

Circulation
Over 5,700
Both Phones

The Centre Democrat.

Best
Advertising
Medium
In Centre County
Everybody Reads It

Circulation Over 5,600—Largest in Centre county.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4th, 1913.

Vol. 36, No. 48.

PROCEEDINGS OF DECEMBER COURT

CASES THAT WERE DISPOSED OF
THIS WEEK.

GRAND JURY MAKES REPORT

List of Criminal Cases Not Large But
Consume Much Time—Hammond
Scherer Chosen Foreman of Grand
Jury.

The December sessions of court convened on Monday morning at the great portion of the forenoon was taken up with hearing motions and petitions as presented, taking return of the constables of the several districts of the county, and the calling and swearing of the Grand Jury; Hammond Scherer, merchant of Bellefonte, was chosen foreman.

The civil list of cases for both the present and next week was called over and the following disposed of:

Clement Dale, executor of Austin Swisher estate, vs. Pearl C. Gray, agent, being an appeal; settled.

George W. Zeigler vs. W. H. Hindle, being an appeal; settled.

H. P. Kelley and M. D. Kelley, partners, trading as Kelley, Nease & Coal Company of Snow Shoe, Pa., vs. J. D. Irish and Ned Irish, trading as Irish Brothers; being an action in assumption; continued.

Gabriel Salant, Solomon J. Wallach, Aaron B. Salant, trading and doing business as Salant & Wallach, vs. L. Spaide and R. B. Stauffer, partners and trading and doing business as Spaide and Stauffer, being an assumption; continued.

The committee appointed at the time of the death of the Hon. W. C. Heinle then made their report, and after a few addresses by members of the bar court adjourned until afternoon.

The following cases were taken up: Burdine Butler vs. B. P. Swartz, being an appeal, and an action brought to recover from the defendant, the value of a bedstead and table bought at the sale of John A. Salant in Howard township, held in 1910. The plaintiff alleged he paid for same with other articles purchased at the sale, and the goods were not delivered, while the defendant denied the having of the goods following the sale, and that numerous suits had ensued and that the plaintiff could not recover in this action. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$135.

Burdine Butler vs. John A. Nestle, being an appeal and brought to recover for white lead and putty bought at the public sale of the defendant at the time mentioned in the report of the preceding suit, and at the instance of the plaintiff taken to the residence of a neighbor, where it still is; and further offering evidence that this neighbor was notified not to deliver to the plaintiff. The defendant not being in court but was represented by counsel, and on motion in compulsory non suit on the ground that the goods were in the hands of the agent of the plaintiff. Non suit sustained.

Comm. vs. Francis O'Rourke; prosecutor, Samuel Rogers; indicted for larceny. This defendant was indicted with three other young men who pleaded guilty at the last term of court, and not being in court, a bench warrant was subsequently issued, the defendant arrested, and appeared in open court and pleaded guilty; the case will be disposed of later.

Comm. vs. Steve Hanko; charged with assault and battery; prosecutor Joseph Wessely; indicted for larceny. This case was disposed of by the court some time in October and noted in this paper.

Comm. vs. William E. VonGorder; charged with entering dwelling to commit felony; second charge, larceny; this case was disposed of by the court some time ago and fully reported by this paper at the time.

Comm. vs. Charles A. Miller; charged with assault and battery; prosecutor John H. Taylor; bill ignored by the Grand Jury, and prosecutor to pay the costs.

Comm. vs. Edgar Sheffer, indicted for not furnishing fire escape; prosecutor J. G. Boyce; indictment quashed on motion of defendant's counsel.

Comm. vs. Arthur Donnelly; prosecutrix Catherine A. Miller, indicted first count, assault and battery, second count, aggravated assault, and battery. Defendant appeared in open court and pleaded guilty to the first count of the indictment and sentence was suspended upon payment of the costs.

Comm. vs. Stanley Betner, indicted for larceny, prosecutor Moses Johnston; two prosecutions were brought against this man and both prosecutions or cases were tried before the same jury, the prosecutor in the second case being George Newman. Johnston prosecuted for the taking of a mining auger and crank out of the hillside mine in Rush township where he had left them at the place of the workings on the evening of Oct. 14 last, and that they were worth from a dollar to a dollar and a half. Newman prosecuted for the taking of a miner's hammer and a miner's needle, both of the value of about \$2.70, from the same mine and at the same time. The Commonwealth's testimony showed that the defendant had been in the mine on the morning of the 15th of October and came out with a full set of mining tools, and that when he had come there to work sometime previous he had but a pick and shovel. That on the 15th these prosecutors looked for their tools and learned that the defendant had been in that mine that morning and left with a full set of tools, went to the Hartshorn mine and found that the man had been employed there that day, and asked the privilege of going to the mine to the place where he had worked, and that they had found their tools at the facing where the defendant had worked that day. The defendant swore that when he had quit work at the Hillside mine he had wrapped up his tools and that on the morning of the 15th he had gone to the mine and picked up the package supposing to contain his own tools and gone to the Hartshorn mine; while working there discovered that they were not his tools.

(Continued at bottom of next col.)

AARONSBURG YOUTH KILLED.

Body Horribly Mutilated by Log-Rolling Machine.

Claire C. Stricker, the 13-year-old son of Henry C. Stricker of Aaronsburg, met a horrible and untimely death near Philipsburg on Friday by being run over by a twenty-ton log-roller. The sad part of the affair is that the father of the unfortunate young man was operating the roller at the time and in consequence is nearly heart-broken.

Mr. Stricker for some time past has been employed by the Whitmer-Steel Lumber Co., at their operations back of Morrisdale. His son had been with him assisting in light work. The father was operating the steam log-roller on Friday, switching some log cars at what is known as the Schooner crossing. He did not notice that his son was engaged in standing the track, and started the roller forward. When Mr. Stricker found that an accident had occurred he stopped the machine, and was horrified to find that his son had been the victim. The boy had been dragged quite a distance and his body was badly mangled—throat cut, head crushed, right arm broken and right leg crushed from ankle to hip. Life was extinct when the body was picked up.

The remains were prepared for burial by a Philipsburg undertaker and on Saturday shipped to the boy's home in Aaronsburg. Funeral services were held in the Evangelical church at that place on Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. J. Dice. Interment was made in the Reformed cemetery. Besides the grief-stricken parents the following named brothers and sisters survive: Howard, Ray, Sara Jane, George, Lulu and Aaron.

EXPLODING MUSKET

Causes Serious Mishap to Curtin Dunklebarger, of Pleasant Gap.

A Curtin Dunklebarger, the 19-year-old son of Grant Dunklebarger, of Pleasant Gap, had his left hand almost entirely torn off on Thanksgiving Day morning about 11 o'clock, by the explosion of an old army musket with which he was experimenting. Young Dunklebarger in company with Ray Noll, Paul Waite and two of Mullinger's sons, were in the barn, where they were taking turns shooting mark in an open field between the photograph gallery and barber shop on the Hornet road at Pleasant Gap. The gun was an old musket of army times, that had been used in several celebrations at the Gap. When it became Dunklebarger's turn to fire, the wad stuck in the barrel about half way down and the lad with the remark "watch me blow the old thing up" pulled the trigger with the result that it exploded with terrific force about eight inches from the tube. A part of the barrel flew over Noll's store and landed against Mullinger's coal shed. The boy's left hand rested on the barrel just about where it exploded and that member was blown off with the exception of the thumb and the first joint of the index finger.

Superintendent Mallinger of the Bell Telephone Company happened to be passing in his auto at the time and he brought the wounded boy to the Bellefonte hospital where his injuries were treated and he is now getting along nicely.

Wife Deserter Under Arrest.

Howard Leaper, a young man about thirty years of age, was arrested at Alto on Monday afternoon by Officer Harry Dukeman, charged with wife desertion and non-support, and brought to Bellefonte and lodged in jail. Tuesday afternoon he was taken to Williamsburg where his wife resides, by constable Farrell of that place. He deserted his wife and family some time ago and ever since the time he has been on the lookout for him. Finally he was located at George Thompson's farm at Alto and a constable from Julian was sent to arrest him. Leaper however recognized the constable when he saw him coming and ran like a deer, with the result that the constable returned to Julian empty handed. On Monday Officer Dukeman and a member of the State Constabulary put on their hunting clothes, knowing what an elusive chap Mr. Leaper was, and proceeded to Alto to reconnoitre. They met Mr. Leaper just as he drove in on the barn floor with a load of corn fodder and before he had time to do his springing act, he was Dukeman's prisoner. It is said that other charges of a more serious character may be preferred against him.

Boalsburg Hunters Good Record.

The Fleetfoot Hunting party who were in camp on the Sand Spring trail here near south of Boalsburg, broke camp on November 25th, with three fine bucks to their credit. One was a four-pronged buck weighing 179 pounds and was shot by W. H. Miller. G. W. Rossman was not far behind him with a four-pronged buck that weighed 178 pounds. The third was a two-pronged buck killed by W. A. Leach and weighed 140 pounds. The hunters report that they saw very few deer during their two weeks' outing.

A New World's Record.

Collier Haver, the second, a nine year old brown Swiss cow, owned by the Michigan Agricultural college, has established a new world's record for milk production by animals of her breed. In the year ended last week she yielded 19,294.5 pounds of milk which tested 4.102 per cent, and made 1,000.5 pounds of butter.

and claimed that some one must have taken the tools of the prosecutor and wrapped them in his package and that he carried off the tools of the prosecutors by mistake and without his knowledge until he discovered it while working at the last named mine. Verdict on Wednesday morning of no guilty.

There being nothing to try, the court adjourned until two o'clock in the afternoon after having the accounts as passed and filed by the Register to this term of court read.

Court convened at two o'clock when the case of Comm. vs. Mosarash was called.

The Grand Jury made their final report Wednesday afternoon, reporting they had passed on fourteen bills of indictment, 13 of which were found to be true bills and one ignored. The Grand Jury was discharged on Wednesday evening.

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF BROOKE BLACKFORD

THE YOUNG SON OF MR. AND
MRS. PERCY BLACKFORD.

OCCURRED AT NEW CASTLE, PA.

Where Parents Now Reside—Accidentally Shot Himself With His Father's Gun—On Thanksgiving Evening.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Blackford, formerly of this place but now of New Castle, Pa., will sympathize with them in the sad death of their eleven-year-old son, Brooke, who accidentally shot and killed himself at their home in that city last Thursday evening about 9 o'clock.

The particulars of the sad affair are about as follows: Mrs. Blackford surrounded by all her children except Brooke, was sitting in a room on the first floor of the house. The family was on the verge of going to bed. Brooke had been in the room but a few minutes before. He said he was tired and guessed he would go to bed. Putting his hands to his eyes he had arisen and climbed the stairs to his room. A few minutes later the terrific report of a large gauge shot gun sounded through the house and Mrs. Blackford with several of the children rushed up stairs to ascertain the cause of the shot. The mother was horrified to find the body of her little son, Brooke, lying on the blood splattered bed. A large ragged hole had been torn in his small breast, just above the heart by the discharge of the powerful firearm. The gun itself was resting on the floor, where it had presumably slipped from the boy's grasp. Mrs. Blackford took the small form in her arms and clasped it to her heart, calling his name, "Brooke! Brooke!" but it was in vain as death had been instantaneous. A little sister, Jane, 8 years old with rare presence of mind rushed to a neighbor's house and brought assistance to the father, who had a certain examination showed that the boy was dead and that it would be useless to summon a doctor. Some of the shots from the gun had entered the boy's heart. That he had prepared for bed was evident from the fact that he was in his night clothes.

The gun which caused the death of Brooke belonged to his father who happened to be away from home at the time, and was kept in a closet which opened into the room which Brooke occupied. The gun was always kept unloaded. It is supposed that after Brooke went to bed he happened to think of the gun and decided to get it out to play with. When he found the gun, he placed one in it to satisfy his craving. The gun was of the hammer-type, and one that a sudden discharge would have been quite often set off. It is believed that the lad had allowed the gun to slip from his fingers and striking the floor it was discharged. He was probably still holding the end of the barrel when the shot was fired.

The boy is survived by his parents and the following brothers and sisters: Grace, Gilbert, Florence, Mary, Jane, Blanche and Sidney. Brooke was a bright lad and a great favorite among his playmates and teachers. The funeral was held on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the home of his parents. Members of his Sunday school class acted as pallbearers. Interment in the cemetery at New Castle.

Can You Beat It?

Mr. A. L. Johnson who farms one of Miles Arms Gray's farms two miles west of Waddle, Pa., about two weeks ago killed a hog that dressed 692 pounds. This we believe is the largest porker killed in Centre county so far. Mr. Johnson sold his pork to the McKittrick-Huyett Lumber Company for \$62.28.

Mr. Amos Dean, of Waddle, recently killed a hog that weighed 570 pounds. On Thanksgiving Day Charles Ghaner, of Benore, Pa., shot down two hogs that weighed 527 and 529 pounds respectively. On the same day W. H. Ghaner killed six hogs that cut 1809 pounds of pork. There were twenty-six families at Benore that killed ninety fat hogs that easily cut 2700 pounds of meat. There is certainly no need of a food famine at Benore this winter.

Philip Walker who lives near Hastings station on the Bellefonte Central railroad this week killed two hogs whose combined weight when dressed was 1042 pounds. He purchased the pigs when small from Lyman Bickle, of Hunter Park. When killed they were a year and two months old. Mr. Walker works at the Keystone Lumber Company and this fine mess of pork will help very materially to reduce the cost of living for him and his family this winter.

"The Shepherd of the Hills."

Those who have read this book by Harold Bell Wright, will enjoy the monologue play to be given by Mr. George C. Williams, in the auditorium of the high school building, Friday evening, Dec. 12th. If you have not read it you will want to after hearing Mr. Williams. The Civic Club is instrumental in securing this fine entertainment for the citizens of Bellefonte, and hope he will be greeted by a large audience. Tickets 25c and 15c.

Hospital Notes.

Admitted for treatment—Miss Myrtle Lorch, Snow Shoe; Mrs. Mary Shies, Clarence; Jacob Snook, Waddle; Mrs. Etta Horner, and George Young, Bellefonte.

Operations—Laura Eckenroth, Unionville; Mrs. Dianna Alters, Bellefonte.

Discharged—Orlando Smith, Howard; Clarence Riley, State College; William Johnson, Millsburg.

Students at West Chester.

From the Daily Local News we note the following students from Centre county attending West Chester State Normal School: Mary E. Barges, Sarah L. Fisher, Gladys H. Meyer, Ruth A. Smith, all of Spring Mill; Margaret A. Brady, of Fleming; Myra B. Watson, of Snow Shoe.

STRIKING FEATURES IN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DELIVERED TO CONGRESS IN
PERSON, ON TUESDAY.

POICIES CLEARLY OUTLINED

Downfall of Huerta Predicted Soon—
Urges Legislation for Direct Nomination of Presidential Candidates—
Philippine Independence.

President Wilson, for the fourth time since his inauguration on to executive office, appeared before congress and delivered an address on the important questions concerning the country. Believing it will be of interest, we publish the message in full:

Gentlemen of the Congress: In pursuance of my constitutional duty to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, I take the liberty of addressing you on several matters which ought, as it seems to me, particularly to engage the attention of your honorable bodies, as of all who study the welfare and progress of the nation.

I shall ask your indulgence if I venture to depart in some degree from the usual custom of setting before you in formal review the many matters which have engaged the attention and called for the action of the government or which look to them for early treatment in the future, because the list is long, very long, and would suffer in the attention to which I should have to subject it. I shall submit to you the reports of the heads of the several departments, in which these subjects are set forth in careful detail, and beg that they may receive the consideration of your committees and of all members of the Congress who may have the leisure to study them. Their obvious importance, as constituting the very substance of the government, make commendable emphasis on my part unnecessary.

Peace and Good Will.

The country, I am thankful to say, is at peace with all the world, and many happy manifestations multiply about us of a growing cordiality and sense of community of interest among the nations, foreshadowing an age of settled peace and good will. More and more readily each decade do the nations manifest their willingness to bind themselves by solemn treaty to the processes of peace, the processes of frankness and fair concession. So far the United States has stood at the front of such negotiations. She will, I earnestly hope and confidently believe, give fresh proof of her sincere adherence to the cause of international friendship by ratifying the several treaties of arbitration awaiting approval by the Senate. In addition to these, it has been the privilege of the department of state to gain the assent, in principle, of no less than 21 nations, representing four-fifths of the population of the world, to the negotiation of treaties by which it shall be agreed that whenever differences of interest or of policy arise which can not be solved by the ordinary processes of diplomacy they shall be publicly analyzed, discussed, and reported upon by a tribunal chosen by the parties before either nation determines its course of action.

There is only one possible standard by which to determine controversies between the United States and other nations: Our honor and our obligations to the peace of the world. A treaty compounded ought easily to be made by the government, and the interpretation of those already assumed.

Plain Words on Mexico.

There is but one cloud upon our horizon. That has shown itself to the detriment of our peace and good will. There can be no certain prospect of peace in America until Gen. Huerta has surrendered his usurped authority in Mexico; until it is understood on all hands, indeed, that such a pretended government will not be countenanced or dealt with by the government of the United States. We are the friends of constitutional government in America; we are more than its friends, we are its champions, because in no other way can our neighbors to whom we would wish in every way to make proof of our friendship, work out their own development in peace and liberty. Mexico has no government. The attempt to maintain one at the expense of Huerta, who, after a brief attempt to play the part of constitutional president, has at last cast aside even the pretense of legal right and declared himself dictator. As a consequence, a condition of affairs now exists in Mexico which has made it doubtful whether even the most elementary and fundamental rights either of her own people or of the citizens of other countries resident within her territory can long be successfully safeguarded and which threatens, if long continued, to imperil the interests of peace, order, and tolerable life in the lands immediately to the south of us. Even if the usurper had succeeded in his purposes, in despite of the constitution of the Republic and the rights of the people, he would have set up nothing but a precarious and hateful power, which could have lasted but a little while, and whose eventual downfall would have left the country in a more deplorable condition than ever. But he has not succeeded. He has forfeited the respect and the moral support even of those who were at one time willing to see him succeed. Little by little he has been completely isolated. By a little every day his power and prestige are crumbling and the collapse is not far away. We shall not, I believe, be obliged to alter our policy of watchful waiting. And then, when the end comes, we shall hope to see constitutional order restored in distressed Mexico by the concert and energy of such of her leaders as prefer the liberty of their people to their own ambitions.

Urges Currency Reform.

I turn to matters of domestic concern.

(Continued on 4th page.)

DIED ON EVE OF FREEDOM.

In Prison Eleven Years, Convict's Parole Came Too Late.

After serving a term of eleven years in the Western Penitentiary of Pennsylvania for 11 years, and earnestly hoping that some time he would be released, John Terko, 55, died in that institution Friday, a few minutes before his liberation under the new parole act passed by the last session of the legislature. Terko has been ill a long time and entertained hopes of recovering, after getting the news of his parole. Eighty other "black clothes" convicts were released at the same time. Sixty-seven were freed from the local institution and 13 from the Centre county farm. Last week's exodus is the largest since the Civil war, when more than 100 of Morgan's raiders were taken from the prison after being detained there by the federal authorities.

The men were permitted to walk out of the institution in groups of three. Each was clad in a new suit of clothes, hat, shoes and underwear, and to each \$10 was given. The prison officials admonished the paroled men not to violate the trust and urged them to make their future conduct such that they would never be returned to the penitentiary.

Chaplain Charles M. Miller was sought for a handshake by all of the men before leaving. The regret over not being released before Thanksgiving passed away when the receipt of the documents was announced.

Among the paroled prisoners was a woman, but she is so ill that her death was momentarily expected. One of the men is blind, and it was necessary to make special provision for him.

KELLER-NOLL.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, November 26th, E. Paul Keller, of Altoona, and Miss Madeline K. Noll, of Pleasant Gap, Centre county, quietly married at the Methodist parsonage at Hollidaysburg, by Rev. G. F. Boggs, pastor. The wedding was fully planned and was a complete surprise to the many friends of the young couple. Miss Noll is of Bellefonte on Wednesday morning for Altoona where she was met by Mr. Keller and together they proceeded to Hollidaysburg where the nuptial knot was tied. Immediately after the ceremony they left for Centre county where they visited among friends until this week, when they returned to Altoona where they will reside in the future. The bride is the daughter of County Commissioner William H. Noll, and for the past two years has been clerk in the Commissioner's office. She is a very pretty and attractive young lady and enjoys a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Her groom is formerly from Pleasant Gap, but for the past two years has been holding an excellent position as book-keeper in one of the offices of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Altoona. The bride and groom are extending to Mr. and Mrs. Keller a happy and prosperous voyage on the sea of matrimony.

Bellefonte Boy Promoted.

For some time past J. Harvey McClure has been in the employ of Day & Zimmerman, a large engineering firm at Philadelphia, Pa. Recently this firm became managers of the Citizens Traction Company at Oil City, Pa., and on Monday of this week they sent Mr. McClure to Oil City as general superintendent of the Oil City street car lines of Oil City and Franklin at intermediate points, and also as light and power engineer. In speaking of his appointment the Oil City Derrick says:

"Mr. McClure is well known in Oil City and has many friends here. He has been in the city a number of times and spent considerable time here during the past two years on work for Day & Zimmerman, one of whose valuable engineers he has been. He has had a valuable and extensive experience in the work in connection with public utilities and is thoroughly qualified for his work here."

Mr. McClure is a son of Mr. and Mrs. James I. McClure of this city.

Steel Trade Booming.

The Schuykill Haven Iron and Steel Company last week purchased a large plot of ground at Pottsville and will erect immediately an addition to the mill, 200 by 400 feet in size.

Five hundred additional men will be given employment. Seven additional building furnaces will be placed on a large heating furnace, warehouse, machine shop and office building. The old puddle furnace, built more than 60 years ago, will be dismantled and a new eight-inch mill erected in its place.

Orwigsburg also will acquire two new industries, giving employment to 300 persons. G. S. Kingsburg, of Altoona, having purchased 50 acres for them.

The greatest drawback these new industries are experiencing is that there are no vacant houses either in Schuykill Haven or in Orwigsburg—Philadelphia Ledger.

Beech Creek Man Injured.

W. Quig, Clark of Beech Creek, who is employed in the clay mines of the Harrison-Walker Refractories company at Monmouth, was painfully injured on Tuesday of last week by a fall of rock. Mr. Clark had gone into the mine to bale out water preparatory to drilling for a blast. Without warning half a ton of rock dropped from above and caught the man in a stooping position, pressing his head and shoulders down to his feet. Unable to extricate himself from his position, Mr. Clark managed to call loud enough to make a fellow workman some distance away hear him, and he was taken out. The larger portion of the rock fell to one side of him, otherwise he likely would have been crushed to death. He was removed to his home in Beech Creek and given surgical attention.

Hogan Goes to Prison.

William Hogan, of Franklin, Pa., Tuesday began serving a term of not less than one year or more than three in the western penitentiary.

Hogan who recently chose five years banishment to Kansas to a life term for petty larceny under the third offense provision, got only as far as Cleveland, getting drunk there, he boarded a train going the wrong way. It landed him back in Franklin.

POPULAR FAITH IN PRESIDENT WILSON

REPUBLICAN PARTY DEAD, COFFINED ENTOMBED.

PROGRESSIVES AND ROOSEVELT

The People, as a Whole, Are For Wilson—Have Confidence in the Man—Wilson Will Be Renominated in 1916.

Political prophets are as numerous as the flowers that bloom in the spring. Their predictions are about as reliable as the average forecast made on the state of the weather one year hence. When you talk about political prophets there is one name that stands at the head of the list, and when he puts forth a prediction it is eagerly read by millions from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and the same is the subject of elaborate comment in all the leading journals. Heretofore this paper has referred to the political forecasts of Samuel G. Blythe, the noted journalist. He accurately predicted the defeat of Taft several years before it came. Blythe is a keen observer and knows how to feel the public pulse and analyze the trend of sentiment.

In the last issue of the "Saturday Evening Post" Mr. Blythe contributed a most interesting article on the topic "Wilson in the Country." From this article we take a few extracts that should prove interesting to our readers:

"WILSON IN THE COUNTRY."

As a mass the people are far better judges of men than they are of measures and they are not hurried judges. They give a president a chance.

Take the case of Mr. Taft: He went into office with everybody his friend. All factions were prepared to be glad if he succeeded—if he lived up to his advance notices. And the people waited patiently for some exposition of his abilities. No matter what the earlier opinion may have been it was not until after the Payne-Aldrich Bill had been signed and defended by him that the real conclusion was formed; but by the end of the first year of his term Mr. Taft was not in the confidence of the people and his defeat was inevitable. The people stood by him as long as they could, but when they turned away they turned away for good and all.

Popular Faith in the Past.

Recently I drove across the continent from West to East, stopping along the route from San Francisco to Boston, and asked the people—not the politicians—what they thought of Mr. Wilson. I found an almost universal regard for him, an almost universal admiration for him, a almost universal support for him, based on the concrete popular recognition of his honesty of purpose, his power of intellect, his lack of ostentation, his good judgment, and his evident determination to carry out the policies he has laid down as essential to the well-being of the country, as well as for the capacity he has shown for taking the initiative.

The people, as a whole, are for Mr. Wilson. They have watched him carefully, and have faith in his sincerity, and are particularly pleased with his mastery of his difficult situation. The people like a man who dominates. They want to be governed. They had a strong personal regard for Mr. Taft, but they were not running things, but things were running him. They find that Mr. Wilson is really president, with no delegation of authority whatsoever; and they like that and like him—and are frank to say so.

It is true I found opposition to the tariff program of Mr. Wilson, but not so much as I had expected. This country has been on a high protective basis for many years, has been organized along those lines, but outside of the irascible, stampeded remnants of the old Republican party, there was an evident and cheerful disposition to try out a reduction of the tariff and see what the effect would be. I found that nobody, except in a few old-fashioned bastions, had any apprehensions of what would happen; and all were serenely conscious of the fact that if this revision fails to be satisfactory it is the easiest thing in the world to re-revise.

The general disposition was this: The people elected Mr. Wilson and a Democratic Senate and House, with full knowledge that the tariff would be revised and revised downward. There were no popular delusions about that. Now, since the Democrats have revised the tariff according to their lights and, in a measure at least, as directed by the people, the people themselves have no cause for complaint and should accept the result as their own doing, and wait for the outcome.

If the tariff program of the Democrats fails to work out in a practical and helpful manner there is no doubt that the people will have at the first general election, where the people have a chance to express themselves. The Democrats will be retired—that is all there is to that; but until the tariff has had a chance, the great bulk of the people are calmly philosophical about it all; and it is as hard to stir interest in the subject as it would be to revive Know-nothingism. We have had tariff dinged at us for several years. The popular delusions "For heaven's sake drop it! Give us a chance to see how it works! Forget it, and let us go about our business!"

So far as the tariff and Mr. Wilson's linked fortunes are concerned, the general feeling is optimistic. Our American is a good sportsman, as a whole, and he is willing to take a chance. If it comes right, hurrah for Wilson! If it comes wrong, hurrah for somebody else.

Of course I met many discouraged standpaters who were full of forebodings and who scattered prophecies

(Continued on page 2.)