

Ink Slings.

-Possibly the reason that women so seldom make names for themselves is accounted for by the fact of their general anxiety to accept that of somebody else.

-The troublesome question with the officials of the Pennsylvania rail-road company is to ascertain exactly who is running the business of that company just now.

-King ALPHONSO shouldn't get discouraged because it is taking so long to have his marriage ceremony performed. If it becomes desirable he can have that two months' job undone in Chicago in about two days.

-And now the Department of Agriculture has a scandal. It is asserted that the \$1,500,000 appropriated for a building has been wasted and that Secretary WILSON doesn't seem to be able to make a satisfactory explanation.

-The Republican organization in this State is up in the air so completely over a gubernatorial nominee that it might realize on its troubles by selling them to those New York scientists who are trying so hard to keep balloons up in the air.

-That Jerseyman who, three weeks ago, was bitten by a copperhead and then drank a quart of Jersey lightning as an antidote is not yet able to decide which it was, the snake poison or the other stuff, that came the nearest fetching him.

-It is wonderful what an unquenchable fire burns in some people's veins. Even an open spigot from the LINCOLN Republican ice cooler turned down mayor WEAVER's back don't seem to have cooled off his gubernatorial aspirations a little bit.

-Mr. HENRY CUTE QUIGLEY is not nearly so certain of a senatorial nomination now as he was before Mr. JOE ALEXANDER, of Clearfield, got the same kind of a bee in his bonnet. And because he is not he has the consolation of knowing that he is not nearly so certain of a senatorial licking in the end.

-We may not be able to see clearly to the depths of the thing, but the sorabotes left by the "Muck" rakers of the magazine don't appear to have left nearly as deep a mark, on the political hides of the fellows they were after, as getting down to Mr. ROOSEVELT's veracity did on the Presidential epidemic.

-When Senator BURTON goes to jail, as he is now booked to do, people don't need to imagine that the Senate has been purified and all its sins atoned for. There would be few left on the Republican side of that body today if the justice that has overtaken the Kansas statesman should catch all others equally guilty.

-Of course a "willful and deliberate liar" sounds pretty bad when coming from such a distinguished man as the Hon. WAYNE McVEIGH, but he will have to be more explicit if the public is to know just which individual is meant in this case because there are so many of the "willful and deliberate" sort abroad in the land now.

-If tariff is to be the issue in the coming congressional contest in this district, then we are certain our fellow townsman, Judge LOVE, is the ideal candidate for the Republican machine to have. He can talk longer and say less on that subject than any man our neighboring county of Clearfield, which is claiming the honor, can produce.

-The necessity for a pledge by the LINCOLN Republicans, to keep Mr. EMERY in the field as a gubernatorial candidate until the election, looks as if somebody had a very loud suspicion that the public would suspect they were only monkeying with the Machine for a part of the spoils. And that somebody wasn't very far wrong either.

-If our Democratic friends will only "possess their souls in patience" for about four weeks they will discover that there is no trouble in finding a candidate for Governor whom they all want. The man who will be nominated on the 27th of June will be the man who can be elected on the 6th of November, and we know that the man who can "be elected" is just the fellow that every Democrat is aching to whoop'er up for.

-All right, Mr. straight Republican. You can turn up your nose at us hopeful Democrats just as high and as much as you please because the cold water crowd is trying to point us the way to victory; but, all the same, you are green with envy because nobody cares enough for your poor, old, rotten machine to point it in any other direction than the one it is going. And the fellow is blinder than an eyesless bat who can't see his finish on the road it is now on.

-The death of J. IRVIN STEEL, of the Ashland Advertiser, which occurred at his home in Schuylkill county, on Tuesday last, takes from the list of country journalists in Pennsylvania one of its oldest, best known and most respected members. He was a man of high ideals of purpose, of unselfish motive and of unblemished repute.

He began his newspaper work during the bitter days of the war, when to publish a Democratic newspaper was more dangerous business, both for life and property, than to carry a gun and knapsack at the front. But Mr. STEEL believed he was in the right and kept at it, and lived to see the day when all men recognized his devotion to the cause he considered just and admired him because of his courage and consistency in sticking to it. He will be missed and mourned by the press of the entire State.

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Dalzell's Biennial Absurdity.

Congressman JOHN DALZELL, of Pittsburg, delivered his biennial tariff speech the other day and it was a "daisy." Mr. DALZELL goes through that performance toward the end of the first session of every Congress, and it is a solemn event both to himself and his associates on the floor. There is little variation in the language from time to time and none at all in the substance. Even the gestures are the same and when the little well-groomed, corporation pampered Pittsburger strikes a certain attitude everybody within the walls of the chamber knows that there will be something doing for a couple of hours. He always arranges for generous applause at regular intervals and like professional mourners at a funeral the applauders are different each time. In fact that is the most important point of difference in the biennial speech.

This year, however, there was another difference, immaterial, unquestionable, but perceptible. In one proposition he was more than usually absurd and in another he drifted into an ironical tide. In other words, he justified the greater charge for tariff protected products in the home market than to foreign consumers on the ground that it guaranteed industrial activity and gave "a foothold in and ultimately, to some extent, a command of foreign markets." Passing from that to the question of incidental protection, he declared such a thing "humbog and pretense, an insult to all reason and logic. If protection be robbery," he continued, "then the difference between real protection and protection incidental or accidental is a difference only in degree. It is only the difference between highway robbery and petit larceny."

Truly Mr. DALZELL is "a DANIEL come to judgment." Selling the products of our furnaces, which employ few men, to foreign purchasers at considerably less than our own consumers are charged, enables the foreign manufacturers a vast advantage over our own, who employ many men, as was shown in the bids for suction dredges for the Panama canal recently. Tariff for revenue, moreover, is authorized by the constitution and is not robbery, highway or petit, while tariff for protection is not only not authorized by either constitution or law, but is actually forbidden by the constitution and is subversive of every principle of justice and equity.

Nobody complains of taxes which are necessary for the maintenance of the government. They are as necessary to good order and social tranquility as air is to life. But taxation which takes the earnings of one class to pay unearned bounties to another is robbery of the most atrocious type, and if Mr. DALZELL is unable to discern the difference he is a greater donkey than most people imagined.

An Admirable Arrangement.

The response of Congress to Secretary TAPPAN's recent communication in reference to supplies for the Panama canal is characteristic, not to say "canonical." It will be remembered that in competitive bidding for a contract for two sea-going, suction dredges, a short time ago, the difference in amounts was so great as to overwhelm our ponderous War Minister with surprise. In other words, a Scotch firm doing business on the Clyde offered to furnish the dredges for \$188,000 less than the lowest American bidder, a firm operating on the James river. Thereupon the Secretary informed Congress of the disparity and added that "unless Congress intervenes he will hereafter purchase supplies for the canal abroad."

Congress has intervened, however. That is to say, Congress has notified the Secretary of War to "purchase all supplies from American producers save when in the estimation of the President the prices are exorbitant." This is a most happy solution of a vexed problem. It not only guarantees the business of supplying the canal Commissioners to the favored trusts but it fulfills the President's inordinate yearning for extraordinary power. Whenever the Commission wants a paper of tanks or a dozen crash towels the President will be notified, of course, and after a careful scrutiny of the bargain counter advertisements he will ostentatiously order them from JOHN WANAMAKER's store or some other equally well conducted emporium. Nothing could be more satisfactory.

Of course there are some censorious observers or carping critics who may say that the President hasn't time to attend to such trifling affairs. But they don't know the President. Why, he will have ample time to give his personal attention to every detail with respect to the matter and if the necessity should arise he will manage to superintend the purchase of all the things which the employees may need. Nothing of that sort is any trouble to the President and he has plenty of time as well as abundant inclination. But the arrangement may be expensive to the people for no foreign dealer in tanks or towels contributed to the campaign fund and ROOSEVELT is loyal to his friends.

A Similar Victory.

The result of the competition between the government and an individual firm in the building of battleships is not surprising in the least. The individual firm won both in the matter of time and expense. It may be said that neither side wanted to win and that both would have been as well pleased if things had gone differently. In other words, the naval people get so many favors from the shipbuilders that they are not inclined to push on the shipbuilding preserve, while the shipbuilders who are anxious for subsidies are cutting so close as to impair their chances. It was best for both interests that the individual enterprise should come out ahead, however, and it achieved victory.

The contest was in consequence of a difference of opinion among Senators and Representatives in Congress. One element insisted on a government shipyard to build government ships and the other took the opposite view. The result was the authorization of two 16,000 ton battleships one of which was to be built in the Brooklyn Navy yard and the other by a shipbuilding firm. The appropriation was the same for each and they were to begin simultaneously. The plans were carried out to the letter and the Newport News Shipbuilding company, which received the contract for one, has completed its work at a cost of nearly a quarter of a million dollars less than the appropriation, while the navy yard ship is still uncompleted though the appropriation is exhausted and Congress has been asked for \$380,000 more to finish.

We are firmly of the opinion that the government ought not to engage in any business or industry in which individual or corporate capital is willing and able to supply all wants at just prices. But the Steel trust had been holding the government up in the price of steelplate so outrageously that an experiment in government shipbuilding had become a necessity for self-preservation. That the result was so overhwhelmingly on the side of corporate enterprise is a misfortune though not a surprise. The Steel trust and the shipbuilding trust were concerned in the matter and the subsidy scheme was in the balance. With such influences involved it is small wonder that the government lost.

Constitution Still Prevails.

Within the very shadow of the Republican State convention the leaders of that party are still in a state of confusion with respect to the candidate for Governor. Of the choice of the PENROSE contingent there is no doubt. The Senator after fondly cherishing the hope of owning a Governor had selected his own secretary, WESLEY R. ANDREWS, to fulfill his expectations. But the eruption of a year ago took that gentleman as completely out of the reckoning as if he had gone to his grave. The recent railroad investigation has as effectually eliminated Congressman HUFF from the equation, moreover, and the QUAY bargain has made Colonel WATRES impossible.

Under the strain of necessity, therefore, the machine managers have been conjuring among the more respectable element of the party in the hope of finding a candidate whose name would not offend the nostrils of decent men. Former Lieutenant Governor CHARLES W. STONE, Federal Judge BUFFINGTON, ex-State Senator LEWIS EMORY JR., and others have been considered, but to no purpose. The insistence of WATRES and the obstruction of banker THOMPSON, of Fayette county, into the arena has made matters worse. That is, by devious methods both of these gentlemen have secured a considerable following and they refuse to make terms. Under the circumstances the leader's life is not a happy lot.

It doesn't make much difference, however, who is nominated by the machine next Wednesday for the organization is marked for slaughter. The people have learned to put no trust in men who are under the influence of evil associates. No candidate ever promised greater fidelity to the interests of the public men than the present Governor and no official has ever so completely disappointed public expectations. Governor STONE was bad enough and in his bold defiance of every moral and legal obligation he worked infinite harm upon the official life of the State. But he was a model of civic virtue as compared with PENNYPACKER, who has openly embraced all forms of political iniquity.

Every Democrat in Centre county should attend tomorrow's primaries. They may not seem of such great importance here because of the small county ticket, but they are just as important as any ever held. With a Governor to elect, a Congressman, a State Senator and a Member of the Legislature there is ample room for exercising the wisest discretion in the selection of the proper men. This can be done nowhere so efficiently as at the primaries. Therefore, turn out tomorrow and do your duty as citizens and as Democrats.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Shontz or no Shontz.

Chairman SHONTZ, of the Panama canal commission, and chief engineer STEVENS threaten to resign in the event that Congress determines upon a sea-level waterway. The consensus of opinion among competent engineers is overwhelmingly in favor of that type of ditch and the Senate committee has recommended it. But Mr. SHONTZ and Mr. STEVENS have got gay, so to speak, and declare that the engineers and the Senate committee must be wrong because they have adopted a different idea. SHONTZ is going to Washington in the near future to notify Congress of his purpose. He proposes to allow no trifling in the matter. He is going to have his way or there will be no canal.

We sincerely hope that Congress will not be intimidated by this western buccaner. Of course he is entitled to a hearing and if he advances any valid reasons for the policy he advocates, they deserve respectful consideration. But there are as big fish in the sea as have ever been caught and even if president SHONTZ should resign probably the government at Washington will still live and we are not sure that the event would materially delay the progress of work on the enterprise. There are other capable men in the country and at the salary fixed for the president of the Commission it is more than likely that one of them could be induced to undertake to fill the place.

It is a grave mistake for a man to imagine that he is the whole thing. He may be a considerable part of it, but usually it is for the reason that he got the chance and we are very much tempted to guarantee Congress that if SHONTZ resigns somebody else quite as competent and much less conceited will be ready to take his place. For that reason we are not losing much sleep over the report that SHONTZ will resign in the event that he isn't allowed to have his own way. Congress is responsible to the people for the canal and if it fails Congress rather than SHONTZ will get the blame. For this reason Congress should follow the lines which guarantee success, SHONTZ or no SHONTZ.

Denaturalized Alcohol in View.

In imitation of the fox in the fable, Senator ALDRICH has consented to allow the bill exempting denaturalized alcohol from internal revenue tax to become a law. That is to say, after examining the subject the Standard Oil agent and Rhode Island statesman came to the conclusion that untaxed alcohol of that sort wouldn't impair the monopoly of the Standard conspiracy in illuminating and fuel oil and consequently he had no objection to the legislation. Accordingly the Senate passed the bill the other day, with a reservation. In other words, it doesn't go into effect for a year and if more careful analysis indicates that ALDRICH is mistaken it can be repealed.

On the commercial principle that small favors are thankfully received, however, the public has a right to rejoice over the passage of this bill even though its operation is delayed for a year. In that time the Standard conspiracy will have vast opportunities to loot the public by exorbitant prices on kerosene and gasoline. But there is in the law the basis of a hope that there is a time limit to such chances, for within the year there may be such changes in the political control of Congress as to make a repeal impossible. Conditions are exceedingly kaleidoscopic now and movements are rapid. The potentiality of [corporation agents in legislation may soon end.

There ought to have been no difference of opinion on the subject of that bill. It has been pending for several years and though every Senator and Representative in Congress understood its merits it failed because of the opposition of the Standard conspiracy. The reasons were not thus frankly stated. The Secretary of the Treasury, always an emissary of the conspiracy, said it might impair the revenues and intimated that it would give opportunities for frauds, but these were transparent subterfuges which deceived nobody except those who asserted them. The measure has been passed, however, and we hope the best expectations of its friends will be fulfilled in its operation.

A few business men around town have already started decorating their places for the dedication day next week. This is as it should be. Every business place in town should be fully decorated and the work should not be left until the last couple of days when the hurry and rush is likely to be so great that the work can not be done satisfactorily. Now is the time to begin and keep the work going. A number of the most prominent business houses have placed their order for suitable decorations with the professional decorators and others should do the same.

June twenty-first and the longest day of the year is one day less than three weeks away.

Why?

Governor PENNYPACKER excuses his interference in a "boxing bout" that was to have been pulled off somewhere up in the northeast corner of the State on Wednesday evening last by quoting the constitution. This will cause many people to wonder why one part of the constitution is more sacred than another in the Governor's estimation.

When it was a question of greater salaries for the judges, one of which the Governor once was, and hopes to be again, he had no hesitancy in signing a bill providing for that increase—a bill which every man in the State, be he lawyer or layman, knows to be clearly unconstitutional.

Again, when he wanted an excuse for calling his half-million dollar extra legislative session, to fix up the corrupt and nasty record his party had made, he did it under the plea of making a senatorial apportionment, as required by the constitution, and then forced through a bill, to satisfy the State Machine, which divides one county and attaches a part of it to another, when that instrument expressly declares that "no county shall be divided unless entitled to two or more Senators."

Just why Mr. PENNYPACKER should ignore the constitution when the judges and the politicians are interested and then seek to enforce it when the prize-fighter and buffer comes to the front is the question he might find trouble in elucidating. Some people seem to think the one crowd is not much worse than the other.

The Phillipsburg Journal states that "a party from Pennsylvania assisted by Silas Reese will in a few days begin operations with a diamond drill to make a thorough test for coal on lands of John P. Harris and other Bellefonte parties at the Black Moshannon." Coal has already been found on the above lands, but to just what extent it abounds there is not known and it is to ascertain this fact that drilling operations will soon be begun.

The Tariff Organ Explains Tariff Inconsistencies.

From the Washington Post. To put it plainly, the Republican party has practically barred out most of the products of foreign labor, and at the same time has tempted European workmen with wages that, to them, are "beyond the dreams of avarice." In addition to these influences our manufacturers, protected by tariff bars, are taking bread out of the mouths of European workmen at home by selling their products abroad at prices far below those which our own people are compelled to pay, and so low that even European cheap labor cannot compete with them. So we are encouraging, almost compelling, by the "standpat" policy, a million of the working people of Europe to come annually inside of our tariff wall, and some of the "standpatters" are shaking with fear of the consequences of their own work. It is simply a repetition of the old story of trying to ride at the same time two gallant steeds running in opposite directions.

And the worst phase of the situation is the fact that a thorough, honest reform of the tariff, a revision on a fair protection basis, making full allowance for the higher wages and better conditions of American workmen than those which obtain elsewhere—such a reform of our tariff might bring on a financial crash by taking the floundering valuation, the water, out of some hundreds of millions of corporation stocks on which dividends are paid under existing conditions.

Where the Credit Belongs.

From the Reading Telegram. For years the Democratic party, resisting every attack of corporate interests upon the integrity of its party organization, and sticking straight to the line of honest conviction, has been the only party in Pennsylvania which has stood up consistently for state reform. Though beaten repeatedly, it never faltered and never despaired. It cleared the soil and dug the cellar for honest government, and it should not be afraid now to rear the superstructure. Nor do we forget that when recently the Republican machine was overthrown in Philadelphia, while praise was profusely given to temporary independents and improvers, that is on account of being a syllable of reform, without which the triumph of clean administration would have been impossible.

A Representative of Democratic Honesty.

From the Perry county Democrat. Senator J. K. P. Hall, ex-chairman of the Democratic State committee, who was in Europe for his health last winter at the time of the extra session of the Legislature, on his return a few weeks ago found awaiting him a check for \$598, his salary as senator for the extra session. He promptly returned the check to the State Treasurer, saying "money is not mine," that he had not earned it on account of being away. That is Democratic honesty for you. Whoever heard of a Republican official refusing to accept salary or fees?

Stand Pat Statesmanship.

From the Buffalo Inquirer. First we tax ourselves through the tariff into increasing the cost of everything which is destructive of a free merchant marine and then the Republicans propose to tax us again to even up things for the merchant marine, voting for the ship subsidy bill.

Spawls from the Keystone.

-H. J. Mentzer, of Franklin county, aims to raise 10,000 ducks on his farm this year.

-The high school of Trappe, Montgomery county, had a lone girl graduate this year.

-Berks county fruit growers say there will be plenty of apples, pears, peaches and cherries this season.

-It cost a peddler \$13.34 for tying the legs of a calf and hauling the same in a wagon through Brislin on Tuesday.

-During the past two weeks the Orbisonia Pin Mill company put up and shipped 130,000 insulator pins to market.

-Lancaster tobacco growers began planting Monday, the rain of the previous day having put the ground in proper condition.

-Mrs. Amanda Heck, of Reading, aged 70, committed suicide on Sunday by hanging. She was a country woman and did not like city life.

-In his 7-acre orchard Zach Kauffman, of York, has 1,700 cherry trees from which he hopes to harvest 2,000 bushels of sour cherries this year.

-The court of Schuylkill county has revoked the licenses of forty-five saloon keepers of that county, chiefly because they sold liquor on Sunday.

-The university address at the commencement exercises of Bucknell university, Lewisburg, will be delivered by Dr. Talcott Williams, of Philadelphia.

-The announcement is made that eight Wilkensburg school ma'ams are about to enter the matrimonial state and one of the number becomes the bride of the principal of the high school there.

-The borough of Bloomfield, Perry county, has the proud distinction of being entirely out of debt and with about \$600 in its treasury, without counting this year's tax, which has not been assessed yet.

-Peter Bush, of Brush mountain, is said to be the tallest man in this part of the state. Mr. Bush stands 6 feet 7 inches in his stockings and has to stoop when he passes through an ordinary doorway.

-A telegram from Mahanoy City declares that Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Swartman, who live near that borough, are the parents of twenty-seven children, of whom twenty-five are living. Twenty of the number are sons.

-Vicious dogs are playing havoc among the sheep of Lawrence county in the vicinity of New Castle. Within the last few days thirty-five sheep have been killed and thirty injured by dogs, entailing an expense on the county of about \$250.

-At Carlisle, on Wednesday, George O. Sarvis, of Harrisburg, a Reading railway trainmaster, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,500 and the costs of prosecution for confessed negligence which resulted in the death of five persons.

-Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, of the University of Pennsylvania, who is one of the greatest teachers in the country, is to be the new superintendent of public schools in Philadelphia, succeeding Dr. Edward Brooks, who is about to retire after long and successful service.

-At about 8 o'clock Saturday morning Amos Nearboof, a farmer near Dix Station, lost two valuable horses in a peculiar manner. One of his boys was engaged in plowing in a field along the Bald Eagle creek when the embankment gave way, throwing the horses into the stream and before assistance could reach them both were drowned.

-Judge Swartz, of Montgomery county, has just handed down a decision sustaining a verdict which awarded John B. Yerger \$2,000 for injuries sustained while standing on the rear platform of a trolley car belonging to the Pottstown and Reading Street Railway company. The car was in collision with another, and Yerger lost a leg.

-The new Presbyterian church at Indiana was dedicated on Sunday last. The total amount of subscriptions raised during the day totaled \$42,000. This was very gratifying to the finance committee, for they needed but \$37,000 to clear the church indebtedness. None of these subscriptions were unusually large, no one single subscription amounting to over \$500 and the smallest being \$15.

-The grand jury failed to find a true bill at Somerset against W. J. Tannev, the Pittsburg detective and his men, who were alleged to have done the shooting that killed the miners at Windber during the strike riot in April. The information was made by the wife of one of the miners who was killed. Tannev and nine of his men were acting as deputies at Windber during the strike trouble.

-An attempt was made last Thursday night to wreck by the use of dynamite the little store of a Slav by the name of Kaposky, at Ramey, in which building he and his family were sleeping at the time. The windows and doors were blown out and part of the stock injured, but fortunately none of the members of the family were injured. Kaposky was formerly a miner, but on account of having been crippled at one time while at work, started a small shoe store and did some cobbling.

-Fire broke out from the mill on the Stewart lands at Pine Glen last Friday and raged with great fury for several days in the old choppings where the Surveyor Run Lumber company cut the timber a few years ago. Fences near the woods were all burned and six head of cattle perished by being chased to a wire fence and surrounded by the fire. The Pine Glen school house was saved after a hard fight. On Monday afternoon the large barn on the Meeker farm took fire and soon all the buildings except a wash-house or summer kitchen were destroyed.

-Anna Weaver entered a trespass suit in Blair county court last week against the city of Altoona, to recover \$30,000 damages. She charges the city police department with maintaining in its lock-up a sweet-box seven feet high, two feet wide and one foot deep, in which a prisoner must stand erect and cannot lie down nor turn around. Mrs. Weaver alleges that her husband, while sick, was imprisoned in this sweet-box, and there suffered such physical pain as to cause his death the following day. This suit will test the right of a city to inflict the sweet-box process on criminals.