

Ink Stings.

—Execut, with a grant, for a hunt-TEDDY.

—Here's hoping that the administration of the new President will not be as stormy as his inaugural day.

—It begins to look as though the "Riverside National" will have to rent a room for Pittsburg council meetings ere long.

—The only \$75,000 bill in existence in the United States authorized by an Act of Congress was made on Wednesday—BILL TAFT.

—Governor STUART has advised the boys to stick to the farm. Now the question arises: Is he insisting on good roads so they can get there easy or get away easier.

—President TAFT will do well to take a cue from what happened in Washington yesterday. If he lets nature do all the blowing he will please his country greatly.

—The old council is out, the new council is in and he is said for the old that it got along more harmoniously than any body that has occupied the chamber for some years.

—The Bellefonte school board is considering the proposition of erecting a new school building, which means that plans must be secured that fulfill the ideas of just about five thousand people.

—About the first thing President TAFT could do with perfect justification would be to find out the man in his weather department who told that big lie about the fine weather he was to have yesterday.

—Fortunately TAFT was big enough to be seen from the curbs so those who didn't have seven hundred and fifty to pay for a Pennsylvania Ave. window in Washington yesterday saw about all there was to the parade.

—Mrs. TAFT and Mrs. SHERMAN rode in the inaugural parade with their husbands, on the return from the Capitol to the White House. It was the first case on record of ladies appearing as a part of such a function.

—If all the charges that have been preferred against turnkey CUNNINGHAM, of the Fayette county jail, are true it is a handy house and a booze joint and not a jail as all that Fayette county courts sentence prisoners to.

—The CRUM incident is closed. Fortunately for President TAFT the Charleston negro took himself out of the way as one of the troublesome bits of unfinished business that might have been inherited from the ROOSEVELT administration.

—The Mt. Carmel man who deliberately cut off his little finger just to prove to his wife that he had more nerve than she has would probably ask her to carry the light downstairs ahead of him should burglars break into their house at night.

—Wheat has reached a dollar and a quarter a bushel, but few farmers have any left to sell at that price. Of course it is hard luck, but a dollar was so much better than the average price that those who sold at that figure should feel perfectly satisfied.

—The Hon "Bull" ANDREWS moved to New Mexico to get to be a United States Senator and now the principal reason that New Mexico can't get admitted to Statehood is because the Hon Bull might be her United States Senator. Poor "Bull," its hard lines for him.

—The crocus and hyacinth are both pushing through the ground. The robin and the blue bird have been seen. A German hand was on the streets last week. The children are out with their hoops. All this looks like spring, but don't be deceived. Spring is not here.

—If you really think the WATCHMAN is a good newspaper tell your neighbor so. It might induce him to become a subscriber. If you think there is anything wrong with it tell us because we might be able to correct anything but its politics. You might not agree with its politics, but you can't help appreciating its live, reliable, unseasonal local news service.

—A French scientist says that if birds were all exterminated human life would be impossible after a period of fourteen years, because bugs would become so numerous as to make it the fact. Of course, being a scientist, he ought to know, but we happen to have in mind a few people who have been "buggy" all their lives and they seem to be getting along all right.

—Princeton Theological students have petitioned the faculty to make some of the subjects in the Seminary curriculum "more intelligible." Naturally the learned professors giving the particular studies regard the action as "highly discourteous." The embryo preachers have threatened to leave if the change is not made. Thus it becomes apparent that young Presbyterian logic will probably damn the teachers if they do make the change and certainly damn them if they don't.

—Congress displayed some rare good sense during the closing days of the session. It defeated that iniquitous ship subsidy bill and refused to publish the report of that famous Country Life commission, appointed by President ROOSEVELT a year ago. It would have cost twenty-five thousand dollars to have put in print the report and then there isn't a farmer in the land who wouldn't have rightfully spurned it. The idea of a lot of frock-coated popinjays undertaking to give farmers advice as to how to live and raise their families.

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What He Missed.

That Mr. "Bull" ANDREWS made a mistake in deserting Pennsylvania when he did ought to be very apparent to him now. At the time of his departure the entire Commonwealth was his for the asking. Along with Mr. QUAY he had made it so corrupt that clean spots, in the political field, were as scarce as icebergs in the country to which many of our politicians seem to be heading. There was no end to the "grafts" that was here for men of the ANDREWS type, nor was there any indication that "Bull" had lost his grip on the good things that the State was dealing out at the dictation of his friends. He was one, if not the principal "it" of the gang that was running the Republican party, and why he left, unless it was to seek "new worlds to conquer" or larger fields in which to exercise his peculiar abilities, no one ever knew.

But he left and Pennsylvania's gain was New Mexico's and Arizona's loss. So it seems. They have experienced his work and felt the influence of his presence since. What he accomplished in the way of making himself a boss and in corrupting the governments of those territories is, of course, but hearsay to us here in Pennsylvania. But had he been reported to have been and vicious as his methods have proven, is neither unexpected nor surprising to any one here at home who knew him. But what does seem strange and unaccountable to the people of this State, is the fact that because of the very methods and influences that built up and made Republicanism the power it is in Pennsylvania today, Arizona and New Mexico are denied Statehood by a Republican United States Senate. At least this is the reason given by the newspapers for the defeat of the measure that Mr. ANDREWS had gotten through the House and was only waiting for the Senate's approval to claim his reward in the shape of a United States Senatorship from New Mexico.

And just here comes in the question, is the political standard for the new States in the Union to be higher and purer than in the older and greater Republican States, or is the excuse given for the refusal to admit both New Mexico and Arizona all bosh, and only made to cover up the real reason—the fear of them being Democratic, or at least doubtful States?

Under any circumstances, Mr. "Bull" ANDREWS has lost much valuable time in trying to get into the United States Senate from a country whose people were comparative strangers to him and were not known to be tied to the Republican party. Here in Pennsylvania are the political fellows that "Bull" could plant and reap to his hearts content. Here is where they know him. Here is where they approve of and glory in his methods. Here is where he might have made the Senatorship that was given to KNOX, or been one of the one that is to be bestowed upon one of his friends and followers—OLIVER—within the next two weeks. Here is where the people have wallowed in corruption and rubbed up against rottenness until they don't care how smeared or foul a man may be politically, so he is like unto themselves, and here is where ANDREWS ought to have stayed. In leaving Pennsylvania he missed it, and another ANDREWS who took his place, and followed in his footsteps—his brother WES—is to reap the reward that would have been "Bulls" had he lingered with us—it is the Republican nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania.

Where Common Sense Would Come in Good.

Figures given out by those in charge of the postoffice department, show that the postal service of the country is costing the government something like \$30,000,000 a year more than the postal receipts amount to. And with this deficit increasing yearly, the Third Assistant Postmaster General is weighting down the mails sending to every business house, industrial concern, professional office, and, we presume, to as many private individuals as he can secure the address of, a circular letter in which one of the paragraphs reads as follows: "Government Stamped Envelopes will be furnished in lots of 500 with your name and address printed in the upper left corner WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE."

It is possible that this kind of fool business has much to do with the deficiency in the postal service, and the government official who insists on doing the printing for business houses or individuals, free of cost, when his department is behind, ought to be kicked out of office, without waiting for excuse or explanation.

The government sells its envelopes, stamp value deducted, at less than the ordinary dealer can produce them at wholesale—thus giving the purchaser the benefit of manufacturers rates and getting nothing in return for the cost of handling, shipping or waste. Why it should do more, and add the printing for nothing is a matter that is hard to understand.

Possibly if a little common sense were exercised in the postal department, in cases of this kind, there would be less of a deficit when settlement time comes round, and less need to fear that postal rates will have to be increased, or the postal service curtailed in some lines.

To Continue on the Ragged Edge.

The "ragged edge" upon which the business interests of the country has been hanging since the Republican panic struck us, seems to be growing more ragged and rougher every day. In fact little promises are given of any betterment for months. It was hoped that by this time the committee that has been hearing all sides on the tariff question—the one matter that is generally believed must be settled before there can be any permanent revival of business—would be ready to make its report, so that the new Congress could take the matter up and make some determination of the many conflicting questions arising out of it, at a very early date. But that prospect has vanished. The tariff commission is months away from the time it can make an intelligent report. The ideas of public men and the newspaper press of the country are as much at variance as ever. Each Congressman has his own ideas of how and upon what his duties ought to be imposed. And to add to the mix up in the matter, it is now said that the new President has changed his mind and in place of demanding of Congress an immediate revision of the tariff, now favors submitting the whole question to a tariff commission.

By the time Congress comes to a conclusion as to whether it will give over its power of saying upon what articles a duty shall be imposed and to what extent they can be limited, to an outside commission many days, even months, may intervene. And then, no matter what that commission may be, the tariff question will be just where it is now—undetermined and in doubt.

If a commission is appointed it will take it months to reach a conclusion. If it is left to Congress the probabilities are that it will be well onto the time that next winter may be expected, before any positive results are reached. So that come what may, if business cannot be revived until the tariff question is settled there is little use of looking for a betterment of conditions during the coming summer.

This may not be encouraging for those who are so anxiously waiting to see industries start up and business begin to boom. But it is the condition we are in—the condition the Republican party has brought upon the country, and all the public can do is simply to grin and bear it.

Possibly there are those who are enjoying the continuation of the policies that caused the kind of times we are having. If so they have reason to feel good over the prospects of their being prolonged almost indefinitely, and particularly for having voted last fall, to have things just as we are getting them.

Who He Is to Be.

Word has been sent out during the past week by the gang in Philadelphia that Judge VON MOSCHIZSKER, of that city, is the individual who is to have the Republican nomination for Supreme court Judge. The followers of the machine will of course fall in line for him at once, and if possible prevent other aspirants from starting in the race. There are many of these and the news, that the nominations for this high and important position are already closed, will be bitter word for the many who had hoped that this streak of judicial lightning would strike the pole they have had up for many years.

Just who VON MOSCHIZSKER is will be the query with most people, outside of the few who hang around the courts of Philadelphia. As a lawyer he was unknown until the Philadelphia machine decided that he would suit its purposes on the bench and he was put there. Since donning the judicial toga he has done nothing to show that he is either versed in the law or blessed with the characteristics that make a passable judge. He has done what the power that put him on the bench told him to do and that is about all. If we except the notorious decision that he and another machine made judge handed down in the judicial salary grab case, that declared the constitution unconstitutional when it stood in the way of an increase in judicial salaries during the term for which the official was elected.

His service to the machine and this salary decision will have to serve as the principal reasons for his election and we presume they will be sufficient. Such is the indifference of the people, or the rottenness of the voter, when you come to politics in Pennsylvania.

Governor STUART has gotten his bill for the building of a state highway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg started in the Legislature, and if indications indicate anything, its passage will encounter more rocks and other obstacles than the contractors who do the job are likely to. Everybody wants to see it built, but unfortunately everybody wants it built just where and how he thinks it should be and nowhere else—with particular emphasis on nowhere else.

—Quite a few Philadelphians have been in attendance at court this week.

Quay's Methods in the West.

The Washington dispatches indicate that the bills to make States of Arizona and New Mexico have been defeated because some Republican Senators have discovered that "Bull" ANDREWS, who is the delegate in Congress for New Mexico, has introduced some of the QUAY methods into the politics of that territory. At this writing there is still a chance for the measure, for it has not been stricken from the calendar. But the probabilities are that it will fall for the reason given, though every consideration of justice requires that it pass. The people of both territories have ample population to entitle them to Statehood. Their industries and commerce are suffering because they are denied this measure of justice, and it is their right.

What ANDREWS has done to thus bring punishment upon the people of two territories, has not been revealed. Some days ago the Washington correspondents said that the persistency with which he lobbied the Senate was offensive and that unless he discontinued that practice the bill would be defeated. But we can hardly believe that the Republican majority in the Senate would be influenced to that extent in that way. The most persistent and the most offensive lobbyist who has been in Washington during the last seven years is THEODORE ROOSEVELT. Some time ago when the question of investigating the Postoffice Department was under consideration he coaxed, threatened and finally openly traded patronage for votes against the proposition and the Republican Senators didn't take offense at his action.

Of course QUAY's methods are atrocious but they were not literally QUAY's methods. He may have invented some of them but they were adopted by the Republican party of Pennsylvania and have not been abandoned since the death of QUAY. "Bull" ANDREWS may have transplanted them into the political soil of New Mexico and it is possible that they are thriving there more than is good for the future of the people. But they wouldn't do so well if ANDREWS were not supported in the development by President ROOSEVELT and the Republican National machine. Neither QUAY nor ANDREWS has ever done anything so rank in politics as that. Meanwhile this act is pretty certain to bring out more prominently than for many years the demand for re-submission of the anti-liquor amendment.

Approaching the Danger Line.

We will not know the aggregate of the expenditures of the Congress which adjourned finally yesterday, for some time. According to a custom, the value and purpose of which is conjectural, the chairman of the committee on Appropriations made a statement before the adjournment giving his estimate of the total. The senior minority member of the committee gave his estimate and there was considerable difference in the figures. But little actual information can be extracted from either. In the course of several weeks, however, we will be able to get the figures expressed in each bill and by adding them together, the exact amount will be revealed.

It is easy enough to see, however, that the appropriations of the present session are far in excess of any previous session and by adding the appropriations of the last session to those of the session which has just closed, it is obvious that the 60th Congress has gone something like several hundred millions more than any of its predecessors. As long ago as the last session presided over by TOM REED, of Maine, it was boastedly said that this is a million dollar country and the spending of that mob during the life of a Congress was not profuse. But during the first session of the 60th Congress the appropriations reached nearly a billion and it looks as if the session just closed had turned that colossal figure.

This is a great country, rich in resources beyond the dreams of avarice. But even our resources may reach a limit and extravagance touch the danger point. During the present fiscal year the deficit in the treasury is certain to reach a total of \$135,000,000, and it is possible for it to go to \$150,000,000. The appropriation for the navy this year is at least \$20,000,000 more than it was last and all the other appropriations are in excess of those of last year. And the revenues are less this year than last. At this time it is impossible to estimate on the difference in the receipts of this year as compared with last, but in the cigar trade reports indicate that it will be large, and it is not likely to be much different in other lines. In view of these facts the figures may be important. They are at least worth consideration.

Possibly the fact that strengthening girders for the presidential bed would be necessary, was the reason for the promised boom in the iron business of which we heard so much immediately after the election. Political optimism you know don't require a very large peg to hang great hopes on.

"Conspiring" For the People.

From the Pittsburg Post. It is possible for representatives of the people to conspire in the interest of the public? Judging from statements made by Senator Carter, of Montana, the answer may well be "yes," and that some, indeed, in Washington are actually conspiring to benefit all the people.

Senator Carter objected to the termination of the QUAY method of using persons who criticize everyone who dares to speak his own mind. He quoted these as accusing members of Congress who recommend reductions in appropriations for various departments as being engaged in "conspiracies."

The present administration has been wondrously extravagant. Congress has been extremely lenient. It has granted most of the grossly improvident demands made by the President and his advisers. The result is that the bottom of the strong box is in sight.

It is not right that those who object to further lavishness should be reviled. Undoubtedly, the forestry service has accomplished much. Undoubtedly, its service is of the greatest value to the country. It is also possible that it has spent more of the people's money than it should. If that is true, its appropriations should be curtailed. The same is true of every department of the public service.

We should be intolerant with those who waste the public funds in overgrown navies and similar extravaganzas, not with those who "conspire" in the interests of the whole people to save their millions.

Prohibition's Severest Test.

From the Leavenworth (Kan) Times. During the next two years prohibition will undergo a test in Kansas probably more severe than any to which it has been subjected. The sale of whisky will be absolutely forbidden in the state. Even the druggists may not sell it, doctors may not prescribe it, nor dare be kept for sale. Not a few of the supporters of the candidacy of Senator Harris for governor two years ago rallied to his cause because they understood his policy of law enforcement was to make the prohibitory law so objectionable as to lead to its repeal. The most thorough program that Harris might have contemplated never even approached in severity what is now to be tried.

There may be in some quarters a belief that the prohibitionists have overreached themselves in bringing about this latest prohibitory enactment, that the effects of it will serve to drive those who have looked on indifferently when campaigns upon the issues of "wet" and "dry" were being waged, to the ranks of one side or the other. Time will tell as to what. Meanwhile this test is pretty certain to bring out more prominently than for many years the demand for re-submission of the anti-liquor amendment.

La Follette is Right.

From the Sacramento Bee. La Follette was right in objecting to the rash method of passing the post office bill, as reported by Penrose from committee. The measure calls for appropriations amounting to \$233,000,000, and there is good reason to believe it was held back by the Penrose committee in order that it might be put through the senate without proper consideration or inquiry. The item of \$4,800,000 for mail car rentals, which La Follette wanted investigated embodies scandalous extortion by the railroad companies.

It has been stated that the cost of a mail car is about \$3,500, and of maintaining and operating it for a year not more than \$1,356. And yet in a single year the government has paid the New York Central as much as \$10,000 rental for each of twenty-two mail cars used on that road. The average annual rental paid by the government has been over \$6,000 for each of the 800 mail cars in use, which is nearly twice their first cost. It is nearly downright robbery.

A First Step Toward Despotism.

Mr. Bryan in the Commoner. This is the first effort that has been made in nearly a century to throttle the press by federal prosecution, and it ought to arouse enough indignation to make it the last attempt for another century. Congress ought to pass a law immediately withdrawing from federal courts authority to prosecute for criticism of government action.

If every newspaper proprietor is to be threatened with bankruptcy by federal prosecution in case he dares to say a word against the action of a federal official, we will have taken the first step toward despotism. It will cost Mr. Pultitzer and Mr. Smith more than the fortune of the average man to defend themselves in the suits they brought. What chance, therefore, would the average editor have in such a case?

The president has done many good things but all that he has done would not offset the evil influence which would be exerted by such a precedent as he is undertaking to establish.

The Days of the Early Georges.

From the Indianapolis News. If we establish the rule that the government through its agents at the seat of government, spurned on by the president, may prosecute the citizen for a supposed libel on the president as president for action in connection with the performance of his official duties, we are liberties of the citizens will be greatly curtailed. In this case the government, the president, the attorney-general and two former members of the cabinet are all prosecuting citizens for supposed libel of the president in connection with the performance of their official duties. For a parallel we should have to go back in this country to the alien and sedition laws, and in England to the days of the early Georges, when men were imprisoned and put in the pillory for speaking disrespectfully of the king.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Johnstown dispensary of the State Board of Health has now 325 cases of tuberculosis under treatment and the results are very satisfactory.

—The maple sugar crop about DuBois is believed will be much lighter than usual this year, as experts say that the ground was not frozen deep enough to produce a strong flow of sap. The sap has already begun running.

—Robert McPeckers, head of a family of twenty-four, each male member of which is either a policeman or a soldier, and he himself a veteran of the Civil war, died at his home in Philadelphia on Saturday, aged 89 years.

—Diphtheria has broken out in the Tressler orphans' home at Loyalville, Pa., and as a result that institution has been placed under strict quarantine. Thus far 25 of the orphan children have been stricken with the dread disease.

—J. A. Pearce, a farmer of Cooper township, Clearfield county, last year had a yield of 250 bushels of potatoes from one and one-eighth acres of land, and received 90 cents per bushel for the crop—quite a nice bunch of money for the product of so small a plot.

—A small run of logs will go into the boom at Williamsport this spring, not many over 2,000,000 feet, says the Gazette and Bulletin. Most of them will go to the mill of the Central Pennsylvania Lumber company, although some of them belong to Brown, Clark & Howe.

—The body of Thomas J. Boate, an employe of the Mann axe factory, at Yeagerstown, near Lewistown, was found on Saturday, laid downward, in a barrel half filled with turpentine. It is supposed that he was stricken with apoplexy while leaning over the barrel.

—Peter Radinger, a puddler at the Danville rolling mill, while at his work on Saturday received word that he will get an inheritance of \$50,000, the bequest of an aged lady of Reading to whom he had rendered a service a number of years ago that she greatly appreciated.

—Harrison Weber, of Reading, has spent a great part of twelve years building a unique sideboard, which he values at \$6,000. It contains over 150,000 pieces of wood, all inlaid and fitted so closely that not a joint is visible, and there are some unique designs on the various panels.

—Work was begun on Friday on the erection of an addition to the wire rope factory in Williamsport, 40x262 feet in size. The wire rope industry has not been affected by the hard times and the Williamsport firm last year manufactured 400,000 feet more rope than the year before.

—After a strike of ten days at the Mahler Glass works, DuBois, the management and employes came to terms late on Tuesday afternoon and work has been resumed. Neither side would state the terms upon which work was resumed, but it is believed there have been no concessions on both sides.

—A large butchering took place on the farm of Samuel Rupp, near Bareville, Lancaster county, on Friday, when William Hermis slaughtered for Mr. Rupp a steer which weighed, dressed, 1,600 pounds and four hogs whose combined weight was 2,904 pounds, dressed, an average of 736 pounds each.

—The Vinton Colliery company, at Vintondale, Cambria county, last Thursday gave notice of a reduction of twelve per cent. in wages, because of the reduction in the prices of coal, but at the same time gave information that all rents will be reduced twenty per cent. There are about 300 men in the employ of the Vinton company.

—For the twenty seventh time the stork visited the home of Morris Connor, city bill poster, of Altoona, and deposited a bouncing baby girl Monday night. With this addition, Connor's friends contend he stands foremost for any medals President Roosevelt may offer for the promotion of anti race suicide. The entire family enjoy robust health.

—Miss Rebecca Metz, of Coal township, Northumberland county, will receive \$3,000 as a bail for being jilted by William T. Meisberger. The jury in the case after deliberating for over seven hours found a verdict just before midnight Wednesday evening. They sealed their verdict and retired for the night. It was opened and rendered in court Thursday morning.

—A movement has been inaugurated in Jersey Shore to purchase an unoccupied knitting mill property near the New York Central railway station and fit it up for a home for the Young Men's Christian association. It will require \$7,000 to purchase the property, and three prominent men have subscribed \$1,000. The New York Central will take care of the maintenance of the property.

—The dead bodies of two men were found on Saturday morning lying close to the tracks of the branch railroad between Gratztown and Blackburn, Westmoreland county, by a crew of a freight train, and foul play is suspected. They were identified as employes of the Penn Gas Coal, one being Martin Machanic, aged 50 years, while the name of the other was not known, but he was a miner. Saturday was pay day and near their bodies their pay envelopes were found, but with no money in either.

—Black diphtheria has broken out among the children in the mining village of Boardman, in the Clearfield and Irona branch of the New York Central railroad. There have been several deaths and the doctors and the board of health insist that the bodies of those who die be buried within six hours after death. The disease at present is confined to the foreign people, mostly Italians, but it is feared that the American children of the district will become infected with it, as there are at present a few cases near Faunco, seven miles east of where it broke out.

—With a fund of \$100,000, which Mrs. J. C. Blair has donated, a magnificent hospital will be built in Huntingdon, on the hill above Warm Springs avenue, just west of Twelfth street. Mrs. Blair has made this gift without any provisos, other than it is to be called the J. C. Blair Memorial hospital. A board of trustees have already been selected by the donor, composed of prominent business and professional men of Huntingdon, and as soon as plans are prepared, work will be begun on the new building. The officers of the Blair Memorial hospital association have also been elected.