

Ink Stings.

The land on the Isthmus of Panama is reported to be stinking and with it Uncle SAM's good money.

The actresses who are committing suicide these days must be driven to desperation for advertising.

The bomb that Senators FORAKER and DICK threw into the Republican camp in Ohio turned out to be a regular boomerang.

TAFI is sitting on something else than the lid in Ohio. FORAKER and DICK are both under his ponderous presidential perspective.

Bellefonte children have taken on the whooping cough and anxious mothers are having more than their share of concern about it.

The sting of a bee has just killed a boy in Maryland. The bee that TAFI has in his bonnet almost killed FORAKER and DICK out in Ohio on Tuesday.

The Hon. T. ROOSEVELT has discovered that one place in the United States he cannot run is North Carolina. More power to the Governor of that sovereign State.

There isn't much use in locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen but that would be quite as sensible as putting a weasel in charge of a brood of peeps.

What's the need of having a detachment of PENNY'S Cossacks located in Centre county. Officials here are able to cope with any emergency that might arise and we have no use for the state constabulary.

The only trouble with Mayor GUTHRIE and Pittsburg seems to be that the Mayor is an absolutely honest and conscientious man and Pittsburg wants reform in homeopathic doses, whereas Mr. GUTHRIE is an allopathic reformer.

It is interesting to note that the very same papers that insisted that Mayor REYBURN would be all right for the good people of Philadelphia are raising a great hue and cry now because that city is overrun with crooks. It is ever thus.

Are we to be subjected to the nauseating details of that foul HARKIE scandal again. It looks like it. The pity is that certain Pittsburg lawyers cannot give up the idea of getting fat fees from a millionaire client for the sake of public good.

Probably if SHEATZ is elected State Treasurer the question of graft in the construction and furnishings of the State capitol will be settled by arbitration. Any way if REYBURN had not been elected mayor of Philadelphia the foul report of arbitrator THOMPSON never would have been heard of.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER'S latest bit of philosophy runs as follows: "The only way to be perfectly happy is to do good to others." This might be JOHN D's words, but his life indicates that his epigram really contemplated putting the accent on "do" and transposing the word "good" to the last place in the sentence.

The capitol probers have recommended ten criminal prosecutions in connection with the steal of the State's funds in the construction of the new capitol. Our satisfaction will be pardoned in observing that our friend FRANK G. HARRIS, of Clearfield, a former State Treasurer, is one of the worthy gentlemen who will probably have to answer to the courts for the devious and peculiar ways in which he paid out the State's money.

As an advertising medium the WATCHMAN certainly is a dandy. A little four inch advertisement published for the first time on page five of last week's issue has attracted attention in all parts of Pennsylvania. Long distance telephone messages and letters have been flying. It is little wonder though. Seldom has such an offer been made as we are making now, but surprising as it may seem the highest bid we have received up to this time has been ten cents. We have been tempted to sell at that figure, but as our faith in advertising is unbounded we believe that a few more insertions will bring a slight advance on the figure offered.

Professor STARR's idea that children should wear no clothes until they have reached the age of ten will likely not find a very receptive mind in the public, but certain it is that if such should ever become the fashion mothers would have more time to devote to their children's training and there would be fewer papas with worn out pocket-books. If there is anything the American parents seem to show a streak of insanity in it is the fussy dressing of their little children. When one mother sees the new babe of another the first time she sees whether its slips are hemstitched by hand and made of sheer or coarse linen long before she sees what the babe itself looks like.

President BARR, of the Reading railroad, says the time is not far distant when a dollar will purchase more labor than it does now. It didn't require any supernatural wisdom for such an observation. Good times and hard times move in cycles. There is no more chance of preventing one than the other and from the flood tide of prosperity to the ebb of business activity is only a matter of a few years at best. It requires a taste of hard times every decade or so to settle the American people down to their sober senses and bring them to realize that prosperity cannot continue unabated and that when it is here the savings should be stored up against the time when it is gone.

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The Acquittal of Haywood.

The acquittal of WILLIAM D. HAYWOOD, at Boise, Idaho, is a matter of general public interest only because the President of the United States outraged every principle of justice in an endeavor to compass his conviction. In his arrest the constitutions of the United States and of the States of Colorado and Idaho were violated. He was kidnapped by a drunken ruffian wearing the uniform of the National Guard of Colorado, who had been a Rough Rider in the Spanish war, but that could have been overlooked. It was alleged before and during his trial that the mine owners of the West had formed a conspiracy to procure his conviction by perjured evidence, but that may have been false. But when the President, pending his arraignment, declared him "an undesirable citizen," this guilt or innocence became a national question and no man influenced by a sense of justice could refrain from hoping for his acquittal in order that the personal rights of the citizen might be vindicated.

Nearly all the testimony incriminating HAYWOOD in the crime of murdering former Governor STEUBENBERG, of Idaho, was given by a miscreant who in the same narrative confessed to having committed dozens of murders. No man in his senses would convict a man of any crime on the evidence of ORCHARD. But upon the testimony of ORCHARD HAYWOOD was arrested in Colorado through the instrumentality of the Adjutant General BELL, a friend of President ROOSEVELT, and taken by force, in the face of the protest and process of a State court, without extradition, to Idaho for trial. No traitor could commit a greater crime against the government of the United States and yet an appeal to the constituted authorities of the United States was ignored and while a jury was being chosen for the trial, HAYWOOD was denounced by President ROOSEVELT as "an undesirable citizen." If that unjust denunciation had procured his conviction, his execution would have been murder and ROOSEVELT responsible for it.

We don't know whether HAYWOOD had guilty knowledge of the conspiracy to murder Governor STEUBENBERG before or after the fact or not, but we believe that his acquittal, right or wrong, is the best thing that could have happened, because it is a rebuke, judicially administered, to ROOSEVELT. That criminals should be punished is of the gravest importance. Order cannot be preserved or property rights conserved, unless the laws are enforced and justice vindicated. But the conviction of HAYWOOD, even if he is guilty, would have been a greater evil under the circumstances, for it would have been an endorsement of the President's greater crime, the violation of the fundamental principles of the government. The rebuke implied in the acquittal is only a partial punishment, however.

He will be fitly punished only when public sentiment universally and emphatically condemns his interference with the course of justice.

Proper Business Precaution.

No newspaper in this broad Commonwealth which is supporting the Republican candidate for State Treasurer will seriously claim that his reputation for ability and integrity is any better than that of Judge PENNYPACKER when he was taken out of the quiet life of the judiciary and catapulted into the office of Governor. He was claimed as a model of official excellence. He was said to have no faults at all, perceptible or even conjectural; yet he became the worst Governor we have ever had, the most iniquitous of all our Chief Magistrates. His administration will stink in the nostrils of the people for scores of years.

If the people hadn't elected WILLIAM H. BERRY to the office of State Treasurer in 1905 Judge PENNYPACKER would still be enjoying the enviable reputation for probity and honor which he acquired while on the bench. For nearly three years he had been allowing his personal and political friends to loot the State and encouraging the nefarious processes. But almost the moment that a representative of the minority party got into the fiscal boards the iniquities were stopped and the atrocious character of PENNYPACKER was exposed. Mr. BERRY could neither be deceived, cajoled nor coerced into acquiescence in the vices.

A Servile Judge Rebuked.

The controversy between the state and federal authorities in North Carolina has been settled, happily, in the complete triumph of the State. The servile and perverted federal judge who created the trouble has been abandoned to disgrace and humiliation both by the railroad company and the government at Washington, and the justice of the action of the Governor is vindicated. The right of the Legislature of a State to enact legislation regulating railroad rates has not been entirely established, the decision of the Supreme court of the United States being necessary to that result. But the power of the State courts to enforce the laws of the Legislature until they are declared invalid by that highest authority, has been irrevocably fixed.

The issue, as stated in these columns last week, was as to the right of the state authorities to enforce an act of the Legislature regulating the passenger rates on railroads within the State. The Legislature had passed the law in the regular way and the Governor had approved it. But Judge PRITCHARD, of the United States Circuit court, intervened with a writ enjoining the state courts from enforcing the law and even prohibiting citizens from entering complaint in the state tribunals. The Governor's response to this outrageous proceeding was a proclamation that the laws of the State would be executed at any hazard and the courts proceeded to issue warrants of arrest against violators of the law. A number of them were put in the chain gang.

It is said that the recreant judge asked for federal forces to enforce his writ which the Washington government failed to allow, but that rumor lacks confirmation. In any event, however, the president of the Southern Railway, who had somewhat ostentatiously assumed responsibility for the violation of the law, was arrested on Saturday morning and the settlement of the trouble followed with surprising alacrity upon the terms previously outlined by the Governor. The Supreme court may be "electioneered" into a decision adverse to the State in the end, for the so-called ROOSEVELT policies with respect to railroad regulation will be absolutely demolished if the state law is sustained, but thus far the victory is to the State authorities.

Don't forget that in the event of the election of the Republican machine candidate for State Treasurer the governing boards of the State will become partisan again and the old methods will be resumed at Harrisburg as they have already been readopted in Philadelphia.

Fish Commissioner Meehan's Notion.

Fish Commissioner MEEHAN has been designated by somebody to present to the President of the United States all the rights, privileges and appurtenances of the State of Pennsylvania in the fisheries of the streams within the State and the lakes on the border. Who the some one is, is left to conjecture, but as the information came from Eric about the time of the close of a convention of Fish Commissioners, it may be presumed that Mr. MEEHAN himself took the initiative in the matter. At least it is unlikely that the Commissioner of Canada, or of Ohio, or of New York or Michigan would take such liberties with the property of Pennsylvania.

The absurd idea which actually influenced Fish Commissioner MEEHAN to offer a vast amount of other peoples' property to ROOSEVELT is that the fishing in Lake Erie is not as good as it used to be. In other words the industry has not thrived as it did at some other time and the Commissioner imagines that the reason is that Canadian fishermen get more than their share of the product of the Lake while our own fishermen get less. Like others who don't take the trouble to think he appears to believe that ROOSEVELT could reverse those conditions and fill the nets of our fishermen as well as empty those of the Canadians. He would make force take the place of skill and industry.

Mr. MEEHAN may as well understand first as last that the people of Pennsylvania, being sane and sensible, will not consent to the proposition which he has been chosen to carry to the President. He may go to Washington and kowtow to the President; we have no objection to his kissing the President's foot. But he can't deliver the fisheries interests of the State to the government at Washington or that of Canada. The fisheries of Pennsylvania, built largely by Mr. MEEHAN broke in, are vastly superior to those of the United States and if Mr. MEEHAN is not satisfied with the present conditions he is at liberty to resign. There are others willing to take the place.

The esteemed Philadelphia Press suggests that Mr. BRYAN ought to get into the North Carolina middle. Well the sudden getting out of ROOSEVELT has left a vacancy for somebody.

Work of the Probers.

The capitol graft probers have resumed business, not at the old stand, but at a New Jersey seashore resort where the atmosphere will be cooler even if the musquitos are more vigorous. It is gratifying to learn, moreover, that there is no whitewash among the "supplies" which have been taken along. In other words it is announced that the report will be drastic, so far as the evidence will justify it. There has been a hint dropped that the Commission will not recommend any action to the Governor. The courteous gentlemen who compose the body will leave all that to the Governor himself and his Attorney General. But they will conceal no facts which may help them to a conclusion.

This is encouraging information and timely. There were rumors current about Harrisburg the other day to the effect that possibly things might be made easy for those who are under suspicion in connection with the graft operations. That is to say, the fear was expressed by those who care more for justice and the honor of the State than for the success of party, that "enactment" might carry the court proceedings over the line of the limitation law or at least beyond the day of the election. That would have been bad for the State but comforting for the accused. But we are assured now that nothing of that kind is to happen. The action will be expeditious as well as drastic.

The evidence clearly proves not only collusion but conspiracy on the part of some of the contractors and state officials, and criminal carelessness on the part of others. Whether the criminal prosecutions are hurried or delayed, therefore, the people will set the facts from the report which ought to be made within a couple of weeks and those who believe in honesty in public life will vote against the candidate of the party responsible for the crimes. If that party is restored to complete control the iniquities will be resumed. The election of the machine candidate will restore the party to complete control. A blind man ought to see the duty of citizenship under such circumstances.

Of course it doesn't make much difference what the anarchists say or think about the result of the HAYWOOD trial but if the vast industrial army which was outraged by President ROOSEVELT'S characterization of HAYWOOD, on the eve of his trial, as "an undesirable citizen," will put their resentment in the right form there will be a big difference in the election returns when ROOSEVELT runs again.

The Governor's Mansion.

There are probably abundant reasons for the proposition to erect a new executive mansion at Harrisburg. The building at present occupied by the Governor of the State is inadequate in various respects. It is antiquated, inconvenient and unsanitary. The Governor of the Commonwealth is entitled to a home the exact antithesis of all this. But unfortunately the Legislature has not authorized the construction and equipment of a new executive mansion. During the last session it unwisely appropriated a sum of money to be used for alterations and repairs to the mansion. But that money is not available for building a new structure.

The Legislature ought to have provided for the erection of a new executive mansion instead of patching up the old one. The machine managers need money and it was certain that the defective mansion would be converted into a source of supply. But the \$30,000 made available for that purpose is not sufficient either to fit the building for its uses or to afford the "rake-off" which is desired. We would suggest, therefore, that the contemplated repairs be postponed until after the next session of the Legislature when that appropriation can be revoked and another of ample proportions to construct a proper building enacted in its place.

There is talk of allowing the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings to proceed with the construction of a new mansion. It has been suggested that the appropriation for repairs could be used in the new enterprise as far as it would go and supplement legislation in the future would do the rest. In the name of the people we protest against this hazardous enterprise. The operations of that board in the furnishing of the capitol are too fresh in the public memory for that. In fact any unauthorized operations of the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings are perilous and should not be tolerated. The law must be obeyed in the future.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER has just pronounced a new method of acquiring success and happiness. He says the sure plan is to "do good to others." Possibly that is a specific for the purpose but ROCKEFELLER doesn't appear to have discovered it until after he had achieved everything except happiness.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Is The Capitol Investigation to Prove a Failure.

Suspicion Aroused by Delay. The Machine and Its Rivals Both Interested in Protecting the Quality. The Limitation Getting Close.

Special Correspondence.

Harrisburg, Pa., July 27th, 1907. Justly or otherwise there is a suspicion developing in the thoughtful public mind that the Legislative Commission charged with the investigation of the capitol building scandal is preparing for a miscarriage of justice. The surprising tardiness in the work during the closing sessions of the commission, the concealment of the salient points in the report of the expert auditors and the apparent disinclination to bring the work to an end, are at least suggestive. Possibly there are no foundations for the doubts which are becoming increasingly frequent, and those who entertain them hope for the best. But people are talking, just the same, and the gossip is not reassuring.

This capitol investigation has taken some curious forms since it began early in the year. When the Legislature met everybody knew that an investigation of the charges of graft was inevitable. The machine Republicans as well as people of other political faiths understood that an inquiry could not be avoided. But the machine Republicans had no intention of making the investigation either searching or just. Just a trifle on the surface was all that public sentiment demanded, they imagined, and it was all they intended to give. They at once set about to pick a committee that would be easy and indulgent. The insurance investigation of a year previous had done much harm. When a strange thing happened. The friends of Justice Elkin began to secretly use the scandal as a weapon against Penrose and in the interest of their leader who though wearing the judicial ermine cherishes an ambition to don the Senatorial toga. State Senator Fisher, Mr. Elkin's friend and neighbor, was induced in that way to put all his energy into the work and before much time had elapsed the matter had become so serious that it couldn't be checked. Meantime the friends of Penrose had been busy in another direction and discovered that nearly all of those who had participated in the iniquities and absorbed the loot were followers or at least supporters of Elkin.

BOTH ENDS AGAINST THE MIDDLE.

The Elkin plan was to nominate Senator Fisher, chairman of the commission, for State Treasurer and in the event of his reelection use the power and patronage of the office in his interest. It would have been a great lever and the scheme very nearly succeeded. But Penrose "got on to the curves" in time and openly and emphatically pronounced against Fisher. At the same time the Senator's friends learned that there was a vast amount of political capital to be drawn from a thorough exposure of the connection of Elkin's friends with the grafting operations and they threw additional energy into the work.

Congressman Cassell, of Marietta, who introduced the State for nearly two millions of dollars for steel furniture and filing cases, is simply a puppet under the control of former Secretary of the Commonwealth Gries, of Lancaster. Huston, the architect, was an insurgent as late as 1899 and Sanderson the favored contractor was in the zenith of official favor during the administration of Governor William A. Stone. Incriminating all these "anti-machine," or at least anti-Penrose Republicans, and giving the personal friends of the Senator "clear bills of health" would easily be the finest kind of politics for him. Thus both ends working against the middle the investigation soon assumed a form which neither of the Republican factions dreamed of in the beginning. For awhile it looked as if there would be a complete exposure of the infamies of "The Hill" until the shadow of that result admonished the leaders of both crowds of grave danger. John O. Sheatz as a candidate for State Treasurer, and determined to let up insofar as that was possible, on the investigation. Sheatz would help Penrose, it was understood, but Elkin's friends, with one or two exceptions, would escape punishment.

TRYING TO WORK SCARLET.

In pursuance of this understanding the inquiry dragged slowly to an uninteresting conclusion. Penrypacker was allowed to make his argument "in confession and avoidance," without the formality of taking an oath and though he "opened himself up wide" he was hardly cross-examined at all. He admitted that the iniquities had been brought to his attention almost immediately after the election of Mr. Berry and that he had approved bills for an amount in excess of \$3,000,000 before the time the information was given him and the date on which Mr. Berry was installed into the office. He didn't explain why in October, 1907, he had signed and issued a statement declaring that there had been no extravagance in the construction and furnishing of the capitol, however.

Coincident with this change in the purposes of the machine politicians, it may be worth while to take notice, rumors began emanating from the inner circles of the Republican machine that the leaders were thinking seriously of James Scarlet, the thinking seriously of James Scarlet, who was conducting the investigation, as the most available candidate of that party for Governor "next time." Of course they have no intention of nominating Scarlet, and equally of course the gossip neither fooled him nor diverted him from his duty to the State. But the most honest men are susceptible to flattery and even if Scarlet didn't believe the gossip which he must have heard, the fact that it was current might influence him to leniency.

In any event the character of the inquiry changed perceptibly toward the close of the public hearings and a great amount of time is being consumed in digesting the evidence. That doesn't necessarily imply turpitude or even delinquency, but unquestionably promotes the chances of immunity for some of the grafters. Taken in

(Continued on page 4)

Spawls from the Keystone.

The people of Bernville, Berks county, have made great preparations for an Old Home Week, to be celebrated August 4th to 10th.

Nicholas Lewis, a wealthy caterer of Pittsburg, was held up, stabbed, beaten and robbed of \$500 early on Sunday morning, while on his way home. His condition is very critical.

From a sowing of twelve quarts of timothy and clover grass seed on twelve acres of land, John Jackson, of near Ephrata, Lancaster county, has just stored fifty tons of excellent hay.

Mrs. Abraham Kerstetter, of Shamokin, being told that her favorite nephew, Emanuel Crawford, had been killed in a coal mine, went to bed at once and died of grief a few hours afterwards.

Farmers around Pittsburg have been feeding their pigs on stale bread from the city bakeries, which they have been buying for 85 cents per 100 pounds, a lower rate than corn or other feed stuffs cost.

Adolph Hamilton, of Greensburg, has a freak chicken. Born from a single yolk egg it has three legs and one of the legs is blessed with two feet. The chick is doing well and if it survives it will be sold for exhibition purposes.

The Raystown water company has placed on record in Huntingdon county twelve deeds for lands purchased in Juniata and Penn townships, running from the mouth of the branch to the vicinity of Fink's bridge. The land cost about \$50,000.

Note was made several weeks ago of a giant white pine tree being cut down on the Adam Losh tract, on Pine Hill, Perry county. It was ninety-two feet high and thirty-eight inches across the stump. It cut ninety-two feet of logs and 1,571 feet of boards.

The large frame saw mill at Trout Run, Lycoming county, owned by M. L. Gee, of that place, was totally destroyed by fire last Friday evening, entailing a loss of \$5,000, on which there was \$1,500 insurance. Two of the employees of the mill were slightly injured.

Mrs. Henry Bower, of Bald Eagle township, Clinton county, recently saw a weasel carrying off one of her spring chickens. She took an ax, gave chase and killed the animal. Afterward she took the scalp to the county commissioners' office and got seventy-five cents for it.

According to the Chambersburg Valley Spirit, the cherry crop is a fine one in Franklin county. Solomon Spoonbaker, of near Fayetteville, reports having picked 5,500 boxes of strawberries from his farm and says he will have 4,000 boxes of red raspberries. The raspberry plot is only a year old.

Pittsburg was visited by a costly fire last Saturday morning, when the plant of the Pittsburg Beef company was totally destroyed, causing a loss of \$10,000. It is thought the blaze started in the smoke house and the flames had made considerable headway before they were discovered. There was no insurance on the burned property.

An unknown man who had in his vest pocket a card bearing the inscription, C. Brady, of Thomastown, York county, while stealing a ride on a freight train near Slatington on Saturday, fell asleep on top of a box car when a locomotive spark set fire to his clothing. In his struggles to extinguish the flames he fell off the car on the track and his body was cut in two.

A report sent out from Middletown, Pa., is to the effect that the harvest fields in that vicinity are overrun with all manner of venomous snakes. There has been considerable blasting along the mountains there on account of railroad operations that are in progress and it is stated that the reptiles which infested the hills are taking to the fields and find shelter under the wheat shocks.

The Newton Hamilton Camp association will enter upon its thirty-fifth year of annual camp meetings, at Newton Hamilton, August 8th, and continue until August 20th. A good program has been prepared. A new and special feature this year will be an opportunity to study music. Prof. Watkins, of Harrisburg, has been engaged to take charge of it. Good accommodations are provided in the way of cottages and tents.

Sylvester Emerick, an engineer on the Bedford division of the Pennsylvania railroad, went ground hog hunting on Friday last near the state line in Bedford county. He was accompanied by his 10-year-old son and they became separated. Emerick saw something moving in the bushes and thinking it was a ground hog, fired. He shot his son, killing him instantly. A year ago Emerick's daughter was accidentally shot and killed by a neighbor's son who was shooting rats with a rifle.

Williamsport saw mills are getting nearly as many logs by rail as by river drives. The logs are rolled from the cars into the ponds over docks. Friday a train of about twenty cars of logs arrived in the Pennsylvania railroad yard. Such a train comes in nearly every day, and some days as many as thirty cars are received. It is estimated that a hundred or more carloads a week are now arriving. The logs come from the Mix Run section, being hauled over the low grade division of the Pennsylvania.

Alexandria, Huntingdon county, is in the midst of preparation for the proper observance of an "Old Home Week," to be held August 29th to September 1st, 1907. The old town, situated east of Altoona, is known far and wide for its quaint beauty and historic association, being originally surveyed in 1755 at a place on the Juniata river known as Hart's Log, called after an Indian trader, John Hart, who had been out a log laying on the banks of the river for the purpose of feeding his horses in 1744.

Judge Martin Ball the other day handed down opinions in the case of Hollidaysburg, Gaysport and Juniata boroughs against the Bell Telephone company which are for the recovery of taxes on poles. For the borough of Hollidaysburg, Judge Ball fixes the rate at 20 cents per pole for the present year; for Gaysport borough, the rate is 20 cents for 1906 and 25 cents for this year and next year. It is decided that Juniata borough has no valid ordinance enabling it to levy a tax, and therefore, the court is unable to fix a rate. The tax in Tyrone, as revised by ordinance last October, is only 10 cents per pole.