

INK SLINGS.

-China, at last, gives evidence of an honest effort to wake up. It has just ordered a consignment of 10,000 American alarm clocks.

-After the warning it had on Monday last, if Philadelphia won't either repent or reform, it ought at least get busy building cyclone cellars.

-It is getting to look now as if tariff reform is the band-wagon upon which the entire populace is scrambling to get a seat. May the music go on.

-From the length of his various epistles Mr. GUTHRIE must be trying to make up for the time he failed to lose going to the polls the last five or six years.

-The new Congress will convene on next Tuesday. Let us hope that it won't adjourn until it has done at least a part of the work that it was elected to do.

-That stone pile in the San Francisco prison proved "the hope of the white race" for twenty-four hours at least. The pity is that they couldn't keep JACK JOHNSON at it longer.

-The Hon. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, of Pittsburg, has accepted the chairmanship of the State Democracy. At least that is what he proclaims in his letter made public on Monday. "Let GEORGE do it."

-The Boston professor who is of the opinion that ten cents will buy a man enough food to run him a day didn't go so far as to say that at the same expenditure he could run many days in succession.

-Well, there is some consolation in the fact that we don't have to wade through the President's message next week if we don't want to. And yet there are folks who think they have no liberty left them.

-It is not to be wondered at that Senator LAFOLLETT so strenuously objects to any more wars. He has so many scraps of his own hand that it would be difficult to understand how he could find time to help attend to others.

-With halloons knocking horses down on the streets of Scranton and cattle being blown off their feet in Berks county, on Monday evening, the storm that shook us up a little at the same time had some of the cyclone class to it.

-If HOBSON and the other Jingoese don't soon stop harping about "the yellow peril" President TAFT and the Mikado of Japan will have to meet in mid-Pacific and do a little osculatory stunt to show just what good friends the Japs are with us.

-Southern hospitality may be on the wane, or possibly there may be a shortage in the possum crop down there. At least there is no evidence that President TAFT was either over-lunched or gorged on possum dinners during his recent visit to Georgia.

-The multitude of dirty jobs that are turning up each day at Harrisburg, make us wonder what in the name of sense the weary attendants about the Turkish bath-rooms of the capitol do in return for the wages they are paid. Surely some people must be neglecting their duty.

-From the papers of Wednesday we learn that Mr. McCORMICK, Mr. GUTHRIE and Mr. PALMER, met in Harrisburg on Tuesday to "consider important matters in which they are greatly interested." We presume it is to find out where they "are at," or how they can get certificates to positions to which they were never elected.

-The Bellefonte gentlemen who decided to cross the bridge before they came to it and held up the construction of the impractical bridge on High street, ran contrary to the old advice about crossing the bridge too soon, but they did the town and the county a good service; for now the structure will probably be made right.

-A correspondent who has been residing in Florida for some time writes us that "the climate is entirely too hot for Northern people to think of making it their home any length of time." In this conclusion our friend seems to be away off. We see plenty of Northern people every day who seem determined to earn a home in a good deal hotter climate than ever sizzled over the swamps, or baked the sand dunes of Florida.

-The horrible holocaust in New York last Saturday suggests the thought that a little of the fire proofing that was done to save the building might have been diverted to fire escapes to save the inmates. The spectacle of one hundred and fifty persons losing their lives in a fire that was confined to two floors and did little damage to the building itself is one that should haunt the buildings inspection department of New York for many years to come.

-Mr. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, who imagines he can assume the position of chairman of the Democratic State committee, in violation of party rules, says, "these rules can be disregarded with impunity by the very body which adopts them, if it sees proper to do so." Unfortunately for Mr. GUTHRIE, neither he nor his committee of seven are the "body which adopted" the party rules. He must be laboring under the delusion that he and his self constituted committee are the State convention.

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Mr. Guthrie Accepts a Shadow.

Mr. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, who was recently elected chairman of the Democratic State Central committee by the fraction of an extra-judicial body dominated by party recreants, has taken the matter seriously enough to accept the election. He couldn't accept the office, of course, for the reason that it is safely settled in the possession of another gentleman who has shown no inclination to abandon it. But Mr. GUTHRIE accepts the election in a long drawn out and labored letter addressed to Hon. WM. B. WILSON, chairman, and B. F. DAVIS, Esq., secretary. The gist of the letter is that "the power of selection and appointment always carries with it the power of removal." That is a mischievous half-truth.

Mr. GUTHRIE cites, in support of his proposition, a recent incident in the House of Representatives in Washington, and with characteristic carelessness, or perfidy, misquotes the facts. For example he says that "when it was proposed by resolution to remove the Speaker of the National House of Representatives, every one concerned admitted that the House, having the power to elect, had also the power to remove." As a matter of fact it was never proposed to remove the Speaker by resolution. It was proposed to curtail his power by the reformation of the Committee on Rules and when that was achieved by an arbitrary process, which has since been repudiated, the Speaker invited the drunken revellers to proceed to the preposterous limit of removing him from his office of Speaker. This appeal "from PETER drunk to PETER sober," brought the absurd actors in the comedy to their senses and ended the folly.

During the intensely bitter partisan session of the Pennsylvania Legislature of 1899 the majority of the House of Representatives revolted against the control of Speaker JOHN R. FARR and one night in a frenzy of passion usurped the authority of the Chair, arbitrarily removed the Speaker and installed WARD R. BLISS, of Delaware county, in his place. But the legal and judicial mind of the State was so outraged by the event that next day even the leaders of the mob, under the chastening influence of a "sober, second thought," ran away from the dangerous situation and invited the legally elected Speaker to resume his duties. It was an ebullition of passion of which everybody concerned in it was heartily ashamed and which humiliated the same citizens of the entire State. Probably Mr. GUTHRIE never heard of it, however. He may have been making arrangements for a "pink tea" somewhere and oblivious of such things.

In another paragraph of his curious letter Mr. GUTHRIE ventures the opinion that "rules may be disregarded with impunity by the very body which adopts them." Manifestly he has had little experience in such matters. A parliamentary body, such as the Congress of the United States or the Legislature of a State is not amenable like other bodies governed by rules for the reason that they can neither be mandamus nor enjoined by judicial process. But a corporation or a political committee or any other body which acts in a representative capacity must obey its rules with scrupulous fidelity or suffer whatever penalty the courts choose to impose. In this State especially the rules of a political organization are effective for the reason that under the statutes they are a part of the law of the Commonwealth. It is as much an offense for a party to violate its rules as for a railroad company to disregard its by-laws in issuing stock.

No doubt the Democratic State Central committee has a right to remove its chairman for cause, just as the President of the United States has a right to remove a revenue collector for cause. But in neither case can there be an arbitrary removal in the absence of accusation and hearing. If Mr. GUTHRIE or any of the other party recreants who deserted the admirable candidates of the Democratic party last fall have any complaint to make against Chairman DEWALT, he has a right to be heard before the committee and if he makes good his charges the committee has a right to remove the Chairman. But nothing of that kind has happened. No man has questioned the earnestness or fidelity of Mr. DEWALT or given any reason why he should be asspersed or humiliated. Mr. GUTHRIE has a reason, of course. He covets the job and the power he imagines goes with it.

-Having failed in securing a suitable room for his billiard and pool parlor Harry Otto will store his tables and furniture in the basement of the armory for the present, until he can secure a location either in Bellefonte or some other town. While there are a number of vacant rooms in Bellefonte there are none exactly suitable for his business.

Colonel Guffey's Plan of Rehabilitation.

Colonel J. M. GUFFEY, National committeeman for Pennsylvania, has suggested a plan for the rehabilitation of the Democratic party of the State which is in striking contrast with the destructive scheme of the McCORMICK packed jury. Colonel GUFFEY proposes a "joint meeting of representative members and their Executive Committees of both the Democratic and Keystone parties to fully discuss and consider the unfortunate circumstances and their cause that prevailed in last year's State campaign, and to try to get together in a spirit of harmony, in a sane and legal way, for the betterment of the party in the State." There is no spirit, no reprisals, no vindictiveness in the plan. It offers an opportunity for reconciliation and reconstruction.

We have already shown that neither National committeeman GUFFEY nor Chairman DEWALT was responsible for the miscarriage of the campaign of last fall. They were both earnest and zealous in support of the candidates. It is well and widely known that neither of them was responsible for the MUNSON candidacy or its inopportune collapse. Yet those unfortunate political incidents were subsequently made the excuse for deserting the party by the very men who now desire to put aspersion and humiliation upon those who remained faithful, and hope to attain party distinction through this form of injustice. In other words those who compose the McCORMICK committee having brought disaster upon the party by deserting its candidates are now endeavoring to profit by their treachery through the unjust punishment of those who were faithful.

No party can be enduringly built upon a foundation of injustice. The spirit of fairness which is not only inherent but assertive in the American mind revolts against such procedure. The McCORMICK committee flouted every proposition which held out the hope of harmony. Influenced by the vindictive spirit of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," it invoked the execution of its victims, without trial and even in the absence of definite accusation. Colonel GUFFEY's suggestion embodies the opposite of this spirit of barbarism. It proposes conference and conciliation, justice and harmony. There can be no doubt as to which of these plans will be endorsed by the fair-minded Democratic yeomanry of Pennsylvania. Such a doubt would imply an aspersion.

A Bill of Much Merit.

There is merit in the measure introduced in the Legislature by Senator SALUS, of Philadelphia, to prevent railroad companies from making exclusive contracts with express companies to carry freight. Such a law adopted in all the States would work the solution of several problems. It the first place it would compel all railroads to go into the express business and thus wipe out one of the most dangerous monopolies. Next it would remove the fatal opposition to parcels post and cheapen the carrying service to consumers in all parts of the country. Finally it would put an end to one of the evils that divert the profits of railroad service from the owners of the property.

A measure thus capable of doing good ought to meet with universal approval. And there can be no doubt of the result of such legislation. Express companies have been making money hand over fist while the railroad companies which perform the service have been compelled to increase rates on other freight service in order to make both ends meet. Cutting out the exclusive contract privilege would necessarily open up the service to every person who applied to the railroad for it and the Interstate Commerce regulations would compel a uniformity of rates for carriage to patrons whether individuals or companies. These advantages secured competition would do the rest.

But we are very much afraid that Mr. SALUS is not in earnest in the matter. The big railroad corporations have too firm a hold of the dominant political machine in Philadelphia to permit a Senator in the Legislature from that city to indulge in such spasms of reform. But the introduction of the bill opens up the way for other members of the Legislature to adopt the idea and the moment Mr. SALUS reveals the symptoms of "cold feet," the country members could come forward and insist on the consideration of the measure. Let us hope that something of this kind will happen. The enactment of that proposition into law would mark the beginning of the end of many evils.

-Lock Haven people are patting themselves on the back because they can now buy eggs for fifteen cents, the lowest price in two years. Bellefonte dealers have been paying but fourteen cents the past week and getting all they can handle, at that.

Reports of the Committee of Seven.

The minority members of the McCORMICK Committee of Seven, appointed under the authority of the Democratic State Central committee, to devise a plan for the rehabilitation of the Democratic organization, has submitted a report to Chairman DEWALT. It is an exceedingly interesting paper. It recites the proceedings of a session of the committee held at Harrisburg on March 14, in detail and with scrupulous accuracy, and recommends that both National Committeeman GUFFEY and State Chairman DEWALT "continue to exercise and perform the functions of their respective offices, until such time as a vacancy may legally occur by their voluntarily retiring or otherwise or until their terms are regularly ended."

The report is signed by Hon. WALTER E. RITTER, of Lycoming county, Hon. ROBERT E. JAMES, of Northampton county, and CHARLES P. DONNELLY, Esq., of Philadelphia. It states as basic principles which have governed the actions of the signatories, that the Democratic party is governed by rules; that the courts have uniformly declared that there can be no government within the party except in conformity with such rules; that the rules define the process of amendment, and the action of the Committee of Seven, at the meeting in Harrisburg on March 14, in amending the rules by other than the prescribed process, was invalid and only advisory in its character.

The majority report which had been submitted previously had undertaken to declare vacancies in the offices of chairman of the State committee and member of the National committee, in direct violation of the rules, and name gentlemen to occupy the places. The absurdity of the proposition was obvious but nevertheless the minority of the committee offered various terms of compromise and suggested several plans for conciliation. But the four gentlemen named by Mr. McCORMICK rejected all overtures and proceeded with its work of destruction. Under the circumstances the minority members have had no alternative than the course they adopted. The matter is now before the bar of public opinion, a court which invariably decides right.

The absurd story that WEBSTER GRIM had consented to accept a judicial appointment from Governor TENER didn't have a very long life. Mr. GRIM promptly denounced it as a falsehood and added that under no circumstances would he accept such an appointment. During the campaign of last fall WEBSTER GRIM alone of the candidates for Governor escaped the tongue of scandal. As Hon. JOHN G. HARMAN said in his speech notifying the candidate of his nomination, "his life is as clean as a hound's tooth," and though he was defeated no friend had cause to blush at his record. It may safely be predicted, moreover, that his future life will be as circumspect as his past record and scandals emanating from his enemies will have short shrift after he gets hold of them.

The borough authorities should insist on contractor R. B. Taylor going to work on the state highway through Bellefonte and completing the same as soon as possible. The road should have been completed last fall but was delayed for various reasons, and everybody in Bellefonte knows what north Allegheny and Bishop streets have been like this winter. While it may yet be a little early to begin work on the completion of the road, it is not too early to contract for the asphaltum and other material and this should be done now, so that when the weather permits the road can be speedily completed.

This time next week the Democratic majority in Congress will be completing arrangements to relieve the country of some of the burdens which a long continued control of the predatory interests had imposed upon the people. It is gratifying, moreover, to feel confident that the work will be well done and that the improvement will be enduring. If the Representatives of the Democratic party in Congress perform their duties as they should it will be a long half century before the Republicans get "a look-in" again.

The admission of Arizona as a State was delayed by Senator BAILEY's objection to the Democratic principle of Home Rule but only for a brief period. The Senate will reverse itself in time to permit the issue of the proclamation on July 4th and it wouldn't have been issued before that date in any event. BAILEY had his trouble for his pains and made a monkey of himself without hope of recompense.

The danger of an invasion of Mexico seems to have passed with little damage done though it was a perilously close call. But suppose ROOSEVELT had been President at the time?

Concealing the Facts.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. We are now advised that the insurrection in Mexico is of such import as to be successful if the United States will keep its hands off it; which its administration seems to be unwilling to do. Whether it is right in this attitude its citizens are not fairly able to judge, because of the reticence maintained in acquainting them with the facts; which there can be no doubt are suppressed by the government so far as it is able to conceal them.

It has moved a large force to the border, under the fair plea that it seeks to preserve the neutrality of this country; but it is apparent that it also seeks to protect the present, or the late, government of Diaz. We are in doubt as to whether or to what extent this is today the real government of Mexico. We are even in doubt as to whether Diaz is living; but there seems to be no doubt that he is no longer in possession of the faculties enabling him to govern, and that his government is being carried on in his name by others. We are told that its principal officials have been changed; which has apparently been done to secure greater efficiency, and it seems to be in the line of "saving the pieces."

If our government was franker it would be better; there seems to be no sense in the concealment of the situation; which cannot last much longer, since it is quite sure that Congress will take a hand in the matter. It has become too much the administration's habit in this nation for action to be taken by it in affairs of the international import without seeking the advice of Congress. The proper thing for the administration to do is to seek the counsel of Congress whenever possible to attain it, rather than to avoid it, whenever possible, according to its habit. The President may have been acting wisely in this Mexican matter, but it would be more satisfactory if it was the action of the Congress.

Still in the Dark.

From the Philadelphia North American. We are still in the dark about the Taft maneuvers. And being unable to inform and guide our readers' thoughts in complete assurance of the correctness of our deductions, we can as yet commend for their consideration only these few facts that are not without interest: The Morgan-Guggenheim copper merger is in absolute control of the copper output in Mexico.

M. Guggenheim Sons own all the large smelters in Mexico, as well as vast mining properties. They occupy the same powerful position in the mining industry generally in Mexico as they occupy in the United States.

The Standard Oil company, under the name of the Waters-Pierce, with many subsidiary corporations, controls a vast majority portion of the crude oil flow of Mexico. It controls 90 per cent of the wholesale and retail trade in oil.

The American Sugar Trust has secured concessions for the production of sugar beet and beet sugar so favorable as to insure it a complete monopoly of Mexico sugar business within the next ten years.

The Continental Rubber company, in other words, the Rubber Trust, is in possession of millions of acres of the best rubber lands in Mexico.

The Southern Pacific Express company, the property of the Southern Pacific Railroad, through partnership with the government, holds an absolute monopoly of the express-carrying business of Mexico.

The Southern Pacific Railroad and allied Harriman heirs own outright and control three-fourths of the main line railway mileage of Mexico.

Foresseen But Not Prevented.

From the Harrisburg Patriot. Since the dreadful disaster in New York last Saturday, it has been made clear that the fact that many of the overcrowded factory buildings and lofts in New York, were veritable death traps, in case fire should break out in them, was well understood by the Chief of the Fire Department and by the officers of various labor unions.

But all the urging of the head of the Fire Department and all the complaints of bad sanitary and protective conditions made by committees of trade organizations, fell on deaf ears. It required the sacrifice of the nearly, if not quite, a hundred and fifty young lives to wake up the authorities to some show of interest and activity to safeguard the lives of tens of thousands of wage earners engaged all around them.

Is there any other country in the world where human life is held so cheap as in this, until some great calamity stirs us out of our selfish inattention to the conditions under which the great mass of the inhabitants of our cities live and work?

The Guthrie Statement.

From the Philadelphia Record. Ex-Mayor Guthrie, of Pittsburg, has issued a statement in which he seeks to prove that he is chairman of the Democratic State committee. The same place is claimed by ex-Senator Dewalt, of Allentown. Colonel Guffey, of Pittsburg, and Congressman Palmer, of Stroudsburg, each claim Pennsylvania's one membership in the Democratic National committee and there you are. This is Democratic reorganization of a peculiar sort. It is difficult to imagine anything more ridiculous than a division of this kind among Pennsylvania Democrats on top of the mess that confronted them heretofore. Something should be done to end the grotesque situation.

Why cannot Guffey and Guthrie, Dewalt and Palmer and Berry and Bonniwell get together somewhere and work out a plan that will unite the Democratic factions and get the party in shape to merit the co-operation of the independent Republicans of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in redeeming the city and State?

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-John S. Seeds, of Altoona, has made plans to erect twenty-five dwellings in that city and suburbs this summer, involving an expenditure of \$100,000.

-Dr. William Perry Eveland, president of Williamsport Dickinson Seminary, is talked of as president of Dickinson college, Carlisle, when Dr. Reed retires.

-A dispatch from Mauch Chunk says that natural gas has been found at Drifton Junction, but whether in paying quantities remains to be determined by future investigation.

-The Osceola Silica & Fire Brick Co., composed partly of Phillipsburg capitalists, has booked a large yearly order, which means that the plant will be kept busy for some time to come.

-Dr. S. H. Gilliland, of Marietta, former state veterinarian, intends to take up some work in connection with the medical department at the University of Pennsylvania, and he will move to Philadelphia.

-Two persons have been bitten near Osceola by dogs supposed to have been mad. One is under treatment, and the other is awaiting result of the examination of the dog's head. The dog quarantine is on.

-Stephen Martin, an employee of the Warwick Iron and Steel company at Pottsville, fell seventy-five feet from the top of a furnace stack and yet escaped with unbroken bones. He was unconscious when picked up, but recovered rapidly.

-Harry Black, the Lewistown mail clerk, who was arrested on the charge of stealing money from the mails, was given a hearing at Scranton this week. He was sentenced to serve four months in jail, and pay a fine of \$300 and costs.

The department of fisheries has begun the distribution of trout fry from the hatcheries of the State, the first fry having been planted in Chester and Delaware counties last week. It is estimated that the output of the State fisheries this year will be about 15,000,000 fry.

-Petre Cotra, aged 26 years, is at the Phillipsburg hospital, with a serious wound on his head. He was attacked by three men while walking on the street at Arcadia, his home town. One of them hit him with an ax and only the timely arrival of help saved his life.

-Under the will of the late Elliot P. Kiser, of Hazleton, former chairman of the Democratic State central committee, the Associated Charities of that town, the Young Men's Christian Association and the Presbyterian church are to be benefited to the extent of \$200,000.

The school directors of Columbia are going to have an embarrassing time filling the superintendency of the borough schools caused by the appointment of superintendent Fleisher to the county superintendency. There are fifty applicants, mostly all good men and true.

-In spite of the fact that hydrophobia is generally believed to be a hot weather disease, many cases have been reported during the winter and at the present time quarantines for mad dogs exist in the counties of Cambria, Jefferson, Somerset, Delaware, Columbia and Luzerne.

Orders have been received at Josephine to complete work on the new blast furnace. It has been progressing more or less slowly for two years and orders to rush it are welcome. New ore bins are already in order. It will be a means of employment to a large number of men.

-Mrs. Sarah Jackson, a Luzerne county lady of an inquiring turn of mind, recently advertised for a husband. She received 150 responses, but declares that none of the applicants suited her. She now expresses the very sensible determination to marry a man whom she knows, if she marries at all.

-S. L. Mull, state forester at Elmsport, reports the state reserve on the Bald Eagle mountain to be the most valuable of the same state reservations. The oak has already gained in growth so that there are millions of feet in the tract today. The damage done by forest fires last season was considerable, but not as great as anticipated.

-There was an exciting time at Lewistown Junction a few days ago when a prisoner, en route from Lackawanna to the reformatory at Huntingdon, escaped the sheriff. Lieutenant W. V. Casey saw him go and started after him. He shot in the air several times, but only the threat to kill brought the lad to time and enabled Mr. Casey to hand him over to his custodians.

-In the midst of luxurious surroundings, rare paintings and costly bound books, covered with dust and fallen plaster, with torn letters that bear dates back a score of years, scattered upon the floor, Miss Caroline E. Furber, 90 years old, was found on Sunday, her dress on fire and a broken lamp beside her. She was suffering from paralysis which caused her death soon after she had been removed to the German hospital, in Philadelphia.

The Middleton Car company has on its books contracts for 300 cars for South American countries, mostly for shipment to the Argentine Republic. The first order is for 500 cars of ten different designs, including box, hopper and flat car. A second order for 400 cars will also be built at the plant. Material for these cars is being received, and it is said that within a few weeks every department at the works will be in operation with a full complement of men.

The dairy business holds its old-time lead in Tioga county. Monday, March 20th, the Helvetia condensary in Wellboro received from its 12,000 fifty-two tons of milk, the largest single day's receipts in its history. Allowing twenty-five pounds to the cow, this would be milk from 4,800 cows. At this condensary eighty farmers receive cased checks of from one to three hundred dollars for their milk during the month of February, while the smallest check received by any farmer was \$50.50.

-Mrs. David Robinson, the aged Holidaysburg woman, who was charged with the murder of her infant grandchild, was found not guilty in Blair county court Wednesday. The character witnesses for the defense were many and prominent, and their testimony as to the character of the quiet home, and loving mother did much towards her acquittal. During her entire life she has had an unblemished reputation and was loved and cherished by all. The defense claimed her mind was temporarily unbalanced.

The Olds Rod and Gun club is a McKean county sporting club which has leased the Olds tract of 2,100 acres of forest located about five miles south of Smethport. Located six miles of Robbins brook flows through the land, and some of the best tributaries of that great trout stream are contained in the tract, making upward of eighteen miles of the finest trout fishing to be found anywhere. In a few weeks the various streams will be stocked with 2,000 six-inch trout. Besides the fishing opportunities the tract is an ideal breeding place for other game, and an abundance of birds and animals roam its confines. The latter comprise bear, deer, wildcat, fox, rabbit, squirrel, etc.

But eight rafters of timber will pass down the West Branch of the Susquehanna river this spring. Two are being constructed at Shawville, Clearfield county, by A. Haney. Both are round timber rafts, one containing pine and hemlock sticks, while the other is composed of oak timber. Six other rafts will be taken to Marietta on the first high water, by the Myers brothers of Lock Haven. These rafts were brought down the river from the headwaters last spring and were started from Lock Haven for Marietta, but were harbored near DuBoistown until it was determined whether the Muncy chute would be repaired. However, the railroad company dynamited a hole in the Muncy dam, through which rafts can pass with safety. Two of these rafts are of split oak timber and four are made of round timber.