

Ink Stings.

The Athletics have succeeded in keeping within striking distance of the pennant, but their trouble seems to be an inability to strike when the iron is hot.

The so-called Insurgent Senators will have ample opportunities after the 13,000 mile trip is completed to say what they think of TAFI, and don't imagine they will overlook any developments along those lines.

It is beyond argument that should Greek be dropped from the curriculum of American colleges, as is proposed by Harvard, there would be more peace to the ashes of that old Athenian historian XENOPHON.

The Rev. JOHN THOMAS, of Liverpool, says he staid in Chicago a week and could find nothing wrong. Possibly his eyesight was bad, possibly he wasn't looking for it at all or possibly the Rev. JOHN didn't look good to it.

The Spokane gardener who has succeeded in producing a lemon-omnibus has done something worth while. Now you can band a fellow a lemon and at the same time almost guarantee him a case of the "colly-wobbles."

Perhaps it would be better to withhold the publication of the COOK and PEARY proofs as to how they reached the pole until next July or August. Then the temperature would be such as to make the reading more attractive.

There are upwards of five thousand millionaires in the United States; consequently we know that there are at least that number of people who can really afford to buy butter at forty cents a pound and potatoes at a dollar twenty the bushel.

No claimant having appeared for it the Pennsylvania Railroad company has placed the QUAY statue in storage in Harrisburg. Of course it is not cold storage, but merely a place where all the junk that accumulates around a freight station is placed until some disposition is made of it.

Poor ABRUZZI! Disparaging of ever getting the ELKINS girl he has asked for a commission in the Italian navy and gone to sea for an entire year. On the deck of his flagship he will sit and listen to what the wild waves are saying and it is not altogether probable that any of them will call him to get a slice of Dad's West Virginia coal lands.

Ex-Governor HANLEY, of Indiana, spoke in the Presbyterian church here, Sunday afternoon, in the interest of the anti-saloon league. It was a brilliant, argumentative and logical presentation of the subject of local option, as viewed by those in favor of it. Governor HANLEY had a complete grasp of the situation when he referred to Pennsylvania's debauched and corrupt condition and we quite agree with his deduction that much of the debauchery and corruption has come from the liquor interests, but as long as there are men who can be debauched and corrupted the liquor interests will be in control and as long as they are in control there will be no chance for local option in Pennsylvania.

President TAFI is following very closely in the practices of his distinguished predecessor. While Congress was in session and he was in position to force it to make laws in accordance with his platform promises he did not. Now that Congress is adjourned he is touring the country telling the people what he intends to do the next Congress do. We were going to say that the people are wise to this "woolly-horse" game now, but judged from past experience we reckon such a statement would scarcely be warranted by the facts. For ROOSEVELT fooled them with the same promises, TAFI followed him and worked the same game successfully so, after all, there is no reason to think that he won't catch them again this trip.

Phillipsburg is now convalescent after her big "Old Home Week." The confetti and other litter of a temporary jamboree are probably the only visible reminders that are left of the good time every one had, but memories of meeting old friends, the harrowing experiences of the committees that had a thousand and one things to do at the same time and the worry of paying for "the dead horse" will furnish plenty of subject for discussion during the long winter evenings that are fast approaching. It paid! Of course it did. Anything that carries humanity out of the humdrum of life for a short period pays. It sends all back to their work recreated in spirit, at least, and with a deeper and broader understanding of what living means.

The death of Governor JOHN A. JOHNSON, of Minnesota, is lamentable; not only because one of the best types of Americanized citizenship has been removed, but because his future would undoubtedly have made for the cause of good and uprightness in our public life. He was a Democrat, a man of the most humble origin and was serving his third term as the chief executive of the State that had chosen him and at the same time gave overwhelming majorities to opposition candidates for other offices within his gift. Governor JOHNSON was just beginning to take his place in national affairs and it is altogether probable that had the Democracy taken advantage of its opportunity at Denver the nation would have been mourning a President instead of a man who seemed destined for the exalted honor.

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A Source of Shame.

There is a wide-spread and deep-seated public interest in the electioneering tour of the President of the United States. President TAFI is an interesting figure. Always good natured his giant proportion forms an imposing sight. An adept phrase-maker his speeches are interesting, moreover. He is inaccurate, of course, and lamentably insincere as well as careless as to facts. But he says pleasant things in an attractive way and flatters the civic pride of a community while he is feeding the personal vanity of the people who compose it. If he were less lax in his public morals he would be a charming feature of the official life of the country.

But the electioneering tour of the President is not an incident of which thoughtful citizens of keen conscience may be proud. It involves not only a plain violation of the constitution of the United States but, incidentally, the violation of the President's oath of office. In other words this junket which the President declares is a test of his digestive powers is paid for out of a fund to which he has no more legal rights than a burglar has of the proceeds of his crime. The constitution, Article I, Section 1, paragraph 7, reads: "The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation which, shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States or any of them. The President upon assuming office solemnly swore that he would, to the best of his ability, "preserve, protect and defend the constitution."

Webster's dictionary defines the word "Emolument," as "the profit arising from office, employment or labor; gain, compensation, advantage, perquisites, fees or salary." The compensation fixed by Congress for the services of the President is \$75,000 a year. Up until the close of the Civil war it was \$25,000 a year. After the election of Grant and previous to his inauguration the amount was increased to \$50,000, which continued to be the presidential salary until the expiration of the term of THEODORE ROOSEVELT, though, notwithstanding the constitutional inhibition there was given an emolument of \$25,000 a year to cover traveling expenses. Realizing that this perquisite was in violation of the constitution, Congress, before TAFI's inauguration, increased the salary to the compensation and emolument given to ROOSEVELT combined and specifically declared that no expense fund would be allowed. Subsequently, however, Congress "loosened up" and passed a bill allowing the emolument.

LINCOLN, GRANT or HARRISON would no more have accepted this "graft" than they would have broken into the treasury and rifled the vaults. It is as grave a crime as that committed by any successful bank burglar and even more reprehensible because it involves the violation of the oath which pledged the President to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution." Webster defines perjury as "false swearing." That is to say one who swears that he will do a certain thing and fails to a perjurer, and in accepting this emolument President TAFI has not fulfilled his sworn obligation to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution." For these reasons this electioneering tour is a source of shame.

The Sobynkill county jurist, who assured those present when there was a noise as if the roof was falling, that "the temple of justice is not going to fall," must be an incorrigible humorist. MARK TWAIN would hardly venture so far into the arena of exaggeration as to call the Sobynkill county court house a temple of justice.

Postal Service Delinquencies.

There is abundant reason for instituting reforms in the postoffice department at Washington. The deficits for the year which ended on the 30th of June amounted to \$20,000,000, which is the largest in the history of the service. But Postmaster General HITCHCOCK is not proceeding along the right lines to remedy this evil. Instead of curtailing expenses where it is possible, he is increasing the cost of the service to the people. Even if this course should achieve the result he pretends to desire it will not be a relief to the public, for what is gained in the matter of reducing the deficit is lost in the increased charge for the service. It comes out of the pockets of the people in either event.

But after all the deficit in the postoffice department is not so much a matter to regret as the impairment of the service. 'The postal service was not organized as a revenue providing expedient so much as it was intended to accommodate the public. It is desirable, of course, that it be made as nearly self-sustaining as possible, but the perfection of the service is of paramount consideration. In other words the people of this country are willing to bear the burden of expense for a perfect postal service, economically administered, but they are not willing to maintain a poor service at

any cost. Postmaster General HITCHCOCK seems to be giving us poor service at an increased expense.

We are led to these observations by incidents which have recently come within our own notice. Some time ago a letter mailed at Harrisburg, at 12 o'clock noon, and addressed to a business concern in Philadelphia, though it contained a special delivery stamp, hadn't reached its destination at 8 o'clock that evening. Another letter mailed at Harrisburg at 10 o'clock a. m., wasn't delivered until 8 o'clock the next morning. It must have reached Philadelphia by 3 o'clock, p. m. of the day it was mailed and there are certainly two deliveries within the business section of the city after that time. These delinquencies in the service are what need correction.

President Tafi's Curious Apology.

President TAFI's apology for the ALDRICH tariff bill is a mixture of sophistry, immorality and mendacity. It is a confession that party solidarity is, in his mind, of greater consequence than relieving the people of burdens, and that party obligations are more binding upon Senators and Representatives in Congress than the interests of the people. Even ROOSEVELT, who acknowledged no obligation to the people, and respected no law, never went as far as that. No President has ever, hitherto, openly advised official recalcitancy. A Pennsylvania politician once recommended to his adherents to "throw conscience to the devil and stick to the party," and DAVE LANE, on an occasion, told the Philadelphia officials to stuff the ballot boxes or give up their places. But TAFI is the first President to go so far.

Bold and reckless as he was, however, President TAFI made a poor apology for that vicious piece of legislation. Manifestly with the purpose of confusing some and deceiving others, he quoted figures liberally, but not candidly. For example he cites the metal schedule and adds the value of the product and the number of items upon which reductions in rates have been made. His obvious object was to show that decreases have been more numerous than increases and that the amount consumed of articles upon which tariff taxes have been decreased is greater than that upon which the tax has been increased. He neglects to explain, however, that there are practically no imports of the articles upon which the rate has been decreased while there might be considerable commerce in the articles upon which the rate has been increased.

Among the articles which he cites as having been decreased is wheat, for example. Everybody knows that there is never any perceptible importation of wheat and that even if there were an inclination to import wheat the rate is still prohibitory. The same is true of nearly every article enumerated by him upon which the tax has been reduced. Either they are articles which are not imported at all or else the reduced rate is prohibitory and yet the President has plainly set out to deceive the people into the belief that the tariff revision of the extra session was downward and that the ALDRICH law is the best piece of tariff legislation ever enacted in this country. Unless the people are more credulous than they are believed to be this fraud upon them will turn public sentiment against the author of it.

During the past week or ten days quite a number of foreigners have arrived in Bellefonte, and it is quite evident that the word has been sent out by their countrymen here that the two furnaces here will be put in operation in the near future.

The cordial welcome which Governor JOHNSON extended to President TAFI, upon his arrival in Minnesota, was a good imitation of the traditional "heaping coals of fire on his head," in view of the distempered Boston speech of the President.

If SISSON and STOBBER were now Auditor General and State Treasurer, respectively, DAVE LANE wouldn't be compelled to hunt a place for the QUAY statue. There is no place too good for it, according to their ideas.

While the contest between the Athletics and Detroit, for the base ball pennant, remains unsettled, the average boy will not be able to discern any great importance in the discovery of the North Pole.

It will be tough on the lions and rhinos of Africa if ROOSEVELT finds out what TAFI did to PINCHOT with respect to the Ballinger controversy while he is lingering in the jungle.

Wireless telegraphy has its drawbacks too. It enables fellows like PEARY to chatter even when they are in midocean.

It will cost the country \$25,000 to find out how President TAFI's digestion compares with that of a billy goat.

You miss a good thing if you don't take the WATCHMAN.

The Machine Confident.

The nomination of A. E. SISSON and J. A. STOBBER by the Republican State convention of this year was simply an expression of the confidence of the machine managers that the events of four years ago have been forgotten by the State. The Legislative session of 1905 was simply a saturnalia of corruption, an orgy of vice. It culminated in an attempt to bestow the Philadelphia gas works on a few favorites and the result was the political eruption which placed WILLIAM H. BERRY, a Democrat, in the office of State Treasurer. If that had not occurred J. LEE PLUMMER would have been elected Treasurer. WESLEY R. ANDREWS, Senator PENNOB's secretary, would have succeeded PENNYPACKER as Governor and the grafting on the bill would never have been interrupted.

Following that revolt and the incidental exposure of corruption, the managers "assumed a virtue," and promised reform. The Legislature of 1905 was assembled in extraordinary session and most of the vicious laws of the regular session were repealed. DURHAM withdrew from political activity and McNICHOI declared that he would never ask for another municipal contract. In 1906 EDWIN S. STUART, a gentleman of faultless reputation, but subservient to the organization, was nominated for Governor. A year later JOHN O. SHEATZ, who had shown considerable independence of the machine was nominated for State Treasurer, because the bosses felt that the people would not elect one identified with the iniquities of the recent past. But the machine has recovered from its panic.

In pursuance of its faith in the credulity of the people the machine this year returned to its old methods like the hog to its wallow and the dog to its vomit. The candidates have been chosen this year not on account of their respectability but for the reason of their complete servility. SISSON and STOBBER have been the most obedient tools of the machine during all their service in the Senate. Every iniquity desired by the bosses has been supported by them. STOBBER never even pretended to have an opinion of his own upon any question under consideration. He was simply regarded as a senatorial joke whom nobody took seriously. But his fidelity to the machine and his absolute disregard of obligations to the people won for him the favor of the machine managers and when they believed it was safe they nominated him for an office in which they need a servile tool.

McNichol in a Trap.

Senator McNICHOI has been caught "with the goods on him." That is to say the Philadelphia machine manager has been trapped into the public exposure of an attempt to bribe voters who are opposed to the machine candidate for District Attorney of Philadelphia to vote for him. The Senator's friends say that was not a manly operation. They protest that it isn't quite right to pretend in order to get a man to do things contrary to law. Probably they are right, ethically, in this view of the subject. But in this case the process is justified by the old adage, "set a thief to catch a thief."

Senator McNICHOI has been violating the ballot laws all his life. If he were properly punished for all the crimes against the electoral system of which he is probably guilty he would be serving a life term in the penitentiary to-day. But thus far he has managed to escape punishment altogether, not entirely for the reason that he operated skillfully but because the prosecuting officers have been in sympathy with his work. That is probably why he is so anxious now to secure the election of the machine candidate for District Attorney. If the other fellow is successful it will probably be the penitentiary for "Sunny Jim."

According to the Philadelphia papers the law has a cinch on him this time. He personally, and in the presence of witnesses is promised to pay one man a considerable sum of money and give another an office he coveted, if they would transfer their allegiance from GIBBONEY to ROTAN for District Attorney. If this is true he can easily be convicted. He has sworn himself out of other scrapes but there were no witnesses to corroborate the accusers in those cases. This time the evidence is abundant and specific. If he is not promptly prosecuted and punished, it will be because the officers of the law are recreant, and the courts of Philadelphia rotten.

It is estimated that thirty thousand people all told attended Phillipsburg's Old Home week exercises last week and those who had the affair in charge are to be congratulated on the way it was handled, both socially and financially. With a fund of only \$1,700 cash to begin the week with the management cleared up enough during the week to pay every cent of expense incurred for the celebration, which was over \$4,000. It is also estimated that from eight to ten thousand dollars were spent among Phillipsburg merchants and hotels.

Throws Down the Gauntlet.

From the Johnstown Democrat. President Tafi throws down the gauntlet to the western insurgents and dares them to pick it up. Without a reservation he boldly accepts Aldrich and his tariff and he declares that those Republicans who voted against the measure which he declares to be the best ever framed have taken themselves out of the party. He oases in his lot definitely and finally with Aldrich, Payne, Cannon, Fordney, Dalzell and the whole standpat outfit.

There is no mistaking what the president means. He declares war on La Follette, Nelson, Clapp, Bristow, Beveridge, Dooliver, Cummins and other insurgents. He appeals over their heads in their own states to the people they claim to represent. He bids the people to choose their own men to represent them. And evidently he counts much on the greatness and power of his office. He trusts much to the glamour with which it surrounds him; and as the leader of his party and as the dispenser of its immense patronage he feels assured that they will choose him rather than their senators and representatives.

It is too early to determine the effect of this sensational appeal. We believe it to be unprecedented in the annals of American politics. We cannot recall another instance of a president entering a state and attacking the senators and representatives thereof before their constituents. It sets a precedent that is fraught with enormous possibilities—and should anything of this sort be attempted by any potentate in Europe it would mean a revolution. Of course the position of Mr. Tafi differs from that of any European potentate. He is not only the head of the government; he is also the head of his party. But hitherto presidents have not ventured on a course so daring. They have exercised the functions of party leadership without going to the extreme length of invading the home preserves of senators and representatives for the purpose of whipping them into line with his policies or interests through a direct appeal to their constituents.

It will be worth while waiting until the senators and the representatives can be heard from. They are not likely to say anything just now. They could not make themselves heard in the din which the royal progress excites. But the presidential train will pass in due time. The tumult and the shouting will subside; the captains and kings will depart; and there will be a moment of sober thought. What direction it will take can only be conjectured. It may run as the president would have it. Sentiment may undergo a revolution. The people at the president's call may turn and rend the senators and representatives whom he has branded as traitors and deserters. And then again, his attack on these men may serve only to inflame party passions and to widen the factional divide. In our judgment the only thing that will save the day to Mr. Tafi, should it be saved, will be the power of his patronage, the glamour of his high office. These factors are not to be despised. But even patronage and the royal favor have sometimes failed to save a king's head from the block.

Who Knows!

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. The prison horrors at Pittsburg continue to claim attention. As there is no smoke without some combustion, although there be no flames in evidence, and as Pennsylvania prison management has long been decidedly smoky, the recent announcement that the federal prisoners would all be removed from the Western penitentiary was a burst of flame that caused little surprise. It was hardly remarkable that the convicted bank wreckers there confined should be credited with conspiring, through influential friends, a sudden awakening of the federal authorities to conditions long prevalent. It is conceded that they are above the average of criminal intelligence, and they might be supposed to have some effective, though furtive, outside pull.

It is a good thing that had prison management should be even thus exposed, but when it appears that the bank looters are the first convicts selected for transfer, when rumor has it that the chief of them is soon to be pardoned, and when the fact is recalled that the sentences of the others have been commuted; when facts thus accumulate an impression develops that we are getting a little too much of a good thing. All this is in suggestive reminder of the political associations of that group of bankers. Are there nervous outsiders who would rather have them in the far away avensworth prison? Are there strong enough, though unmentionable considerations urging pardon? Who knows?

Embezzlement of Power.

From the Philadelphia Record. Mr. Bryan, with his accustomed felicity and vigor of speech, has applied the apt phrase of "embezzlers of power" to Speaker Cannon and his partisan adherents in congress, who have violated their pledge to the country. Embezzlement of power—that is just what it is to steal into office and use the power thus obtained to commit a great breach of political trust. It is far worse in its consequences than the offense of the private individual who by oily promises and pledges gains the confidence of his neighbors and converts their goods or money to his own use. The private embezzler when convicted suffers a term of imprisonment. For the public embezzler of power who solemnly promised to reduce the burden of taxes, and then converted tariff legislation into a dismal farce, the only penalty is removal by the people from the trusts they have wantonly betrayed.

Despite the fact that the Bellefonte Academy quartette was unable to appear at the Bellefonte baseball association's benefit at the Scenic last Friday evening on account of the illness of one of the boys, the association made out fairly well at that, their net receipts being twenty-six dollars. An Academy student sang an amusing song of student life and William Doll sang his famous Dutch song.

Spawns from the Keystone.

In two weeks Johnstown will be without water unless it rains. Wildcat reservoir was turned into the system yesterday with a view of increasing the volume.

Thomas McGlynn has struck a four foot vein of good coal near Clearfield. Mr. McGlynn had a good deal of trouble finding the vein but he knew it was there and was determined to find it if it took all his money.

Stella Jones, of Glenwood, is a prisoner in Pittsburg, charged with the embezzlement of \$4,000 from the Ohio and Pittsburg Milk company, by which she was employed as a bookkeeper and cashier. Her family is above reproach.

Beginning on Monday October 18th, and continuing for four days, the grand encampment of Patriarchs Militant will be held at Lock Haven. The Odd Fellows of that town are making active preparations for the entertainment of their guests.

The Armour Packing company, which is looking for a site on which to erect a \$30,000 car icing plant, has decided it is said to build either at Cresson or Tyrone. The Altoona plant is too old to permit of re-building and the company cannot get a permanent lease on the old location.

The purchasers of the Pittsburg, Johnstown, Ebensburg and Eastern railroad in Clearfield county, which was sold at receiver's sale last April, met in Lancaster last week and reorganized as the Phillipsburg and Johnstown railroad company, the capital being fixed at \$300,000.

Elizabethtown, Allegheny county, has been selected as the site for that proposed new two million dollar Masonic home to be erected by the Grand Lodge of Masons. This is the home for which Centre county Masons offered the Moses Thompson estate at Centre Furnace as a suitable location.

Plans for the J. C. Blair memorial hospital at Huntingdon have been placed in the hands of a number of contractors for bids. There will be two private wards to be allotted to societies, lodges or corporations if they desire them. The old buildings on the site of the proposed structure are being removed.

With assets of hardly \$10,000 and liabilities of at least three times that amount, the Blairville infirmary, founded by the late Dr. I. P. Klugensmith, has been forced into bankruptcy proceedings. None but first mortgage creditors will receive a cent, it is feared. D. M. Kier has been appointed trustee.

Phillipsburg now has a lodge of Elks. Lewis K. Genkiner, district deputy grand exalted ruler, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, instituted Phillipsburg lodge No. 1173 in the Odd Fellows hall. He was assisted by officers from Tyrone and Clearfield. There were about forty visiting Elks from nearby towns.

Miss Phoebe Johns lost her life by falling from the second story of the Lloyd house at Phillipsburg last week. The girl felt sick and went out on a balcony on the second floor and leaned on the railing. The banister gave away and she was precipitated to the ground. Her neck was broken by the fall. The girl was the daughter of David Johns, of Smoke Run.

Almost every place you look in the Juniata river around Newton Hamilton you see little bass, two to six inches in length. The last two years have been very favorable for spawning and the fish are so well protected by law now that in a couple of years there will be enough of them to bring back the old reputation of the Juniata river as a good place for sport.

Five hundred dollars have been voted by the board of trade of Scranton to obtain competent legal advice about the rights of property owners whose places have been ruined by mine cave ins. There was much loss in the recent cave-ins in Scranton and West Pittston. One writer says that the property owners cannot get damages for injury done on the earth's surface by the falling down of underminings.

Following the release under \$2,000 bail of Mrs. Margaret Byers who had been arrested on the charge of burning twelve barns in Bucks county comes the news of more fires. Three other places have been the marks of an unknown incendiary. Two of the buildings were burned and in the hay mow of the other was found a lighted candle standing on a piece of oil saturated cardboard and at the bottom of the candle were a number of matches. In about three hours the machine would have gone off and the barn would have been doomed.

At a meeting held in Saxton on Friday afternoon by the federated railroad unions, the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad strike was officially declared off and the trainmen were compelled to acknowledge that they had been defeated. On July 15th the strike was ordered on and about 85 per cent of the trainmen of the road left their jobs. During the months since meetings have been held in Huntingdon, Saxton and other places but the Broad Top Company, not employing strike breakers, putmen in the positions vacated and as far as they were concerned there was no strike.

Cokeville, once a town with 2,000 inhabitants and which was suddenly depopulated, may exist again. The town was almost the property of the Isabella company nine years ago and one day the superintendent of the company got orders to cease mining coal. The 700 miners were called to the office and given their pay. Why the works closed down has never been made public. The United States Steel corporation is reported now to have bought the mines and ovens for its American sheet steel department and work may be started at once. There are nearly 600 coke ovens in the place.

The Bituminous coal operators' association of the Central Pennsylvania district met at Philadelphia last week and decided to strengthen the organization and prepare to fight for a lower wage rate when that question comes up for adjustment next spring. Mine operators in Armstrong, Clarion, Elk and Blair counties will be added to the association, which already contains the principal soft coal operators of Clearfield, Jefferson, Bedford, Cambria, Indiana and Huntingdon counties. Members of the organization committee appointed include Rembrandt Peale W. J. Faux, Murray Courtwright, George Steiman, J. G. Betts, D. Dawson Coleman and Charles W. Mills.