

Democratic Watchman

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

INK SLINGS.

—Be sure to pick out the best ones to-morrow.
—Because the sugar beet is scarce the price of sugar goes up and the consumer is "beat" indeed.
—The President will probably wait until his tariff board reports to find out what happened in Canada.
—That Canadian reciprocity bill was a sort of gold brick game that the President put over on our people.
—Many a poor candidate will take along the splinters when he slides off the anxious bench tomorrow night.
—The farmer who has been putting off his seeding until the frost kills the fly may have to fly to get it done before the snow flies.
—Anyway neither Chicago, Pittsburg nor Detroit will have to bother with taking care of the world's championship series crowds.
—Watch your neighbor tomorrow and see if it isn't the fellow who deplores the "condition of affairs" almost daily, who hasn't time or has forgotten to go to the primaries.
—We don't recall just how much that extra session of Congress cost us, but whatever it was that was just how much we paid to find out that the Canadians didn't want reciprocity.
—If anybody tells you the world is not growing better ask him what has become of the street fights, bar room brawls, "big day" carousals that were so frequent even right in Bellefonte not so many years ago.
—Remember when you come to the fair next week to wear enough clothes to protect you from the deceptive fall air. It will be a good deal easier to do that than suffer and pay for a possible case of pneumonia.
—Paris is preparing to send us the hoop-skirt. From the hobble to the hoop will be a great jump, indeed, but what liberties the nether limbs of the fashionable lady will have after she makes the transformation.
—The entire hop crop of the world for this year is estimated at one hundred and thirty-two million pounds. These will make plenty of beer to make big heads and plenty of soothing hop pillows to lay the big heads on.
—Tomorrow will take place the first weeding out of the candidates who have been on the anxious bench since January. And though some of them are certain to fail it will be some satisfaction for those who do to feel that the worry and anxiety of it are over.
—The Philadelphia Record makes the announcement that monkeys are frequently seen in the woods in York county, this State. If our esteemed contemporary means the real simian we're from Missouri. If it doesn't, we'd like to know who saw them.
—The Commissioner of Corporations has just announced that there are one hundred and ten millions of "water" in the stock of the American Tobacco Co. This, however, does not account for the amount of spitting done by the boy who is just learning to chew.
—The cool receptions that are being given President TAFT in the west seem all the cooler when he recalls the warm hospitality of the south on one of his former trips. But probably the southern heat has cooled off a little too towards the Executive who preaches one thing and does another.
—It is inconceivable to think that the French battleship *Liberte* was blown up by laborites in retaliation against the government, yet such a belief is held in many parts of France. Two hundred and thirty-five sailors died from the explosion. What an awful toll and how fruitless, if there is any foundation for recent rumors.
—The people are looking to the Democrats to nominate a good, strong ticket in Centre county tomorrow. Republican misrule and wastefulness has been rampant during the past three years especially and voters want a change in the county offices. It is the duty and it should be the pleasure of the Democrats to place in nomination tomorrow a ticket that will in every way inspire the tax-payers of Centre county with the hope that if it is elected there will be an end of extravagances and increasing taxes. Do your duty as a Democrat. Attend the primaries and vote for the man who you honestly think would make the best official for the office he aspires to fill.
—The WATCHMAN has never before endorsed the candidacy of anyone at a primary election. It has advocated the selection of the two women who have been sought to take places on our local school board because it sincerely believes that their election would prove a benefit to the schools. Certainly it can work no harm and we opine that the experiment is worth trying. Two women are most efficient members of the central board of education of Philadelphia, and in nearly every State west of Pennsylvania women are the most useful and helpful members of school boards; especially in this case in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, where the public school systems are far in advance of those of our own State.

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STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Mr. Palmer's Conspiracy.

Under the direction of Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER, Representative in Congress for the twenty-sixth district, congressional committees are being formed throughout the State. This work is ostensibly under the sanction of a rule adopted by the GUTHRIE contingent of the Democratic State Executive Committee, recently held at Harrisburg, at which there were only two legally elected members of the committee present. The rules of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania provide that amendments must be recommended by the Democratic State Central Committee and approved "by the succeeding Democratic State convention," before they become effective. This rule adopted by a rump committee has not been ratified by a State convention. It is therefore not a rule of the Democratic party. But that fundamental fact makes no difference to Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER. The congressional committees are creatures of his own brain intended for use in a conspiracy to re-elect, or at least re-nominate all the sitting Democratic Representatives in Congress for this State. Mr. PALMER understands that he cannot be renominated in his own district unless some exterior agency is invoked to accomplish the result. The congressional committee is the agency he has in mind and he has induced other Representatives in Congress to aid him in the creation of this body by assuring them that it will be helpful to them as well as himself. In other words he is using them as cat's-paws to pull his chestnuts out of the fire as he used them to get his seat in the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. PALMER, who is suffering from an acute attack of aggravated megalomania, imagines that he is above the law and obey no moral or legal obligations to obey the rules of the Democratic party. He is ambitious to become the party boss and hesitates at nothing to promote his purposes. The organization of a rump committee which is employing emissaries at other people's expense to canvass the State in his interest is in pursuance of his ambitions and the fact that it threatens to disorganize and demoralize the party all over the State makes no difference. He wants to rule and if he can't do that he invites ruin. Such men are dangerous not only to the party but to the public and the sooner this upstart is rebuked, good and hard, the better for the Democratic party.

The Canadian Election.

The defeat of reciprocity in Canada took everybody by surprise. Where "the wish was father to the thought," there may have been individuals, here and there, who imagined the defeat of the government of Sir WILFRED LAURIER a probability. But the overwhelming majority obtained by the opposition was unexpected to the antagonists of the Premier as it was to his friends. Hardly a district that was seriously contested was carried by Sir WILFRED'S adherents and more than half of his associates in the cabinet were defeated for re-election. Happily the great leader was himself successful and in the coming session of Parliament he will be the capable and efficient leader of the minority. Analyzing the result after the event, however, it is not difficult to discover the reasons for it. It is not ascribable, as many of our contemporaries assume, to an absurd fear of annexation, though that hobgoblin was held before the mental vision of the more illiterate voters constantly, and may have influenced a few of them. Public schools have not been as efficient in Canada as within the States and popular intelligence is less widely diffused. But the idea that such a fear would influence a general election is preposterous. Even with the limited facilities for educating the masses possessed by Canada, the majority of the people are not as ignorant as that fact would imply. As a matter of fact the defeat of reciprocity in Canada is attributable to two causes. The principal of these was the activity in bribing voters of the American trusts, the opportunities of which to plunder the people would have been curtailed by the policy. Having failed to defeat the measure in our own Congress they set themselves to the task of fooling the Canadian electorate. In this they were materially aided by President TAFT'S vetoes of other tariff reform measures enacted during the special session recently closed. It was reasoned that as the other bills were vetoed the aim of that one was to get some advantage in commercial relations with Canada and the reasoning proved effective.

Hasten Our Liberation, Fellows!

The present active campaign of the women for a place on the school board reminds us of the comedy "No Gentleman in France" presented several years ago in Philadelphia by the Mask and Wig club. MARIE LOUISE and the ladies of the court decided to rule France, arrayed themselves most charmingly in gaily colored satin bloomers and made things so interesting (?) for NAPOLEON that he and his cabinet went to Atlantic City in exile. There they laid aside the cares of state and had a glorious time on the Boardwalk with scores of infatuated pink ladies eager to push their chairs and dance attendance at every turn. Let the women in-IN everywhere—council, school board and any other old place they want if it means no more carrying coal, shoveling sidewalks, hustling off to work when there are ball games, etc., to attend and plenty of pink ladies waiting to be ogled at Atlantic City. We're jolly sure we're ready to be excited to the Boardwalk any time the women want to shoulder our work and responsibilities, for we always thought it unfair to allow them so little to do while we hustle so long and hard. Hasten our liberation fellows! Vote for the women and thus insure our long deserved vacation on the Boardwalk.

Taft and The Trusts.

President Taft's assertion, in his Detroit speech, that the "rule of reason" would provide a satisfactory solution of the trust problem would have carried more conviction had it not come the day following the announcement of a rise in the price of sugar. "It took twenty years to settle the trust problem," Mr. Taft said, "but the important thing is that it was finally settled right. Now that the supreme court has fixed the definition of the anti-trust law the big corporations will naturally dissolve." Mr. Taft blandly explains that the trusts, as a result of the famous "reasonable" decision in the Tobacco and Oil Trust cases are in a state of extinction. Of their own accord, he says, they will melt away just as soon as they understand the spirit of the supreme court's decision. Thus he vindicates the supreme court for its decision "which will cause the trusts naturally to dissolve," one day after the Sugar Trust calmly announced that it proposed to take forty million dollars more out of the people's pockets during the next year. The decision was made several months ago, plenty of time for the trusts to have "naturally dissolved," yet it doesn't strike the President as being in the least curious that the wicked trusts should go right on raising prices as of yore. The supreme court "wiped the Oil and Tobacco Trusts out of existence." Under its dictum they were given six months in which to dissolve; and Mr. Taft assumes that merely because the court told the trusts to cease their monopolistic practices, presto, they would at once proceed to obey. In effect, he says to the over millions of this country: "Behold, under this decision only the unreasonable trusts shall be restrained; therefore, why protest longer against trusts? Surely there can be no opposition to a reasonable trust!" And in the meantime the price of oil, and the price of tobacco, and the price of all other trust products remains as high as ever, while the price of sugar, eighty-one pounds of which is consumed annually by each man, woman and child in the country, has practically doubled since the supreme court handed down the decision which Mr. Taft thinks puts an end to the trust problem. That he does consider the problem at an end is indicated by his words at Detroit: "I am entirely opposed to any amendment to the Sherman law. It is now (since the reasonable decision) a valuable government asset. Tested by twenty years of experience, why should we imperil its usefulness by further amendments?" The people of the west probably will be overjoyed to learn, as Mr. Taft proceeds, that the days of the trusts have passed away.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Just a few weeks ago cabbage wouldn't grow because of the drought. Now Millfin county farmers complain of the heads bursting because of wet weather.
—Sykesville, near DuBois, has closed its public school on account of diphtheria, and Kersey, another town in that vicinity, has a number of cases under quarantine.
—The Lock Haven paper mill will make the postage stamp paper for the United States government, an announcement which is causing considerable joy in that town.
—It proved expensive for David Van Kirk, of North Bangor, to shoot flickers out of season and on Sunday. He was arrested by Game Warden Geary and fined \$60.97 for killing two birds.
—The Mann Axe company whose Lewistown plant was recently destroyed by fire will erect a concrete and structural steel plant of enlarged capacity. It is expected that it will be running by December 15.
—One year at hard labor with a heavy fine was the sentence given Joseph P. Gulick, of Northumberland, who was arrested after worrying farmers of Milton and Watons town all summer by stealing garden truck.
—Ella Ritter, aged 24 years, of Lewistown, who had been released from the western penitentiary on parole, on request of her father, was taken back to that institution to serve her maximum sentence, after four months' freedom.
—Hugh McBride, formerly a private detective, wanted in Cambria county on a charge of accepting a bribe, is in jail at Fairmont, W. Va., and the detective who caught him is under bail to answer a kidnapping charge for arresting him without a warrant.
—The calf in the case in which Henry Depeado was acquitted of larceny, proved a rather expensive one, for Indiana county, the costs of the case and the witnesses amounting in all to \$154, having been put on the county. The calf was worth \$10 at the most.
—The transmission line of the Raystown Water Power company, running over Piney ridge to the limits of the Huntingdon borough, has now been completed, the last poles being placed and the line of the wires being strung. The line is five miles long.
—Luther Sutton, of Lewisburg, Indiana county, was caught shooting grey squirrels and when the game warden went to arrest him he resisted. He was finally overcome and compelled to pay a fine of \$50 for killing squirrels and \$100 and costs for resisting an officer.
—Three men who asked for work at the Eyre Shoemaker Construction company's operations near Somerset and were refused, disappeared at the same time as did some brass fixtures. The men were found at Husband, where they were trying to sell the brass.
—Six men working in the Wilson Reynolds orchards, Mont Alto, Monday, picked 370 large baskets of peaches, that were immediately shipped to the Philadelphia market. These six men didn't count the amount of culls they picked along with the good ones.
—Preferring to serve a sentence of ten days in the county prison instead of becoming an inmate of the county home Joseph Lowe, 78 years old, was sentenced before Magistrate Harry at Norris town. It was Lowe's first visit to his old home in thirty-four years. He was charged with being insane.
—Henry H. Hurd, of Chest township, visited Clearfield probably for the last time, on Tuesday of last week. His first visit was in 1842, when he was 24 years of age and he visited on a raft run from Chest creek. His last visit was but two days preceding his 94th birthday anniversary and was made in an automobile.
—Chauncey Black, grandson of the famous jurist Jeremiah S. Black, caught a burglar in his home, near York, the other night and after a rough and tumble fight mastered the fellow and carried him to York in his automobile, turning him over to the police. When captured the fellow was wearing one of Black's best suits.
—That high heels and hobble skirts are responsible for a large proportion of the injuries sustained by women getting on and off trains and mounting and descending stairways in stations, is the conclusion reached by the Pennsylvania railroad after an investigation covering three months in which 73 such cases were recorded.
—Theodore Klaproth, aged 17 years, of Pittston, who was arrested on Saturday night on a charge of robbing lock boxes in the Pittston post-office was given a hearing recently before United States Commissioner Moore. It was shown that he secured \$2,000 worth of negotiable paper, jewelry and money. He was committed to the Lackawanna county jail for a further hearing.
—The fifteen-mile stretch of the Millard-Pennsylvania railroad extending from Millersburg to Gratz will be completed by October 15th. It is expected, and the gangs of men are working day and night with that idea in mind. The whole road will extend about 43 miles, from Millersburg to Ashland, Schuylkill county. It is hoped to have the entire road completed and in operation before next spring.
—Workmen are engaged in all parts of DuBois cutting down the poplar trees which are used as shade trees along many of the streets. The reason for the destroying of these trees is that they have a very fast growing root, which clogs the sewers and in several places cracked the cement pavement. Council passed an ordinance to the effect that the poplars would have to go over a year ago.
—A class of journalism, which will be conducted in connection with the school of economics of the University of Pittsburgh, opened Monday night. Twenty students have already registered in this new branch of the University, and the indications are that a much larger number will be enrolled next week. The class is in charge of Thomas D. Williams, managing editor of the Pittsburgh Press, while editors of the various Pittsburg papers will lecture from time to time.
—Suits for recovery of fines to the amount of \$42,150 for violation of the state purity of streams act of 1905 was filed in the Dauphin county court last Thursday by the attorney general's department against the borough of Jeannette, Westmoreland county. The suit is for the largest sum ever claimed for such violations and is brought, at the instance of the commissioner of health on the ground of alleged disregard of notices to obtain permits for extension of sewers and to file plans.
—Mrs. Elizabeth Wonderly, who was probably the oldest woman in Philadelphia, if not in the State, died at the Methodist Episcopal home Philadelphia, on Thursday night of last week, after 108 years, 4 months and 4 days. Her death was due principally to old age and she had been failing for some time. She had been an inmate of the home for twenty-two years and was one of the most cheerful aged women in the institution and a great favorite with the nurses and attendants, as well as the other inmates.
—Mrs. Mary J. Lord, aged 67, of Reynoldsville, was almost instantly killed at 10:30 Sunday morning when a car driven by her son, Charles S. Lord, editor and publisher of the Reynoldsville Star, went over an embankment at a point about half a mile the other side of Brandy Camp, ten miles from Ridgway, and turned turtle at the bottom, crushing Mrs. Lord underneath in its descent and hurling the other occupants of the car. Mrs. Harry F. Lord, a daughter-in-law, and little daughter, Fay, of Johnsonburg, and the driver for a considerable distance. Other than a slight cut above one of Mrs. Harry F. Lord's eyes, the others were uninjured.

Mr. Carnegie's Cant Phrases.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE'S cant phrases "make us tired." Constantly prating about his philanthropies, he clings with marvelous tenacity to every fetish which makes for the conditions he deplures. For example, he pretends to believe that excessive wealth is disgraceful but he holds on to every means of creating excessive wealth for himself. Even his philanthropies are hedged about by conditions which make them burdensome to those upon whom they are bestowed. Then again he protests against tariff atrocities but invariably supports the party and men who are certain to strive for the continuance of the tariff. In other words Mr. CARNEGIE is an egregious hypocrite and an arrant humbug. The other day the New York World cabled to Mr. CARNEGIE asking "for his view of the present labor unrest and its solution." In response he drops naturally into cant phrases which to the cursory reader make him appear in the light of an apostle of beneficence. It is "a healthy sign," he writes, "and not a result of ignorance but of the increase of knowledge." That is literally true but it is an increase of knowledge which he has always striven to repress. "The unequal distribution of wealth and contrast between the lives of the rich and poor," he continues, "passed unnoticed in early days and was therefore possible." There was no such "unequal distribution of wealth" in early days to pass noticed or unnoticed. The unequal distribution of wealth began when Mr. CARNEGIE and others of his type began perverting government into an agency for promoting their interests at the expense of the interests of the people. At every presidential and congressional election within a quarter of a century, Mr. CARNEGIE has indirectly contributed vast sums of his tainted money to bribe voters in the interest of this "unequal distribution of wealth," and notwithstanding his cant phrases about the spirit of Democracy, he will do the same thing at each recurring election as long as he lives. Mr. CARNEGIE'S money has been coined from the sweat of labor and he will continue the mintage as long as he has strength and opportunity.

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House Cleaning is Needed.

From the Pittsburg Post. Now that the public has been led to understand that the recent vindication of Dr. Wiley did not have the effect of untying his official hands, there will be more than ever a demand for a thorough house cleaning in the Department of Agriculture. That branch of the service has evidently been governing itself for so long a time that the impression prevails within that it is independent of restraint and gifted with full authority to do as it pleases. Secretary Wilson is to all appearances dominated by influences that ought to be subordinate, and the public will agree that the time has come when there should be an uncovering of conditions and the working of reforms that are clearly demanded. The reason for Dr. Wiley's present helplessness is that the board of food and drug inspection still controls the situation, and stands between the chief chemist and the work he is so capable of performing. This board is composed of three men, of which Dr. Wiley is one, the other two composing the majority that has heretofore hampered him in his great work for the protection of the public from the adulterators of food and drugs. Dr. Wiley may have triumphed over his enemies, who fear him because of his service to the people as against their own selfish interests, but so long as this board is controlled by those who oppose him the vindication will not enable him to continue his good work. President Taft intimated in his report on the case that an investigation on broader lines might be found necessary, and the impression prevails that the necessity is so apparent that further delay ought to be out of the question. There ought to be an immediate and a thorough inquiry into the Department and its various branches, and if the public service is being hampered, as it clearly is in the case of the board of which Dr. Wiley is a helpless member, there should be a cleaning out that would be to the public advantage. There is nothing to be gained by exonerating a public servant and at the same time depriving him of the power to carry on the work that has been so emphatically indorsed.

Good for the Trusts.

From the Philadelphia Record. While a more unhampered inter-course across the frontier has been rejected, there will be no following stoppage of trading; as well might the piddling politicians who have come to the top of affairs in Canada try to stop the flow of Niagara. The people of both countries will have deeper living. The trusts of both countries will more securely rob within the walled-in inclosures of protective privilege. What the Dominion denies to our millions she holds in reserve for our magnates. They will not be denied.

A Waste of Cocktails.

From the Emporia Gazette. It is supposed that Charles W. Fairbanks has profound sympathy for the Nebraska man who was drowned in butter-milk.

—It was a Grand jury. It approved the new bridge plan for High street.