

INK SLINGS.

—Up to this time May, 1911, has been the hottest kind of stuff.

—Peace in Mexico seems now to hinge entirely on the piece of patronage to be handed out to the rebels.

—Certainly Governor TENER can't feel as big as he looks when he realizes what the Legislature did to his pet public utilities bill.

—The circus has gone and with it the pennies of the little folks, but who can estimate the varied delights of the child heart yesterday.

—Why legislate against prize fights in Pennsylvania when her Legislators must descend to the baser rough and tumble kind in order to legislate.

—Let the voters of Pennsylvania run riot at the elections a few more times and there will be enough good men in the Legislature to make rioting there unnecessary.

—The police were called out to quell a fight in the Grant street Reformed Presbyterian church in Pittsburg on Monday night. The pity seems to have been that only the church appears reformed and not its members.

—Now is the time when the summer girl dons those new silk stockings and approaches the muddy crossings in a manner that would indicate her belief that everyone within sight had just come up from Missouri.

—The Bellefonte Daily has it all over the cat with nine lives. It is with us again. This time with a real tangible editor, whose ability to write is evident and we hope matched by an ability to make the Daily go.

—Anent the general discussion, pro and con, on the initiative and recall how far do you imagine any great reformer the world has ever put in position to carry out his reforms would have gotten had it been operative in his time.

—Father PRTT is either in his dotage or gone back to a second childhood. At least that is the view Father PENN must take of him since the latter has decided to have Philadelphia furnish the proper (?) legislation for the government of Pittsburg.

—The Legislature has adjourned. Its principal works were increased officials, increased salaries and reduced charities. The crack of the Boss's whip is heard plainer in the Pennsylvania Legislature than the cry of the uncared for insane or the State's poor sick.

—About the first thing some of the residents along the banks of Logan's Branch will do when they get to Heaven—and we hope all of them will get there—will be to go hunting for NOAH to find out whether his flood was really any bigger than the one they had last Friday.

—The Philadelphia papers gave young Mr. REYBURN, son of the mayor of that city, credit for having very few qualifications for a Congressman, but at the election there on Tuesday he seems to have produced the votes. And, after all, that is about all many men need to secure any office.

—If Governor TENER were not what he is—the creature of the Machine—he would veto every Machine bill passed by the present Legislature then call the body into extra session and keep it at Harrisburg until it has made good every pledge made to the people by Gov. TENER and his party.

—Beat those Mexicans, if you can, for keeping things mixed up. No sooner is there prospect of peace through the resignation of those in power at present than the news is spread that the deposed federals are to turn insurgents and foment rebellion against the rebels who are to come into power. An office is surely the only difference between a loyal and a disloyal citizen in Mexico.

—It may be true that Congressman PATTON voted against Canadian Reciprocity because his Granger constituents petitioned him to do so, but he seems to have been running with the hare and hunting with the hounds when he straightway failed to vote yes on the Farmer's Free List bill. We fear our verdant Congressman is already trying the old circus act of riding two horses at one time.

—A plague of dandelions is reported to have damaged lawns in Orange, N. J., to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars. Knowing his fondness for this chichoriaceous plant when smothered in bacon grease and vinegar we just naturally wonder whether the loss would have been nearly so great had Centre county's district attorney, and a little coterie of friends who revel in the dish after he has "prepared" it, had happened to be residents of Orange.

—Architect JOE HUSTON, of the Harrisburg graft palace, having been given advantage of every technical loop-hole, at last finds the doors of the penitentiary opening to receive him. Broken in health, spirits and heart this young man of good raising, talent and brilliant future prospects pays the penalty that ever must be imposed upon those who are lured from the paths of rectitude by designing companions or the lust for things unearned. We have pity for him, and sympathy would be our expression too were he not a man of good enough intellect to have known better.

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The Highway Bill a Law.

The SPROUL Highway bill is now a law and if the constitutional amendment is ratified by the people an unexampled era of profligacy in road building may be expected in the future. The law in its present form provides for liberal expenditures in road building and money could hardly be put to better use. But with a fund of \$50,000,000 to draw from, as the constitutional amendment provides for, it may be expected that we will enter upon a system of highway construction which will make the operations of CAESAR and NAPOLEON look like opening up alleys. Besides that it will provide opportunities for graft in the way of bank deposits beyond the most avaricious dreams of the late Mr. QUAY.

Good roads are a great advantage to the communities in which they are located. Constructed and maintained by the State, if the work is performed honestly and economically, they will be a source of saving to the people. But these results could have been achieved without burdening posterity with vast debt, a large part of which will be without the essential consideration of value received. In other words, four or five millions might have been drawn from the ordinary revenues every year for purposes of road construction and maintenance without increasing taxes, creating debts or in any way impairing the public service. The revenues are ample for all road improvements that can be honestly made.

One of the faults of our legislators is an overwillingness to spend other people's money. Our appropriations are made without respect to reason or the constitution. Take for instance the \$995,000 given the University of Pennsylvania, an institution owned and controlled by its own stock holders and in the management of which the State has no voice whatever—an institution that charges higher tuition rates than any other college in the State, and which virtually excludes the poorer class of boys from its opportunities. And yet it received the largest appropriation given to any institution in the Commonwealth without a return of any kind to the public for the vast sum that is given it yearly. With very much less money better results might be achieved and if business principles were invoked in dealing with the fiscal affairs of the State our charities might be amply liberal and there would remain in the treasury sufficient funds to allow abundance for the schools and the roads. If the Highway department is conducted upon scientific principles and along business lines, it will be impossible to spend more than four or five millions a year in road building and present revenues will provide that much.

Impeachment of Judges.

Senator CATLIN's resolution creating a commission with power to impeach judges during intervals between sessions of the Legislature is hardly an improvement upon Representative SHERN's bill for the same purpose. In fact it may justly be said it is the greater evil of the two because it creates another commission. Its main purpose is, of course, to compel judges to obedience to the machine. The SHERN bill would have achieved this result in one way. The CATLIN resolution will as certainly accomplish it in another. Both propositions are infamously bad. Either is a disgrace to the Legislature and an aspersion upon the courts.

Under the SHERN bill a judge who had sufficient courage and integrity to decide against a "protected crook," would be promptly impeached and peremptorily dismissed from office. The CATLIN resolution would provide the same punishment for the same virtues. For some reason, however, the SHERN bill was made obnoxious and the machine managers despaired of its passage. Thereupon the CATLIN resolution was brought forward and passed the Senate by a big majority. This seems like "choking on a gnat and swallowing a camel." But you can't tell what it really means. It is a safe guess, however, that some of the sponsors of the bill have an ulterior purpose.

It is the bounden duty of the Legislature and the people to maintain the bench at the highest standard. To accomplish this result it is necessary that judges be entirely independent of politicians and all other agencies except their own consciences. Such a standard is impossible if by any legal or legislative process politicians can menace the judges. But the SHERN bill and the CATLIN resolution are alike intended to provide that menace, dismissal from office, upon some trumped up charge. The SHERN bill is killed. The CATLIN resolution ought to be as promptly strangled.

—Some people dread the quarantine regulations restricting their personal perturbations far more than the disease with which their children suffer.

Recreant Democrats in the Legislature.

Those Democrats in the Legislature who voted against the Registrar bill for the reason that it fixed upon the Democratic party rather than the Keystone as the minority party were recreant to their party obligations. In this State and in most of the counties, the Keystone candidates received more votes than those of the Democratic party last fall. But most of the votes for the Keystone candidates were cast by men who had previously been Republicans and will return to that affiliation the moment their temporary grievances are redressed. Under a law which would make the Keystone party the minority party, the Democrats would be without representation on the boards and in nine cases out of ten the Republicans would get the full board.

Some Representatives in the Legislature, including Mr. SHANNON, of Luzerne, and Mr. AILMAN, of Juniata, elected as Democrats, spoke in favor of such a betrayal of Democratic interests. If their purposes had been fulfilled the minority Registrars in Philadelphia would have been chosen by former postmaster THOMAS J. HICKS, who will be as earnest a supporter of the Republican candidate for President next year as Senator PENROSE or DAVE LANE. In Allegheny county the selections would have been by former Senator WILLIAM FLYNN, than whom there is no more bitter and uncompromising Republican in this broad land. What excuse have Representatives SHANNON and AILMAN for thus betraying the party that has honored them? There is none perceptible at this distance.

The Keystone party is merely an ebullition of disappointment and resentment. It hasn't the substance and vitality of the Populist party or its predecessor, the Greenback party, because both those parties had national existence and organization while this is a mushroom growth of merely local proportions. Next year ninety per cent. of the Republicans who were affiliated with it last year will be moored in their old party environment and the overwhelming defeat which is due to the PENROSE machine will be postponed for a considerable time if it is not entirely averted. The recreant Democrats in the Legislature who are betraying their party by voting against its interests, are contributing to this result. Their Democratic constituents should call them to account.

Disgraceful Scene in the House.

The disgraceful riot in the hall of the House of Representatives, in Harrisburg, the other day, is distinctly traceable to the methods of the Republican machine. The weather was distressingly hot, it is true, and most men are irritable under such conditions. But hot or cold, rain or shine, such an outrage would have been impossible if the bull-dozing methods of Speaker COX had been less frequently introduced. Many men will not tamely submit to the too frequent perversion of power and prostitution of authority. Intelligent men know their rights under the law and naturally resent the subversion of them. If weather conditions had been different the outbreak might have been delayed. But it was inevitable.

No Speaker of the House in recent years, at least, has been as arrogant as Mr. COX. From the beginning of his service in that capacity, with the opening of the session of 1909, he has ruled with an iron hand. Intolerant of opposition he has made a practice of forcing vicious legislation through the chamber. Speaker WALTON was bad enough in all conscience. Speaker CANNON, of the House of Representatives in Washington, was a czar in riding down opposition. But neither of these gentlemen is mild-mannered, compared with COX, of Pittsburg. He doesn't even take the trouble to gloss over his tyranny with politeness. He simply goes at the task like a butcher approaches the slaughter of a vicious bull. He uses the gavel as if it were a steam pile-driver.

It must be admitted that some of the so-called reformers in the Legislature are provoking. They act as if in their own opinion they are made of different materials from the average citizen and their hypocrisy is palpable enough to disturb the serenity of a saint. It is easy to be a trifle exacting with such persons and in fact difficult to avoid discriminating against them. But the Speaker of the House should be able to control his temper and at least make a pretense of fairness. This the present Speaker has not been able to do, or at least he has not done it and the disgraceful scene of last Friday was the logical consequence of his mental infirmity.

—It looks like it won't be long until the "Boy Orator of the Platte" will have to take his hat off to the scholar-politician of that artificial Carnegie lake.

Parties in Congress Contrasted.

The Republican majority of the Senate in Washington is doing its best to convince the people of the country that it is unfit for control. It has been dilly-dallying for more than two months and as yet has accomplished nothing. Unable to agree among themselves upon a candidate pro tem, there has been no reorganization of the body as required by custom. But that is of little consequence so long as the Vice President is willing to remain at his post of duty. The work can go on without a temporary President, though it is unusual.

On the other hand the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives has been extraordinarily expeditious and efficient. The selection of the Speaker was the work of only a few hours and the organization of the committees was equally prompt and harmonious. The work of the body has been deliberate but prompt. Within the two months and a half of the session more desirable legislation has been completed, in so far as one branch could achieve that result, than was enacted during the two years term of the previous Congress.

In fact the Democratic majority in the House challenges admiration. The Speaker and the leaders of the body have taken hold of the work as if they had never done anything else but direct legislation all their lives. They have vindicated the wisdom of the people in placing them in control of the legislation and blazed the way for a Democratic victory next year which will not only turn the executive department of the government over to the Democrats, but will give that party a majority in the Senate in the Sixty-third Congress.

Of course the tardiness in the Senate is easily accounted for. The longer the legislation, which the Democrats of the House have enacted, is delayed the greater will be the graft of the special interests. The reciprocity treaty would greatly reduce the cost of living, but it would correspondingly decrease the profits of the trusts. The farmer's free list bill would vastly curtail the cost of production, but in the same ratio it would tear chunks out of the graft of the implement trust. But these reforms will be effected in the end notwithstanding the opposition of the Republican machine.

The affirmation of the sentence of JOSEPH M. HUSTON, architect of the capitol, by the Supreme Court leaves no alternative to that gentleman. Ten years ago he was a young fellow of brilliant promise and great capacity for achievement in his profession. But he fell under the baneful influence of the Republican machine and following the example of his older associates undertook to get rich quick by grafting. Now he is a wreck and probably most of his ill-gotten gains have been squandered in a fruitless effort to escape the penalties of his crimes.

The capitol park extension bill is now up to the Governor, the Senate having concurred in the House amendments on the last legislative day of the session. The bill would have been better if it had been concurred in by the House as it is passed the Senate but even as it is it begins a necessary work that would have been made more expensive by delay. Many of us will be dead before the beneficence is finished to be sure, but there is comfort in the knowledge that it will be completed ultimately.

The last Legislative act of the State Senate was to create a new commission the purpose of which is to spend money. Thus "the ruling passion is strong in death." The Legislature has done little else than create new offices, increase already generous salaries and provide for commissions. But maybe after awhile the people of the State will wake up and then there will be a reckoning worth while to witness.

The Bellefonte Daily again made its appearance at the WATCHMAN office on Wednesday. It is published in the Howard Hustler office and the new editor and business manager is W. P. DARRAH, formerly editor and publisher of the Renovo News. The WATCHMAN wishes the new venture success.

The life of the State Revenue Commission has been prolonged by resolution for two years, anyway, and may continue indefinitely as it regards Senator MCNICOL, of Philadelphia, a splendid opportunity to study political economy and he needs information as badly as most of us need money.

The Pittsburg plan bill was enacted into law if the Governor approves it but before it got through it was hammered into an innocuous state which makes it little better than nothing. Still the people of Pittsburg don't deserve much.

Literature and Hogs.

From Wilmer Atkinson's "Appeal for Cheaper Postage." The rate for hauling hogs, and sample hogs, from Chicago to Philadelphia is \$5.50 per ton in large or small quantities, one hog deep, and the hogs have to be fed and watered on the way, the sick ones doctored and the dead ones thrown out. The hogs are weighed in bulk. The distance is a little over 800 miles.

The rate publishers pay for second-class matter—sample copies of newspapers and serial books—is \$20 per ton (average postal haul being a little over 800 miles), and the mail bags do not have to be fed or watered, none get sick or die on the way, and may be piled two or three deep.

It is proposed by the Loud bill to increase the rate of the latter class to \$30 per ton, over fourteen times as much as hogs, and sample hogs, pay, each individual piece and fraction of a piece to be stamped, and nothing at all is said in the bill about increasing the rate on hogs, or sample hogs, nor of requiring each hog, or fraction of a hog or sample hog, to be stamped, and there is no difference in the rate between hogs and sample hogs.

Why this partiality for hogs? Why this discrimination against Literature? Is it fair, is it right? Upon what glorious principle of honor and patriotism can it be justified? None whatever—it is all wrong. The next step will be to give hogs free passes to go and come anywhere and everywhere, while books and newspapers will not be allowed to travel at all. This is class legislation, pure and simple, and therefore inimicable to the Declaration of Independence, and antagonistic to the Constitution of the United States. It certainly is.

Seriously, gentlemen, let it not be said of us that we show the 20th century as a people who show favors to swine, whatever the breed, but that we love Literature better than Hogs.

No Newspaper Trust.

From the Philadelphia Record. Mr. Strange, of Wisconsin, is terribly agitated about the worst of all trusts, the newspaper trust, manifested in its most diabolical shape in the Associated Press. There is certainly no combination of newspapers. The Associated Press established itself as the result of fierce competition with the United Press, which had previously driven the old Associated Press, consisting of eight New York papers, to the wall, and the present Associated Press is not the only agency for the collection and distribution of news. It has, of course, no influence whatever upon newspaper management, because it is a co-operative association of newspapers, and its functions are limited to collecting news. The trouble with Mr. Strange is that he is a paper manufacturer, and the reciprocity agreement would reduce the duty on wood pulp and paper. In regard to this it happens that the public need pay no attention to the argument of interested newspaper owners, because it has sufficient information from disinterested Congressmen. The Mann committee, of which a majority were protectionists, and which was appointed by Mr. Cannon, spent several months investigating the paper and pulp duties, and reported that \$2 a ton was all the protection that American paper makers needed. Mr. Strange is trying to divert public attention from the Mann report by making an absurd charge of combination against the thousands of newspapers in the country.

The Shame of the Citizen.

From Leslie's Weekly. The humiliating bribery charges involving Ohio legislators is not a matter to be laughed at, but one rather for which to hang our heads in shame. The voters of Ohio must accept the responsibility. The point made by Senator Root in his masterly address on the direct election of United States Senators applies tellingly to this instance. Mr. Root argued that no body gets nearer the elector than a member of the State Assembly. Coming from a small district he is well-known to the majority of those who vote for him; and if the people could not be trusted to elect worthy Assemblymen, Mr. Root contended, it was hardly possible that they would be more successful in voting directly for a man to represent them in the United States Senate. These Senators and Representatives of the Ohio State Legislature who have been described as being ready almost to batter down a door in order to secure a bribe, were not unknown men to the local communities and districts which elected them to office. The Legislature may have brought with it temptations such as they had never experienced before, but it is up to the voters of Ohio as of every other State.

Horny-handed Willie.

From the Philadelphia Record. The feeble scion of the feeble occupant of the office of Mayor of Philadelphia has been telling the intelligent voters of the Second Congressional district that he favors the Payne-Aldrich tariff because it guarantees big wages, with constant employment, to workingmen. None of the workingmen in the district took the trouble of asking him and the orator who compares him to William Pitt how the tariff confers their high wages on the carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, plumbers, house painters, tailors, and other mechanics. These workingmen know the tariff only in its extortions upon their honest earnings. On the other hand, the lowest wages are in the industries protected by the tariff. This contrast alone demonstrates the impotency of the tariff to control wages, as well as the grossness of the attempts at deception concerning the influence of the tariff. If the tariff had any influence at all on wages save in diminishing the purchasing power of the earnings of working people, the rates would be uniform in the same occupations throughout the country; when it is a familiar fact that they widely differ.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Henry Love, of Punxsutawney, disappeared April 29. His badly decomposed body has been found in Mahoning creek, near his home town.

—Burglars entered a Sharon jewelry store the other night and robbed a window which was brilliantly illuminated, of goods to the value of \$1,000.

—From 150,000 to 200,000 pine seedlings are to be planted in Lycoming county by the state forestry commission to replace the vanished forests of that county.

—Two and a half to ten years in the penitentiary is the sentence imposed on Albert Albrigh by the Somerset county court for stealing chickens and ham.

—The Elk Tanning company sustained its second fire loss within a week when the hair building at the Clearfield tannery burned. The loss is several thousand dollars.

—Daniel Levan, of Catawissa, believes in "Father's Day." So do his children, for the old gentleman celebrated it the other day by dividing among his eight children \$10,000 in cash or property.

—A bridge across the Delaware river at Delaware Water Gap, is one of the possibilities. A company has been organized to build and operate a toll bridge, and a charter will be applied for May 28.

—On Memorial Day an interesting feature will be the unveiling of the soldiers' monument in South Park, Philadelphia, on which occasion W. I. Swopes, Esq., of Clearfield, will make the address.

—J. H. Hagerty, a well known baker, of DuBois, awakened his wife by moaning early Friday morning. Before she could call her son or summon a doctor, he was dead, presumably of heart failure.

—In some sections of Northampton county the falling hail during the recent storm killed chickens and fell so fast that it was scooped up by the shovel. Mrs. Harry Young, of Bangor, was rendered unconscious by a lightning stroke.

—Robert B. Ross, an agent for the Scheon Jackson company, and a resident of Chester county, has been arrested on the charge of forging the name of Charles T. Scheon, retired millionaire steel magnate, to checks approximating \$7,000.

—Fruit farming is certainly worth while in Adams county. Dr. J. D. Stover has refused an offer of \$70,000 for his farm in Adams county. He has 10,000 fruit trees on the farm and last season his orchard brought him \$5000. He will plant 300 more trees this season.

—C. C. Campbell and R. E. Redmond were convicted last week in the Clearfield county court of conspiracy to defraud Joseph Johnson, of DuBois, out of \$2,800. The project which did not materialize was the establishment of a sanatorium for curing alcoholism at DuBois.

—Ellis Diddings, of Henderson township, Huntingdon county, this spring planted 700 peach trees. He reports all starting nicely. He already has an orchard of 500 peach trees and 600 apple trees, and intends to keep on planting until he has one of the finest orchards in the county.

—Just to show the officials of Susquehanna county that the new wall at the county jail, which was supposed to be unscalable, was a very ordinary affair, Fred Talton, a prisoner, scaled it Saturday and leisurely took his walk to the woods. He is there yet, as far as the officials know.

—Nine persons were poisoned by eating ice cream in Cornwall township, Lebanon county, and three of them escaped death by a narrow margin. The latter are Uriah Hoke, manager of the R. P. Alden estate farm, where the cream was eaten; Mrs. Joseph Shand and Miss Emma Bachman.

—Reaching a depth of 10,289 feet, the diamond drill at the bore hole of the Locust Gap & Klumpfont Water company, Ashland, broke through a ledge of flinty rock which proved to be mysterious subterranean cavern or waterway. Soundings have proved the water to have a depth of more than eighty fathoms.

—George C. Frey, a York county farmer, who was driving some cattle along a country road, was so much annoyed by passing automobiles that he finally attacked one of the machines with a club, breaking the wind shield and doing other damage. Of course he was arrested and will probably be punished.

—Lancaster, the richest farming county in the United States, is not entirely denuded of timber, although a trapper through the county by rail would leave the impression that it was. There are in the county about 58,392 acres of timber and 511,150 acres of cleared land. Breakneck leads with 4,821 acres of timberland. The valuation of the real estate in the county is \$165,707,361, of which \$7,355,000 is exempt from taxation.

—James McLean, of Scranton, separated from his wife, who made her residence in Towanda, went to the woman's home a week ago and made efforts to effect a reconciliation. She refused and finally he entered her apartment during her absence, concealed himself in her bed room and shot and killed her as she entered the room. Then he ran to the Susquehanna river and drowned himself in about three feet of water.

—Michael Slater, of Blackwood, brought suit Tuesday against Herbert White, of Swatara, on the unusual charge of trying to blow him up with dynamite by trying to make him eat the high explosive. Slater accused White of holding him fast and then thrusting a stick of dynamite down his throat. He alleged that White forced him to bring his jaws together and sink his teeth into the dynamite. Had it exploded, both assailant and victim would have been killed. White was held in 4000 bail for court. Both men are miners at Blackwood colliery.

—Harry W. Koch, Robert Steel, Arthur Reed and Frank W. Baldwin, of Huntingdon, recently went to the Pennsylvania Furnace club house for an afternoon's outing. While there Mr. Koch caught a 17-inch trout and discovered that his catch was the same trout that had been looked but got away from his brother Ferdinand Koch, of Altoona, when the two men were fishing in the same stream a few days before. The proof consisted in the fact that the hook and lead which had been lost by Ferdinand Koch was still in the mouth of the fish when it was caught the second time.

—A destructive forest fire swept a large portion of the Nittany mountain near the new Florida farm, close to Loganton, Friday afternoon and caused considerable loss of young timber on the farm track. The state forest reserve in this section also suffered from the flames, as part of the fire belt was on land which had just been replanted with young pine trees, several hundred of which were burned. It would require a visit to the fire swept land to fully realize the actual damage done. It is impossible to reckon in dollars and cents the real loss. The actual damage is larger amount arises from the effects of retarded growth.

—A young son of Isaac Jones, of Gearhartville, aged about 11 years, was bitten on Saturday evening by a dog believed to have been mad. The dog was shot by Constable Beach, and the head taken to B. H. Day, Philadelphia, to enforce the dog quarantine, who this morning sent it to Philadelphia for examination. Frank Haines, the photographer, while standing on Front street in Philadelphia Saturday evening, was also bitten by a mad dog, which tried to bite another party or two and tore the dress of a little girl. Unfortunately the dog made its escape. Mr. Haines' wound was cauterized, and it is hoped no serious results will follow.