

Ink Slings.

A magazine called How to Make Money Has just gone up the spout.

Judging from the temperature this morning His Hog-ship has started in to out-rival TEDDY in strenuousity.

The Centennial State has done well. In ballot box stuffing it seems to have emulated Philadelphia, the Centennial city.

GROVER CLEVELAND might get a call to become pastor of a church, and GROVER wouldn't make a bad preacher either.

Statistics prove that married life averages only twenty-eight years, yet how much longer it seems to most of the victims.

It is not at all probable that the excursions KUROPATKIN has been trying to make into the Japanese lines are personally conducted.

In theory the new Japanese system of defense, jin jitsu, may be all right but we would rather not be the midge who undertook to work it on a giant.

Some of the churches of Bellefonte might find a speedy relief from their troubles by borrowing the good old mornner's benches from their Methodist brethren.

SOUSA is playing "Bedelia" to London audiences that are reported as going wild with delight over it. How lovely that BEDELIA has been taken back home. It leaves more room for "Alexander."

Before the Republican Senators at Harrisburg finally decide to add \$5,000 a year to the Governor's salary they had better prove to us that we are getting all we are paying for in that quarter now.

In light of the unfortunate death of two tailors in a Russian bath house in New York, on Sunday, the Czar might bring victory to his arms by organizing a bath-house brigade for service against the Japs.

A new ruling of the police department of Buffalo requires policemen to visit every saloon on their beats. "Put me off at Buffalo" will be revived by every policeman out of a job in every city in the land.

The Pittsburgh Post suggests the possibility of air ships supplanting the automobile tad within the next decade. What a happy solution of all the important nuisances. Up in the air automobilists will interfere with no one but themselves.

The fable of the cow jumping over the moon found a new version at Boalsburg a few days ago when a butcher made a mistake and slaughtered the wrong man's cow. In this instance the owner nearly jumped over the moon when he found it out.

Poor BRYAN! There will be nothing for him to stand on in 1908. ROOSEVELT has stolen all his ammunition—look, stock and barrel, just like BLAINE appropriated our limited free-trade propositions some years ago and called them reciprocity.

Mrs. RICHARDS, in her scientific cookbook, says: "Modern woman is wasting her time in cooking and like drudgery." Possibly she is, but Mrs. RICHARDS will never be able to prove her statement with any corroborative evidence from the modern man.

What is troubling Republican statesmen just at this particular time is to determine whether the Democracy have captured President ROOSEVELT, or whether his effort to prevent rebates by railroads is only an attempt to appropriate Democratic thunder.

That French doctor who declared that there could be no harm in kissing did the oculatory world a great service, but then he went and spoiled it all by suggesting kissing as a cure for dyspepsia. Who would want to run around kissing every sour visaged old dyspeptic he met.

The Supreme court sat down rather hard on the defense in the GREEN and DILLEN case. To say that their reasons for a new trial were "frivolous" would have been bad enough from a lay mind, but coming from the highest tribunal of the State it is, to say the least, quite uncomplimentary.

What is the use of spending so much money for speed in our naval vessels, if their armament has to be sacrificed in order to accomplish it? There would be little sense in having vessels fast enough to overhaul those of any other navy if they would have to turn tail immediately upon accomplishing the feat.

Gen. KUROPATKIN's victory over the Japanese on Saturday was a great victory, to be sure, but the General was just a little mixed in his report of it because the victors were the Japanese instead of the Russians. Of course, he is to be pardoned for the slight error, because it is so much easier to win victories by telegraph than by bullets.

In New England the working man has always been credited with doubt as to where his share of the tariff comes in. Were he to take up the last census report and figure out the average wage received by men in protected industries he would find it to be \$300.94 annually; while those in the unprotected industries average \$456.97 annually. This would leave no room for doubt. It would make him certain that the tariff enabled his employer to pocket \$155.93 that he should have received in wages. And the sad part of it all is: This same working man usually votes with the tariff-making party.

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Mr. Bryan and Mr. Williams.

Since Mr. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, of Nebraska, and afterwards Mr. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, of Mississippi, have assured the President that "they are in line with his motion on the question of discrimination in rates of and the payment of rebates by railroads," that subject has assumed a new aspect.

The question of Federal control of corporations is one of the gravest character. It is certainly not in consonance with the principles of the Democratic party as expressed by JEFFERSON and must be regarded as utterly intolerable to any one who believes in JEFFERSON'S doctrine of a strict construction of the Federal constitution.

We have great respect for the intelligence and patriotism of both the gentlemen who have spoken, but our respect for the fundamental law of the land is paramount to all friendships or other considerations of whatever kind.

But to go to the extreme of holding that Congress can interfere with or regulate the business of a corporation within the State that gave it birth, is simply to place every corporate interest, no matter how small, or how local within the power of the Federal government to do with as it pleases.

The President's speech at the Union League anniversary in Philadelphia, on Monday night, was a candid, complete and fairly forceful exposition of his scheme to put railroads under control of the Federal government.

In fact he says, if necessary, he would have the constitution amended to compass the purpose. We have no idea, however, that the President's speech in Philadelphia will in the least measure promote his plans.

The President is entirely right in his opposition to discrimination in freight rates through the paying of rebates or otherwise. It is an evil which works the destruction of competition first and ultimately of prosperity.

Interest in the Question Abated.

It is practically settled that there will be no legislation fixing the Federal government control of the railroads at the present session. It is almost certain that there will be no extra session of the next Congress for the enactment of such legislation.

We can understand in some measure what has influenced the President to a change of heart on the subject of Federal control of the railroads. When he first declared his opinions on that subject rather tentatively, the railroad magnates took somewhat kindly to the proposition.

Then the big railroads went over to Washington and began "doing things." They called out the railroad solicitors in the Senate and told them what would happen to their professional salaries if they monkeyed with Federal control of the railroads on any other terms than those proposed by MORTON and the Senators carried their tales of woe to the White House.

We take this opportunity to protest against the appropriation out of the State Treasury of half a million dollars for the improvement of the Delaware river. The reason given for such an appropriation is that Congress refuses to make an appropriation or such work unless the State reveals sufficient interest in the matter to contribute part of the expense.

Besides the improvement of the Delaware river is a matter entirely local to Philadelphia. It is said that the effect will be a considerable increase of the commerce of the city. If that be true it is the business of the city to pay whatever proportion of the expense which Congress refuses to assume.

The people of Philadelphia contribute every year more than a million dollars for the maintenance of the most iniquitous political machine which was ever organized in any civilized community. It gives franchises of vast value gratuitously to favorite political manipulators.

Senator SPOONER, of Wisconsin, made an amusing spectacle of himself during the session of one of the Senate committees the other day. Senator BACON, of Georgia, who has an old-fashioned respect for the constitution as well as his oath of office, introduced a resolution asking the President to send to the Senate, "if not incompatible with public interests," the correspondence relating to the San Domingo affair, and incidentally suggesting that there is no constitutional warrant for his action in the matter.

According to the reports of the incident the committee was about to adopt the reso-

lution without division or objection, but when SPOONER "made his little speech" party lines were drawn and no action was taken. The Wisconsin man got very vehement, however, and shook his shaggy mane with ominous freedom.

As a matter of fact the President had no more right to assume the character of an international policeman in San Domingo than he would have to pull King Edward's nose if that gentleman should happen to offend him and his undertaking to collect the revenues and pay the debts of the Dominican government is an international outrage for which he ought to be properly chastised.

Representative CREASY'S little joke on the Republican majority in the House of Representatives on Monday evening revealed a sad measure of inefficiency on the part of the leadership of that side. Mr. CREASY somewhat adroitly worked the anti-discrimination clause of the Democratic National platform into a resolution of endorsement of the President's crusade for anti-discrimination and introduced it into the House of Representatives.

This supplemental idiosyncy only broadened the joke, however, if it didn't change the proceeding from a parliamentary comedy into a political tragedy. That is to say in defeating the resolution they prevented an endorsement of the President of their own choice in his most cherished policy.

The President was of course cordially treated in Philadelphia but he could get little comfort out of perfunctory courtesies there while the Legislature was practically condemning him at Harrisburg. It was the cruelest incident that we can call to mind in the political history of Pennsylvania.

It may be safely predicted that the bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. GODCHARLES, of Northumberland county and in the House by Representative SNYDER, of Schuylkill, to create excise boards to grant liquor licenses, will never get out of the committee.

The indications are that the liquor dealers are going to be worked "coming and going" this year. That is to say they will be pibched for the purpose of securing legislation they want, notably the excise boards and to defeat legislation they don't want such as a local option bill.

They will be comparatively easy for there never was any intention of passing it and only a nominal sum was exacted. But with the local option law it is different. They will be

obliged to pay generously for the defeat of that measure though as a matter of fact it would be overwhelmingly defeated anyway for the machine is not going to take the hazard of crippling so productive a political ally as the liquor dealers' association.

We are glad, however, that the atrocious excise board bill is not to be enacted. That would convert the license franchises of the State into a most powerful agency of political corruption. It would force every liquor dealer into willing or unwilling service of the machine and contribute more to the corruption of politics than any agency we can conceive of.

Short work ought to be made of killing the proposed amendment to the Brooks liquor law which would take from the courts the power of granting licenses in all the counties of the State except Philadelphia and Allegheny.

The courts exhibit as a rule an independence and probity of action in this matter of granting liquor licenses which could not be expected and would not be in evidence in boards composed entirely of politicians.

The proposed law is intolerable in its execution. While it is stated that it would not apply to the counties of Philadelphia and Allegheny, such an exception would also soon be brought under its operation.

So far as the regulation of railway rates is concerned Mr. Roosevelt's most enthusiastic supporters in Congress are Democrats. But it was exactly what was to be expected of a Legislature made up of incompetents and under the slavish domination of a not too enlightened boss.

While Democratic support of the President's rate recommendations has become effusive, the President's own party is exercising a good deal of self control. It is not so enthusiastic. To be sure, the western Senators and Representatives have heard the unmistakable demands of their constituents.

Where it Could Have been Used to Better Advantage.

According to government statistics the close of the year 1902 saw the completion of the 33,415 irrigation systems irrigating 9,500,000 acres of land. The Boston Herald has some very interesting comparisons. It finds that the irrigation enterprises cost \$93,320,452 and made 134,000 farms profitable. The money spent by Uncle Sam on his navy in 1904 would have paid the entire cost of all these irrigation systems and left a balance of \$9,500,000.

Spawls from the Keystone.

There were 199 miners killed in the Wyoming valley last year, and they left 109 widows and 212 orphans.

The increase in freight receipts at the N. Y. C. depot at Clearfield for the month of December 1904, was \$10,000 above December 1903.

Clearfield county now comes to the front with a remarkable cow—one that gave birth to a fully developed calf on December 18th, and another on January 21st.

Miss Viola Rathgeber, a stenographer in the law office of Brown & Stevenson, Lock Haven, was, last week, commissioned a notary public by Governor Pennypacker.

The Lumberman's Protective association of Pennsylvania, composed of men prominent in the lumbering interests of the State, will hold their semi-annual meeting in Bloomsburg in July.

Plans for the proposed annex to the Blair county court house, at a cost of about \$100,000, have been completed by architect W. L. Plack, and have been approved by the county commissioners.

Martha Dick, a 16-year-old daughter of George Dick, of Clear Spring, York county, was suddenly stricken blind at her studies at the Shippensburg Normal school.

The annual contribution of the teachers and scholars of the county for the benefit of the Lock Haven hospital, which was made just before the holiday vacation was very gratifying, the sum amounting to nearly \$140.

The Western Union has established telegraph offices along the line of the Curwensville & Bower railroad and beyond, taking in Lumber City, Curry Run, Mahaffey, Burnside and other towns in that section of Clearfield county.

The Berwind-White coal mining company has practically closed a deal with the Stinemans coal and coke company, of South Fork, to purchase its extensive mining operations at that place. The consideration approximates \$1,000,000.

Ex-Judge Cyrus Gordon, of Clearfield, has been appointed counsel for the State dairy and pure food department to succeed Charles B. Wiltner, Esq., of Sunbury, who was promoted to special counsel in the Auditor General's department.

Just when he was about to give in evidence as a star witness in the case of Wagner vs. Spangler, at Gettysburg, on Saturday, David Golden was stricken dumb with paralysis of the throat. The case was continued until the next term of court.

On Sunday Pine street M. E. church at Williamsport solicited the annual missionary collection and \$1,600 was subscribed. This is an unusually large collection for missions and with the \$900 raised by the Sunday school during the conference year makes a grand total of \$2,500 for Pine street.

Clearfield and Curwensville will have an electric road in the near future in which Clearfield capital is largely interested. The company also contemplates extending their road from Clearfield to Philipsburg, thus connecting these three towns. The work of grading, etc., may begin early in the spring. Hyde City will also be touched by this line.

D. W. Vandye, of Nelson, Tioga county, recently sold his 1904 crop of tobacco to a New York city buyer for 13 cents per pound in the bundle. Mr. Vandye's crop of 7,200 pounds was raised on four acres of land, adjoining land of E. R. Cupp, whose crop of 5,400 pounds, raised on the same amount of land was recently sold to a New York buyer for 13 cents per pound.

Professor C. E. McCloskey, of Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, has been placed at the head of the institution for the balance of the school year. This action was taken by the board of directors of the institution last Friday. Professor McCloskey had virtually been in charge of affairs at the institution since Dr. Gray's illness became acute, and he is thoroughly familiar with them, as well as fully capable.

When John P. Roberts slipped and fell down a 300-foot slope at Black Ridge, near Hazleton, he went bounding over like a ball. Half way down Michael Cunningham saw Roberts coming. He braced himself and caught the human ball. Cunningham was hurled against a pillar and severely injured. Roberts was not hurt. Had he fallen to the bottom of the slope he would have been killed.

According to the Honesdale Herald, Wayne county is a good place to rear old folks. Among the centenarians it mentions who were residents of that county are Sally Watson, whose death occurred January 3rd, 1905, at 101 years; "Granny" Benjamin, who died at Pleasant Mount at 113; Abram Johnson, of Salem, who died at 108, and Prudence Lakin, daughter of Josiah Parks, the first settler of Equinnet, who died at the age of 108.

Quietly, but carefully, the coal miners and operators in the Central Pennsylvania bituminous coal fields have organized for a fight to a finish over the question of wages at the approaching conference to be held in Altoona on the 17th of March, whereat will be considered the matter of a new scale to be operative for one year from the 1st of April following. Unless the attitude of one side or the other shall change between now and the date of the conference, a strike involving many thousands of men is deemed almost a certainty by those in a position to know what is going on.

Fish Commissioner W. E. Meehan in a bulletin on the eel fishing industry of the State says that out of 316 persons holding licenses 99 reported a total of eels taken as 99,955, their weight being 45,982 pounds. The price varied from three cents to fifteen cents a pound and the total value of the catch was \$5,131. As the number of reports cover about a little less than one-third of the licenses it is fair to say, the report affirms, that the catch of eels was 300,000 and the total weight about 150,000 pounds, the value of which would be a little over \$15,000. The largest catches were reported from Lycoming county, 7,000 eels weighing 2,000 pounds; and by a Dauphin county man who caught 9,876 eels weighing only 2,551 pounds and a Lancaster man who caught 8,000 eels and weighed 1,928 pounds. The largest pecuniary return is by a Bradford county man, who sold his eels for \$375.