

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

INK SLINGS.

The Daughters of the Revolution spent the greater part of this week revolutin' Washington.
-HETTY GREEN'S son says he is a bachelor because of his wealth, but that isn't the reason we have quit being one.
-The bird's nest head dressing the girls affect just now is peculiarly appropriate for the chippies we see on the street.
-HALLEY'S comet is somewhere near us, but it takes more than the ordinary eye-opener in the morning to give one a glimpse of it.
-Hungary is the latest country to go wild over Mr. T. R., but then you know the Hungarian always was a sort of wild and wierd character.
-Senator ALDRICH may be getting ready to retire but we don't see that he is making any strenuous effort to stop that \$300,000,000 leak before he goes.
-The way the striking laborers out in the coal country are laboring to avoid work plainly illustrates how industrious some workmen are determined to be.
-Another uprising has occurred in China and the frightful days of Boxer outrages are recalled. The "yellow peril" seems to be yellow and perilous as ever.
-Since Mr. MORGAN has started out to buy up the automobile factories of the country we are sure there will soon be something with a real stink to blame him for.
-President TAFT evidently felt in a forgiving mood when he said he had no quarrel with the Suffragettes. He hasn't worked himself up to the point of forgiving the Insurgents yet.
-Its never so bad that it couldn't be worse. Even President TAFT can take consolation from the fact that the empire will share with him the public contempt for the next six months at least.
-Mr. TAFT may be just as tired of his job as he would have the public believe, but we have serious doubts if he is half as tired of it as the public is of him. At least indications indicate that way.
-The Western penitentiary is putting on airs since so many Pittsburg bankers and councilmen broke into it. On Monday the striped suits were abolished and now the prisoners wear black or blue ones.
-WILLIAM J. BRYAN landed in New York Monday afternoon after a long tour of South America. He is reported as having declined to talk politics, and the reports didn't say that he is unwell, either.
-The marriage of MARK SWIFT and ELIZABETH HURRY in New York, a few days ago, might naturally be expected to result in SWIFT offspring, but probably not any swifter than if they had been SMITH or JONES.
-The Philadelphia street car strike is over. A victory is recorded for neither side in the long drawn out struggle, but however that may be both sides have lost enough to prompt them to take steps at once to prevent a recurrence of the unprofitable situation.
-The union of the GOULD and DREXEL fortunes on Tuesday was the all absorbing topic in New York and Philadelphia society circles. The public is interested in so far as its hope that this alliance will not prove another affair to be ventilated in the divorce courts later.
-The late P. T. BARNUM died firmly believing that he had been the most proficient advertiser of humbugs who had ever undertaken that job. How his tailfeathers would have dropped had he known the glory that awaited one T. ROOSEVELT for efforts in that same line.
-Of course there will be the usual amount of argufyin over whether Tuesday's output was the "saplin bender," the "onion snow," the "poor man's manure" or the "daffodil snow." Whatever it may have been it sent a chill to the heart of the fruit grower and the possessor of an early garden.
-Speaker CANNON, in a reminiscent mood, recalls that with a single exception every Congress, within the last fifty years, that has enacted a tariff law, has been succeeded by one of the opposite party. Mr. CANNON is correct, and we have all reason to tender him our profound thanks for bringing to the front this greatly encouraging historical fact.
-CARTER'S release from the Minnesota penitentiary is another exemplification of the old proverb "the pen is mightier than the sword." He wrote poetry with such an appealing sentiment in it that the whole State took up the work of securing his pardon. He could have tried a sword as a means of getting out and would probably have wound up "in the hole."
-"JOE HUSTON, the boy dreamer," is the way attorney GRAHAM described the half-million dollar architect of the State capitol building, in his opening address in the trial at Harrisburg. Right well does the appellation apply; for dreams are said to always go by the contrary and nothing could have gone more contrariwise for Mr. HUSTON than the beautiful dream he must have had when he conceived that structure.

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Why Sheatz Was Not Appointed.

The principal reason why JOHN O. SHEATZ was not appointed by the Governor to serve the term for which the late J. A. STROBER was elected, but did not qualify, as State Treasurer, is clearly expressed in the statement of the Treasury at the close of business on March 31, made public the other day. There was a balance of \$6,735,668.06 in the general fund and one of \$2,429,765.25 in the Sinking fund, making a total of \$1,165,436.31 practically under the control of that official, for while the Board of Revenue Commissioners designate the state depositories and it is unlawful to put funds in a bank not designated by the Board, the selection of the depositories, within the list recommended and the fixing of the amount deposited in each bank is left to the option of the State Treasurer absolutely.
According to this recently published statement of Mr. SHEATZ, the moneys in the general fund were distributed among three hundred and fifty banks, located in all sections of the State in pretty nearly an equal ratio and those in the Sinking fund were deposited in one hundred and forty-four banks apportioned throughout the State in the same way. It is only just to say that this system was introduced by Hon. WILLIAM H. BERRY during the period of his incumbency of the office from May, 1906, to May, 1908. Previous to that time the depositories were few and the deposits large thus giving the favored banks the full measure of advantage in the use of the public funds. Mr. BERRY discovered in this fact a source of great evil and when the Republican machine Legislature refused to allow him to place the money in banks of unquestioned solvency which would pay to the State the highest rate of interest, he determined to minimize the evil of a bad system by distributing the surplus among a large number of depositories in small amounts and fairly apportioned to the different sections.
It will be remembered that when the Enterprise National bank, of Allegheny, failed in the fall of 1905 it held a deposit of State funds amounting to upward of \$1,000,000. Several other banks were similarly favored in consideration of accommodations to prominent politicians of the Republican faith. According to the recent statement of Treasurer SHEATZ the largest deposit in any bank on the 31st of March, this year, was \$190,000 of the general fund surplus and \$90,000 of the sinking fund. It should be added that the banks holding these comparatively big deposits are those which held the million dollar balances under the old machine regime, the scaling down having been made gradually so as not to materially disturb business in the communities in which such banks were located. The appointment of the Governor is to restore the old system.
Governor Murphy's Poor Platform.
Lieutenant Governor MURPHY has contributed to the interest in politics and "the gayety of nations," by announcing himself as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor. In the brief statement of his aspirations which he made public the other day, he declares that he will, in the event of his nomination and election, continue the policies of the present Governor and follow the lines laid down by the present administration, of which he claims to be a part. His friends add that he has always been a "regular," they might have added a "regulation" Republican, and that he is a lawyer of some consequence.
This incident calls to mind the fact that the Republican machine managers set great store upon the character of the present Governor and the policies of his administration. They seem to be greatly delighted because he hasn't broken into the State Treasury and looted its vaults. They are equally elated, according to gossip, because he hasn't openly rewarded criminals with special favors or conspicuous public offices. No doubt Lieutenant Governor MURPHY is expressing this exultation in his eulogy of Governor STUART and promise to pursue the policies of that gentleman. There is absolutely nothing else to rejoice over in the matter. Mr. STUART has certainly not been a militant reformer.
As a matter of fact, however, Gov. STUART has not had any policies during the three years he has been Governor. He has simply been a quiescent instrument in the hands of Senator PENROSE to give force and effect to the purposes of the Republican machine. In not a single instance has he risen above the lowest level of machine politics in any action. He has not been as bold as STONE or as absurd as PENNYPACKER, but he has been as servile as either of them. For that reason Lieutenant Governor MURPHY is "leaning upon a broken reed," in appealing to popular favor on a promise to imitate Governor STUART.

A Pickwickian Speech.

Official life in Washington is greatly perturbed because President TAFT declared, the other night, in a speech, that it is his intention to retire from public life upon the expiration of his present term. As a matter of fact the President didn't say that literally. What he did say is that "judging from the worry and trouble getting through the first year of my term, the contemplation of more than one term is more than I can stand." In another speech on the same evening he said, "Washington is very dear to me. I'm going to spend three years more here," and when those he was addressing suggested seven years he added "that sounds very good but when I remember that the vote of the District of Columbia doesn't cut any figure in National affairs my head isn't swelled with your approval."
This sounds to us more like an expression of fear that he can't get another term than an inclination to forego the honor. It is more in the nature of a complaint that the people are not willing to re-elect him than a statement that he is unwilling to serve another term in the event of his election. TAFT appears to be what might be termed "a bad loser." During all his previous public life he escaped public criticism. As Circuit court Judge, Governor of the Philippines and Secretary of War he was permitted to pursue the even tenor of his way without serious opposition. Some of his acts would hardly bear close scrutiny but, happily for him, ROOSEVELT was willing to take the burden of the blame, if it came attached, as he wanted all the credit, where approval followed. But since he has become President Mr. TAFT has no "goat" and the criticism irritates him.
But official Washington needn't worry about a declination of the second term by TAFT if there is even the shadow of a hope of his securing that favor. He may not be having "a corking good time," as his predecessor expressed it, but he is enjoying himself very well in the exercise of the power which his office bestows upon him. He may not have been in an entirely confident frame of mind on Saturday evening last when he gave expression to the language above quoted. He had just learned of a conference between THEODORE ROOSEVELT and GIFFORD PINCHOT, held in an Austrian forest a few days previously, but had no intimation of the subjects discussed and was a trifle uncertain as to the future. He knew that PINCHOT hadn't wasted many words in praise of his administration and the doubt caused despondency. But he will recover.
Under Suspicion Too Much.
There is an old adage that "where there is much smoke there must be some fire," and time and experience have vindicated its accuracy. A man may be under suspicion without reason or a citizen may be accused unjustly once or twice without being in the least culpable. But it is a fair proposition that one whose name is associated in one way or another with about every public scandal which is exposed, has something the matter with him. Suspicions are not pulled down out of the clouds or bred in the atmosphere. Men who are fundamentally honest are correspondingly secure in their reputations. There is no scandal factory capable of calumniating integrity.
During the last half dozen years there has not been a scandal concerning the public life of the country at large that the name of CHARLES P. TAFT has not been connected with. Mr. TAFT became a conspicuous figure in public affairs about the time his brother, President WILLIAM H. TAFT became Secretary of War in the ROOSEVELT cabinet. Simultaneously with that event CHARLES P. TAFT blossomed out as a very rich man, but nobody has ever explained the source of his wealth. He was a rather obscure lawyer in Cincinnati and became the owner of an unimportant and uninfluential afternoon newspaper. Singularly enough about the same time the French Panama canal was purchased by an American syndicate and was subsequently sold to the government of the United States.
Mr. TAFT's name was associated with that of WILLIAM H. CROMWELL in that transaction and he is said to have realized a profit of \$10,000,000 out of the transaction. Of course he denied this "soft impeachment," though he has never been able to free himself from the suspicion that attached to him. Since he has been accused of being associated with CHARLES M. SCHWAB in some sinister operations and with others in equally shady transactions with the same result. Suspicion clings to him so tenaciously that the public invariably believes him "guilty but not proven." The latest aspersion cast upon him is that he was closely related to the Sugar trust frauds and try as he will he hasn't exculpated himself.

"What Fools We Mortals Be."

The absurdities of men "surpass understanding." For example the public prints, the other day, contained a press dispatch to the effect that "members of the Peace Society of New York had a hard time," that day, "deciding between President TAFT and former President ROOSEVELT, but finally passed a resolution acclaiming President TAFT as the greatest leader in the movement toward world's peace, and another making ROOSEVELT head of a committee, including ANDREW CARNEGIE and ELIHU ROOT, to arrange for a World's Court of Honor, to arbitrate every kind of a dispute between nations." Obviously the sycophants were in control. The dispenser of patronage is more potent than "the power behind the throne."
Former President ROOSEVELT is literally the embodiment of the spirit of war and President TAFT, consciously or unconsciously, willingly or unwillingly, is the echo of his predecessor in office in that respect. They equally yearn for the "pomp and circumstance of war." They alike favor burdening the people with excessive taxation in order that the implements and agencies of war may be provided in abundance. Of course they both protest that they want battleships and big guns as a guarantee against war. Emperor WILLIAM, of Germany, in his adolescent period set up the same pretense until he was ridiculed out of the notion. Burglars don't arm themselves in order to preserve the peace and colored ruffians hardly take razors to cake walks with the view of promoting tranquility.
Mr. CARNEGIE presided at the meeting which resulted in favor of TAFT against ROOSEVELT as the "greatest leader in the movement toward world's peace." Mr. CARNEGIE probably had in mind the fact that it is TAFT rather than ROOSEVELT who now exercises the greatest power in ordering armor plate for battleships and other military defences and being interested very much in the manufacture of that expensive commodity, he freely gave the weight of his opinion in favor of TAFT. "He read a portion of a recent speech made by President TAFT," according to the dispatch already quoted, "and said that it was the most momentous declaration for world's peace ever made." Really "what fools we mortals be."
The Attorney General Ridiculed.
The decision of the Supreme court in the matter of the writ of quo warranto directing that State Treasurer SHEATZ show cause why he should not turn over the affairs of his office to CHARLES F. WRIGHT, who was appointed by Governor STUART because of the death of J. A. STROBER who was elected to succeed Mr. SHEATZ, handed down on Monday, has not illuminated the subject but it has shown that the Attorney General of the State is deficient in the legal acumen expected in a man holding that particular job. The granting of the writ would be equivalent to an order of ouster and an order of ouster cannot be issued against a public official until the expiration of his term of office.
Mr. SHEATZ was elected to the office of State Treasurer in November, 1907, inducted into the office on the first Monday in May, 1908, and commissioned until the first Monday in May, 1910, or "until his successor is duly elected and qualified." His successor was elected in November, 1909, but has since died and will not be able to qualify. It is contended by a considerable number of leading lawyers, therefore, that there is no vacancy in the office which the Governor has a right to fill, and that consequently Mr. SHEATZ shall continue in office until another has been elected and qualifies. But the Republican machine doesn't want Mr. SHEATZ to continue in office and the Attorney General undertook, by quo warranto process, in advance of the time of the expiration of his term, to get an order of ouster.
The decision of the court is interesting mainly because it reveals the preposterous ignorance of the Attorney General on the subject. "The term of office of the present State Treasurer will not expire on his election until the first Monday in May, 1910," declares the court. "If the Governor's appointment of a successor is valid," the opinion continues, "his term will not begin until that date. In the meantime there can be no contest between the two, which the law will recognize, over the title to the office, for the one admittedly will lawfully hold it until May 2 next, and the other cannot claim it under his appointment before that date." The "lawyer's lawyer" ought to have known this.
-The announcement from Rhode Island that Senator ALDRICH will retire with the expiration of his term in 1911 is regarded as a bluff in well informed political quarters. If it is the voters of that State ought to have wit enough to call it.

Grant and Roosevelt.

From the Washington Star.
Gen. Grant was a silent man. He was sententious even in private conversation. One of his friends pronounced him the best listener of his generation. His interest in affairs and his desire for information were boundless. Set speeches in public were wholly out of his line. So this when he went on his tour of the world, neither his hosts abroad nor his friends at home expected him to turn talker. And he did not. And met only the formal requirements of hospitality in that particular.
Mr. Roosevelt is very fond of both conversation and public speaking. With friends he is something of a monologist. In public, while not an orator, he is often in voice. Pulpit or lecture platform, stump or the rear landing of a railroad coach, finds him ready and willing. He is versatile in the matter of topics. He is the only man who has brought much and a variety of information. It is not difficult to get a "rise" out of him. A simple request is sufficient. So that the addresses he has delivered, and those he has promised to deliver, are in the nature of things.
When Mr. Roosevelt left home there was already gossip in circulation about a political future for him. Some of his admirers were predicting his return to the White House in 1912. This was cabled abroad, and it explains in part the extraordinary interest that attaches to the man wherever he goes. Foreigners unfamiliar with our politics are greeting a visitor of whom they are expecting notable things in office again. They see in him, according to their information, both a former and a future President of the United States.
The silent man, whose political career was thought to be ended, was accompanied by one American newspaper chronicler on his trip—a man of fine talents as a journalist, whose work was much admired. John Russell Young's letters were the delight of millions of readers.
How It Helps the Workingman.
From the Omaha World-Herald.
The Pennsylvania railroad announces a general increase of 6 per cent. in the wages of the employees, and the Reading follows with a similar voluntary increase of wages. In the case of the Pennsylvania the increase will amount to \$7,000,000 a year, and it makes an aggregate increase within the last eight years of 28 per cent.
Such action on the part of railway managements is an indication of good business sense. But an increase of 28 per cent. in the past eight years still leaves the employees poorer than they were, because \$1.28 will not buy as much today as \$1.00 would buy eight years ago, when the purchasing power is measured in terms of the ordinary necessities for which the greater part of the workingman's outlay is paid.
It is probable that the time is coming when enlightened officials of the big employing companies will exert themselves more in the way of prevention of labor troubles and less in the way of cure. It is undeniably cheaper and more comfortable all around, particularly to that innocent bystander, the general public.
Theodore the Great, is Title Sought Says Harden.
A German Opinion of Mr. Roosevelt.
BERLIN, APRIL 9.—Colonel Roosevelt has shown Germany some small courtesies, especially in Asia, but he has done much for other countries who have fed his vanity much less. We have no reason whatever to give the rough rider an ovation as either a hero or a tried friend of the German empire.
So writes Maximilian Harden, who wrote the scandalous besmirching aristocratic "Knights of the Round Table."
Harden adds:
"Col. Roosevelt's whole European trip is one gigantic advertisement. He must always be in the newspapers as 'Theodore the Great.' He is an unscrupulous demagogue, and it is impossible at this distance to distinguish any great achievement by him.
"Has not cleaned the stables of the United States of America; he has not cut off a single head of the trust hydra; he merely made American capitalists nervous and precipitated an economic crisis.
"A Cold Day" in the Philippines.
From the Chicago Public.
If Congressman Martin of Colorado can induce congress to look into that Philippine land deal which Mr. Taft's attorney general finds warrant for, he will have done a good piece of work. But can he? He says that 55,000 acres of Friar lands acquired by the United States at approximately \$18 an acre in settlement of the Catholic question in the archipelago, have been sold to the Sugar Trust by President Taft's secretary of war for \$6 an acre, and that President Taft's attorney general, a former law partner of President Taft's (who was a lawyer for the Sugar Trust,) decides that this is no violation of the law against sales of more than 2,500 acres to one person or corporation, because that law was passed before the government bought these lands. If Congressman Martin has his facts right about this cozy politico-business affair, it will be "a cold day" in the Philippines when he gets a Republican congress to investigate. Muckraking has got to stop.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-Breaking a big plate-glass window in the F. W. Berkley jewelry store at Homestead, during burglars recently escaped with \$3,000 worth of valuables.
-Announcement has been made that the New Irvin house, a Lock Haven hostelry that is being renovated, will be formally re-opened to the public May 1st.
-Fulton county's first electric light plant is at the mill of Harry Duffy in Ayr township and the dynamo is operated by water power. Herbert Duffy erected the plant.
-Houtdale's shirt factory has been in operation for a short time, having started with twenty or twenty-five girls employed. It will not be long until a large force of people will be at work.
-Huntingdon is experiencing a big boom. If the number of autos being shipped there can be taken as a harbinger. Six carloads of machines were imported in one week recently by C. A. Vuille.
-Work was resumed in the axe factory of the Mann Edge Tool company, at Lewistown, recently. As many men now work there as before the recent fire, the damages of which were repaired.
-The biggest and most important steel foundry plant in the United States will be erected at Trafford City by the Westinghouse people. The plans are being worked out and when they are completed contracts will be let and construction will start.
-E. Brown, a Johnstown carpenter, fell twenty-two feet from the roof of a house on which he was working recently and escaped with some bad bruises and sprains. He was unconscious for over an hour and it was thought that he had been injured seriously.
-Anthony Westrick, a farmer of near Hastings, has on hand 4,000 bushels of potatoes of last year's crop, which altogether amounted to 8,000 bushels. The hard winter kept him from filling orders he received and his selling price now is considerably lower than he would have received then.
-Saupp & Depew, a prominent firm of construction engineers, have brought suit against the commissioners of Cambria county to recover \$2,948.22 with interest from the 10th day of December, 1909, the balance alleged to be due them for the construction of that portion of the new state road up Constable hollow.
-Through the efforts of Secretary G. H. Gunnison, of the Jersey Shore P. R. R. Y. M. C. A., that town now has an up-to-date Young Men's Christian association building. The New York Central railroad was one of the heaviest subscribers and the officials are taking a lively interest in the society's affairs.
-The Wilkesbarre Gas and Electric Company, the Parsons Electric Light company, the Anthracite Heat, Light and Power company and the Wilkesbarre Heat, Light and Motor company all have merged and will be operated by the Susquehanna Railway, Light and Power company. The latter concern operates in many places and has \$20,000,000 capital.
-Out of 12,565 school children examined by State medical inspectors in the rural districts of Dauphin, Cumberland and Lancaster counties, 2,439 have been found to have physical defects. Those showing defective vision number 1,269; defective hearing, 249; defective nasal breathing, 284; conditions showing probable existence of tuberculosis, fifty-five.
-While working under a draft of cars, in the Pennsylvania Railroad company's paint shop, at Fourth street, Altoona, last Thursday afternoon, Robert F. Guyer, of 72 Howard avenue, met a horrible death, when a shifting engine jolted the cars, throwing him beneath the wheels. When the car stopped, the truck was resting on the unfortunate man's head, and jacks had to be used before the body could be removed.
-Mrs. Elizabeth Dunn, the oldest woman in Clinton county, recently celebrated her 98th birthday anniversary. She lives on Grand Island, two miles east of Lock Haven. Mrs. Dunn, who has good health and the use of all her faculties, is one of the few remaining pioneer settlers of that vicinity and easily remembers some events of fifty long ago. It is believed that she will be able to round out a century, as she lives a simple, care-free life.
-An oil well that starts off with a flow of thirty barrels a day has been drilled by L. K. Edgett, 800 feet north of the Drake well, near Franklin, in Venango county, the first well ever drilled. Last fall Mr. Edgett and some Titusville oil men bought the property adjoining the Drake well, and started to drill it. They cleaned out and pumped a well that was drilled forty-five years ago and abandoned. It is now making a half barrel a day.
-The beautiful chateau located just outside of Crescon, and bordering on the site of the tuberculosis sanitarium, recently presented to the State Health department, by Andrew Carnegie, has been given over to the State by Mrs. B. F. Jones, wife of the late Pittsburg steel manufacturer, who was reported to have been a multimillionaire. The property contains many acres, as well as a fine country home, and all told is worth over \$18,000.
-Louis Bailey, a deserter from the Annapolis M. I. barracks, whose home is in Michigan, was arrested Tuesday afternoon at Warrior Ridge by Railroad Policeman F. P. Ernest, formerly a fireman of that city, while Bailey was riding on a freight train. He was placed in the lockup at Huntingdon and the authorities are awaiting the necessary papers to take the deserter back. Mr. Ernest will receive the usual reward of \$50 for the arrest of an army or navy deserter.
-At an enthusiastic meeting of the business men of Clearfield recently, it was settled that the steel plant at Hyde City would be opened. The necessary \$20,000 to be added to the capital stock before the company could start the works, it was found, has been raised all but \$3,500. The soliciting committee reported that it would be no trouble to raise this amount. Charles Hyde, of the Clearfield Steel company, says that the steel plant will start within the next two or three weeks.
-With the flesh cooked from his bones, his skeleton crushed and an arm torn off, D. E. Kuhns, chief engineer at the Marianna mines, was found recently in the engine house. A fragment of a bursting fly-wheel struck the man and broke two ten-inch steam pipes. In a moment after the crash was heard, it was impossible to go within ten feet of the building. The steam was turned off at the boilers in another building nearby and the engine was allowed to cool off, when the cooked body was found.
-Hunters and fishermen of Huntingdon, recently received ten Belgian hares, which now are in possession of J. E. Sponeybarger, at his Smithfield home. In a few days the animals will be placed in different parts of the county in pairs. They are much larger than the Huntingdon county rabbits; one of the males weighs fourteen pounds. Another shipment recently received by the club was 20,000 yellow perch, from the hatchery at Torredale. The fish were placed at once in the old mill dam on the Juniata river, west of Huntingdon.
-A stubborn fire, which broke out in the office of Dr. F. H. Bell, in the Knarr building, on north Brady street, Saturday morning at 4 o'clock, causes a loss of \$15,000 to the building and different occupants. The Moose Lodge, which had rooms in the building, suffered to the extent of about \$100 by smoke and water. When Dr. Bell was awakened he found his entire room a mass of flames, the bed upon which he was sleeping, also being afire. He seized a few clothes hanging on a chair and ran from the room, reaching the street in safety.

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