

INK SLINGS.

-Go to it; you Democratic Congress. -It's the self made man who objects to having his work criticised. -Anyway it ought to be a good session. It's an "extra" one, you know. -Anyway it is patent that New York's new Senator O'GORMAN is not of French extraction. -When the cat's away the mice will play. Oyster Bay, ROOSEVELT'S home, has gone Democratic again. -Mr. CANNON now knows what it is to sit in the dress circle and watch other fellows monopolizing the lime light. -The new Democratic Congress has started with its one eye on the spigot. Let us hope that it focuses the other on the bung. -Even if Mayor MAGEE, of Pittsburg, is as bad as attorney WEIL, of that city, proclaims him to be, there are others in Pittsburg. -DIAZ should be poking up that national telegraph line of his. It hasn't squelched the insurrection row for about three days. -Well, we are glad to know that the re-organizers are going to have committee rooms at least. Even this will be much better than having nothing. -The 1910 rye crop of the United States weighed thirty-three million tons. Is it any wonder then that so many men had to carry an occasional "load." -So Mr. CARNegie is sorry that he never became a newspaper reporter. Too late! Oh! Laird of Skibo, have you discovered the lost opportunity to die poor? -The average farmer just won't permit himself to be happy until the familiar kick of the plow handles along his ribs tells him that his spring work is under way. -If they'd run a vacuum cleaner over some of those Pittsburg officials once in a while, the newspapers possibly wouldn't be kicking up such a dust about them all the time. -The opening of rival Democratic headquarters in Harrisburg will probably inaugurate a series of very delightful Five O'clock Teas. Mrs. Grouch will be the hostess at all of them. -No, Mr. Agriculturist, there is no chance for cheaper lime for some time. Entirely too much governmental white-washing has to be done to hope for a reduction of prices now. -The High street bridge over Spring creek is right up to the point where the council, the commissioners and the public are feeling more like saying damn Spring creek than bridge it. -"Economy at Washington." Well, it may sound funny and be something new down there, but all the same the microbe seems to have gotten a grip on things, and its the general hope that it can hold on. -The death of news concerning the QUIGLEY-HURLEY fight for the Republican county chairmanship gives rise to the suspicion that HENRY CUTE is going to put a gum shoe campaign over on the highly ambitious sheriff. -President GEORGE F. BAER, of the Reading, will probably be all the more convinced that some people have "a divine right" to certain things when he reads of the election of CARTER H. HARRISON to be Chicago's Mayor for the fifth time. -They talk about Arabian camels going two weeks without water, just as if that was something wonderful. Down in Lock Haven they have plenty of fellows who get along months at a time without either knowing what it is like or caring to try it. -A good roads movement on the part of about three men right between the office and the Bush house might scrape off four inches of mud without marring the beauty of the town or causing regret on the part of those who have to drive or walk through it. -Standing at the corner of Lamb and Water streets and looking into the back yards of three of the lately remodeled homes, on West Linn, a stranger might easily imagine that they mark the approach to a "white city" or some other of the modern amusement enterprises. -Returns from the election in Milwaukee indicate that that city has grown tired of the Socialistic propaganda already. Her experience with a Socialist Mayor possibly convinced her people that the idealistic Socialist is too Utopian and the practical Socialist too Anarchical. -Philadelphia papers are happy because a Philadelphia Congressman has been placed on the Rivers and Harbors committee. It must strike them as being a little queer that it remained for a Democratic Congress to give that city what a Republican body has refused to do for the past eighteen years. -It will be works, not words, the country has a right to expect of the new Congress and if they are not forth-coming we are American enough to insist that our party be kicked out as suddenly as it was catapulted in. But, remember to hold it responsible only so far as its responsibility goes. Congress may do everything reasonable the public demands yet its work can bear no fruit if the Republican Senate and President stand in the way.

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The Public Service Bill.

The so-called Public Service Companies' bill was read in place, in the House of Representatives in Harrisburg, by Mr. ALTER, of Pittsburg, on Monday evening. It is labeled "an Administration Measure." In other words it was submitted to the Governor and obtained his approval before the Senators and Representatives in the Legislature were permitted to even glance at it. The Constitution of the State declares that "the legislative power of this Commonwealth shall be vested in a General Assembly which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." There is an unwritten law as old as the British constitution which provides that one branch of the government shall not encroach upon the prerogatives of another. Nevertheless the facts are as stated. The Governor has enacted this law and the Legislature is merely asked to ratify. It is a political anomaly. There is a good deal of merit in this measure. It may be characterized as simply an amplification of the Railroad Commission bill, enacted four years ago. That was what might be called a political job. Public sentiment demanded some sort of regulation of service corporations and the Railroad Commission fooled them, for a time, into the belief that they were getting what they wanted. But as a matter of fact it was only an asylum for decayed politicians. It provided good places for a few faithful party servants at generous salaries and accomplished nothing else. The pending bill, on the contrary, if properly interpreted and vigorously enforced, would work important reforms. It would compel all the public service corporations to serve the people in a reasonable way. It would put an end to the grating of utilities companies at the expense of the public. But too high a price may be set on even the most desirable things and the power conveyed in the proposed legislation, if improperly used, might work such harm as to make it a curse rather than a blessing. The tendency is to govern too much and this measure goes about to the limit in that respect. It is true that the telephone companies and some other public service corporations are becoming oppressors rather than servants of the people. They regulate rates on the vicious principle of seizing "all the traffic will bear," and laugh at protests against the iniquity. These are not only great evils but intolerable offenses against the principles of right and justice. But the subversion of the principles upon which the government is founded by infringing the inalienable rights of the people to regulate their own affairs in their own way, which this bill does, might work greater harm.

New York's New Senator.

A month or more ago the WATCHMAN predicted that before the opening of the special session of Congress the Democratic Legislature of New York would elect a Democratic United States Senator to succeed DEPEW who would be a credit to the party and of enduring service to the country. We predicted this expectation upon a sublime confidence that in the end, and in ample time, the Democrats of the Empire State would come together on rational and reasonable terms, and fulfill their obligations. Such a course can be depended upon in every State except Pennsylvania. Here we have a contingent of ambitious malcontents who are determined to ruin if they cannot rule. On Friday evening last the Democrats of the New York Legislature elected Justice JAMES A. O'GORMAN, of the Supreme bench of that State, to fill the Senatorial vacancy. He is a man of splendid ability, high character and eminent fitness for the office. He declares that he is in favor of immediate tariff reduction, Canadian reciprocity, election of Senators by the people and an income tax. He declares with equal emphasis that he is opposed to ROOSEVELT'S absurd new Nationalism and other isms which make for centralization, militarism and the impairment of the sovereign powers of States. Such a man will add strength to the Senate and force to the Democratic minority in that body. Senator-elect O'GORMAN is a member of the Tammany Society and a "regular" in politics. In Pennsylvania that would earn for him the opposition of the political Pharisees who, affiliated in business with the interests, are striving to destroy the Democratic party. It was brought against him in New York, to be sure, but unavailingly. The independents there are influenced by other considerations than personal ambition and lust for power, and Justice O'GORMAN'S Tammany connections helped rather than injured him. We are glad that the vexed problem in that State has been so satisfactorily solved. It will help the party in all sections of the country and give additional security of success next year.

An Accuser and Accused.

In a public speech, delivered in a public place, and generously applauded by leading citizens of Pittsburg, a prominent member of the bar of that city recently accused the Mayor of embezzling public funds. In other words, Mr. WEIL, a conspicuous lawyer, openly declared that the Mayor of Pittsburg had taken of the funds of the city out of the municipal treasury and converted them to his own use. This, continued Mr. WEIL, not only makes the Mayor an embezzler but degrades the City Treasurer into a defaulter. The Mayor answers the accusation with a denial and the statement that he has been elected to office since a similar accusation was made by the same lawyer two years ago. This is hardly an adequate defence. Mr. WEIL'S charge is that money was taken out of the treasury and the Mayor's due bill put in its place. If that is not true the answer should be an exposition of the treasury books. In Pittsburg the Treasurer is appointed by the Mayor and presumably his power over his creature is sufficiently potent to achieve such a criminal use of funds. But the books ought to show. Mr. WEIL declares that the books do show and the Mayor is content with a denial and a claim that he has been vindicated. It is "a lame and impotent conclusion." If the charge is false the accuser is a traducer and libeler and should be brought to justice. The books of the office will afford ample testimony. Of course we know nothing about the matter except what has been published in the newspapers. But it seems to us that the Mayor is pursuing the wrong course. If Mr. WEIL made such a charge two years ago, and it was false, there has been plenty of time to bring him to punishment. The fact that the Mayor has been elected since and that schemes of his have been subsequently endorsed by the public is not evidence of innocence. A popular vote in Pittsburg is an exceedingly uncertain quantity. As a rule the worst men are the most popular and if Mayor MAGEE wants to vindicate himself he will prosecute WEIL and use the treasury records as evidence to convict him. -In commenting on the proposed inclusion of Philadelphia in the legislative investigation of Pittsburg the Public Ledger of the former city, remarks that "the Legislature is not in need of any information about this city." Whether it is or isn't the rest of the State certainly craves no delving into the filthy political cesspool of its largest city.

Good But Not the Limit.

The Democratic majority in Congress is beginning business wisely and well. It proposes to effect a saving of \$182,680 a year in the running expenses of the House of Representatives, by cutting out all sinecures and redundant offices. The salary list of the House is about \$744,000 so that the saving will amount to a considerable fraction more than one-third. A similar pruning of the civil list in the Senate and the several departments would work an aggregate saving of well on to \$1,000,000 a year and possibly might exceed that enormous total. It would be a great achievement, certainly, and go a long way toward fixing the Democratic party in the confidence of the public. But the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives in Washington must not delude itself with the idea that having effected such a saving in the expenses of legislation and administration, it has fulfilled its obligations to the people of the country. Senator ALDRICH alleged in a speech some time ago that he could conduct the government of the United States at a saving of \$300,000,000 a year. That would be a saving of nearly a million dollars a day. Compared with that offer the achievement of the Democrats of the House is a mere trifle. Senator ALDRICH, therefore, must have contemplated other economies than cutting down the civil list. The Democrats in Congress must find out what he had in mind. Of course economies to be commendable must be effected without impairing the efficiency of the service and ALDRICH obviously contemplated some reductions other than in the number of offices and salaries of employees. Probably he has in mind a curtailment of expenses in building battleships and constructing fortifications that are not needed and serve no good purposes. The Democratic majority in Congress should look into this matter. In 1880 the aggregate appropriations amounted to \$372,119,629, a trifle over \$1,000,000 a day. The last Congress appropriated \$1,025,489,661, nearly \$3,000,000 a day. Maybe the Democratic majority can reduce the per capita cost of government to the figures of thirty years ago.

First Test of Strength.

The first expression of popular opinion upon the methods of reorganizing the Democratic party, adopted by the McCormick committee, was had at Williamsport last Saturday. Hon. WALTER E. RITTER was a member of the committee of seven under an appointment by Chairman DEWALT. Mr. RITTER favored a policy of conciliation in the Committee and earnestly and eloquently suggested various propositions of compromise. But the irreconcilables would consent to nothing except destruction. Having deserted the ticket last fall they were determined to punish those who were faithful and insisted on aspersing the characters and humiliating the minds of Colonel J. M. GUFFEY and Chairman A. G. DEWALT. Mr. RITTER has been chairman of the Lycoming county Democratic committee for several months. The annual meeting of that committee to elect his successor was held on Saturday. The Keystone in the party conceived the idea of punishing RITTER by putting up a candidate against him for the chairmanship. In furtherance of this purpose the "leaders" in the destructive movement were appealed to and used their influence in behalf of Mr. RITTER'S opponent. But they were unable to accomplish anything. The vote resulted in the election of Mr. RITTER by about three to one. The Democrats of Lycoming county put the seal of disapproval upon the methods as well as the aims of the deserters. This may be safely taken as an expression of current opinion in the party throughout the State. By the narrow margin of one vote the committee of seven was authorized, not to asperse or humiliate Democrats, but to reconcile differences among leaders and unite the voters upon a sound basis. But the packed majority of that committee usurped power to accuse and punish without hearing and so disgusted healthy Democratic sentiment that if the majority and minority reports had been submitted to the Central committee the minority would have been almost unanimously approved. The majority refused to submit reports, however, and the public must depend upon such incidents as the election of Mr. RITTER to measure the temper of the people upon it. -CARTER HARRISON has been elected mayor of Chicago for the fifth time as the Democratic nominee and in this achievement has scored a famous victory. He has always given the people good government and as nearly just as possible, but he has never followed the devious paths of bogus reforms and made voting for him an offence by filling the offices with those who opposed him most bitterly. In this last campaign the political Pharisees of both parties assailed him with marvelous vituperative energy, but he has emerged from the contest with a good majority. Reading the future from the signs of this result, with the recent senatorial scandal as a sidelight, it looks as if Illinois might be set down as likely to be with Ohio and New York in the next vote for President and if that should happen Pennsylvania wouldn't matter much in the equation. -We are not at all surprised at the rumors of a reconciliation between the Republican factions of the United States Senate. The so-called insurgents in that body are active only when activity doesn't menace the sacred tariff. Senator CUMMINS, of Iowa, for example, is a rank tariff reformer when the stand-patters are securely entrenched and LAFOLETTE is for all kinds of reform when the majority on the other side is safe. But the moment that insuring becomes likely to prove effective, these gentlemen hasten to the coverts of the regulars and join in the defence of privilege and plunder. -If the Bellefonte postmaster were desirous of observing the Sabbath day and at the same time accommodating the public, before denying the people the delivery of mail on Sunday he would at least arrange to give patrons what comes on week days during the week it comes. As he has now ordered, mail that reaches this office at 8:15 on Saturday, will be held until some time on Monday before the public can get it, unless it is for some stranger who can get it by paying ten cents for thus being accommodated. Regular patrons of this office are denied even this poor privilege. -Mr. GERBERICH, of Lebanon, has introduced a bill in the Legislature prohibiting the sale of any adulterated alcoholic drink. If his measure should become a law all bottles will have to be labeled showing the age, name and maker of the contents. Of course this is a very commendable move to secure pure liquors, but the fellow who drinks most of the booze will be the least interested because its effect he's after and the sooner he gets it the less it costs.

True Harmony.

The Democratic administration in the new Congress starts off auspiciously, with general applause for the programme of legislation it proposes and of the economy in administration it promises. A united Democracy is rather a novelty in recent days, and the notable dissension which has prevailed in the past has been the great drawback to its earlier discovery of power; while the indications recently offered of the lack of the leaven of harmony in its procedure in some States has made more agreeable the demonstration of harmony so clearly exhibited in the assembly of the Democratic Representatives in the new Congress. It shows that the sensible representatives of the party have its harmony very much on their minds, and that the men who have eagerly undertaken to lead the party in some of the States are not of its true leaders, and will find it expedient to retire from their rash essays at leadership and learn that they are not of the stripe that is acceptable to the rank and file. Notably is the lesson read out to the Democracy of the two greatest States in the Union, who have been lately so vividly illustrating their poor departure in the true path of Democratic harmony blazed out by the Democratic Congress. The lesson is scathingly taught them that harmony is not to be born out of the exhibition of personal interests prompting the very wretched sort of harmony they would have. The method of cutting the throats of the other fellows may be a very successful one, under such inspiration as is displayed in such essays at it as are so often displayed in South American republics, but are sure to fall in the great American republic. The Pennsylvania Democracy need promptly to get away from the South American essay at harmony that their would-be leaders have lately been exploiting, and learn from the lesson just taught them in the Democratic Congress that personal aims must give way to such as are called for by the party good; and that every Democrat must be held to be a good Democrat, who stands fast by the party principles and supports unselfish and honest leaders who show their wisdom by their harmony. -New York Senatorship. From the Pittsburg Post. After one of the most prolonged and bitter contests in the history of the New York Democracy a United States Senator has been elected and harmony has been restored. Supreme Court Justice James A. O'Gorman, of New York city, is the man on whom the party finally united principles and supports unselfish and honest leaders who show their wisdom by their harmony. -Judge O'Connor, of Cambria county, has a unique legal knot to untie in the shape of a Hungarian divorce suit. The wife came first. The husband followed, but instead of landing in this country, went to South America. The wife wants a divorce and the court is of the opinion that there is legal warrant for granting it, but the technical law points are being looked up. -With a deed of ownership to a cemetery lot in his pocket, Charles S. Davis was found hanging to the bars covering his prison cell in Moyamensing Saturday morning, having committed suicide during the night. He had been sent to prison by the federal authorities on a charge of misusing the mails, the specific accusation being that he had written Black Hand letters to his aunt in Philadelphia. -A freight train more than six miles long would have been required to haul all the apples shipped from Adams county in 1910, had all the fruit been shipped at one time. Eight hundred and twenty-five carloads of apples were shipped from that county in the past year, as against 600 cars in 1907, the former banner year. Twenty thousand more barrels were shipped in 1910 than three years previous. The apple output in the county has increased 356 per cent, since 1903. -It is stated that the Central Pennsylvania Lumber company will begin at once to cut out 50,000,000 feet of standing hemlock timber on their tract between Penfield and Force, along the Pennsylvania railroad. A crew of men has already started in to lay the switch from the Pennsylvania tracks and it is expected that the loggers will shortly start in on the actual cutting. The logs will be hauled to the company's mills at Williamsport where they will be made up into lumber. -Alexandria is wrought up considerably over mad dog matters. A few days ago three dogs belonging to George Hutchinson, the butcher, showed signs of rabies. A horse belonging to Mr. Hutchinson was bitten by one of the dogs. The canines were at once penned up but before two of the neighbor dogs were bitten. All the dogs were killed that were known to have been bitten by the supposedly mad dogs and a couple of the heads were sent away for examination as to whether the animals were really mad. The horse is being carefully guarded. -Ira A. Milliron, a lawyer, at one time a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and the son of a clergyman at Franklin, Pa., who was arrested on Wednesday in Chicago by postoffice inspectors, was arraigned Friday at New York before United States Commissioner Shields on the charge of using the mails to defraud. He was held in \$2,000 bail for examination. The complaint charges that Milliron, alias Cole, by means of correspondence devised a scheme to defraud by offering to sell books to instructors in schools at two cents each. His victims are said to number nearly five hundred. -The first 17-year locusts which will appear this year have been seen. W. E. Mier, of Pennsylvania, Fayette county, reports the discovery of numbers of the insects. Frank Richter, employed by Mr. Mier cutting timber on the King tract in Springfield township, while excavating for a foot below the surface, Mr. Mier pocketed a half-dozen, took them home and placed them near a fire. They soon exhibited signs of life. After a few weeks of warmth and weather the insects will emerge from the earth and begin their attack on young trees and shrubbery. -Shortly after 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, a gruesome discovery was made by track walker S. W. Fisher, of the Pennsylvania railroad, when he pulled ashore in what is known as the "Upper Forge Dam," a short distance east of Tyrone, near FR tower, the badly decomposed body of a man. Mr. Fisher had for the past four or five days noticed an object floating about in a swirl near the head of the dam but thought it was a barrel. The body was that of a man about 20 years of age, weighing about 135 pounds, about five feet four inches in height, with dark hair. It was clad in workman's clothes of overalls, with lumberman's gumps.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-Owing to the destruction of many apple trees in Berks county by the San Jose scale, whose orchards have been cut down and the trunks sold for saw handles. -Pittsburg has just made a shipment of over 5,000,000 bushels of coal for southern points. The rise in the waters was the occasion of this resumption of activity on the rivers. -Jumping into Conestoga creek with the intention of committing suicide, Charles Gensmer, of Lancaster, found the water entirely too cold for a comfortable death and scrambled to shore. -Mrs. Bridget McCormack, an elderly resident of Big Run Mine, Schuylkill county, fell asleep in an armchair with a lighted pipe in her mouth. She was so terribly burned that her life is despaired of. -It is six miles overland from Ebensburg to Colver, a new mining town, but almost twenty-eight by rail. A new branch from Vintondale has been completed for freight and soon passenger trains will be running into the new town. -Sagamore, an Indiana county mining town, is to have twenty new houses built at once. Twenty-six have just been completed and others torn down at Onondaga, will be rebuilt at Sagamore. Additional mining machinery will also be installed in the near future. -Wayne county jail is practically tenantless. Only one star boarder, George Adamites, who was convicted of complicity in the Lake Lodore riot last summer and sentenced to a six months term of imprisonment, remaining there. His term will expire April 23rd. -Twenty-three civil suits for sums aggregating more than \$900 have been instituted at Paton by the Northern Cambria Telephone company. The defendants are prominent residents and patrons of the Nicktown-Ebensburg branch. A project to own their own lines is at the bottom of the trouble. -Rev. A. R. Day, of Alexandria, will on Easter complete a half century in the active ministry of the Presbyterian church. He is 76 years old and is in possession of his faculties to a remarkable degree, with prospect of still accomplishing great good in the cause to which he has given practically his whole life. -Until the abandonment of the Delaware and Hudson canal at the close of the boating season in 1898, Honesdale was the greatest coal storage station on the face of the globe, no less than 575,000 tons having been piled on the docks at one time. There is still on exhibition in Honesdale a solid block of coal weighing 13,000 pounds. -Jumping into the cab of an engine that had just been taken from the round house of the Pennsylvania railroad at Butler, Gilbert Meyman aged 21, opened the throttle and sped away. He rode twenty miles before lack of power stopped the engine. Then he left it and when picked up explained that he had just wanted to take a ride. -Fifteen thousand catalpa trees will be given to the school children of Erie on the first spring arbor day. They will be planted in that city. Such a work, if done with an appreciative sense of harmonies in proportion and location, will within a few years work a great benefit to Erie, which is already noted for its magnificent shade trees. -The Clearfield Public Spirit suggests, as a neat way to boom Clearfield, that May 1st be "Postcard day." Every resident of the town is asked to send out as many postcards as possible, each having a local view on it and a sentiment boosting the town. The postoffice clerks of that town will do some heavy lifting if the plan materializes. -Judge O'Connor, of Cambria county, has a unique legal knot to untie in the shape of a Hungarian divorce suit. The wife came first. The husband followed, but instead of landing in this country, went to South America. The wife wants a divorce and the court is of the opinion that there is legal warrant for granting it, but the technical law points are being looked up. -With a deed of ownership to a cemetery lot in his pocket, Charles S. Davis was found hanging to the bars covering his prison cell in Moyamensing Saturday morning, having committed suicide during the night. He had been sent to prison by the federal authorities on a charge of misusing the mails, the specific accusation being that he had written Black Hand letters to his aunt in Philadelphia. -A freight train more than six miles long would have been required to haul all the apples shipped from Adams county in 1910, had all the fruit been shipped at one time. Eight hundred and twenty-five carloads of apples were shipped from that county in the past year, as against 600 cars in 1907, the former banner year. Twenty thousand more barrels were shipped in 1910 than three years previous. 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