

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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EDITORIAL

THAT TORRANCE LETTER

Although Governor James professes to see nothing odd about it, the plan of patronage distribution outlined in State Chairman James Torrance's circular letter to county chairmen throughout the State isn't going over at all well with those who were selling the Governor's bill of goods to their followers before the primaries.

The Torrance plan, it seems, gives the County Republican chairmen even more authority than had been anticipated, makes no distinction in counties in which the organization supported the Governor's primary opponent, former Governor Gifford Pinchot.

When news of the set-up first got around it was assumed that in such counties the "original" James supporters would be in the majority on the patronage committees and thus to some extent, at any rate, have things pretty much their own way.

Not so, however, if Torrance's letter is correctly interpreted. For it seems that the county chairmen, regardless of where they stood in the primary, are not only going to be given a place with the rest of the boys around the plum bucket, but are going to be in a position to rap the knuckles of anyone who tries to stick his hands in the bucket too often.

The State chairman's letter states that it will be "essential that county committee members be consulted regarding patronage," and goes on to say that the county chairman, "acting as sponsors for the county committee" must sign all applications before they are passed along to Personnel Secretary John R. Royer.

The plan doesn't seem to tie in at all with the Governor's recent statement that the "James people" would be "seated at the head of the table and get a little bit of the manna before the others," the Pinchot people.

But the Governor has given no indication that he intends to modify the plan to bring it into better alignment with this statement. Asked if he had seen the letter, the Governor parried:

"What's wrong with it?"

"In some cases," his interrogator said, "it would mean that the James men would not get proper recognition."

"James still happens to be Governor," replied the Chief Executive.

The chances are that some of the Governor's early supporters are going to be knocking at his door to have a talk about the situation before the system is finally put into effect in all counties. Republican spokesmen indicated that Torrance must have sent the letter out with some misgivings. He is said to have had it ready for mailing to the sixty-seven county chairmen about two weeks ago.

PLANES, OIL AND SCRAP

Some of the nation's statesmen on Capitol Hill, in Washington, appear to be greatly concerned over the willingness of this country to permit France to buy five or six hundred planes.

The French, it seems, faced with a shortage of airplanes, wish to buy planes in this country in order to bridge the time which would elapse before French air industry could increase the output of airplanes.

To some American congressmen, this seems like "taking sides" in the European line-up. However, if no military secrets of the United States are disclosed and France is able and willing to pay for the planes that she buys, there is nothing objectionable in the sale of the planes to the French. A sale would be entirely within the neutrality laws of this country and in strict accordance with international law.

The congressmen who are so concerned over the shipment of planes to France do not seem to be worried about the purchases of oil that Japan is making in this country. Neither did they tear their hair about the immense quantities of scrap iron that Japan bought in this country, evidently in preparation for her attack upon China. Certainly, between Japan and France, the people of this country, if they are going to give the edge to anybody, would prefer to favor the French. The same observation applies between France and Germany, or Italy.

There are some advantages to this country to encourage the sale of airplanes abroad. To begin with, export orders will enable American airplane makers to increase their facilities and thus be better prepared to serve this country in an emergency.

FRICION DEVELOPING

Generalissimo Franco's friends in Washington have informed American diplomats that he will not become a Hitler or Mussolini puppet when and if he conquers Spain. But Messrs. Roosevelt and Hull are keeping their fingers crossed.

Franco, according to his spokesman, does not owe Hitler a thin dime; he has paid off the German dictator with exports of wheat, iron and other raw materials. They're even, financially. Mussolini will be a far more commanding influence in the "new Spain," for Franco's own people admit it will be at least two years before they can, through exports, discharge their heavy obligations to Il Duce. They insist, however, that Franco has not allowed the Italian dictator to gain a political or economic foothold—no more, they say than George Washington did when he permitted Lafayette and Rochambeau to aid the struggling colonies.

Franco welcomed Italian reinforcements as he would have accepted anybody's assistance, so Washington hears. But the Spanish do not like the Italians—indeed, are slightly contemptuous of their 20,000 brothers-in-arms. Whenever Mussolini's soldiers ogle Spanish señoritas in a cabaret or on the public square, the beauties hiss: "Guadalajara!" There's no smile with the epithet.

Echoes From the Past

Fifty Years Ago

Dr. Shoemaker and wife, of Lock Haven, had the misfortune to break through the ice on the river while driving across at that place this week. It was through timely assistance that all were saved from drowning.

Deaths: At Potters Mills on January 20, Simon Long, aged 59 years, 2 months and 12 days.—In George's Valley on January 22, Daniel Ludwig, aged 66 years, 11 months and 12 days.—Near Tusseyville on January 26, Mrs. George Reiber, aged 55 years and 8 days.

Mr. H. T. Hutchison, formerly telegraph operator at the Pennsylvania station, has been promoted to general ticket agent at Bellefonte and will take charge of his new position this week. Mr. Potter, who had charge of both offices, freight and passenger, will remain in charge of the freight office.

A new grocery by Paul Sternberg has been opened on High Street in the room recently vacated by Rankin's insurance office. He will keep a full line of tropical fruits, groceries, fish and other articles as his trade may require. As an accommodation to the public, stamps and postals will be sold and all mail matter left there will be sent to the office in time for mail.

D. K. Miller and family, of Jacksonville, attended the golden wedding of Mr. Miller's parents, Saturday, and report having had a fine time. There were nearly one hundred persons present, nearly all of whom were descendants of an honored couple. Among the numerous presents were a twenty dollar gold piece, a gold headed cane and a pair of gold spectacles for each.

Quietly and with scarcely a word of warning our young hardware merchant, Mr. James D. McKee, took the Tuesday morning train and hid himself to Lemont, and there consummated a contract which he considers the most important event of his life. At the residence of Mr. John P. Moore a number of relatives and close friends assembled to witness the marriage ceremony of Miss Maggie Moore, their daughter, to J. D. McKee. The ceremony took place about noon, and after partaking of an elaborate dinner they took the 3 p. m. train for Lemont for a trip to Philadelphia and other points.

An exchange alludes to the fact that there is a bill at present before the House of Representatives making it compulsory on parents and others having children in charge to send them to school at least 16 consecutive weeks in the year; also providing school books free to those unable to purchase them. The state should in our opinion adopt a uniform system of text books and make them free to all, under certain restrictions. It would do away with the constant change of books. At present townships, towns and boroughs contiguous are using an entirely different set of books, and the expense, necessarily, is no small trifle. Philadelphia has adopted a free book system and it is working satisfactorily. Why not make it a state affair and publish our school books.

Twenty Years Ago

Henry Kline was preparing to build a home on his property between the brick school house and the McDermott property on East Bishop Street. He expected to close the 'Hazy Hotel', owing to the enactment of the prohibition laws.

Dr. Edith Schad, of Bellefonte, received word that her son, Frederick Schad, employed as a machinist in the government shipbuilding yard at Gorton, Conn., had fallen from a scaffolding and had the ligaments in his left kneecap torn.

Marriage licenses were issued to the following couples: Robert W. Blesley, Zebensburg, and Madeline Cobble, Millheim; Orin Brooks, Milesburg, and Kathryn A. Grady, Edward City; Edward M. Shields, and Sarah R. Galbraith, both Bellefonte.

Two members of two Port Matilda families succumbed to influenza. They were: Maudie Laird and Hughie Laird, daughter and son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Laird, and Uriah P. Laird and Jonathan B. Laird, sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Laird.

The Potters Mills schools had lost two teachers. Miss Bertha Miller had accepted a clerical position in the war department at Washington and Mrs. Ellis Hennigh resigned her position. She was to be succeeded by Walter Wolf, of Spring Mills.

The Rev. M. C. Piper, of Milesburg, while driving in his horse and buggy to conduct revival services at Pleasant Gap, was slightly injured when the buggy was struck by one of Emerick's buses. He suffered bruises of the right hip and shoulder and lacerations of the forehead.

Frank Campani, of Bellefonte, nearly lost an eye while engaged in tearing apart scrap of the Central Railroad Company of Pennsylvania. As he struck at some twisted metal with a pick, a small piece flew up striking him at the side of the eye, inflicting an ugly gash. No permanent ill effects were expected to result.

E. A. Wolfe, of Bellefonte, a guard at Rockview penitentiary, was undergoing treatment at the Bellefonte Hospital for a fracture of the leg suffered when a tree which had been felled from a stump and struck him. Wolfe was using a cant hook to dislodge the trunk of the tree at the time. He was reported to be in critical condition, because of the formation of a blood clot in the brain after the injury.

Newton Fisher, aged 5 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fisher, of Unionville, was undergoing treatment at the Bellefonte Hospital for a fractured leg, received when the water tank hitched to William Mitchell's traction engine ran over his leg. The accident happened when Fisher and his brother, Thomas, aged 7, attempted to jump on the tongue of the wagon while returning home from school. Both boys fell, but Thomas was not injured.

There were 20 cases of measles in Jacksonville and vicinity.

A charter was granted at the state department to the Sterling Coal Company, of Harrisburg, with a capital of \$300,000. The directors are: J. L. Spangler, Wilbur F. Reader, D. H. Hastings, Charles P. Hewes, all of Bellefonte; Henry Keller, of Harrisburg; Edward McHugh, of Easton, and Robert B. Baker, of Philadelphia. The object of the corporation is to mine and produce coal, coke and other minerals, and for transportation and sale thereof.

Marriages: Couch-Jackson: At the residence of the bride's parents at Beaver Mills, by the Rev. John Craig, Mr. John C. Couch, and Miss Martha J. Jackson, all of Beaver Mills.—Cramer-Koch: at the bride's home in Benner township, January 28, by Rev. G. P. Servis, Samuel Cramer and Mattie Koch, all of Centre County.—Alkens-Bathurst: In Bellefonte, January 17, 1889, by John B. Linn, Esq., Mr. William H. Alkens, of Milesburg, and Miss Nannie M. Bathurst, of Mt. Eagle.

The Hastings Herald is the name of a new paper started at Hastings, Pa., and made its appearance on February 7, with B. M. Huston as editor. The first issue comes out with a glowing account of Hastings, when founded, and its general history. Centre County is well represented as Governor Beaver, General Hastings and Major J. L. Spangler have large investments in the coal fields and the operations being carried on. H. Van Pelt, of Centre Hall, is also interested in real estate in the town and is erecting several dwellings. Scott Harris, of Bellefonte, is shipping clerk for the coal and coke company.

If you will take notice you will see that the thrifty farmer when he comes to town will always take pains to blanket his horse before he leaves him. The worthless and shiftless man will drive into town, head his team for a short season, tie it with one of the lines and go in for whiskey, leaving his horses wet with sweat to stand out in the cold and shiver. Eminent horsemen say it matters little how hard a horse is driven if care is taken to rub him down and blanket him down when through with him. Thousands of horses are killed annually by over driving and improper care during the winter days, when they are forced to stand out in the cold unblanketed.

Everybody admires the new passenger depot at this place but the building is so small that it requires very little admiration to cover it. At last it has been completed and was opened up for service on Monday of this week. With all that has been said in regard to this building we must admit that it is a very cozy and comfortable structure. The exterior is really artistic and displays the work of an architect in its design. The building is of brick, with a slate roof, and is one story high. The interior is divided into two waiting rooms, with a ticket office and cloak room. All are handsomely finished and present a beautiful appearance. What is of the building is a success.



THE OFFICE CAT

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

PERHAPS WE'LL LIVE FOREVER

You should smoke Spuds, wear Woolrich duds, Take Carters liver pills, Eat Krispy-Snacks, and grease your back With Vicks when you have chills. Take Doans for pains, Miles cures chilblains, Peruna stops a cold, Then Aspirin will, either cure or kill, Use Bayers, we are told.

Or else begin, with Anacin, And Yeastfoot may help too, There's Epsom salts, to remove hairs, Or Hinkles pills may do.

Italian balm, makes faces calm, And Gio-Coat shines the floor, Squibbs cleans the pearls, for pretty girls, Men should smoke Luckies more.

Malena has, the best of salve, Old Dutch is the best cleanser, Use Lifebuoy too, it sweetens you, And Jad Salts make you slender

There's Castle soap, it's the best dope, For cleaning baby's undies And Burma-Shave, will make folks rave, When you're in church on Sundays

When you use Drene, your hair is clean, If dandruff makes you blue In Take nineteen cents, to the drugstore genis, And ask for Fitch Shampoo.

These products all, put out their call, They're after that loose penny, But it's a sock, to the guys named 'Doc', For soon we'll not need any.

We cure all ills, with a few pink pills, From any corner-store, They do so well, let's blow up Hell, 'Cause folks won't die no more.

If a girl expects to win a husband, she ought to exhibit a generous nature—or else how generous nature has been to her.

Both Eligible

A man had been found demented and ordered confined to an insane asylum. The crazy man's brother was deputed to take him to the institution. The two men looked so much alike that the warden could not tell which was the crazy one. He telephoned the sheriff: "Which of these two men is the crazy one—I can't tell one from the other?" The sheriff told the warden to talk to them and find out in that way. The warden replied that he had talked with them. "One of them said he is Napoleon, and the other claims President Hoover helped the farmers. Danged if I don't think they're both crazy."

It sounds strange but it's cute little calves that make men horse around.

A Violator?

At a recent outing of a Junior Sportsman Club, the leader explained that he had Virginia deer, Michigan deer, and Pennsylvania deer. He then told the boys how to identify each kind. A short time later a little fellow came to the leader and told him he had seen a buck crossing the road.

"What kind was it?" asked the leader.

"I don't know," was the answer, "but I suppose it was a Michigan or Virginia, for he didn't blow his horn, and he was doin' sixty."

NOT SO STRANGE

A schoolboy—the son of a tanner, Was smoking a big, strong "Havana," When he suddenly cried: "Revolution—inside." And behaved in a very strange manner.

Just Cause and Provocation

A colored man was lying on the sidewalk and a man came along and asked him what happened. The darkey answered: "Two Irishmen came along and beat me up."

"What did they beat you up for?" asked the man.

"I was jus' singin' a song, dat's all I was doin'," lamented the injured party.

"Singing a song? What were you singing?"

"I was jes' singin' 'Treland must be heaven,' 'cause my mammy came from there."

According to Geometry

A straight line is the shortest distance between two points.

Then we suppose a bee line is the shortest distance between two points.

How They Increase

"Yes, sir," panted the new farm hand, "I got all the sheep in, but I had to run some to get those lambs."

"Lambs?" was the astonished farmer's reply, "I have no lambs. Let's see what you got."

Looking into the shed, the astonished owner saw fourteen panting jack rabbits.

Trouble Aplenty

He dashed up to the bar and hollered: "Gimme a double-header, before the trouble starts!"

The bartender did, and he drank it.

Bartender, puzzled, did, and asked: "Before what trouble starts?"

He replied, sadly: "It's headed here. I ain't got any money."

How They Marry in Texas

"Say, guy, 'love this jane?"

"Yep, yer honor."

"This your bimbo, girlie?"

"You said a mouthful, judge."

"Snuff. He's yours. You're his'n. Ten bucks and take the air on the right."

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

The fond parents were talking about their courting days and happened to mention a circus both had enjoyed.

"Why wasn't I along, Mamma?" demanded little Elsie.

"You weren't born yet, child," said her mother.

"Well," sniffed the tot, "you might have waited a few years."

Sharp Practice

Mary Roberts Rhinehart, writing in "My Story" about her resourceful grandmother, says: "Completely untrained and with no openings outside of school teaching for women in those days, she fell back on her needle." "Reminding one," comments A. W., "of the man who sat down on the spur of the moment."

Rich Sardines

The school teacher had brought a glass bowl containing goldfish to school.

"Now," she said, "can anyone tell me what a goldfish is?"

"Yes, Teacher," replied a little girl. "It's a sardine that has got very rich."

Business Man

A beggar was seen standing on the corner holding a hat in each hand. A stranger approached and asked what was the idea of two hats. The bum grinned:

"Business has been so good that I've opened a branch office."

Running a Temperature

"How's the patient in room 46 progressing?" inquired the doctor.

And the nurse retorted: "Not half as fast as he thinks he is, the fresh thing."

Oh, Waiter

Angry Customer—"Say, waiter, just look at that chicken. Why it's nothing but skin and bones."

Waiter—"Well, what do you want on it, feathers?"

That's all, folks. Some girls are like radios—subject to change without notice and very little on after midnight. —SCAT—

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—In one inning of a regular baseball game the fourth batter up hit a terrific home run with three on, and still not a man scored. Well, well! How come? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

READER—What is the name of the island upon which Robinson Crusoe was wrecked? Where is it located? Where is Mt. Ararat?

Ans—Robinson Crusoe was not shipwrecked. After a quarrel with the captain of a pirate ship he was put off, at Crusoe's (Alexander Selkirk) request, on the island of Juan Fernandez, 400 miles off the coast of Chile, where he lived for four years on fruits and wild goats. The island belongs to Chile. Mount Ararat is in Armenia, near the boundary between Persia, Turkey and the Russian possessions. It is 17,325 feet above sea level.

F. W.—What is the debt of England, Italy, France and the United States? This is to settle an argument that our country carries a greater indebtedness than the above countries.

Ans—The exact figures of the indebtedness of the countries mentioned are not available. However, the indebtedness of the United States is more than double that of England, France or Italy, but this was occasioned by billions of dollars due this country by old-world nations as the outgrowth of the World War—so stupendous that none can pay the interest, much less any part of the principal. The one exception is Finland.

E. C.—What year was the law passed in Pennsylvania requiring auto owners to purchase driver's license?

Ans—In 1926-27.

C. N.—Does Japan own any of the Hawaiian Islands?

Ans—No. The Hawaiian Islands are owned by the United States. While the Japanese Mandate extends out into the Pacific ocean about two thousand miles, it does not reach to the Hawaiian Islands.

D. J.—In playing Contract Bridge, when is a team vulnerable and not vulnerable?

Ans—Contract Bridge is played in "rubbers." Three 4-deal constitute the rubbers. When one team wins the first round, then that team is vulnerable; if the opponents win the second round, then both teams are vulnerable. Of course, at the beginning of the rubbers, both teams are not vulnerable.

S. D.—I wish to ask you what kind of meat is venison?

Ans—Venison is simply deer meat.

R. G.—Why are the walls of a building usually blown outward by a tornado?

Ans—In the terrific whirl of the big, black funnel-shaped tornado, the centrifugal force of the air creates a partial vacuum around the house, the air inside the house does not have time to escape through the windows and doors, and thus it blows the house outward.

C. F.—What does Rev. Charles E. Coughlin propose as a remedy for our economic ills?

Ans—He proposes the adoption of 16 principles, the most important of which is the abolition of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks (which are privately owned), and the establishment of a central government-owned bank in Washington with all other banks being privately owned, and subsidiary to the Central Bank, and that the Government make and issue the money of the United States.

M. G.—Why does a dog wag his tail?

Ans—We don't know, but we might tell you how the tail might wag the dog.

L. W.—Why is it cooler on "high places" than it is on "places lower down?"

Ans—The air on the earth is what holds the heat in, much like the glass of a hot-house holds the heat inside it. On a mountain top or other high place the air is thinner and does not hold the heat in so well.

H. V.—How do whales breathe under water when they have no gills like other fish?

Ans—A whale is not a fish, but a mammal. They cannot breathe under water; they come to the surface for air. When they take on a load of air they are ready to sink and remain submerged for an hour or more before it is necessary for them to rise to the surface for another load.

E. Y.—Who was Amerigo Vespucci?

Ans—He was the first to discover that America was not a part of Asia. Discovered Venezuela in 1499.

L. F.—Please give the name of the northernmost town in the United States.

Ans—The Geological Survey says that the northernmost point in the United States is Penance, Minn.

S. E.—Where is the most radium produced?

Ans—The Great Bear Lake Mine in Canada, near Radium City, is the greatest radium producer in the world.

T. K. H.—How many dogs and cats are there in New York City?

Ans—There are over 200,000 licensed dogs in the city and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals estimates that there are nearly 300,000 cats.

J. T. P.—How was William Grant Still, the Negro composer, chosen to write the theme music for the New York World's Fair?

Ans—The committee which chose the Fair's theme music listened to numerous recordings of compositions by contemporary American musicians, which were played without identification, and decided that the composer of the pieces, "Lenox Avenue," and "From a Deserted Plantation," was the one best suited for the type of work needed. Subsequently it was learned that this composer was Mr. Still.

J. H. S.—What is the old rhyme about wedding days which begins "Monday for Wealth?"

Ans—It is: "Monday for wealth, Tuesday for health, Wednesday the best day of all, Thursday for losses, Friday for crosses, Saturday no luck at all."

W. L.—What is the origin of the name Alcatraz as applied to the island on which the prison is located?

Ans—Alcatraz was first known as "White Island" or "Bird Island." As early as 1797 it was referred to as "Isla de Alcatraz." That word was applied by Mexicans to pelicans or albatrosses that inhabited the island. Other authorities claim that the word goes back to the Arabic, and was used to express the idea of recovery from a retort. The Mexican definition is the accepted one.

W. M. H.—How many people visit Norris Dam?

Ans—Approximately 1,000,000 persons visited Norris Dam in 1933.

R. C. F.—When did President Roosevelt say that the United States would not allow Canada to be invaded by any foreign country?

Ans—On August 18, 1938, President Roosevelt in accepting an honorary degree from Queens University at Kingston, Ontario, said: "The Dominion of Canada is part of the sisterhood of the British Empire. I give you my assurance that the people of the United States will not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil is threatened by any other empire."

C. F. S.—What was Nelson's prayer before the battle of Trafalgar?

Ans—The prayer found in his diary October 21, 1805, was: "May the great God whom I worship grant to my country and for the benefit of Europe in general, a great and glorious victory, and may no misconduct in anyone tarnish it, and may humanity after the victory be the predominant feature in the British fleet."

Answer to problem: Both teams were composed entirely of girls—and, of course, no MAN scored.

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