

INK SLINGS.

Have you got your bait. Your hook, your line. Your rod, your boots and bottle. You'll need the latter very much To keep wettin' at your throttle.

Hard times, business depression, uncertainty as to the future are over. The baseball season was formally opened on Wednesday.

May 25th having been set as the date on which the Legislature will adjourn there is something for the State to be thankful for.

The time is here when a few cents worth of lime scattered about the dank places on your premises may save many dollars in doctor's bills.

A dollar on that subscription account of yours, mailed in at once, would help buy a few onion sets and keep the editor from being outstripped by his neighbor's garden.

Blow your own horn, if you are a candidate. Don't defame your competitor. If you should be lucky enough to get the nomination you are after remember you might need the friendship of the man you vanquish, as well as the friendship of his friends.

The Legislature is going to pass up the constitutional requirement to make an appointment based on the new census. It will make little difference, however, to the minority parties for they could not hope for a fair representation and the machine has the State already gerrymandered as bad as it can possibly be.

Reciprocity with Canada, free agricultural implements, meats, flour, lumber, boots, shoes, woollens, wire and salt is the program for congressional action. Now if the program is followed to the letter and pulled off with all possible haste the country will certainly have no reason to regret the change it made last fall.

The death of TOM L. JOHNSON, for many years mayor and leader of public philanthropies in Cleveland, removes a man whose zealous pursuit of an ideal cost him his life and, as is so often the case, the fruits of his labors will not be fully appreciated until he is beyond the realm where a grateful people will make personal acknowledgement of them.

Mr. fish commissioner MEEHAN may imagine he is making himself solid with the fishermen of the State by hissing them onto Centre county streams for trout, but we fancy that few foreign sportsmen would be greatly elated with even a large catch of those worn out old buck trout that were dumped into Logan's branch and haven't yet gotten the Chicago packing house liver out of their systems.

CHAMP CLARK'S speech upon assuming the duties of the great office of Speaker of the House of Representatives in Washington is a model of simplicity, candor and civicism. Speaker CLARK clearly indicates his ideas of what the Democratic majority in Congress ought to do and it is a safe bet that his programme is carried out there will not be another change in the political complexion of the House within a generation. It is also a good bet that Mr. CLARK'S programme will be carried out to the letter.

If the Hon. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN would only permit himself to believe that he has not been elected either to the upper or lower house of Congress and that he has not been delegated by the Democracy to personally conduct its affairs at Washington there would be far greater hope of the party's getting safely through the delicate situation it is now in. The men who are sitting in this Congress know just what they were sent there to do and they are entitled to at least a chance to make good without the meddling of outsiders.

The State guaranty for banks is evidently a failure in Oklahoma, where the largest banks are deserting the plan at the rate of one a day. They all agree that in theory the plan is ideal but in practice it hasn't worked out because politicians have gotten away with the guaranty fund as fast as the banks have paid it in. If Oklahoma politicians are patterned after some we have in Pennsylvania the world will at least have to give them credit for having had the decency to allow the original fund paid in to last for twenty-nine months. Chances being equal we fear Pennsylvania would not have done so well.

The Democratic house cleaning in Congress revealed some rare cases of graft. For instance the thirteen year old daughter of the chief door keeper of the House was on the pay roll at \$1400 a year as clerk to the door keeper. Of course there was nothing for her to do, so she did nothing and her dad drew the extra salary. There hasn't been a telephone operator have been sitting at dead keys all these years and the government has been paying them \$1400 a year each. These are the kind of parasites that the new Democratic organization swept off of your Uncle SAMUEL'S coat-tails there by effecting a saving of \$182,680 a year. It was time there was a house cleaning and the public will be saving money if Congress takes all spring and does it right.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Theodore Roosevelt's Confession.

In a speech delivered in California, recently, THEODORE ROOSEVELT, formerly President of the United States, declared substantially that he seized the Panama canal zone from the Republic of Colombia. "If I had followed traditional, conservative methods," he added, "I would have submitted a dignified state paper of probably 200 pages to Congress, and the debate would have been going on yet; but I took the canal zone and let Congress debate, and while the debate goes on the canal goes also."

That is a confession of the usurpation of power and the violation of international law of which every honest citizen of the United States ought to be ashamed. It was asserting the doctrine of might against right. It is an acknowledgment of piracy in its worst form.

It has been asserted that WILLIAM NELSON CROWWELL, associated with the brother-in-law of THEODORE ROOSEVELT and a half-brother of President TAFT bought the Panama canal franchises from the French speculators who owned them for something like \$10,000,000 and sold them to the government of the United States for \$40,000,000, thus enriching themselves beyond the dreams of avarice.

The government experts and army engineers had recommended another route for the Isthmian canal and if the "traditional, conservative methods" had been followed in ratifying this robbery of the treasury, there might have been an exposure that would have defeated it. But the ROOSEVELT and TAFT families had too much at stake and revolutionary measures were adopted by seizing the zone.

Representative RAINEY, of Illinois, has undertaken to discover all the facts in this infamous transaction. He has introduced a resolution in Congress instructing the House Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the matter and to the end that the investigation may be thorough, he would authorize the committee "to send for books, papers and documents, summon witnesses and take testimony." Of course even if the worst is revealed, ROOSEVELT will be immune from the punishment his crime against both this country and Colombia, deserves. But it may have the wholesome effect of revealing to the people of the country the real character of this grafter and pirate. No other President has ever brought such shame upon the people and in the interest of morality he ought to be exposed.

The Right Course for Congress.

The Democratic majority in Congress can spread disappointment and disgust among the Democratic voters of the country in no more effective way than by permitting President TAFT to make the Congressional programme for the extra session.

President TAFT freely owns that he has no sympathy with Democratic policies. He openly claims to be the actual head of the Republican party and has inferentially threatened that he will veto any legislation enacted during the special session which is in fulfillment of the pledges of Democratic platforms, State or National.

Yet he has set himself the task of directing the proceedings of the Democratic newspapers in his absurd, not to say insolent purpose.

President TAFT desires that the McCALL bill to put into operation the Canadian reciprocity agreement be hurried through the House in precisely the form it passed that body during the last session. The reciprocity agreement has the TAFT trademark indelibly inscribed on it. Representative McCALL, of Massachusetts, is a regular and radical Republican so that if his bill should be the only legislative product of the extra session, the Democratic majority would be the laughing stock of the country upon its adjournment. President TAFT is assiduously working to that end, and the sycophantic so-called Democratic papers which are demanding that Congress obediently follow his suggestions are stupidly or otherwise promoting his plans.

The Canadian reciprocity agreement is a step in the right direction but not the full measure by a long shot. It would no doubt have the beneficial effect of reducing the cost of foodstuffs materially.

But the expenses of living would remain ruinously high even after this improvement if the cost of wearing apparel and woollens for all purposes were not greatly reduced. Moreover Democratic promises will be betrayed unless the tariff on farming implements, tools, glass, lumber and other materials essential to life and comfort is practically abolished.

The right policy for the majority to adopt, therefore, is the enactment of these reforms first and the reciprocity agreement afterward. It need not take long to achieve these results and it will be the right thing.

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Remedy for Industrial Calamities.

Mr. JOHN MITCHELL, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, discussed the lamentable coal mine disaster near Scranton, recently, in a speech delivered before the American Academy of Political and Social Science in Philadelphia, last Saturday evening. In the course of his remarks he said that "thousands of easily preventable accidents occur annually." That the accidents occur is a painful fact of which we are all cognizant. That they are easily preventable is not generally known, though the other fact asserted by Mr. MITCHELL, that in this country three times as many persons, in proportion to the number employed, are killed, as in any other country in the world, is substantial evidence of the accuracy of his statement.

Mr. MITCHELL suggests remedies for this unfortunate state of affairs. He declares that the factory and mining laws of all the States should be greatly extended, and enforced with the utmost vigor. He adds that "the force of factory and mine inspectors should be largely increased" and finally that "the inspectors should be removed from the sphere of political influence." Probably the factory and mining laws are inadequate and certainly the factory and mine inspectors should be removed from politics. But what chance is there for accomplishing these results in Pennsylvania, for example? The factory and mine inspectors here are chosen on account of their efficiency in politics rather than because of fitness to discharge the real duties of their offices.

In this State there is a perennial demand from the Chief Factory Inspector and the Chief Mine Inspector for additional deputies, but the accidents occur notwithstanding. The laws might be changed so as to make them more effective, but the Legislature is under the control of the employing corporations and the factory and mine inspectors spend more time apologizing for the delinquencies of the political machine than they give to the work for which they are paid by the State.

An increase in the number of factory or mine inspectors enlarges the army of political workers, but never lessens the number of industrial calamities. That is the principal difficulty in Pennsylvania, at least, and Mr. MITCHELL should address himself to the reform with that understanding.

The Lorimer Case.

The motion made by Senator LA FOLLETTE, of Wisconsin, the other day, that the LORIMER case be re-opened was inevitable. There is an adage, not old but firmly established, that nothing is settled finally until it is settled right. The evidence of corruption in the election of LORIMER was overwhelming. Senators and Representatives in the Illinois Legislature had confessed to participation in the orgy of bribery. Corroborative evidence was abundant and convincing. Yet for political reasons a number of Senators voted against the motion to declare his seat vacant and others for other and probably worse reasons joined in the whitewashing operation.

But the people of the country wouldn't stand for it. Public sentiment had been aroused from one end of the country to the other. The Illinois courts continued to investigate and the Illinois Legislature proceeded with the probing. The result was the discovery of new evidence. Of course the evidence of the \$100,000 slush fund might have been brought out long ago. No doubt the testimony of Mr. KOHLSAT and EDWARD H. HINES could have been had for the asking while the Congressional committee didn't want that kind of evidence. It was organized to vindicate LORIMER and its verdict would have been a vindication if LORIMER himself had confessed.

The Republican Congressional machine will interpose all sorts of technical and other objections to the re-opening of the case, of course. The Republican majority in the Senate is already reduced to a slender margin and they can't spare a man even though he is convicted in the public mind of having obtained his seat by bribery and fraud. PENROSE and GALLINGER are not particular about the character of their associates and so long as LORIMER votes with them they will defend him. And why not? RED SMOOT, a Mormon apostle and supporter of polygamy is not only a trusted associate but one held in the highest esteem.

That being the case what's the use in kicking about LORIMER.

Absurdity of the Recall.

Our Populist friends are making strenuous efforts to convert the public to belief in the heresies known as "the initiative, referendum and recall." At Harrisburg, the other night, Senator OWEN, of Oklahoma, and Senator BOURNE, of Oregon, addressed a meeting in the hall of the House of Representatives on the subject, and waxed eloquent in predicting the political utopia which would be certain to follow such a subversion of our government. For it certainly would be a subversion. The founders of the American Republic aimed to create a representative government. With that purpose in mind they enacted that all legislation shall be vested in a Congress, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives. They made no provision for other initiative than that exercised by Senators and Representatives in introducing measures of legislation, no recall except that which is implied in short tenures of office. But those things are not sufficient for Populists.

Of the three heresies with which these political agitators have become enamored, the most absurd is the "recall." That is a sort of contrivance with which a public official may be removed from office by popular vote whenever a small fraction of the voters in his State, city, district or county may become dissatisfied with him. Carried to its logical conclusion it would make it absolutely impossible for the minority party in any community to elect and retain a man in office. To illustrate this point suppose for one reason or another the minority party should elect its candidate for Congress in this district. It would be an accident, of course, ascribable to the personal popularity of the man or some unexpected eruption in the majority party. The moment he assumed office, however, the machinery for recall would be set in motion, and at the second election the majority, profiting by the experience of the past, would pull itself together and elect its man.

Another evidence of the injustice as well as the fallacy of this expedient is revealed in the proceedings of the Pennsylvania Legislature every week. In other words the motion to reconsider a vote by which a measure has been defeated in Senate or House is simply another application of the principle expressed in the recall. The friends of a pending measure, confident of a majority in its favor, call it up. The vote reveals their mistake for it is a few votes short of the constitutional majority necessary and it falls. But the incident doesn't worry its friends much. They simply set the machinery for the recall in motion by moving a reconsideration of the vote last had on it. On the second vote, their weak points having been exposed on the first, they are victorious. It is "as easy as rolling off a log," and as certain in its results. The minority would have no more chance of long existence than a snow ball in that hot place the preachers tell children about.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record is constrained to remark that "the foolish performance of two or three Democrats who are seeking personal advancement through the efforts to reorganize the Democrats of Pennsylvania has gone far enough." The silly twaddle which emanated from the upper bowels of Mr. JAMES I. BLAKESLIE, the other day, forced this rather uncomplimentary comment from our esteemed contemporary and it isn't half what may be expected in the future. Mr. BLAKESLIE has been for some years one of the most inefficient county chairmen in the State and his absurd ambition to become a party leader has frequently been a source of annoyance to Democrats in his section. He has invariably neglected to impart information to the State Committee, of which he is a member, even when addressed and stamped envelopes have been furnished him for replies. Most of the inefficiency of the Democratic State organization is ascribable to such recreancy on part of county chairmen, but only a few of these delinquents are striving to make personal political capital out of their treachery.

Wearing Joseph's Coat.

It will require considerable of an effort to picture "Uncle Joe" Cannon as a Republican anomaly. The spectacle of this unwavering, immutable, unmovable and hide-bound disciple of Republican regularity breaking away from precedent is almost unbelievable. If true, it means simply that the political millennium may not be very far removed and it is in order to prepare for surprises even greater than that afforded by the spectacle of a Republican President advocating the enactment of a Democratic principle that is older than the Republican party. But report says that the "gentleman from Illinois" is about to align himself on the side of the "gentleman from Wisconsin" as well as the gentlemen from numerous other States and oppose the Canadian reciprocity treaty.

Mr. Cannon is going to take issue with the administration; he is to desert the ranks of the regulars; to reverse his own attitude as speaker of the House. But would Mr. Cannon be consistent, now that he is a plain member on the floor, if he didn't do something irregular? Your "Uncle Joseph" is in far from a good humor and he proposes to assert his independence with never a solitary care as to the possible effect on the administration. What cares he for the administration, anyhow?

This is only one more straw fluttering in the atmosphere which serves to point in the direction in which the Republican wind is blowing. The G. O. P. is nearing the point of complete disorganization and when leaders like Joseph G. Cannon desert the standard the evidence of conditions is too apparent to be misunderstood. There is sure to be "a cat and dog" rumpus among the motley and mongrel aggregation long before the horn blows for the "getting together" in 1912.

Cummins and Reciprocity.

If Senator Cummins, of Iowa, isn't careful his sincerity as a tariff reformer will fall into general doubt. It may be there already. He has lately been urging against the Canadian reciprocity agreement the point that under the most favored nation clauses of our treaties we may be compelled to extend to other countries the reduced duties given to Canada. But as an exponent of the "Iowa idea" this should rather bring him to a support of the President's agreement than turn him against it. It would mean still more tariff reduction, and that is supposed to be what he wants. He is doing all he can to discredit himself as a tariff reformer.

Saving the People's Money.

That the doorkeeper of the House of Representatives has his thirteen-year-old daughter on the payroll as "clerk to the doorkeeper" at a salary of \$1,200 a year, with an extra month's pay, was one of many unique discoveries made by Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer, of the Ways and Means committee, while investigating useless positions on the House payroll. Palmer's retrenchment program was unanimously adopted by the Democratic membership, reflecting the greatest credit upon the young Pennsylvania member who has come to be recognized as one of the strongest leaders of the House. The position of "clerk to the doorkeeper" will be abolished.

Although the clerks' document room and all the offices therein was abolished by statute in 1895, the salaries (aggregating \$6,200) went right on. The Republican machine wanted the patronage—and why be discouraged by a little thing like a statute?

Six useless but expensive House committees have been abolished. Saving, \$12,000 a year. A saving of \$3,000 a year will be effected through dispensing with the services of two attendants to the old library space. These positions were created when the library was removed many years ago. Since then the two attendants have nothing to attend to but blank space. It was an easy job.

Two night watchmen charged to the folding room have been dropped. Seventy-four policemen are on duty at the capitol and unless the two stalwart Republican night watchmen watched the police, it is difficult to understand how they put in their time.

Here is another illustration of wastefulness in running the government: Before the telephone was invented a telegraph wire was constructed between the capitol and the War Department for quick communication. Since the telephone has come into existence it has been used exclusively. But the jobs of the two telegraphers remained. At last they are to be abolished. Saving, \$2,500 annually.

The Palmer committee believes the danger is now over and will have thirty-four private policemen and one lieutenant given a permanent leave of absence. Saving, \$39,000 annually.

Retrenchment in the House alone sums up as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Position, Amount. Includes: Saving under speaker (\$2,200.00), Saving under clerk (\$2,270.00), Saving under sergeant-at-arms (\$7,620.00), Saving under doorkeeper (\$1,200.00), Saving through abolishing extra month's pay (\$50,000.00), Saving through abolishing six useless committees (\$12,000.00), Total annual saving (\$182,680.00).

"Economy in public expense, that labor may be lightly burdened," has but just begun in Washington. One Department after another will be taken up by the Democrats and wherever they have the power they will abolish useless offices and substitute a business administration for wastefulness and extravagance.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

For diamonds said to have been set in transit, J. A. Lepsch, of Ridgway, has recovered \$3,307.10 from the Adams Express company.

Master plumbers of the state association will be royally entertained at Johnstown on April 18. Two hundred delegates will be in attendance.

The first flying machine built in Lewistown was tested last week. The model was successful and it may lead to the manufacture of something larger shortly.

The Lock Haven State Normal school opens its spring term with a record breaking attendance. Nearly 500 are already enrolled or expected in the near future.

The Century Stove Manufacturing company has, since the first of the year, been operating a chandelier factory at Moxham. The business is rapidly outgrowing its present quarters.

Governor Tener has fixed May 11, as the date for the hanging of Frank Lee, the Lewistown murderer, meanwhile the board of pardons will be implored to commute the sentence.

The Methodist Episcopal church recently destroyed by fire at Kyrletown, Clearfield county, will be replaced by a new brick-cased structure. The contract has been awarded and work will begin at once.

The Wimer-Steel company, proprietors of a big saw mill near Hawk Run, have purchased the Joseph Shaw timber tract, in Lawrence township, Clearfield county. They are likely to put in another mill to cut this tract.

Something of a sensation has been created in York by the report of a committee of the local chamber of commerce that much sickness is due to the lack of a sanitary sewerage system. The report discloses the existence of shocking conditions.

The ladies of the various societies of DuBois recently presented Mayor Schofield, of that place, with a monster petition having over 1,000 signatures, remonstrating against the immoral shows which have been given in the theatre of that place.

Blairsville had a \$7,000 fire on Saturday morning, when a large portion of the plant of the Blairsville Enamel Ware company was consumed by fire, caused by the explosion of a gas meter. A lack of water pressure handicapped the firemen. There is ample insurance.

After waiting thirty years for her to become a widow, George Slegamer, of Wilkes-Barre, has been married to Mrs. Marietta Tolson, of Hazleton. When the two were young in Germany they were engaged and would have married had it not been for parental opposition.

The Butler house lodge, recently convicted in the quarter sessions court of Butler county on charges of selling liquor without a license and selling liquor on Sunday, has petitioned Judge Galbraith to send sentence on the ground that the association has decided to disband and give up its \$900 club house.

The Sumbury Item takes this malicious fling at Pittsburg: "Those Mt. Carmel girls who stole money in order to go to Pittsburg showed very poor judgment. A good many residents of Pittsburg steal money to get away from there and some of them land in the penitentiary and do not complain that the change is so very unpleasant."

John Wright and Charles Switzer, two well known young men of Oil City, started early Tuesday morning for a motor canoe trip of 2,500 miles down the Allegheny, Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Their destination is New Orleans and the latter part of the trip will be made in easy stages. The young men have been at work for a number of weeks equipping a motor canoe, driven by a three-horse power engine, for the journey.

The recent epidemic at Icelin, said to have resembled typhoid fever, is now traced to the eating of pork affected by cholera. Foreigners there, knowing that the health authorities would kill their hogs, butchered them as they became ill and ate the meat, in many cases with but little cooking. A boarding house boss who did this lost his wife and a brother, while he himself and six boarders are still victims of the disease.

Burrfish paid the town of Ashville, Cambria county, a visit recently. At Cawley's general store they took jewelry and other articles to the value of \$120. At Weber's flour and feed store they took 100 cents and a revolver. At the Ashville house, five quarts and five half pints of whiskey disappeared. Three Pennsylvania railroad freight cars were opened. One was not molested and goods taken from the other two were destroyed.

When the Centre county courthouse was remodelled Phillipsburg asked for and received the clock. It was presented to council last September but has not been put in place yet because there hasn't been any place to put it. Mr. Schoonover, who is replacing his burned building, offered to provide a tower for the clock, whereupon some other people went on record as being opposed to placing it anywhere but on the public building. The matter is not yet settled.

Numerous and very unusual relationships figure in the family of Mrs. Nancy King, aged 87 years, who died recently at Gilmore's Mill, Connelville township, Fayette county. Deceased was the mother of ten daughters and two sons. Four of the daughters married Leichtsners, twin daughters married Tannehill brothers, and two other daughters married Bederners, and two children and many grandchildren of Mrs. King survive here.

John Stagle, 50 years old, a life long resident of Lewistown was found dead, lying along the towpath of the old Pennsylvania canal, west of that place, at noon Sunday. Stagle had been employed as a tire borer in the tire mills of the Standard Steel works for the past quarter of a century and it is said there never was a better workman. He leaves a wife, two daughters, both at home, and one brother, Major L. N. Stagle, now employed in the state department of health. The cause of his death has not been learned.

Sayre is fortunate in having as patrons the members of the Packer family. The Packer family gave Sayre its fine hospital. Mrs. Mary Packer Cummins gave the Wilbur house property to the hospital for endowment. She later gave a fine parish house to the Episcopal church, and now she has given \$500 for a juvenile library for the Coleman Memorial parish house library. Bellefonte has a number of residents who could very well emulate the Packer family but so far none of them have evinced such hearty whole interest in the Bellefonte hospital.

The Automobile club, of Lancaster, Pa., has hit upon a novel idea in arousing local interest toward a good roads campaign. The club has offered liberal prizes for the best essays to be written by school children. The club officers figure that in gathering their ideas for the essay the scholars will talk good roads to their elders, exciting the interest of the latter on the subject, also by addressing large audiences, they will become preachers of good roads and finally newspapers will publish reports containing the good roads addresses, completing a cycle of publicity.

Returning to duty after a three months' siege of typhoid fever, William Cephart, 30 years old, of Lewistown, was caught under a falling door at the Standard Steel works on Saturday morning and had both legs crushed. The right leg has since been amputated at the knee. Cephart, in company with John White, was passing through the entrance to the steel foundry when a traveling crane with hooks and chains swinging and clanking, approached. A loose hook caught the roll of the heavy steel door scraping the skin from White's back, but Cephart was less fortunate.