

The Centre Democrat

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EDITORIAL

Some of President Roosevelt's critics make us think of the man who remarked that he was going home and if his wife didn't have dinner ready he was going to raise hell, and if she did he didn't intend to eat a damn bite.

The old fable told how the mice agreed that the cat should wear a bell, but no mouse was found willing to put it on the cat. So now it appears clear that the war making nations are crazy, but no one is volunteering to lock them up in the insane asylum.

Control of tuberculosis can continue its rapid strides only if the annual sale of Christmas seals is even more successful than it has been in the past. The annual sale opened Thanksgiving day and will continue until Christmas.

With the British and French blockade of Germany becoming tighter than ever, steps have been taken in this country to provide that shipments from the United States will be supervised by agents of the Allied Governments.

More than 1,000 innovations, including dances, parties and entertainments, are expected to feature the celebration of the President's fifty-eighth birthday, on January 30, 1940, which will be used as the occasion to collect funds to combat infantile paralysis.

The declaration of Senator Harrison, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, that the nation may be able to get along without a new tax bill at the next session of Congress, coupled with the views that tax collections of the Federal Government are encouraging, is good news to business interests generally throughout the nation.

The rumor that American pilots will be used to fly airplanes from this country across the Atlantic to Great Britain and France will amount to nothing in view of the informal ruling of the Secretary of State's office, calling attention to an old law which prohibits the navigation of aircraft belonging to any foreign nation in the United States.

As a war economy order, Great Britain and France have barred imports of fresh apples and pears from this country. During the last season, apples valued at more than \$8,000,000, were exported to the two countries and the sale of pears was almost as much.

The case for the Democratic National Administration is well stated by a writer in the Yale Review. Answering individuals who spend all their time and efforts denouncing Democratic policies, he asked: "Will any political party dare propose that the Federal Government repudiate ultimate responsibility for keeping people from starving?"

Recently there has been evidence that German submarines are laying mines near the British coast, in the shipping lanes. The evidence is the destruction of vessels, some of them flying the neutral flag.

NEW CRUISERS
The German pocket-battleships, loose in the oceans of the world, cause American naval experts to plan the construction of a ship, designed to take care of such troublesome commercial raiders.

The German vessels, carrying 11-inch guns, where other cruisers carry eight-inch guns, are speedy enough to dodge all the ships of Great Britain and France except five.

ABOUT "KANGAROO COURTS"

Not every reader of The Centre Democrat is familiar with what is known as a "kangaroo court." The term describes the practice, common in many jails and prisons in this country, wherein prisoners set up tribunals to try newcomers, who are fined for alleged failures and, sometimes, punished for failure to pay their fines.

The practice is entirely reprehensible and no penal official worthy of his job will tolerate it. Very often prisoners are mistreated by other inmates of the prison to which they are assigned. Sometimes they are seriously injured.

The other day, in Sutton, W. Va., Judge Jake Fisher met a prisoner on the street. His face bore evidence of rough handling. Inquiries by the Judge established the fact that he had been beaten at the jail while confined for a hunting offense.

The Judge took the man into court, swore him in as a witness and put him before the Grand Jury. As a result, seventeen prisoners and the turnkey of the county jail are under indictment on charges ranging from robbery to conspiracy to kill. Similar action all over the nation will break up the practice.

In calling public attention to the incident in West Virginia, The Centre Democrat does not intend to convey the impression that such "kangaroo courts" exist in the penal institutions of Centre county, in fact, we know of nothing of the sort, but, in the years that have passed there have been occasional stories intimating that such things have happened within five hundred miles of this town.

The reason for this article is to call public attention to a practice which is general throughout the United States. We think that the public should know that such things sometimes happen in jails and as a result of having such information, public opinion in this area will demand that responsible officials make it their business to see that such practices are not tolerated here.

IT'S UP TO JAMES

When Governor James was campaigning for office he ceaselessly attacked the Earle administration for what he termed ruinous taxes—taxes so high that they were driving business out of the state, forcing firms to the wall and increasing unemployment.

His whole campaign was based on a plea for lower taxes.

But this week an official representative of the James administration came to Pittsburgh and told a gathering of business men that unless they give more jobs they are threatened with another hundred million dollars of new taxation. They are already giving far more jobs than under the Earle administration, and not one of the taxes which Governor James criticized so vigorously in his campaign has been eliminated or reduced.

In short, the Governor has failed to make good on his campaign pledges; he has retained the entire burden of taxation which he claimed was ruining business, and now he threatens more taxation unless business comes to his aid. It is time that he did something to keep his end of the bargain.

What this state needs is assurance that taxes will not be increased, and some definite progress toward cutting them, as the first means of helping business. Business which is already bearing the back-breaking load which Governor James retained in is no position to give increased work under the threat of further tax burdens.

In his speech, Charles Penrose, vice chairman of the Job Mobilization Committee, declared that the State is approaching a crisis. That crisis, in our opinion, is already here—and the way to tackle it is not with a ballyhoo campaign, but by a sincere effort on the part of businessmen to bring about such reform in taxation as will enable industry to give jobs because there is work to be done rather than because it is threatened with further punishment if it fails to do so.

TIME FOR A SHOW DOWN

(Harrisburg Patriot)

Constant battering of Commander John D. Pennington, superintendent of the Huntingdon Industrial School, by the newspaper owned by a member of the board recently named by Governor James has prompted the Pittsburgh Press to say that "an intolerable situation has developed."

Indeed it has. Ever since he took office, Commander Pennington has been under the fire of the same political interests in Huntingdon County. Commander Pennington scotched the moment he took office. The superintendent made it plain that by virtue of his office and responsibility, he and not the midjet politicians of the county would run the school with its inmates.

From the moment of the ultimatum until now that decision made him a target for political attack. These verbal assaults came mainly from a Huntingdon publisher. When Governor James ripped out the old board the explanation was that he wanted a board to pass impartially on the Pennington record. To the amazement of many, Governor James named Pennington's severest critic, the Huntingdon publisher. From the columns of that paper continue to come such ill-tempered and biased comment that anything like impartial appraisal of the Huntingdon school is sheer folly to expect.

Unquestionably a "show-down" is in order. Governor James ought to help bring it about. Either Commander Pennington has done a good job or he has not. In one event he should be retained and his bitter superior silenced or in the other he should be dismissed and the reaction of public sentiment, whatever it is, accepted. Under the circumstances no man can do a good job of administration unless it be the hard-hitting prohibition administrator and World War veteran, Commander Pennington himself.

GERMANY'S BLUNDER

Reikichi Kita, member of the Japanese House of Representatives, is back in Tokyo after a trip to Germany, where he went to present gifts to Herr Hitler.

Unfortunately for the purposes of the trip, the promotion of friendship between the two countries, Kita reached Berlin just about the time the Germans made their treaty with Soviet Russia. He decided to keep his gifts.

Interesting is the statement made by this Japanese citizen in regards to Hitler's ideas about the war. He says that Germany cannot stand a long war, that Hitler even on September 1st thought that the British would not fight and assured a visitor that there would be no war.

"There is no doubt that Hitler believed he could bluff Chamberlain," says Mr. Kita, who adds, "that is where Germany made her great blunder."

MINES SINK SHIPS

News from the war zone tells us of the sinking of a number of ships after striking a mine. This is a new development of the warfare because, during the first ten weeks of the war, such sinkings were almost unknown.

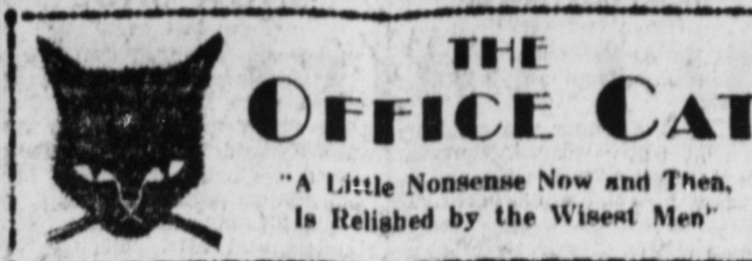
Recently there has been evidence that German submarines are laying mines near the British coast, in the shipping lanes. The evidence is the destruction of vessels, some of them flying the neutral flag.

We wonder if there is any connection between the new campaign and the withdrawal of American shipping from the war zones. Other neutral nations, who lose ships, are small and unable to make effective protests against such destruction. Is it possible that Germany valued for the United States to withhold her ships before undertaking this campaign which strikes down neutral as well as belligerent vessels?

INTERESTING

The former Kaiser of Germany, now living in Holland, occupies quite a different position from the exalted state that was his during the World War.

News from Holland tells us that he has recently turned the ceilings of his estate at Doorn into air-raid shelters. Surely, the ex-Kaiser does not imagine that his German people would drop bombs upon his home, in neutral Holland.



WE THINK SO

If flies are flies because they fly,
And fleas are fleas because they flee,
Then bees are bees because they be.

Sounds Suspicious

An ambitious druggist had invented a new hair restorer, and had sent a large number of sample bottles out to various well-known people in hope of securing some testimonials for advertising purposes.

"What does it say," inquired the other.

"Well, it says," said the proud inventor: "Before I used your hair restorer I had three bald patches. Now I have only one."

Cross Examination

A seemingly stupid young fellow was being bullied by a lawyer in a cross examination.

"Do you ever work?" demanded the attorney.

"Not much," the witness agreed.

"Have you ever earned as much as ten dollars in one week?"

"Ten dollars? Yeah. A couple of times."

"Is your father regularly employed?"

"No."

"Isn't it true that he's a worthless good for nothing, too?"

"I don't know about that," said the witness, "but you might ask him. He's sitting there on the jury."

A CROOKED POME

There was a crooked man and he had a crooked smile,
He found a crooked partner, who had walked a crooked mile,
They stole a crooked car, left it on a crooked trail,
Now they both live together in a little crooked jail.

Go Wan! Go Wan!

Having had considerable trouble with his three roomers, an Irishman decided to tell them to get out when he saw them in the morning.

"You three are a nice pair," he began. "If you're going to stop here you'll have to clear out, for you didn't come home again last night until this morning."

Not Crowded, That's Sure

"Say, Mom, was our baby sent down from heaven?" asked little Bobby.

"Yes, son," was the reply.

"I guess they like to have things quiet up there, huh, Mom?"

It Won't Be Long Now

Patient—"I believe I'm a little better, doctor, but I'm still short of breath."

Dr. Killyum—"I can stop that completely after a few more treatments."

Call the Roll

Judge—"What possible excuse did you jurymen have for acquitting that murderer?"

Jury Foreman—"Insanity."

Judge—"What, the whole twelve of you?"

Professional Errors

A lawyer was examining a doctor witness:

"Doctors make mistakes sometimes, don't they?"

"Just as lawyers do sometimes," was the reply.

"But doctors' mistakes are buried six feet under ground," persisted the lawyer.

"Yes," agreed the doctor, "and lawyers' mistakes oftentimes swing six feet in the air."

Figuratively Speaking

A reader wants to know what is meant by "untold wealth."

We presume it is that which is not revealed to the Income Tax man.

Plumb Crazy

It was baking day and the new maid and her mistress were having a very busy time.

"Mary," said the mistress, "just go and see if that large plum cake in the oven is baked yet. Stick a knife in it and see if it comes out clean."

In a few minutes Mary returned. "The knife came out wonderful clean, ma'am," she said, beaming, "so I've stuck all the other dirty knives in, too."

The Right Word

Teacher asked Johnnie to make a sentence with the word panther in it. Johnnie wrote:

"Bobby lost a button—now his panther coming down."

Checking Him

Mike—"How old are you, Pat?"

Pat—"Thirty-seven next month."

Mike—"Yes, must be older than that. When were you born?"

Pat—"In 1861."

Mike—"I have you now. Sure, you told me the same date tin years ago."

Home Novelties

Emogene—"I'll bet we have something at our house you don't have. We have a new baby."

Huberts—"Aw, gee; we have more than that at our house. We have a new daddy."

Looking For Himself

Carter is the most absent-minded fellow I ever met," remarked a clubman to a fellow member.

"What's he been doing now?" inquired the other.

"Why, this morning he thought he'd left his watch at home, and then took it out to see if he had time to go back and get it."

"That isn't so bad," said the second man, "as the time when he left his office and put out a card saying he'd be back at 3 o'clock. Finding he'd forgotten something, he went back to his office, read the notice on the door, and sat down on the stairs to wait until 3 o'clock."

That's all, folks. Green gives you the right of way—especially the long green. —"SCAT."

RECRUITING STATION TO OPERATE FULL TIME

The U. S. Army recruiting station in the Post Office Building at Lock Haven will be operated on a full time schedule, beginning December 1st, according to Corporal Claude M. Scales, Jr., who will be in charge. The office hours will be from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m., except on Saturdays, 9 a. m. to noon.

There are vacancies in the Army Air Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department, Ordnance Department, Signal Corps, Coast Artillery Corps, Chemical Warfare Service, Infantry, Field Artillery and Engineers in the United States, Puerto Rico, Panama, and Hawaii. A high school education or its equivalent is desired for Air Corps, Signal Corps and Ordnance.

Three Injured at St. Marys. Three persons were injured, two seriously, in a collision of an automobile with a Pennsylvania Railroad "pusher" engine. Mrs. George C. Henninger, 64, of Tyrone, R. D. 2, and her son Joseph, 19, were most seriously hurt. Mr. Henninger, who is 66, was bruised.

WHY suffer from Colds? FOR QUICK RELIEF FROM COLD SYMPTOMS TAKE 666 Liquid - Tablets - Salve - Nose Drops

Louisa's Letter

Dear Louisa:
Would you please help me? I am on a diet and would like to lose at least ten pounds. Could you tell me what food I should eat that does not contain so much starch and I would also like some reducing exercise?
Could you tell me how to get rid of warls?
MARCELLA—III.

ANSWER:
Although this is a little bit out of my province, I can give you some general information which may help you, Marcella. The starchy foods are bread, potatoes and rice.

There is also some starch in peas and beans, lima, not string beans. I think that if you cut down your starchy foods by half that it will be better than to do without them altogether as starch is a great source of energy and you are liable to feel very weak and irritable if you without them entirely. Eat plenty of fresh fruits, green vegetables and lean meat. Cut down on the rich pastries, fats and starches.

Bending, stretching and jumping exercises are good, but be sure your heart is all right before you exercise too hard. Walking several miles a day is a fine reducer. Walk a mile the first day and gradually increase your distance.

LOUISA.

Dear Louisa:
I am in love with a boy nineteen years old and I am nineteen myself. I have promised to marry him and my mother was willing to let a woman who lives near him told my mother that the boy didn't have good sense and didn't know how to take care of a wife.

I really love the boy and want to marry him. Do you think we are too young?
I. B. B.—N. C.

ANSWER:
What caused the boy's neighbor to think he did not have good sense? Did she give your mother any reason for her remark?

Bear in mind that it is much easier to get married than it is to be free again and it is well to know as much as possible about the man you intend to live the rest of your life with. Has he a job, is he dependable, and does he make enough money to support you? All those things should be taken in consideration as well as your love for him.

Nineteen is rather young for a man to take on the responsibility of a family. Few of them at that age are able to support a wife and possible children.
Good luck.
LOUISA.

A boy from Virginia wants to know how to talk to girls and keep them interested.

Well, F. girls are always interested if the conversation is about themselves. They always like to hear how pretty, attractive or clever they are. However, this line can't go on forever, and there comes a time when another subject has to be brought out. If she is a girl who is interested in sports, she will like to talk about football, baseball, etc. If she is a movie fan she might like to talk about the different actors and actresses.

The best advice I can give you, is to read the newspapers and interesting books and you will always have something to talk about.

But in a hot spot just fall back on subtle flattery, for that always goes over big.
LOUISA.

Recent Weddings

Loss—Kessling.
Charles Homer Loss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Loss of E. Howard Street, Bellefonte, and Miss Elizabeth Kessling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kessling of Yarnell, were married Friday November 17, by Rev. M. C. Piper at his home in Milesburg. The bridegroom's parents attended them. A reception for about 30 guests was held at the Loss home following the ceremony.

Mr. Loss, who is a part-time employee of the state highway department in Centre County, and his bride will make their home for the present with the bridegroom's parents. They expect to go to house-keeping in the early spring.

Courter—Clark.
The Church of Christ at Blanchard was the scene of a brilliant social event, Thanksgiving morning when Miss Dorothy Jane Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Clark, of Beech Creek, became the bride of Franklin T. Courter, of Blanchard. The ceremony was solemnized in the presence of a large number of friends and relatives of the young couple at 10 o'clock by the Rev. M. S. Rogers. Immediately afterwards there was a reception at the home of the bride's parents in Beech Creek for 57 guests. The bride, given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs. Sterling Eckert as her matron of honor. Mr. Courter was attended by Howard B. Underwood, of Woolrich, as best man. Ushers were John H. Moble, of Bellefonte, and Robert E. Seitzer, of Cogan Station. The couple left later in the day for a wedding trip to Harrisburg, Gettysburg and Washington.

The main trouble with life is that, by the time a man learns what it is all about, he has reached the time to die.

Many a man has an idea that he is doing right well until his wife tells him just what he amounts to.

Let's be thankful that we are not in the war and that it is no worse than it seems to be.

If the European war spreads very far, newspapers might be called war papers.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM: Two farmers had a given number of pigs. First farmer sold to the second: "If you give me four of your pigs I'll have just as many as you have." "Yeah," said the second farmer, "If you give me only four pigs I'll have three times as many as you have." How many pigs did each farmer have at the beginning of this little tete-a-tete? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

P. L.—Who was it that said: "The public be damned?"
Ans.—This expression is attributed to William H. Vanderbilt, the erstwhile capitalist and railroad magnate. It is said that in about 1883 Vanderbilt was asked by a newspaper correspondent whether the public should be consulted about luxury trains. The magnate replied tersely: "The public be damned."

V. F.—Was "Mother Goose" in her rhymes a real character who once lived in Boston?
Ans.—There is nothing to the story that "Mother Goose" once lived in Boston or any other place. The origin of "Mother Goose" is rather obscure. The best theory seems to be that it got its origin in French folklore. Queen Goosefoot, the mother of Charlemagne, was regarded as the special patron of children, and her festival is still celebrated in France. It gradually found its way into England and then to America. In America "Queen Goosefoot" became "Mother Goose."

H. E.—To settle an argument, will you please state on what day of the week was it that the Great Chicago Fire started? Also the date?
Ans.—The Great Chicago Fire which wiped out the city began on Sunday morning, October 9, 1879.

J. S.—Will you kindly answer what "pill-boxes" are which we read about in this European War?
Ans.—"Pill-boxes" are dome-shaped, round miniature forts of steel and concrete, holding men and a number of machine guns, and are menacingly destructive.

S. W.—Was George Washington born in England or America?
Ans.—George Washington was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia. His grandfather came from England in 1657 and settled at Bridge Creek, Va., on the Potomac river, near the site of our present national capital.

J. B.—If West Virginia was once a part of Virginia why did they separate?
Ans.—West Virginia was a part of Virginia until the latter State passed the ordinance of secession from the United States on April 17, 1861. The people of the western and northwestern part of the State of Virginia called a convention at Wheeling and formed a new State which they called Kanawha. Finally this new State was admitted to the Union on June 19, 1863.

S. C.—Why are German dirigible balloons called "Zeppelins"?
Ans.—They are so named after the inventor, Count Von Zeppelin. He was the first to employ engines of considerable size to propel balloons. In 1908 he made a memorable flight of 800 miles at 40 miles per hour.

M. H.—What is the origin of the expression, to eat humble pie?
Ans.—The British had a homely but edible dish made of the umbles (from Latin, lumbulus, little loins), the heart, liver, and entrails of the stag. The fact that the umble pie was served to the less important members of the household led to the use of "to eat humble pie" as an allusion to a humiliating drop in the social scale.

H. C. R.—What were the thirteen original States?
Ans.—The Thirteen Original Colonies were: New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

J. A. W.—What is the word that describes a dread of crowds?
Ans.—Ochlophobia is the scientific name for a fear of crowds.

E. H. J.—What State produces the largest supply of milk?
Ans.—Wisconsin led in 1938 with 5,517,000,000 quarts.

W. R. H.—How fast can an antelope run?
Ans.—Antelopes have been known to attain a speed estimated at sixty miles an hour.

J. K. G.—How many of the movie extras in Hollywood obtain work?
Ans.—Of the 10,000 extras registered for employment in 1938, the average number employed daily was 844.

J. T. W.—What color was Gen. Robert E. Lee's famous horse, Traveller?
Ans.—Traveller was originally iron gray, but by the time the war was over had turned almost milk white.

W. C. G.—Will an alligator eat a man?
Ans.—According to W. T. Hornaday, there is no authentic record of the loss of a human life by an alligator.

P. S. H.—What are the lightest organs in the body?
Ans.—The lungs are the lightest organs and, except when diseased, will float when placed in water.

J. G. H.—Are Fritz Kreisler's hands insured?
Ans.—The famous violinist's hands are insured for \$1,000,000.

J. S. H.—Is there a tree with more than one trunk?
Ans.—The banyan tree of India and tropical Africa sends down from its branches great numbers of shoots which take root and become new trunks.

W. H. G.—What king sent his heart to battle?
Ans.—In Robert Bruce's last years he wished to join a military expedition to the Holy Land, knowing that he would die before fulfilling his desire, he requested his friend, Lord James Douglas, to take his heart after death and carry it into battle. Douglas placed the heart in a silver casket and carried it into the battle in which he perished. One of his knights recovered Bruce's heart and took it back to Scotland where it is buried in Melrose Abbey.

C. M. L.—Would a bullet held in the hand and dropped point downward from a height of four feet above the ground, reach the ground at the same time a similar bullet fired horizontally from a gun held at the same height?
Ans.—Theoretically yes. Practically, however, the bullet that is dropped probably would reach the ground first, owing to the buoyant effect that the air might exert on the bullet fired from the gun. If both bullets are spherical, this buoyant effect would be absent, and both would reach the ground at the same time.

Mrs. C. B.—Does the United States Housing Authority buy any land for its construction projects?
Ans.—No; the agency neither buys land, constructs projects, nor assists private builders. It provides financial assistance to legally constituted public housing agencies (usually local housing authorities) to assist in development of low-rent housing and slum-clearance projects, which the local authorities design, build and operate on a rental basis.

Answer to problem: At the beginning, the first farmer had 12 pigs, and the second farmer had 20 pigs.

DO YOU KNOW

- 1. How large is Scapa Flow?
2. How many submarines did Germany have in the last war?
3. Which Scandinavian Kings are brothers?
4. When did Turkey abandon Constantinople as its capital?
5. When was England last invaded by a Continental army?
6. What is the capital of Spain?
7. Who was Pulaski?
8. How large is the American merchant marine?
9. Why do some experts fear that the present industrial production may be followed by a recession?
10. What is the financial capital of the world?
11. How large is Scapa Flow?
12. A Polish nobleman, killed in the American Revolution.
13. Exclusive of tankers, our ocean-going ships aggregate 2,150,000 tons.
14. They fear that buying power is weak and that goods will pile up, leading to factory lay-offs.
15. Washington or New York.
16. Religion is something