

Ink Stings.

There ain't no mills to close up now... They're all a standstill...

There are lots of jobs that cause less worryment just now than being a Pittsburg councilman.

The TEDDY bear will have to crawl in its hole next Thursday and it might as well pull the hole in after it.

The fellow who has been out of work for the past six months isn't as enthusiastic about the TAFT inauguration as he was about the TAFT election.

Another little touch of winter yesterday—just enough to make a person realize that the balmy days of spring are not yet here by long odds.

Senator SPROUL has introduced a bill in the Legislature looking to a good road movement almost exactly along the lines suggested by the WATCHMAN in its issue of January 29th.

The daughter of HETTY GREEN, the reported richest woman in the world, has just been married in New York but it wasn't a foreign title that caught this prospective heir.

It will be gratifying to many Pennsylvanians to know that PENROSE has been heard from on the floor of the Senate; even if it was only a torrent of execration and abuse that flowed from him.

The Englishman who died recently and just after completing for himself a coffin made entirely of empty match boxes must have had some notion that matches wouldn't be found in the place he was going to.

If the spirits of GEORGE WASHINGTON and ABRAHAM LINCOLN had been scuffling lately in the Glory Land it might be because the Bellefonte banks closed in honor of the latter's birthday anniversary and didn't on the former's.

The tumbling stock market might mean that another scare is being manufactured to tell Mr. TAFT where to get off at or it might mean that the voters made a mistake in getting off at the TAFT station last fall if they expected it to start business up with a boom.

Any way the appropriations committee will be splendidly entertained at State College today and at the Country club tonight whether it sees fit to do what it ought to do for the College and the Bellefonte hospital or not.

The court has refused to grant any liquor licenses at all in Mifflin county because the expression of the voters, as recorded in one of the contests last fall, favored the abolition of the saloon.

The new borough officials will be sworn into office next Monday. It will also be the date for the organization of the new council and naturally there is more or less wire pulling being done this week in regard to the new officers.

Cultured, esthetic, refined Bellefonte sent a special train carrying sixty people to a sparring match in Snow Shoe, on Monday night. But the BEN GREAT players in their acknowledged superb productions of SHAKESPEARE'S masterpieces at State College tomorrow night will probably not have the same attractions for this supercilious, but queer old town of ours.

There are fourteen million women in France and a contemporary asserts that a majority of them earn their own living. ANNA GOULD is probably not earning hers in the strict sense of the word, but so far as her husband's keeping her is concerned it is almost a certainty that she would be taking in washing were it not for the GOULD resources on this side of the pond.

Congress and the President are both in a peck of trouble. The way the Steel trust gobbled up Tennessee Coal and Iron was illegal. Congress has proven that the President sanctioned the illegal transaction.

Insiders at Harrisburg say that the leaders have fixed it all up for GEORGE F. OLIVER, of Pittsburg, to be made United States Senator for the unexpired term of Senator P. C. KNOX, who is to resign to enter President TAFT'S cabinet.

The fleet is home again, so the country will not be without proper protection when TEDDY leaves for Africa.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 54 BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 26, 1909. NO. 9.

Reformers Who Don't Want Reform.

There will be no change in the election laws by the Legislature now in session. At least this is what we are told by the Philadelphia papers that speak for the Philadelphia machine.

For both the primary and general election laws, as they now are, suit the machine to a dot. Under the safe guards given by them, to all kinds of rascality, it can commit what wrongs and devils it desires behind the curtain of the booth.

At the recent primary this same machine, with which this so called reform committee has entered into an agreement, placed its own candidate on the ticket of the reformers and forced them to adopt another party name, or vote for a nominee of the gang they were opposing.

If the spirit of GEORGE WASHINGTON and ABRAHAM LINCOLN had been scuffling lately in the Glory Land it might be because the Bellefonte banks closed in honor of the latter's birthday anniversary and didn't on the former's.

And after this wrong is perpetrated this "Committee of Seventy" asks that the system that has aided and permitted this fraud to be committed against them, be continued! Verily one might as well expect to find virtue in a bawdy house, as reform in such reformers.

That ever increasing and lengthening procession of Pittsburg bankers and councilmen, who are on the way to the penitentiary, is creating the suspicion that a conspiracy has been formed in some way, to lessen the Republican majority in that city. And really it seems to be working that way.

The People Pay It All.

Twenty millions of dollars may not be a big sum in the eyes of Republican officials, nor is it a large amount to expend for a government purpose that is to enhance the welfare of the people, but when it comes to throwing that sum away, it looks like a recklessness that needs to be rebuked.

Twenty millions of dollars, when a government is running in debt over a hundred and fifty millions a year, ought to be considered as lost saving, but jingo statesmen and world power wind bags, that control things in this country now think otherwise—and away it goes.

And how many of those who glory over our big navy and growl about their living expenses, know or care to know, that every cent that the government wastes or throws away comes out of them. It is from tariff and revenue taxation that the public income is derived, and it is the people who pay those tariff and revenue taxes.

And it is just such senseless work as this "great naval demonstration" that makes it necessary to increase and continue our high tariff and onerous revenue taxes.

Its kind of strange but nevertheless true, that under the benign rule of the Republican party the greater our educational facilities become the bigger our penitentiaries have to be made and the more of them we have to have. Queer, ain't it?

Amend or Defeat It.

The WATCHMAN last week called the attention of its readers to the manner in which it is attempted to place the State College under the supervision of those having charge of the common schools of the State, through a provision it is proposed to enact into law by the passage of the new school code.

The people of the State have little idea of the extent to which the expenditures for school purposes could, and doubtless would, be increased in the State should this measure, as it now stands, become a law.

It is in this proposed new law there are many excellent provisions calculated to increase the efficiency and better the management of our public schools. But unfortunately there are others, which if accepted, would outweigh all the good the former would accomplish, and leave us in a worse condition than if no change at all were made.

CALEB POWERS, one of the operators who planned and assisted in the most cowardly and cold blooded political murders ever committed in any country—that of Governor GOEBEL, of Kentucky—is advertised to lecture in Clearfield, early in March.

Certainly Unconstitutional.

The constitution of Pennsylvania in its prohibitions says: "The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law, granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity."

To provide that the children of those who are able to meet the expenditures necessary to secure a Normal school education, shall have their tuition paid by the State, in the State's higher colleges, and that other children of the Commonwealth are to be denied these benefits, is certainly that kind of an "exclusive privilege" that the constitution intended to prevent.

Sixteen additional Judges is the modest demand on the present Legislature by the lawyers and courts of different localities in the Commonwealth. And this too in a State that has more Judges on the bench now than it takes to run all the courts of England, and has thirty-six judicial districts in which the work of the presiding Judges does not require fifty days attention during the year.

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The Tennessee Merger.

The report of the sub-committee of the Senate committee on the judiciary on the merger of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company and the Steel trust created quite a sensation when the substance of it was given to the public the other day.

The report of Messrs. KITREDDGE, Republican, and CULBERTSON and OVERMAN, Democrat, denounced the merger as a violation of the law and a conspiracy in restraint of trade and declared that the President had no authority to authorize it or to promise the conspirators immunity from prosecution.

With the continued agitation at the White House for more and bigger battleships the country has suffered from a succession of violent attacks of jingoism, accompanied by cunningly fomented war rumors, and the inheritance left to it is a top heavy navy and a depleted treasury.

Our Battleship Fleet.

The return of the battleship fleet is a matter for popular felicitation and the generous welcome bestowed upon the officers and men at Fort Mifflin on Monday was none too cordial.

The cost of this enterprise to the country is variously estimated at from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000, and that is vastly more than the good amounts to. The difference is a waste which necessarily comes out of the pockets of the people.

But the officers and men who compose our magnificent fighting force in the navy are not responsible for that. The bad investment was not of their initiative. Left to themselves they would probably have preferred the ordinary routine duties of their service. There are long cruises to take and arduous services to perform even under the most auspicious conditions in the navy.

The general appropriation committee of the House of Representatives went through here at an early hour this morning, on their way for a visit of inspection to The Pennsylvania State College. They will spend the day there arriving here to visit the Bellefonte hospital some time this afternoon and later be entertained at a chicken and waffle supper at the Country club.

Would Certainly Help.

There is a movement afoot to take the tariff out of politics. Wouldn't it answer just as well to take politics out of the tariff?

Just two more days and March, the month of high winds, will be with us.

Stupendous Cost of the Navy.

In the debate on the naval appropriation bill Senator Hale based an impressive if futile warning on the rapid increase in the military expenditures of this government at a time when its revenues are steadily falling.

Indeed, has not the senate itself, in loading the bill with an amendment advising the equal division of the fleet between the Atlantic and the Pacific, played into the hands of the jingoes and the enemies of naval economy?

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Home Better Than Warships.

In the last week of December 30 houses of the 200 under construction in Escocosa Ayres for the working people of the city were inaugurated. These houses were designed and built as model dwellings for the respectable and industrious among the toilers of that great southern city.

The spread of diseases till they assume the proportions of epidemics is, in large measure, due to the unhygienic housing of the poor of this big town. Argentina, which should do much for her poor, is now committed to a most extravagant naval program; and when one reflects that a huge modern battleship costs money, sufficient to build 6,000 houses, sheltering in all 30,000 persons, the folly of the prevailing militarism in many countries is but too apparent.

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Spawns from the Keystone.

At Lewisburg, Union county, burglars blew open the safe in the store of J. F. Grover & Bro., and secured \$1,200 cash and negotiable papers.

The pupils in the Jersey Shore public schools are being given fire drills and have learned to leave the buildings in a minute's time in good order.

Out of a total of 425 votes cast at Green-castle last Tuesday, there were only twenty-three straight Republican and twenty-eight straight Democratic.

The members of the Jaffa Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Altoona, with which a number of Phillipsburg Masons are identified, will build a temple to cost \$50,000.

At the Mahler glass factory, DuBois, the Alliance sliding scale, a compromise measure has been signed and it is expected that the plant will soon be running full handed again.

There are upwards of 125 cases of measles in Green-castle, and schools have been depleted and Sunday schools deserted. The epidemic has been prevailing for two months.

A row of half a dozen brick tenement houses in Powellton, Centre county, was destroyed by fire last Wednesday night and three of the tenants lost nearly all their household goods.

Small-pox has broken out in the little town of Edmond, a short distance from Butler. The schools have been closed and mining operations have been interfered with by reason of the quarantine.

Fifty-one ministers have made application for the pastorate of the Oak Lane Presbyterian church, Philadelphia, made vacant by the recent resignation of Rev. Robert Hugh Morris, who accepted a call to Chicago.

Miss Sarah Bitters, of South Bethlehem, for nearly forty years a local public school teacher, on Saturday brought suit against the Lehigh Valley Transit company for \$7,750 damages for permanent injuries sustained in a trolley accident.

The Knights of Pythias hall at Morrisdale, Clearfield county, the largest building in the town, and the place where the majority of the public entertainments were held, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday night about 10 o'clock. Total loss about \$1,000.

Receiver R. G. Armstrong, of the troubled Stahl Glass company, at Greensburg, on Saturday announced that the works will resume on Monday. Within thirty days it is expected the receiver will get the affairs of the concern in such a shape that the receivership will end.

For years George Walk, of DuBois, followed the extremely hazardous occupation of a steeple Jack and painter and repairer of high stacks of all kinds. He had a number of narrow escapes but was never seriously injured and died peacefully at home in his bed on Tuesday afternoon.

Six members of one of the most prominent families in Erie have been sent to a Pasteur hospital in New York, having been bitten by a pet Boston terrier, which was found to be affected with rabies. The injured are: Mrs. P. H. Adams, her daughters, Sarah, Susan and Helen; her son, Griswold, and a maid.

George W. Vernes, the well known inspector of the Pennsylvania railroad police, has been re-appointed to an important Masonic office, that of district deputy grand high priest of the Eleventh district. This district takes in Lycoming, Clinton and Centre counties, Troy chapter in Bradford county, and Wellboro chapter in Tioga county.

President Judge J. M. Woods and associates Bell and Swyer on Monday refused all the sixteen liquor licenses applied for in Mifflin county and after the old licenses expire on Saturday that county will be "dry." Last fall three fourths of the voters declared for no license in the election of an associate judge and there were nearly five thousand signatures to the remonstrances presented on Monday.

The contest over the application of the Indiana brewery for a license for the ensuing year was ended on Thursday by the court refusing to grant a license. There were petitions presented favoring a renewal of the license, signed by about 2,000 residents of the county, and remonstrances signed by about 5,000, of whom 3,000 were women. The unfitness of the applicant was the strongest point made by the remonstrants, in the opinion of the court.

At a banquet of the shareholders in the Milton Fair association at Milton, on Wednesday evening, it was decided to go into liquidation and thus forever close the famous Milton fair. The association owned half of the fair grounds, the other owners demanding an exorbitant rental for their share and as the patronage of the annual fair was not reassuring last fall the stockholders decided to abandon the project. The buildings will be removed and the estate sold, the proceeds and surplus in the treasury to be distributed among the shareholders.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has awarded a contract to S. R. Geyer for the planting of 250,000 oak trees on its farms west of the Conowing station. This is in addition to the work that will be carried on along the low grade freight line during the summer months. During the past four years the Pennsylvania has planted in the neighborhood of 133,000 locust trees in the groves near Conowing and the oak trees will be planted among the locust. The work of planting the trees will be started some time during the latter part of next month or as soon as the weather conditions will permit.

Dr. Joshua Cooper, of Meadville, who died last week, was the victim of a hard luck career. He lost his only two children within a week, through scarlet fever; his father about the same time dropped dead of heart disease; during the Johnstown flood his house, valued at \$10,000, and his horse and buggy were swept away by the raging waters and his wife only escaped in her night dress, her only property except four hairpins; he built a home in Meadville which he lost because of the failure of the Delamater bank at the county seat, in which he had a large deposit, and then his health failed and he lost his practice through becoming an invalid.