

Ink Stings.

"In God We Trust" is to go back onto the gold coins. Thus has the army of the Lord conquered the Czar of the States.

The way that sixteen inches of snow went was enough to leave a question as to which was the more wonderful: its coming or its going.

Congress seems to be very hard at work. It is only natural though that when so much is to be done so little is really accomplished.

Surely Wall Street can't afford to permit the resignation of Mr. CORTELYOU as Secretary of the Treasury. He is too useful to the gamblers.

They said it was a rich man's panic that we had in November. Strange! The poor men are the ones who are out of work as a result of it.

The Washington woman who has had to live with a man whom she swears hasn't taken a bath for twenty years, ought to be granted the divorce she has applied for.

The fifteen year old boy who was arrested in Philadelphia recently for wife desertion ought to have been paddled when he escaped from his mother's apron strings.

Secretary TAFT says we are not going to have war with JAPAN. Of course we are not! Everybody knows that TAFT is too busy to have a war with anyone but FORAKER just now.

Admiral EVANS has started in to court martialing already and just to start the ball rolling he has picked out some of the surgeons as victims. What else could have been expected after that BROWNSON-RIXEY episode.

Dr. KALBFUS wants to have all the cats shot; pussy cats we mean. If the Doctor is sincere in his latest movement we wouldn't give much for him should he happen to wander into some spinster's convention in the near future.

1908 is making an awful record of disaster and loss of life. Not since the Iriquois theatre fire in Chicago has such a frightful loss of life occurred as was that of the Boyertown theatre disaster of Tuesday night. One twelfth of the town's population wiped out in a few hours makes a record of horror seldom equalled.

Mr. BRYAN says "the rank and file will govern the coming Democratic convention." We hope so, but past experience leads us to believe that Mr. BRYAN will do all the talking for "the rank and file" and then won't be satisfied unless his say goes. That, in our opinion, is Mr. BRYAN's only serious weakness.

After April first no one will receive a newspaper who is more than one year in arrears. The Postoffice Department has just made a ruling making it impossible to send papers through the mail to persons more than one year in arrears. There are a lot who cannot expect to read the WATCHMAN after that date unless they get busy.

In defying the Senate's request for an explanation of his reasons for issuing government bonds and debt certificates at a time when the treasury contained hundreds of millions of dollars Secretary CORTELYOU assumes the position of "the whole cheese" in governmental affairs. If he is it certainly must be limburger because there has been so much stink raised by it.

The fight between the ROWLEY Bros., of Pittsburgh and Chicago, over their respective rights in the manufacture of wooden legs has resulted in a great drop in the price of that commodity. Surely here is something that the poor can be thankful for. What difference does it make how high the prices of meat, potatoes, eggs and milk go so long as wooden legs are within reach.

The advent of Mr. R. B. TAYLOR into the Republican campaign for nomination for Assembly is likely to inject a style and spirit at once unique. Mr. TAYLOR frankly says "no one asked me to run, but I am running because I want it and intend to get it, if it is in the wind." While BERT doesn't usually do things in the most elegant fashion, he does them, nevertheless and this is for you Mr. EYRE and for you Mr. FISHER, to think about.

Judge WOODS, of Mifflin county, is shocked. Little wonder! A woman wanted to show him and the jury her pedic extremities during the trial of a case in his court on Thursday. She had been pushed over a pile of rails while fighting with another woman and the injuries she received were so hidden by certain bits of lingerie that the attorney for the defense questioned their existence at all. In other words he was from Missouri, but Judge WOODS modestly prevented him from being shown.

Secretary TAFT says: "If President ROOSEVELT says a thing, it is so; but if he does not say a thing it is not so." Now it happens that President ROOSEVELT is said to have said that TAFT will be nominated for the Presidency on the first ballot, therefore, from TAFT's point of view it is a cinch that he will be nominated. Of course it would spoil the whole story to start an argument on whether a thing is so merely because President ROOSEVELT says it is so, because then we would have to introduce some HARRIMAN, Dear MARIA letters in evidence and they might produce a reasonable doubt in the mind of the jury.

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Flinn and the Democracy.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record is immensely worried because the signs indicate that the Democrats of the State are reluctant to follow the leadership of former State Senator WILLIAM FLINN, of Pittsburgh, even though there is a vague promise of reform at the other end of the proposition. It doesn't matter how faithful FLINN has been in the past, our Philadelphia contemporary protests, the PENROSE machine is bad and we should not only welcome but support any movement to embarrass it. FLINN was a notoriously successful grafter in his time and an offensively open legislative hoodlum, it admits, but he has had reform impulses on occasion, and therefore ought to be followed freely and blindly, now that he has announced a crusade against PENROSE.

We have not been able to figure out that the Democrats of Philadelphia gained much by adopting a reformer of the FLINN type named JERMON, a couple of years ago. We can discover no record of a political dividend which came from the election of VIVIAN F. GABLE, of Philadelphia, to the State Senate by Democratic votes, in 1905. He served during the special session of 1906 and while Senators GRIM and HERBST and DEWALT and their Democratic colleagues were striving for real reform, instead of the bogus variety which was handed out, McNICHOL and KEYSER were no more faithful to the machine than GABLE. In fact the Democrats have always been cheated by these bogus Republican reformers and invariably have been worse off after a fusion of that kind than they would have been if they had adhered to their own party and made spoils subordinate to principle.

The only time that Mr. FLINN ever openly avowed either reform purposes or associated himself with a reform movement during his long service in the Legislature was in the session of 1899 when he and his political and business partner, the late C. L. MAGEE, entered into a conspiracy to defeat reform. FLINN took one side and MAGEE the other, the scheme being to defeat the election of QUAY and secure the election of MAGEE to the United States Senate. The result of this intrigue was the failure to elect anybody at that session and the election of QUAY, not the greater of two evils, two years later. That FLINN has an ulterior motive in his present movement scarcely admits of doubt and Democrats are wise in "looking before they leap."

Senator Hale's Mistake.

In his bill to improve the personnel of the navy, Senator HALE, of Maine, chairman of the committee on naval affairs in that body, is neither consistent nor wise. He proposes to give doctors and paymasters on the staff the rank and title of line officers and then forbids them from assignment to the command of vessels. That is a near approach to absurdity if it doesn't altogether reach that point. The laws regulating the navy provide that admirals shall exercise certain functions and captains, commanders, lieutenants and ensigns shall perform specified duties. If doctors or paymasters are admirals or captains, therefore, they are entitled to all the privileges of those ranks.

The Senator is inconsistent, moreover, in introducing a bill prohibiting surgeons from commanding ships without taking steps to prevent that precise thing, now about to be accomplished. While the Senator for Maine was preparing his bill the President was at the other end of the avenue arranging to put a surgeon on the navy in command of a ship. The first thing in order, therefore, is a resolution forbidding the fulfillment of that purpose. If that is done there will be no need of the legislation for even ROOSEVELT will probably not undertake it again during the few months he will remain in office and it is not likely that any of his successors, to the end of time, will be so foolish.

Senator HALE has had vast experience in naval affairs and is in accord with the opinion of all other well informed observers that vesting such authority in staff officers would be inimical to the discipline and efficiency of the navy. But his bill won't stop it for the reason that before it passes, even if its consideration is expedited, a ship will be under the command of a surgeon and so far out of reach of the department as to make the correction of the fault impossible. What is needed, consequently, is a resolution of Congress forbidding the present plan of the President. That would be effective and could be accomplished in a day.

The Bellefonte shirt factory had two cases of material in one of the box cars wrecked on the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad Wednesday evening and as they have not yet been able to get it part of the force of girls are out of work. And that is not the worst feature, for when the goods reach Bellefonte they may be wet from the car being in the creek, in which case they will be worthless.



To the Patrons of the Watchman.

It is with great regret that we are obliged to call the attention of our subscribers generally to the recent ruling of the U. S. Postal Department, which, after the 1st day of April next, will prevent the mailing of any paper to any patron whose subscription may be one or more years in arrears as second class matter. Order No. 901, issued last month and published in the Postal Guide for December says:—

Unless subscriptions are expressly renewed after the term for which they are paid, within the following periods:

- Dailies within three months, Tri-Weeklies within six months, Weeklies within one year, Monthlys within four months, Quarterlys within six months,

they shall not be counted in the legitimate list of subscribers, and copies mailed on account thereof, SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR MAILING at the second class postage rate of one cent per pound.

The necessity for such a ruling we do not know. The benefit the postal department expects to derive from it we can not imagine. But as the order has gone out for its enforcement, it simply means to publishers that subscribers who are in arrears must be dropped, and to patrons that a longer credit than one year cannot be extended any one.

The WATCHMAN has scores of good, honest and reliable, patrons who have befriended and stood by it for years and years, whose accounts have gotten back beyond the time limit fixed by the antoraot of the post office department. You may be one of these. We know that you are not in arrears because of an unwillingness to pay, or with the intent or expectation of avoiding payment, but rather through forgetfulness or the inconvenience of doing so, coupled with the leniency shown on our part. We have refrained from annoying you with duns or humiliating you with the demands of collectors, believing that when it became convenient for you to make, or necessary for us to ask, settlement, it would come promptly and cheerfully.

That time is here—made necessary by the dictation of the nosing official of the Government Post office, and we are obliged to ask payment or settlement of your account at once in order that the WATCHMAN can be continued to you. Examine the tab on your paper. The figures will give you the exact date to which your subscription is paid—will tell if you are within the limit fixed by the Department. If you are do not bother further. If not, send in the amount due, or come in and arrange, quickly as possible. It must be before April 1st.

We are anxious that you shall continue as a patron. We want you to read and enjoy the WATCHMAN—it will be a pleasure, and of value, to you, and will be good for those about you. But you must not fail to see the necessity of arranging for its continuance. When you come to do so you will be treated fairly and will not be asked to do impossible things. Remember the time is short and the sooner this matter is attended to the better.

Taft More Zealous than Judicious.

Secretary TAFT is after the presidency with the zeal and energy of a commercial "drummer." "It's no trouble to show goods," is his motto and he is placarded all over with "if you don't see what you want ask for it," and other enticing Chatham street sentiments. Our esteemed Republican contemporaries have been in the habit of poking fun at Mr. BRYAN because he has shown some anxiety to reach the great office. But TAFT has him "kinked a mile." The late HENRY CLAY was somewhat of a campaigner in his own behalf and the late JAMES G. BLAINE knew how to "cast an anchor to the windward." But neither of them went the length to which TAFT has gone. Even ROOSEVELT's last campaign was a "receptive" exhibition in comparison.

In a recent speech Secretary TAFT undertook to square himself with the labor element of the electorate by declaring that the injunction method of settling labor disputes had been abused. He neglected to add, however, that he was the pioneer in that system of litigating differences. The first injunction ever issued in this country against strikers came from a court over which he presided and bore his signature. That other servile tools of corporations on the bench have gone a step further is only natural. That is what they were put there for. But if TAFT hadn't pointed the way the chances are that no such expedient would have been resorted to and in deprecating it now he simply stultifies himself. That is not likely to help him.

In his Boston speech, which was addressed to business men, the Secretary frankly declared that he is in entire accord with President ROOSEVELT in what are commonly known as the ROOSEVELT policies. In the New York speech which was addressed to "the plain people," he as candidly protested against the centralization of power in Washington. "The Lord knows," he said, "the powers are sufficiently concentrated there now." Yet the concentration of power in the federal government is the very essence of the ROOSEVELT policies which he declared in Boston has his unqualified approval. In other words, in his zeal to gain the Presidency Secretary TAFT is ready to be "all things to all men" and promise anything that anybody imagines he wants.

Farmers who have apples to sell will do well to read the advertisement of T. B. Buding in another column.

Scarlet Might Have Done Better.

The importance of Mr. SHUMAKER, late superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings, in the impending trial of the grafters, is greatly exaggerated, it seems to us. SHUMAKER was culpable, of course, because he approved the bills of the contractors when he must have known that they were exorbitant. But he wasn't "the whole cheese," by a large majority and if it develops from an investigation that he is too ill to appear at Harrisburg when the cases are to be called, there is no reason why that should interfere with the proceedings against the others. CASSELL, SANDERSON and HURTON can be convicted anyway.

But the arch-conspirator of the lot has not been indicted at all, or even censured in the report of the legislative investigating committee. It was proved by his own testimony that SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER knew of the grafting operations long before the exposure and yet he took no steps toward checking the operations. It was upon his interpretation of the law that the laymen on the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings approved the exorbitant bills. It was with his consent, if not upon his initiative, that bills were rushed in for payment between the time of the election of Mr. BERRY and his induction into the office of State Treasurer, and notwithstanding that he is to go scot free.

Of course SHUMAKER ought to be punished and if physically able should be compelled to plead with his associate conspirators. But even if he is brought to trial, convicted and punished to the full limit of the law the prosecution will nevertheless be a farce and the result a miscarriage of justice because the worst miscreant of the lot will not share in the punishment and ignominy. PENNYPACKER may not have been influenced by greed, he may not have shared in the spoils of the criminal operations, but he participated just the same and the party corruption fund was enriched by his venality. Mr. SCARLET has done well but has failed in this instance in the full performance of his duty.

Last Tuesday night Arthur Hanson, of Unionville, was robbed of two hundred dollars in cash. Suspecting who the thief was he swore out a warrant for his arrest and when the man in question was confronted with the warrant and the constable he wilted and returned the wad, after which he was allowed to go free.

The People Must Be Awakened.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

It is evident that the men who used the building of the state capitol as a scheme for self-enrichment are not going to submit to trial for these offenses so long as that can be staved off. It is important to them that their trials are postponed as long as possible, and at least until after the election. It is generally understood that the leaders of the long dominant party of the state have at least a sympathetic side for the prisoners, and that if they are found guilty, it will be because popular sentiment proves to be stronger than political pull.

It does not often so happen in Pennsylvania, and there is every inducement to the prisoners to keep their cases from going to judgment as long as possible. It is safe to say that they have long been condemned in popular opinion, and, therefore, it is their one time to give the heat of popular opinion time to cool; by which they will lose nothing if they gain nothing. We may rest assured that if they ever get to the block, it will not be at express speed.

If the Republican gang that have so long held the state in control should lose their hold upon it, the fair presumption is that trial of defendants will speedily result in their conviction; just as it may be understood that they are likely to be a long time reaching conviction if they ever do, while that gang rules.

It has become apparent its rule has become so selfish and so regardless of the party interests, in which it is claimed to be held, that party revolt from it will be strenuous. More is to be expected of such revolt than from popular resentment, which notoriously in this state has a habit of fading away under long strain. There never has been a community so habituated to patient endurance of public wrong and official incompetency and rascality. It has become an acknowledged stigma upon the state that it is so tolerant of official misconduct. The people, individually, are doubtless no different from other people in their tolerance of misgovernment, their greater stolidity in the mass being due to the strong majority of the party in power, to the greater hopelessness of dislodging such a majority and to the long endurance of its evil rule. The people have become callous and hopeless and demand a sharp shock to stir them to a mind to turn the rascals out. They have done it, but they have not continued their sentinels upon the watchtowers; so that Pennsylvania has yet to show a determination to purify and keep pure its government. When the state capitol seeps get into jail and their bosses get out of power, this sign will appear.

A Cortelyouan Thrust.

From the Pittsburgh Sun.

Secretary Cortelyou has been addressing the Hamilton club, of New York, on his illustrious predecessor, whose name the organization bears. He found the usual catalogue of virtues, including the alleged invention of the protective tariff, and concluded with this apparent thrust at somebody, observing that it was a conclusion reached from studying Hamilton's life. "That the public official, who subordinates personal ambition to public service, best serves his country and himself."

That is quite sententious, and obedience to the wise summary would meet approval. Has Secretary Taft been subordinating personal ambition to the public service? Is the routine of Government officials tramping down the grass over the land in his behalf subordinating service to his ambition, or vice versa? Does Mr. Cortelyou want to convey the impression that his late spouse of a cadididty has ended and he again subordinates his ambition to the public service, leaving Mr. Taft alone disobeying the motto alleged to have guided the great Alexander Hamilton?

Did the great Alexander always practice the "sub" system? He reached the heights of army preference, and he could rise no higher on the civil list than he attained. He was born on the island of Neris, West India, and hence the presidency was beyond his grasp. In the constitutional convention he wanted an executive for life, and thus he would have had his own thwarted ambition saved from a succession of shocks. It requires some extraordinary reading ability to detect that personal ambition and public service were not jangling along together. The people do not complain of that. It is when ambition dominates service that it hurts.

Kill the Cats, Says Kalbfus.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

Secretary Joseph Kalbfus, of the State game commission, is inviting the wrath of cats and cat fanciers. He begs Governor Stuart, that genial bachelor, to recommend including in the bounty law an offer for the scalps of house cats, because they murder song and insectivorous birds. The illustrious Kalbfus is not content with the present bargain counter display of premiums on the pelts of the mink, wildcat and fox, but would add cash payments for the great horned owl and goshawk. The human, yielding to his carnivorous tastes, may kill the frisky squirrel and the succulent quail, but the insensate cat must not be permitted to succumb to its appetite without its scalp as the forfeit and the cost on the bounty. While in the full frenzy of his revenge he renews his attack on aliens for ruthlessly shooting the warblers of the bush and trees. But he pauses before he demands a bounty on their scalps. The quality of mercy seems strained. What a sad and a crusade! Where did he get it? Was it made in Washington?

King Magoon Receives.

From the Springfield Republican.

The new-year's reception at Havana by Gov. Magoon—of Nebraska—was brilliant, for such receptions always are. This one was peculiar, in addition, inasmuch as the Cubans, in very many cases, bent the knee before the ruler and occasionally a man went clear to the floor in his genuflections. The good Magoon could not stop it. He received literally like a king. What ails the Cubans?

Spawls from the Keystone.

The county commissioners of Bedford county have paid for the scalps of foxes, minks, weasels and wild cats during the past year to the amount of \$1,921.

The county commissioners of Mercer county have decided to erect a fine new court house at a cost of from \$300,000 to \$500,000 to take the place of the one recently destroyed by fire.

Following a series of burglaries the residents of Portersville and vicinity, in Butler county, have organized a vigilance committee of thirty-seven and armed squads patrol the country every night.

On Saturday, within twenty-four hours, twenty-six coasting accidents occurred in Pottsville, and in one case, a girl 15 years old is not expected to recover as her skull was fractured by striking a curbstone.

Tuberculosis is spreading to a marked degree among cattle in York county, and an inspector of the state live stock sanitary board has just condemned fifty-three head of stock and placed eighteen head under quarantine.

Robert D. Armor, one of the oldest and most active Odd Fellows in the state, died at his home in Gettysburg on Friday aged 83 years. He was a charter member of Gettysburg lodge and for twenty consecutive years was its delegate to the Grand lodge.

The Standard Steel works, the company formed by the Baldwin locomotive works recently to operate the works at Burnham, Mifflin county, has filed in the state department an increase of stock from \$10,000 to \$3,000,000. The bonded debt was \$5,000,000.

William Sobring, of Burnside township, Clearfield county, left his home late Wednesday on a hunting trip. Two hours later his brother and two other men found his dead body in the snow about two hundred yards from home. He had accidentally shot himself.

Mrs. Mary Whalen, who was said to have been between 105 and 107 years old, died at her home in Carrolltown, Cambria county, at 8:30 o'clock Sunday morning, January 5th. Her husband died last February at the age of 98. Mrs. Whalen is survived by two daughters.

Enraged by jealousy, Frank Deboit, of Lancaster, on Friday evening fired a revolver at Miss Minnie Pauli, and then fired a bullet into his head. A corset steel saved Miss Pauli from serious injury and his aim at himself was not good so that his injury is slight also.

There is activity among the ice men on the Pocono mountains, in Monroe county, and some have begun cutting although the thickest ice measures only six inches. As a rule it is not cut until it is a foot thick. More than 1,000,000 tons are usually cut in that region.

Commencing Sunday, January 12th, Sunday mail service was extended to Elnora, Spangler and Barnesboro, Cambria county, and in a week or two Patton, St. Benedict and Carrolltown will also receive the same service; the three latter places will be reached by trolley.

The establishment of a separate school for colored children in Williamsport was before the school board last fall but the board decided against the project. Recently the question bobbed up again and on Thursday evening it was decided by a vote of 17 to 16 to establish such a school.

J. F. Kelly, of DuBois, received injuries on Thursday about 9 o'clock at the Ertion shaft that resulted in his death two hours later. Mr. Kelly was employed at the shaft and in some manner was caught between the motor and a rib of coal. He was terribly crushed, his hip being broken and one leg fractured and sustained internal injuries.

Aunt Jane Smith, a woman in her 90th year, was the host of a remarkable dinner party at her home near Williamsburg a few days ago. She entertained five generations of descendants, fourteen guests in all, and reserved the chief surmise until the good things had been disposed of. Then she arose and personally presented each guest with a little envelope with a crisp \$50 bill—\$700 in all.

Harry Litz, residing near the Lock Haven Fire Brick works, killed a hen on Saturday for the Sunday dinner, and on dressing the same Mrs. Litz was amazed to find a large black pin about an inch and a half long, with large head, such as is used by women folks with mourning apparel, sticking through the liver of the chicken. It is probable the hen grabbed for the head and swallowed the entire pin, which finally became imbedded in the liver.

Frank Leo, an Italian believed to be an agent of the Black Hand, and accused of levying blackmail upon foreign miners for several months past was shot and killed at the Florence mine of the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal company, six miles from Punxsutawney, on Sunday, while attempting to collect \$50 from Dominic Provinco and \$20 each from two of the latter's boarders. Provinco is accused of the shooting. He fired three shots, from a shotgun, it is alleged, while Leo was parleying at the door with Mrs. Provinco about paying the money demanded. He is alleged to have collected from Provinco and the boarders on a number of occasions.

On Saturday morning about 2 o'clock a north bound freight on the Buffalo and Susquehanna railroad was going up a steep grade at Eckman's, between Trade City, Indiana county, and McCormick, the draw bar which connects the engine with the tank snapped in two. The engineer had stepped back to the tank to get a drink and the fireman was standing on the engine but was thrown on the track by the violent jolt caused by the break and had both legs cut off. When the engine broke away it had a full head of steam and with open throttle the released iron horse started along the track at a rapid rate of speed, up hill and down, swaying in its mad flight like a released bird. On and on it sped never once slackening up for sharp curves, yard limits, stations or anything else, until after it had gone for about fourteen miles. With steam exhausted and fire extinguished in the fire box it was compelled to remain still and silent, like a wounded animal which has wasted its last drop of blood in an effort to escape from the hunter.