

INK SLINGS.

An entire week without a deluge or a tornado.

We passed the longest day of 1911 on Wednesday. The shortest will be here before we know it.

Up to the present writing the only tangible results of aviation, in a business sense, have been to stimulate trade in funeral accessories.

Cape May has evidently made up her mind to get seashore business this season. A school of whales is reported as having been seen off that resort last week.

Instead of having a "safe and sane" Fourth like we had last year we presume Bellefonte will be both quiet and tame. So much for the comfort of those who hope that every day'll be Sunday by and by.

The LORIMER investigation goes on and with each day it becomes more certain that the Senator from Illinois paid a very high price for a seat he probably won't be permitted to occupy much longer.

EVELYN ARTHUR LEE, founder of the "absolute life" cult, is on trial in Chicago for having enticed young girls from his home. When the courts are through with this new religionist the "absolute life" and brother LEE are both likely to be obsolete.

Young Mr. GATES has called Mr. CARNEGIE's strictures on his father's character, by remarking that "ANDY has been some gambler too." The latter can only prove an alibi by disproving the popular notion as to how he became so notoriously rich.

The work of exploring the hull of the Battleship Maine, in Havana harbor, has progressed so far that it has been discovered that the wreck is so complete that no expert can be positive as to whether the explosion was from the inside or the outside.

At last the Republican progressives and the Democrats of the Senate have gotten together. Let us hope they will stand there until the tariff is completely revised and the benefits of government extended as much to the common people as to the corporate interests.

According to the Metropolitan dailies business is on the rising tide again. And this, notwithstanding the fact that a Democratic Congress is in Washington doing its best to tear down that old tariff wall upon which our entire business structure is supposed to be founded.

Senator PENROSE has announced that he is for TAFT in 1912; our Republican friends therefore know where they are at earlier than usual in the game. As for us well, we have too many bosses just now to expect any tips until they get their own little differences straightened out.

Smith college turned out three hundred and fifty-two girl graduates last week and we'll bet that scarcely two of them know how to talk real, plain, everyday English. Affectation seems to get a girl quicker than candy or a beau. Happily for most of them it wears off after a while.

President and Mrs. TAFT celebrated the silver anniversary of their wedding on the White House lawn on Monday. The President never was a silver man but it is a sixteen to one shot that he was very well pleased with the thousands of dollars worth of silver presents he and his wife received.

At the royal banquet at the coronation of King GEORGE, of England, there were eight tons of gold plate, old ivory decanters hundreds of years old and wines that had passed the century mark in age. The feast like the coronation was of mediæval splendor and England, enlightened, intelligent England, hurrahs for it all.

Some years ago a solicitous legislator in a western State wanted to pass a law fixing the length of a shirt tail. He had it figured out that one inch added to the length of every shirt manufactured would make good times forever in the cotton mills. If his figures were right we do not view with alarm the increasing rage of the women for narrow skirts.

The rousing meeting in Harrisburg last week to launch a league of Democratic clubs in Pennsylvania was apparently full of ginger and enthusiasm, but don't you think CHAMP CLARK and those Pennsylvania Congressmen who had planned to turn the State over to him for President went back to Washington thinking that when the Democrats of Pennsylvania drink to the health of the next President it will be "WILSON, that's all."

At Hoboken, Wednesday night, Governor WILSON, of New Jersey, said: "The people of Pennsylvania know what they want, but they have not yet found the proper persons to do what they want. They are looking for them and when they have found them there is going to be an earthquake in Pennsylvania." Can it be possible that Governor WILSON failed to realize that Messrs. GUTHRIE, PALMER, MCCORMICK and BLAKESLEE got up all that big fuss in Harrisburg because they think they are just what the people of Pennsylvania want.

Democratic Watchman

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Dewalt and Guthrie.

In response to a suggestion of Hon. WALTER E. RITTER, of Williamsport, that Senator DEWALT, the legal chairman of the Democratic State Central committee, and Mr. GUTHRIE, a claimant for that office, both decline to preside at the annual meeting to be held in Harrisburg on July 19, Chairman DEWALT has signified his entire willingness to adopt that course. Mr. RITTER, who is a member of the committee and participated in the disappointing harmony proceedings in the spring, is of the opinion that under such circumstances the committee might proceed to the election of a chairman who would be satisfactory to all Democrats and both factions. Other leading Democrats coincide in this view and Senator DEWALT is willing to try the experiment.

But Mr. GUTHRIE clings tenaciously to his bogus title and appears to be willing to continue the dissensions that now divide, and if persisted in, must wreck the party, rather than forego the opportunity to pose as its titular head for a brief period; for it is practically certain that even the "rump" committee, from which he obtained his commission, will not re-elect him. This is the more surprising because Mr. GUTHRIE has not, hitherto, been active in political work. He was a candidate for the nomination for Governor in 1902 and after his failure to carry the convention was named for second place on the ticket. Subsequently he was nominated for Mayor of Pittsburg and elected without any help from himself and at great expense in money and labor to the local Democratic organization. But he has taken no part in any other campaign, local, State or national, since 1896, when he was one of the active supporters of the PALMER and BUCKNER ticket.

Mr. GUTHRIE discerns impending Democratic success in the coming Presidential election, however, and is anxious to be in the limelight, in that event. He has a great fondness for office and probably hopes that a Democratic President would be compelled to favor him if he occupied the vantage ground of the chairmanship of the State committee even though the State in which his committee operated contributed nothing toward the success of the candidate. But the Democracy of the State is not likely to indulge his absurd pretensions. If we are to have a Democratic President, as we most earnestly hope we may, those who have stood in the firing line and borne the brunt of the battle during the period of adversity should be considered.

We are not insisting that those who have managed the party contests in recent years and maintained the party organization shall be continued in control of party affairs. If their retirement and the substitution of others is desired by the rank and file of the party, we shall offer neither objection nor obstacle to the plans. But it is only just that in the selection of new leaders men who have been faithful in the past be given the preference. Mr. GUTHRIE has refused to support the Democratic candidate for President for the reason that he favored political heresies. But Mr. GUTHRIE now cordially embraces those same heresies in the hope that they will lead him into popular favor and lucrative or at least honorary office.

If Mr. GUTHRIE desires to promote the interests of the party and is willing to contribute to harmony in the organization, he will follow the example of Senator DEWALT and accept the suggestion of Mr. RITTER. Mr. DEWALT reveals a spirit of self-abnegation in asserting his willingness to adopt the course suggested, for he is the LEGAL chairman and might easily have his title confirmed by appeal to the courts. But he reasons that such proceedings would animadvert against the party in the end and would better not be invoked. Mr. GUTHRIE, on the other hand, is willing to ruin if he cannot rule, and persists in a fraudulent claim to chairmanship for which he has neither legal nor moral title. The Democrats of the State should not be deceived in this way.

It begins to look as if the UNDERWOOD wool tariff bill may get through both branches of Congress during the present session and in that event the session will be really worth while, for though it doesn't go as far as we would like in the matter of reducing the tariff tax on wool, it takes off about sixty per cent. of the PAYNE-ALDRICH law duty and is a step in the right direction. Moreover it will materially reduce the use of shoddy and enable, at least, some of the people to obtain good wool clothing at rates which are not prohibitory.

In the case of the President's wedding anniversary those who dance won't be obliged to pay the fiddler. The public treasury pays the expense and money will come from persons who weren't even invited to the feast.

The Federation of Democratic Clubs.

We sincerely hope that the Federation of Democratic clubs of this State, projected at a meeting held in Harrisburg last week for by those who participated in the work. Democratic clubs may be made most effective agents in the creation of Democratic sentiment and the dissemination of Democratic doctrines. They are also useful and effective in creating enthusiasm for the party ticket and assisting in the details of party organization. In Philadelphia, for example, we are told that the Republican clubs keep an accurate roster of the voters of the neighborhood in which they are located and may be depended upon to bring every voter of their political faith to the polls every year.

But we have no record of any Democratic clubs in that or any other city or town in Pennsylvania which perform such useful service. The only Democratic club in Philadelphia, of which we have any information, has put more energy into the work of disorganizing the party than anything else and has been for years a constant menace to Democratic effort or achievement. Possibly it has now determined to "turn over a new leaf," so to speak, and help rather than hurt the candidates of the party and if that be true and the improvement is ascribable to the formation of the Federation, it has already justified itself and will deserve the most generous encomiums that can be bestowed upon it.

Some of our contemporaries in their enthusiasm over the work of organizing the Federation reveal, let us say, an unfamiliarity with the political history of the State, however. They tell us that this deserving enterprise is the first of its kind ever attempted in Pennsylvania. So far from that being true we recall that the late CHAUNCEY F. BLACK once entered into a similar movement with an energy and ability that deserved success. He succeeded in organizing about a hundred clubs, formed them into a league and held two or three State conventions. It cost him a lot of money and an immense amount of energy but accomplished so little practical good for the party that he abandoned it finally after a few years of labor.

President TAFT is using his wedding anniversary to keep himself in the lime light and turning the trick at other people's expense. In other words according to reports from Washington the value of the President's presents will vastly over run the expenses of the function and will be paid out of the treasury.

Borrowing in Time of Peace.

When President CLEVELAND entered upon his second term on March 4th, 1893, he found the treasury so nearly empty that he was compelled to issue bonds to avert a declaration of bankruptcy. During the previous administration, that of President HARRISON, and shortly before the election, arrangements had been completed for a bond issue and the plates for the bonds made. But when the CLEVELAND administration actually issued the bonds, the Republican papers and politicians joined in a howl that shook the earth against the policy of borrowing money in time of peace. It was a great crime against the people, these howlers vociferously declared, and had never been done by a Republican administration.

The other day \$50,000,000 worth of government bonds were sold in Washington and not a sound of protest has been made. They are called Panama canal bonds, it is true, and the act authorizing the issue, provided that the proceeds of the issue are to be used in paying the expenses of building the Panama canal. But as a matter of fact the money obtained by the sale of these bonds will be dumped into the treasury and used in paying the current expenses of the government. The excuse for this is that during the time that has elapsed since the authorization of the bond issue the canal construction expenses have been paid out of the ordinary revenues, and this money will serve the purpose of reimbursement.

We have no complaint to make on account of this bond issue at all. But we call attention to it for the purpose of contrasting the policies and practices of Democratic newspapers with those of our Republican contemporaries. It is true that when the Panama canal was projected the promise was made that the cost of construction could easily be met out of the current revenues and that taxes were greatly increased with the view of making good on this promise. But if this bond issue or any other bond issue had been made under a Democratic administration the howl of 1893 would have been repeated and probably with increased volume of noise. It makes a vast difference "whose ox is gored."

Senator Clarke Splitting Hairs.

Senator CLARKE, of Arkansas, plainly misinterprets the purpose of his southern colleagues in voting against the BRISTOW amendment to the resolution providing for an amendment to the constitution of the United States which will permit the election of Senators in Congress by popular vote. The BRISTOW amendment provided for supervision of the election of Senators in the several States by the Congress. Senator CLARKE voted for the amendment for the reason, as he states it, that the constitution of the United States vests that power in Congress and his oath of office requires him to "support, obey and defend" the constitution. It is a pity that all Senators are not of the same mind.

The constitution of the United States provides in section 4 of article 1 that "the times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators." Congress has never exercised this power in any instance, for the reason, probably, that it was not deemed worth while. Attempts have been made to usurp the right to control State elections, notably in the FORCE bill shortly after the Civil war. But the election of Senators is so infrequently and the effect of interference would be so trifling, that it has not been attempted.

The southern Senators who opposed the BRISTOW amendment were influenced to that course by the apprehension that it would accomplish in an indirect way what was contemplated in the FORCE bill for the reason that if Senators are elected by popular vote Congress might in regulating that election assume control of the election of all officers chosen at the same time. Possibly it was an alarm without cause, but a burnt child avoids the fire and southern Senators have ample reason to be cautious. But if Senator CLARKE's contention that his obligation to support, obey and defend the constitution compelled him to vote for the amendment, is valid, he couldn't vote for any change in the constitution.

Governor TENER attaches a string to his approval of the bill for the enlargement of the capital park at Harrisburg which was probably a wise thing to do as every precaution should be taken to prevent graft in such enterprises. But the Governor attached no strings to his approval of a lot of bills increasing salaries and providing for other expenditures in which the graft possibilities are equally great.

The government receipts for customs have decreased considerably under the PAYNE-ALDRICH tariff law though the rates of duties were materially enhanced and President TAFT declared it would be the greatest revenue producer ever enacted by an American Congress. This would indicate that the President doesn't always know what he is talking about and in that instance he was talking through his hat.

Ever since the flood of May 19th the water in Logan's branch and Spring creek from where the two streams intersect has not only been cloudy but quite muddy and the general wonderment is as to why it hasn't cleared up. Of course there have been a number of rains since to render the stream muddy but that does not account for all of it. It will be remembered that the Bellefonte fish hatchery and grounds were entirely flooded and most of the ponds were half filled with mud. Since that time superintendent Griffith and his men have been kept very busy cleaning the mud out of the hatching houses, ponds and grounds and trying to save the trout that were not washed away and naturally all the accumulation of dirt and mud is washed into Logan's branch, and that accounts for the continually muddy condition of the water. The hatchery and grounds, however, will soon be restored to their normal condition and then the water in the above streams will have a chance to clear up.

Among the gifts to the College at last week's commencement were new flags for the athletic field by Gen. James A. Beaver and the book of Esther, from the Bible, by George T. Bush. This latter is very remarkable in the fact that it is in Hebrew language, hand printed in India ink on a sheep skin parchment some twelve feet in length, and must have been written hundreds of years ago; yet every letter is as distinct and perfect as if executed yesterday. The parchment was found in an old curio shop in Jerusalem by Mr. Bush while on his tour around the world last year.

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Mexico as a "Trust-Buster."

From the Pittsburg Post. The news from Mexico is calculated to arouse the apprehensions of the numerous foreigners who have investments in that country. Governor Abraham Gonzalez, of Chihuahua, is authority for the statement that the many existing concessions held by capitalists abroad will not be renewed under the present regime. Those now engaged in business there will be required to comply with restrictions that may prove to be a serious menace to their prosperity. Foreign investors who had been worrying over the dangers of the war will now be confronted by a peril of peace of fully as great magnitude. American citizens hold many millions of dollars of Mexican investments and these will be in no danger of loss, as the object is to restrain those of monopolistic tendencies. In this class the Americans are the largest holders, although there are large investments by British and Germans. The Standard Oil trust will be the greatest sufferer in the event of a refusal to renew concessions, as it has immense holdings in several Mexican States, and particularly in Chihuahua. A hostile government would be very discouraging to that combination of capital.

But there is no occasion for alarm. Foreign capital will be safeguarded and protected. Mexico may have the right to refuse a renewal or extension of privileges when she believes that they are being used for the purpose of restraining trade or of monopolizing products which induced the investments. Chihuahua is rich in minerals and timber, and American capital has been gradually obtaining control, and now that the interruption caused by the war has passed away arrangements have been under way for furthering development.

It may be that Mexico has suddenly become possessed of the "trust-busting" inclination of the American people, and is inclined to do a little of it on her own account. The result of the restrictive policy will be closely watched on this side of the border.

Get the Reform Started.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Since the obstructive Senate is extending unnecessarily the extraordinary session of the Congress, the House may as well pass reform measures in addition to those which have been already sent to the upper House. Speaker Clarke says that if the rest of the Democrats in the House think as he does the extra session will be continued until the Senate shall have passed or defeated the measures which it has received. While the Senate is dallying with those measures the House may as well be busy.

A great reform which should be enacted is a parcels post system. As Pennsylvania is "an island in the sea of American progress," as Congressman Palmer said the other day, so the United States are a derelict in the sea of world progress. They are the only country of the first class which has not a parcels post system. Parcels of maximum weight are carried for a minimum price and in between European countries and from and to these and the United States, but here the maximum price is charged for all matter in and between the States.

Postal progress in the United States is blocked by the express companies and their representatives in the Congress. The establishment of a parcels post system would take away from the express companies some of their business. But neither the express companies nor any other representative of Big Business owns or controls the Democratic House of Representatives. Hence the House should start the parcels post bill on its way. It will never come from the subsidized Senate majority.

How Protection Works.

From the Chicago Public. An Australian writes this from his State of Victoria: I bought some hay-making tools last week. They are manufactured at Springfield, Ohio. To get here they travel more than half way round the world, pay 5 per cent. duty, and the agent's commission, yet I get them for one-third less than the Ohio price.

This is for the protection of the American farmer to whose nostrils free trade is a stench. The same Australian informant reports another example: Owing to our rapid growth the state works could not build locomotives fast enough. Twenty were bought in America and twenty in England, all made after Victorian designs. The American engines are cheaper than the British by 15 per cent.

But the Baldwin works are protected. What against and what for?

An Old Scheme.

From Bryan's Commoner. In the XIX chapter of Acts, 23-28, we read the story of one Demetrius, a silversmith, who aroused the members of his craft by calling attention to the fact that Paul's preaching was ruining the business of making idols. Instead of giving a stir by shouting "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" if Demetrius had been one of the Democratic Congressmen who are anxious to protect wool he would probably have been shouting: "Great is a revenue tariff and wool is just the thing to collect it from!"

Hard on Leather and Nerves.

From the Connellsville Courier. The Boy Scout movement caused a pair of Johnstown parents much anxiety. The two small boys started on a hike for Somerset and succeeded in wearing their shoes out before they were located. The Boy Scout movement is hard on leather and sometimes trying to the nerves of parents.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

A \$10,000 company has been capitalized a Millifont. to drill for oil in the region around McAlisterville.

The Huntingdon Water company is receiving bids for the erection of a new reservoir, of 1,000,000 gallons capacity, to improve the municipal water service.

The body of a new-born babe was found in the Susquehanna river at Clearfield a few days ago. It gave evidence of having been murdered and the matter is being investigated.

The Dauphin county grand jury found a true bill on a charge of murder in the first degree against Joseph Stott within sixteen hours after he had shot and killed Mrs. Blanche Taylor.

Hail in the Bobot mountain district, Lycoming county, literally pounded to pieces the 1,000 peach tree orchard of Daniel Hull. The apple orchard of J. C. MacCullum was also immeasurably damaged.

John Lochrie has leased 2,300 acres of coal land near Bear Run, Indiana county, and as it is a virgin field a large development for that section is expected. Mr. Lochrie has an option on 4,000 acres more.

Plans for the federal building at Johnstown are said to have been approved by the treasury department architect and will be ready for inspection by prospective bidders about August 1st. The contract cannot be let before October.

A daughter of Mrs. J. Werle, of Wilkes-Barre, lost a handsome gold ring in the family garden soon after it had been given her. That was eighteen years ago. Recently Mrs. Werle found the missing valuable while weeding her garden.

John P. Baird, who resides near Cresson, gave a dinner recently to a number of friends, at which snapping turtles was a feature. He caught the turtle in a trap set for the unknown monster that had been biting the legs off his goslings.

William J. Schrader, convicted of murder in the first degree and recently refused a retrial by Judge J. M. Woods, at Lewistown, was brought into court and sentenced to hang. Schrader shot and instantly killed his sweetheart March 9th, 1910.

Heavy orders, valued at many thousands of dollars, have been placed with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company and will be filled at its East Pittsburg plant. The orders are for power house and sub-station equipment and rolling stock.

Isaac Sheffer, aged 15 years, was drowned while swimming in Pentz run dam, near DuBois, last Sunday afternoon. He was a good swimmer and is thought to have hurt himself diving or to have been seized with cramp. Before help could be summoned he was drowned.

Michelo Fritz, aged 20 years, of North Bend, Clinton county, attended a festival at Hymer, three miles down the river, last Saturday night. Some friends boarded a freight boat for Lock Haven and beckoned him to go along. He tried to follow them, but went under and was killed.

At a meeting of Johnstown citizens, held a few evenings ago, a resolution was passed asking Judge O'Connor for a special grand jury to investigate the various rumors in connection with the recent election of a High school principal. The committee of five was appointed to present the matter to the judge.

On the farm of John G. Mentzer, a short distance north of Blainport, Lancaster county, along the road leading from that village to Newmans town, stands a giant oak, which measures 19 feet in circumference right above the ground. This monster oak has withstood the blasts of winter for over a century.

Roland Reed, of DuBois, who is attending a pharmacy college in Philadelphia, recently had an attack of pneumonia and later his condition became so serious that an operation was performed. It was found that a pus formation had forced his heart over to the right side of his body. The pus was removed, the heart restored to its normal position and the young man is recovering.

Lightning struck the residence of Mrs. Cooper, at Glen Hope, Clearfield county, in a recent storm, and tore the paper off a room in which Mrs. Cooper and her son Vincent were sitting, but did not harm them. The son then went to the attic, supposing that the bolt would set fire to the building, and found a box with some old papers in a blaze, which was soon put out. A bolt also struck the home of William Bell, in the same town, but did very little damage. At Smoke Run the barn of James Hinds was struck and a mule and two horses were killed.

The West Branch Knitting company, which operates a big plant at Milton and of which Edward Hecht, of Lock Haven, is president, has received official notice that it is the successful bidder for a large government contract for army hosiery. This means over one year's steady work on this order alone, as the specification calls for 300,000 pairs with a possible 50 per cent. increase or 500,000 pairs of government woolen hose for the army and navy of the United States. The machinery in the spinning department is being shipped away and the underwear department is using this space. Twenty new knitting machines, which are expected daily, will then be installed in the hosiery department. These machines will increase the output by 100 dozen pairs daily.

The great Lutheran reunion of central Pennsylvania will be held at Lakemont park, Altoona, on July 27th. Preparations are being made for one of the greatest gatherings of Lutherans and their friends ever held in this beautiful park. Speakers of note and church-wide power and popularity have been secured for the occasion, while the most pleasing feature of the occasion will be a girls' chorus of 150 to 200 voices trained for the occasion. This chorus will soon go into training under the efficient leadership of Mr. A. E. Davis, who is well known in Altoona as a musical director. If you want to spend a day of entertainment, interest, education, recreation, etc., be sure to arrange to attend this greatest church gathering of central Pennsylvania.

Just one day after he had buried his wife who, it is thought, worried herself to death on account of the arrest, J. A. G. Badorf, of Harrisburg, got the news Saturday that a grand jury at Indianapolis had ignored the bill charging him with kidnapping the McNamars in that city on charges of being connected with the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times building. Badorf was assistant to Walter Drew, counsel for the Nation, al Erectors' association, and with Drew was arrested in the Claypool hotel, Indianapolis. He was quickly released. Mr. Badorf's wife was overcome by the news and began to faint. Though seriously ill only three days, she died last week. Her funeral was held at Rossville, York county, Friday. The next day the bill against her husband was ignored.

Miss Arnes Gingerv, a Woodland young woman, is confined to the Cottage hospital, Philadelphia, with a serious wound in her thigh, while Harry Dixon, a young man, twenty-six years old, of the same place, is being held in the Clearfield county jail to await the result of the girl's injuries. Dixon has been enmeshed of the girl for some time, and when she refused on Saturday evening to have anything more to do with him, he threatened to kill her, and about 8 o'clock Sunday morning appeared at Swift's hotel, where the girl was employed, and asked to see her. When Miss Gingerv appeared, Dixon pulled a revolver and began shooting. The first bullet struck her. She sank to the floor. Dixon, thinking he had killed her, rushed from the house to the woods nearby. A posse at once went after Dixon, and he was captured several hours later within a mile of the scene of the crime and taken to Clearfield jail.