Puts Centre County in New Territory—Not Favored by People.

The Lock Haven "Express" makes the following pointed objection to having Elk county in its congressional district. The article is of special interest to Centre county voters as well. The "Express" says: "While it is extremely doubtful that the new Congressional apportionment bill will go through the Legislature in its present form, at the same time it by any chance it should be passed it will cause quite a shakeup in local political circles. Voters of this county would be transferred into an entirely different field with vastly different conditions to accustom themselves to. We are accustomed to adapting ourselves to the affairs of our present district comprising the counties of Potter, Tioga, Clinton and Lycoming, and are familiar with the political leaders in the several counties. Under the new apportionment Clinton county would be in the Twenty-second district with Cameron, Elk, Centre and Clearfield, and we would be obliged to deal with new men and new conditions."

"On the very face of the proposition it would look as though the committee had been directed by the hand of Senator J. K. P. Hall. With the several judicial districts now in direct control of the Halls it only needs this gerrymander of the congressional district, with the Halls in absolute control to dictate the congressional candidates, to constitute a complete Hall oligarchy. No one doubts the controlling influence of the Elk county state senator at Harrisburg, where he has turned so many neat tricks for the powers that be during the present session of the legislature. That the people of a county should be switched out of one congressional district, and put in another merely for the purpose of serving the interests of professional politicians, when there is no justification for such change only serves to show that so far as political purity is concerned, we are still likely to travel some before reaching the millennium and realizing the dreams of the hot air political reformers.

"All we can do under the circumstances is to hope that Clinton county may be spared the humiliation of being made a footstool for politicians whom she has trusted by electing a senator of the 8th grade and who up to the present time have never shown the least disposition to do anything in her behalf. We are badly tied up as it is; let us hope that the present congressional district may remain undisturbed."

Scholar's Contest for W. C. T. U. Prize

On last Friday afternoon an interesting contest was held in the new High school building in which pupils of the 8th grade participated. The contest was under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Bellefonte and prizes were awarded for the best articles on temperance subjects. There were ten contestants and all acquitted themselves so well that it was a hard matter for the judges, Rev. G. E. Hawes, John Blanchard and Dorsey Hunter, to decide as to the winners. On the subject "Intoxicants and Athletics" the prize of \$5.00 was awarded to Miss Elizabeth Eckenroth. The second subject discussed was "Effect of Alcohol on the Human Body." The essays submitted by Miss Rachel Lambert and Miss Teresina Kimpfort were so good that the judges decided to divide the prize of \$5.00 equally between the two.

A Coleville Case.

Jack Rosman, of Coleville, was brought before Justice Musser on Tuesday evening, on a charge by Elizabeth Eckenroth, of having wantonly beaten him and compelled him to carry coal at nights for the family bin. The child was only ten years old and after hearing his confused story, the answer of Rosman and his wife the mother of the child, and Capt. Sobley the guardian of the dependent boy, the Judge, District Attorney Fortney and all the parties concerned, held a private consultation, and it was decided to let the family depend in peace and the guardian agreed to find a suitable home for the boy.

Grants Keeler Rehearing.

The state board of pardons, in session at Harrisburg last week, decided to grant a rehearing in the case of John O. Keeler, of Clearfield, who is under sentence of death for the murder of the Proprietor of a Clearfield brewery several months ago. An application for a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment was made at a meeting of the board last April but was refused. Keeler is a former resident of Bellefonte.

Yearick-Hoy Reunion.

The annual Yearick-Hoy reunion will be held this year, as on previous occasions, at Hecla Park, the date chosen being Thursday, June 13. All friends and neighbors are invited to participate in the pleasures of the day. As usual an interesting program is being prepared.

HAYES.—J. Carrol Hayes, of Pittsburg, a younger brother of Dr. R. G. H. Hayes, of this place, died Tuesday evening about 8 o'clock at the West Penn Hospital Pittsburg, after a brief illness from rheumatism and fever. He was a son of John Hayes and was born in Mifflinburg about 45 years ago. He was a druggist by profession and had been in Pittsburg for several years. He is survived by one brother, Dr. Hayes of this place, and two sisters, Mrs. Paul Reish, of Mifflinburg and Mrs. Samuel Orwig, of Harrisburg. The remains were taken to Mifflinburg this morning where the interment will take place Friday morning.

RECENT DEATHS.

POLICE.—Mrs. Dominic Police, a foreign woman residing at Coleville, died on Thursday last week of consumption. Her husband and three children survive. Burial was made in the Catholic cemetery at Bellefonte on Saturday morning.

ROBINSON.—Miss Frances M. Robinson who had been afflicted with epilepsy since she was six months of age, was found dead Friday morning at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robinson, at Phillipsburg. Deceased was aged 42 years and 12 days.

NEFF.—Charles Neff, a well known stone mason, died at his home in Castana at 1:30 o'clock Friday afternoon. He had been ill with complication of diseases since December last. Mr. Neff for some years was a masonry foreman on the New York Central railroad. Deceased is survived by his wife and five children. Funeral was conducted at Howard on Monday morning.

ECCARD.—At the home of his brother at Johnstown, May 22, 1913, Peter S. Eccard died of dropsy, aged 61 years, 3 months and 7 days; buried May 24th. He is survived by one brother, Edward Eccard, with whom he made his home, and three sisters, Mrs. Catherine Crowell, Mrs. Jennie Frazier, Vienna, Va., and Mrs. Hattie Gunsalus, of Beech Creek, Pa. The funeral services were held at the house in interment was made in Mt. Jewet cemetery.

CONSOR.—Charles W. Consor, a well known and respected citizen of Loganton, died at his home in that place at 4:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, May 19th, after an illness of five weeks from heart trouble. He was aged about 72 years and was long as health officer of that district during the winter when an epidemic of scarlet fever broke out at Rosecrans. In fumigating the houses, he contracted an illness which subsequently caused his death. Funeral services were held last Thursday forenoon.

KRAPE.—Mrs. Hannah Krape died Monday, May 19th, at the home of her son, Eley Krape at Lamar, after an illness of about three months duration. She was a sincere christian and a member of the Evangelical church for over sixty years. She was married to Michael Krape, who preceded her to the grave about thirty-eight years ago. She is survived by two sons and two daughters, namely, Mrs. C. H. Gramley, of Rebersburg, Mrs. Daniel Showers, of Nittany, Charles and Eley of Lamar. Funeral services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church at Lamar Thursday, conducted by Rev. Graham. Interment at Mt. Bethel cemetery.

GINTER.—Mrs. Minnie B. Ginter, wife of J. C. Ginter died at her home in Fernwood, Pa., on Wednesday morning, May 21, 1913 at 9 o'clock, following a short illness from tubercular pneumonia. She was a consistent christian woman and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, J. C. Ginter and three small children; Dorothy, Margaret and John Paul Ginter, of Fernwood, Pa. Her aged father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Williams, of Martha, survive her, also one brother and six sisters. The body was taken to the parental home at Martha, Pa., on Friday evening. Funeral services were held and burial made at that place on Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

McMULLEN.—Mrs. Annie McMullen, wife of Oscar McMullen of North Allegheny street, passed away in the Bellefonte hospital Tuesday of this week after a brief illness. Her maiden name was Miss Annie W. Ward and she was born in Bellefonte, January 11, 1873, making her age 40 years, 4 months and 16 days. She is survived by her husband and eight children. Two children preceded her to the grave. She was a kind wife and mother and a sincere christian woman. The sorrowing husband and children have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement. The funeral will take place Friday morning at 10 o'clock from the residence on North Allegheny street. Rev. C. W. Winey, pastor of the United Brethren church will officiate. Interment in the Advent cemetery.

SEIBERT.—The Rev. Samuel W. Seibert, father of Dr. J. L. Seibert, of this place, died at his late home in Newport, Pa., at noon on Tuesday, aged 89 years. Rev. Seibert was one of Newport's oldest and most respected citizens and located there more than thirty years ago. Deceased was born at Woodstock, Va. He was well known throughout a wide territory, as a clergyman of the United Evangelical church and in business and arose to the position of President Elder in his religious denomination and to President of the First National Bank of Newport, which positions he held until recently. He was well known to some of our people having frequently visited his son in this place, surviving him are two sons, President Judge William L. Seibert, of New Bloomfield and Dr. James L. Seibert, of Bellefonte, also by a brother who is in the west.

WILLIAMS.—Mrs. Ellen Williams, a highly respected resident of Ore Hill, Pa., died at her home in that place Sunday of diphtheria, after a brief illness. The deceased, whose maiden name was Miss Ellen Farber, was the daughter of Martin and Jane Farber. She was born at Pennsylvania Furnace and was forty-one years of age on the 4th of last March. She leaves to survive her one son, Calvin of Ore Hill; and a brother and two sisters as follows: William Farber and Mrs. Calvin Murfot, of Benore; and Mrs. J. Woomey, of Graysville. She also leaves her aged mother, Mrs. Jane Farber, who is eighty years of age and who makes her home with Calvin Murfot at Benore. A daughter preceded her to the grave during the past year. Funeral services were held on Wednesday at Ore Hill, and interment was made in Pine Hill cemetery.

At Huhlersburg, Mrs. Ira Bortoff and her brother, Thomas Bortoff, of Snydertown, procured the erection of a fine marble marker on the grave of their brother George. It was sculptured by F. R. Batchlet, of Lock Haven.