

Ink Stings.

The Democratic state convention of Pennsylvania has been called to meet in Harrisburg on May 30th.

South Dakota is doing almost as profitable business in divorce as New Jersey once did in floating wild-cat corporations.

The Ohio Legislature having passed a local option law it is expected that sixty-five of the eighty-eight counties in the State will go dry.

E. H. HARRIMAN celebrated his sixtieth birthday anniversary on Tuesday. It is not noted that TEDDY sent him a congratulatory message.

The desperation with which society crowds the ante-lenten season with festivity might lead some guileless souls to believe that Lent really is a period of spiritual revival and penitence for society.

Philadelphia is to celebrate with Founders Week exercises next October. Whether it will be BILLY PENN, JIM MONICHO, SAM SALTER or REYBURN who will out the most ice remains for the occasion itself to reveal.

The THAWs and the HARTJES seem determined to keep before the public. HARRY and his young wife are said to be on the point of separation, while the HARTJES are again airing their mal-odorous case in the Pittsburgh courts.

What a beautiful acknowledgment of loyalty is the action of those Texas veterans of the Confederacy who refused to participate in a sham battle when they found out that they had been marshaled on the side that had to fire on the stars and stripes.

Congressman ACHESON's bill to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors and narcotics anywhere in territory within the jurisdiction of the United States comes nearer being the right move than any local option proposition that can be presented.

Only a little more than a month until the man who takes his annual fish on the opening day of the season will have his fishing. And this reminds us that possibly after the local option law is passed fishing will not be the popular sport that it has been.

The dastardly assassination of President McKinley at Buffalo was villainous enough but for sheer baseness the murder of a Denver priest by the person to whom he was giving communion was possibly the most horrible example of crime ever recorded in this country.

Mrs. ANNE WEIGHTMAN WALKER must have had an attack of heart failure when she gave away to her relatives the magnificent sum of \$800,000 and plunged into the sea of matrimony with only a paltry sixty million left to take to her new husband, FREDERICK COURTLAND PENFIELD.

Though there is very little chance of finding it out the correspondent who wrote to the Philadelphia North American offering to wager that nine-tenths of those who marched in the riotous demonstration through the streets of that city last week voted the gang ticket probably hit on a truth that is most damning.

Oh my, it would never do to have local option! Why every place it has been tried lately they report that the jails are empty and sheriffs and policemen have nothing to do. Surely we couldn't give up the fun of electing a sheriff every three years or rob the stage of the joke on the policeman asleep on his beat.

The fellow who voted for the Republican party thinking it meant the full dinner pail will have ample time, between now and November, to ponder well on LINCOLN's memorable epigram: You can fool some of the people all of the time, all of the people some of the time but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

We agree with the esteemed Philadelphia Record in the thought that the Pennsylvania delegation should go to the Denver convention to deliberate, not to dictate. Since the Pennsylvania Democracy cannot possibly record a single vote in the electoral college the part for her to take in the nomination of a candidate is that of an unbiased, unobtrusive adviser and counselor.

There should be no anxiety on the part of old license applicants in Centre county. The action of the court in withholding the grants until this late date is tantamount to an acknowledgment that all of the old ones, at least, will be re-issued. It was announced at the time that the reason for changing the time of sitting of the license court was in order to give those refused an opportunity to dispose of their business before their license should expire. As that opportunity has now passed it is only reasonable to infer that the court intends making no changes.

If the policy of the Republican party to naturalize anything that can vote is not responsible for a lot of anarchists and socialists demanding the rights of citizenship we would like to know what is. If these undesirable foreigners were not given the protection of the government or the same rights as law abiding citizens who can discriminate between liberty and license there would not now, in nearly every city in the land, be the marching, riotous hordes of fanatical foreigners who imagine that in good times they can send all their surplus earnings to the home country then scold the government into providing for them when work gets scarce.

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An Overt Act of Conspiracy.

There is one phase of the capitol building scandal which has not been given the importance it deserves in the trial now in progress in Harrisburg. It is the fact that between the date of the election of Mr. BERRY and his induction into office, so many of the fraudulent bills were paid.

It is precisely why PENNYPACKER should have been indicted with the other conspirators. He joins with alacrity in their conspiracy to put the responsibility on the architect, Mr. HUSTON. But former Auditor General SNYDER touched the real fact when in his testimony, following PENNYPACKER, he declared that he placed much confidence in the former Governor.

When the election of Mr. BERRY was announced Auditor General SNYDER went to Governor PENNYPACKER with the information that upwards of three million dollars had been expended in trimmings and furnishings while the estimate of the architect for the work was eight hundred thousand dollars.

The Tariff and Public Charity.

Philadelphia has been enjoying the luxury of bread riots. In other words thousands of unemployed and possibly hungry men were attacked by the police because they undertook to tell the Mayor of their distress, the other day. In Pittsburgh the Mayor has been compelled to give employment to thousands in order to avert what might be properly designated as "an epidemic of starvation."

Manifestly the people believed and the Republican party was continued in power. The sacred DINGLEY law continues in force, the country is standing pat. But there are thousands of idle men depending upon charity to feed their families. There are thousands of unused cars on the sidings of every railroad and the machinery in hundreds of mills and factories is silent and motionless.

The Bellefonte Academy voting contest is beginning to attract attention. Quite a large number of the representative merchants in the town are already on the voting list and many others are sure to follow. When you consider that it costs only one cent to show your preference one vote for your favorite merchant it is not a very costly mark of appreciation.

Pennypacker's Unimportant Evidence.

Governor PENNYPACKER's evidence in the graft trial at Harrisburg, last week, was interesting, but unimportant. He gave the jury little information upon which to base a verdict. He said he didn't know of some of the transactions and was deceived with respect to others.

We shall always hold that PENNYPACKER was mainly responsible for the frauds in the construction of the capitol for the reason that as a lawyer he knew and as an official he ought to have prevented them. We shall always believe, moreover, that PENNYPACKER is inherently wrong.

The President's latest incursion into the domain of industry is probably the most senseless. He has ordered an investigation of the railroads of the country for the reason that one or more of them had announced the purpose of reducing wages.

Roosevelt's Poor Methods.

In a recent speech Senator FORAKER, of Ohio, declared that there are several hundred thousand freight cars idle throughout the country and at least three hundred thousand trainmen with nothing to do. The railroad men say that the reason for this inactivity is that disturbance of public confidence has caused a diminution of business.

Two or three weeks ago there was a shut down in the navy yard at Washington, which threw a considerable number of men out of work. One of the men conceived the idea of running on short time and short wages so that all would get something, and made the suggestion to the President, who was delighted, and ordered the policy to be adopted.

The dissolution of the old and the organization of the new council will take place next Monday morning, with the new council holding its first business session in the evening. Owing to the fact that the new council will be so one-sided politically there is much speculation, as well as quite a number of wagers, as to who will be elected president, appointed chairman of the various committees, etc.

In writing to renew her subscription to this paper Mrs. H. S. Cooper, of Galveston, Tex., says: "I would rather do without anything else than without the WATCHMAN," a fact for which we are as truly grateful as she is appreciative.

The quarterly immigration of candidates to the county seat on Monday was larger than usual. They were nearly all here, with their best manners and best clothes.

The Municipal Elections.

The municipal elections last week revealed an indifference on the part of the public to political conditions which is surprising, if not actually menacing. It is not that one party more than another was apathetic.

The elections in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh appear to have gone to the Republican party by default. In Pittsburgh the full strength of the Democratic party as measured by the last election for mayor of the city, would have given the party an overwhelming majority.

There was every reason for Democratic activities this year in the local elections. Recent experiences have completely overthrown the superstition with which the Republicans have kept themselves in power for years.

Pennsylvania and the Denver Convention.

There is no cause of complaint against the activities of Democrats throughout Pennsylvania in behalf of a particular candidate for President. The right of choice is inalienable and the assertion of the right characteristic of Democrats.

What the Democrats of Pennsylvania ought to do in relation to the coming Denver convention is to select the very best men in several districts for the office of delegate. It is a high office and any man may be proud of the distinction it conveys.

Pennsylvania has exercised an important influence in the National conventions of the Democratic party during recent years. The delegates from this State have gone into the conventions free from prejudices and selfishness and they have been consulted as to policies as well as candidates.

The art exhibit held in Petriken hall Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week, under the auspices of the Bellefonte public schools, drew quite a crowd. The two hundred pictures displayed were either reproductions in natural colors or good photogravures of some of the leading masterpieces.

Senator Foraker turned the tables on President Roosevelt by reading to the United States Senate the correspondence between Mr. Bryson, postmaster of Athens, Ohio, and Congressman Douglass, which conclusively shows that the President tried to coerce the postmaster before he appointed him to throw Senator Foraker overboard in his fight with Taft for delegates to the Republican National Convention.

Our Beautiful Capitol.

The essays in the state capitol seem all around to put the blame of anything wrong on the other fellow, after seeking first to show that there was no blame on anybody, but that the work was done at a lower price than the contract authorized, and is worth all the money it cost.

It is clear enough that there was a big percentage of the money received that rested temporarily in the hands of the contractor, and no one disputes his statement that he paid a big wad of it to others; and it may be safely assumed that it went to the use of the Republican management of our state, which has reduced to a fine art the science of getting money from the public treasury to pay for its services.

There are few nations which can show examples of ingratitude so base as this latest atrocity by Russian bureaucracy. The quality of mercy thus shown may be said to be the semi-barbarous Muscovite as a slight concession to the demands of civilization, but the sentiments of disgust that will be excited by the cruel treatment inflicted upon a brave warrior will be somewhat mitigated by the knowledge that outside of the atrocious cabal that has ruled Russia to its ruin, the verdict has been received in anger and indignation.

Refined Barbarity.

The injustice and atrocity of the sentence of death inflicted upon General Steessel by a court martial meet have suggested themselves to the judges, for they accompanied their verdict with recommendation that the stern penalty be commuted to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress and dismissal from the service in degradation.

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Hearst's Third Story.

Mr. Hearst's Independence League has solved one doubt, and decided that it will go into the national field with a platform and a ticket. The platform has been written and adopted. In general shape it closely resembles the Democratic ideas associated with Mr. Bryan.

What an Hearst's party do in New York, Boston, Chicago and San Francisco? In the answer lies there is of the Independence League's national consequence. The hard times which help Bryan also help Hearst; thus may paradoxically guarantee Republican administration for four years by putting in Hearst's hands the power of making Bryan's election impossible.

Turned the Tables on Roosevelt.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

There were only sixteen fires in Clearfield during the year 1907, and the total loss did not exceed \$7,000.

Odd Fellows of Shamokin have purchased a building site for \$15,000, on which a temple is to be erected.

The strike of the coal miners of the Henriette Coal company at Dunlo as the result of the discharge of Joe Lasko, a union rope rider, ended Monday.

The University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia has for this term an enrollment of 4,279 students, 204 evening school students, 435 members of the teaching force, 194 administrative officers and 105 regular employees.

Dickinson college, at Carlisle, was threatened with a strike of nearly all the students because of the disciplining of four members of the sophomore class, but the troubles have been adjusted and peace again prevails.

Although the Indiana county license court last week refused a license to the big brewery in Indiana, the plant is not closed as it has obtained a State license to manufacture and sell beer to licensed wholesale and retail dealers.

Police officer Harry Norris, of New Castle, Lawrence county, after chatting a few minutes with a discharged prisoner, discovered soon afterwards that his pocket had been picked. He hurried after the man, re-arrested him and recovered his money.

There is such an abundance of natural gas in the wells in the Armstrong county gas field that further drilling has been discontinued, as the companies are unable to find a market for the product since the closing of many establishments using the gas for fuel.

Captain William B. Rodgers, a millionaire sand and coal king, of Bellevue, a fashionable suburb of Pittsburgh, was on Tuesday elected high constable, out of revenge by the anti-annexationists, because he was laboring to have Bellevue annexed to Greater Pittsburgh.

The officers of the Tremont National bank, at Tremont, Schuylkill county, on Saturday entered suit for \$10,000 damages against Henry Schwalm, a hotel keeper at Tremont, for alleged false statements to the effect that the bank was insolvent, thereby causing a run on it.

While snow was falling on Sunday afternoon Rev. W. S. Hottel, pastor of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ church, at Roysersford, baptized seven persons in the icy waters of the Schuylkill river. After the baptism the candidates were obliged to walk two squares to a house to change their clothes.

When the ice passed off the Juniata river on Saturday night the water main of the Millintown Water company, which was laid in the bottom of the river, was carried away, cutting off the town of Millintown from the water supply. Water has to be carted from Millintown across the river to supply the public.

While a search was being made by detectives and county officials of York county for the will of David Heckert, who had been murdered about a week before, a board of \$3,900 in bank bills and gold coin was found beneath a pile of old papers. No doubt this was the treasure the murderer of the old man was after.

More jail room is required in Cambria county. The County Commissioners approved plans for an addition to the jail at Ebensburg. The addition will be rectangular in form and will be about 100 feet long and 85 feet wide. It will contain 200 cells and is designed to relieve the present crowded condition of the county jail.

The county commissioners of Westmoreland county propose to take issue with State Highway Commissioner Hunter in the award of contracts for the construction of two State roads in that county. The award for each is about \$13,000 per mile, which is almost double, in the opinion of the commissioners, what it should be.

A religious census of Chambersburg, just completed by a committee of the various churches, show that there are 10,282 persons in town. Of these 5,150 are members of some church, and 4,064 attend Sunday school. Twenty-five families refused to give any information, and these twenty-five would increase the totals somewhat.

C. H. Heyden, representing the Shedd Leather company, of Boston, was in Lewisburg on Saturday looking over the tannery located in the Fourth ward of Lewisburg, with a view to putting the same into operation the coming summer. It is understood that if put into operation that from forty to fifty men will be employed from the start.

Three of the four large blast furnaces of the Cambria Steel company at Johnstown, which have been closed for some time, will resume operations next week. Orders were issued on Wednesday to have the hot stoves fired at Nos. 1, 3 and 4 furnaces, which will require three or four days, and it is hoped to have all three furnaces in operation the middle of next week.

Nineteen operators will be graduated from the school of telegraphy of the Pennsylvania railroad at Bedford this month and will be placed before the first of March. This school was established at the suggestion and largely through the efforts of John W. Penrose, train dispatcher of the Bedford division, on September 16, 1907, and the results have surpassed expectations.

Lewis G. Kramer, of Clearfield township, Butler county, on Wednesday night was aroused by a noise in his sheepfold and going out found two men busy killing sheep and loading them on a sled. He attacked the robbers and captured one and bound him while his wife held a revolver over him. Then putting him in the robbers' sleigh he drove six miles to Butler and handed him over to the sheriff.

On Thursday morning residents along Grampan boulevard, Williamsport, were startled at the sudden appearance of a big black bear on the hill north of the boulevard. Bruin was first seen by several trolley men while on their regular run around the East End line. The bear came down the hill over half way to the boulevard, but a dog got into the game and drove Bruin back. The last seen of the bear he and the dog were in a mix-up on the top of the hill.