

INK SLINGS.

—Not quite three months until the annual crusade against the trout will begin.

—There has been enough of winter within the past few days to inspire the hardest to pray for clouds on ground-hog day.

—The process of forming a Republic in China is slow but not altogether sure.

—Judging from the number of charters that are being applied for all of Centre county will be electrified before we know it.

—Report has it that the milk men have suffered more than any others from the cold weather.

—Probably the cold weather may be attributed to the chill between TAFT and ROOSEVELT.

—A western preacher would have married men wear a ring. The idea, of course, is to safe-guard unsophisticated maiden against falling in love with another's hubby.

—It is not surprising that Wall street should be financing the ROOSEVELT campaign for the Presidential nomination.

—What if civil service should come along and fix him in office for life just after HENRY CUTER names the next postmaster for Bellefonte?

—In the light of the mercurial tumbling around here last Saturday and Sunday morning we are almost persuaded that both PEARY and Dr. COOK are fakirs when they lay claim to having located the north pole anywhere else than in Centre county.

—Do you recall those awful days we had about the Fourth of last July when the thermometer was recording from 98 to 100 degrees in the shade every day for a week?

—Show me the man who can accept the situation philosophically when he finds his water pipes all frozen up and rushes to the plumber's to find fourteen other similarly afflicted mortals there ahead of him waiting for help.

—Dr. HORACE FLETCHER, the man who believes in making the teeth do what so many rapid eaters ask the stomach to look after, has just declared that after an experiment carried on for days he finds that he feels fine on a diet of nothing else than potatoes.

—Mr. McDEVITT, the Wilkes-Barre millionaire for a day, is not to be laughed at. He knew just how long he could keep up the pace and quit when the one day of high living had consumed his \$250,000.

—The "turkey trot," the "grizzly bear," and the "bunny hug" are new dances that we hope may die a borin before they get out into this neck o' the woods.

—Madam SCHUMANN HEINK, the great contralto, is instituting a divorce proceeding against her husband because he can't understand her children. Inasmuch as she had eight of them when she married WILLIAM RAPP probably the songstress has not given the young man time to study out the psychic relationship that should exist between a young step-father and his ready-made family.

—Why government control of telegraph lines? Why government control of anything else than government? The least governed people are the best governed people and to our mind this piling up of government supervision over and espionage into everything that the individual undertakes is growing so nearly akin to a monarchical form of government that unless there is a line drawn somewhere, and soon, there will not be much left of our vaunted Republican form of government.

—The unfortunate death of the late SAMUEL WILLIAMS has precipitated another fight for the postoffice in Bellefonte. Gossip is already busy making postmasters and most of it seems centered around the names of H. C. VALENTINE, W. L. MALIN and W. L. FLEMING.

—This was examination week for the Senior class of the Bellefonte High school, and the standing of the students at graduation will depend very much upon the grades made now.

—For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

Democratic Watchman

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Carnegie Hypnotized the Committee.

In the course of recent events there has been nothing more curious, more surprising or more alarming than the examination, last week, of Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE before a Congressional committee.

—For that matter the profits out of the merger of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company with the Steel trust would more than pay the expenses of a successful campaign against TAFT in the interest of ROOSEVELT.

—Of course there are various reasons for Postmaster General HITCHCOCK's desire to acquire control of the telegraph systems of the country.

—There are no patriotic reasons for the proposed innovation, however. The telegraph service would not be administered better or cheaper by the government.

—The Postoffice Department is not well managed at present. Mr. HITCHCOCK has increased the burdens of labor upon the employees but has abated no abuses or corrected no real evils.

—The United States Supreme Court having declared the liability act constitutional THEODORE ROOSEVELT may conclude to let tribunal continue in business for awhile longer.

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Mr. Carnegie's Absurd Claim

In his testimony before a Congressional committee last Friday ANDREW CARNEGIE said: "The Commission should have power to fix prices from month to month. It should visit plants, take notice of changed conditions. The Commission could say 'you may not get as much as you did before, but you will get a sure return.'"

—As a matter of fact, however, the government owes no industry a guarantee of "sure returns" on any investment. The farmers don't ask such a guarantee and when crops fail they bear the consequences with such philosophy as they can command.

—Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER announces that he will make a tour of the State, previous to the April primaries, in the interest of Governor WILSON, of New Jersey.

—After his complete and proper rebuke by the Democratic National committee, last week, Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER announced that the incident was unimportant and that the people of the State will settle the question at the primary elections in April.

—The S. A. E. house at State College was badly damaged by water at the beginning of the recent cold spell.

—Mervin Betz, merchant at Jacksonville, was a business visitor in Bellefonte on Wednesday night.

—Mr. HITCHCOCK forgot to mention that when the government operated the meagre telegraphic service of seventy years ago there was no water in the stocks then and even with that advantage in operation the enterprise was abandoned.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Mr. Bryan and Colonel Guffey.

MR. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN is willing to forgive everybody on earth except Colonel JAMES M. GUFFEY. When he was first nominated for President, in 1896, and the Democracy from Maine to California was inspired to hope by his ardor and eloquence, GEORGE W. GUTHRIE was among the first to sprag the party wheel by bolting the nomination.

—Governor WILSON, of New Jersey, is also on record as an opponent of Mr. BRYAN. He wrote to a friend in another State expressing regret that no plan had been discovered to knock the garrulous Nebraskan "into a cocked hat."

—One day last week John Stover and family moved from Pottsville to Yeagertown and when driving across the railroad at Reedsville with a load of household goods one of his horses fell down.

—The Woman's Club of Bellefonte has appointed Mrs. J. E. Ward chairman of a large committee to immediately start work on the gathering together a car load of paper, to be shipped during the month of April, the proceeds of which will be given to the Bellefonte hospital.

—The Democratic party will make it a standing order in their offices to substitute the word "tax" for "tariff" in every article having to do with protection, and if every stump speaker will carry on a similar crusade, and if the movement will be made nation wide, the problem of reversing Republican victories at the polls will have been solved.

—At the butcher shops may be found dressed chickens at 12 and 15 cents a pound. Pork varies from 10 cents a pound to 15 cents for the best roasts and chops.

—Wilson's Way.

Is Mr. Taft Out of Politics.

From the Pittsburgh Post. A western newspaper commenting on the present interesting condition of National affairs, says that President Taft "is not doing any kind of politics."

—The contrary, the indications are that the President is very much engaged with the existing political exigencies. He has his hands just about as full as he can hold, and the business political is far more pressing than the business executive.

—By Its Right Name.

From the York Gazette. Why would it not be a good idea for all Democrats, everywhere, hereafter to taboo the use of the word "tariff," and in its place use the term "tax," which is what a tariff really is?

—Who doubts that if the Dingley tariff bill had been known and referred to generally as the Dingley tax bill, and the McKinley tariff bill as the McKinley tax bill, and the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill as the Payne-Aldrich tax bill, the Republican party would not be in power today?

—On the theory that three-quarters of the membership of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania are corrupt and contented, whilst the other quarter is chaste and celestial, it is proposed to reorganize the party by splitting it.

—This is a proposition, however, that need not be urged upon the hard-headed debaters who make up the body of the National Democratic committee.

Why Not in Bellefonte.

From the Emporia Gazette. At the butcher shops may be found dressed chickens at 12 and 15 cents a pound.

—No wonder that Republicans say that Governor Wilson will not do. He violates all their precedents. He does not write at the bottom, "Burn this letter." And when this letter is published he does not say that his recipient is an infamous liar, nor proceed to prove by others that the friend to whom he wrote is a horse thief.

SPAWNS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—While attending the funeral of her sister, in Pottsville, Mrs. Joseph Callahan dropped the upper lip. She had not been ill and her death is attributed to shock at her sister's death.

—Enforcement of the state anti-cruelty law has been started in Hazleton by the state constabulary in the cases of horse owners and drivers who fail to blanket their animals.

—Fruit growers in Adams county are saying that the cold weather is just the right thing for this time of year and they are predicting a large crop of apples and peaches next fall.

—The Scranton iron works was compelled to go into the hands of a receiver because its manager, Herman Behrens, was in jail for running down and killing a man with an auto.

—The school board of Washington announces that it means to install a moving picture machine in the public schools to be used principally in the study of history, geography, chemistry and botany.

—Pike township, Potter county, has just been mucked in the sum of \$9,200 because the supervisors failed to cover an exposed gas pipe and because they neglected to repair an insecure bridge.

—Ermin F. Hill, Esq., of Hughesville, has for several weeks been taking care of two flocks of quail that have been making their home on the farm of Deputy Prothonotary G. M. Sones, near that place. There are about 35 birds in the flock.

—Henry Cole, one of Northampton county's "grand old men," celebrated the 95th anniversary of his birth at his home, near Kreidersville on Saturday. He has never had a sickness and declares that he is now "in the sunshine of life."

—It is reported that the prolonged cold weather has brought the game birds of the mountain districts of the State to the verge of starvation. In some sections humane sportsmen are carrying food into the woods for the benefit of turkeys and other birds.

—Ellsworth Allen, who escaped from the Washington county jail nearly a year ago, rang the sheriff's door bell the other morning before daylight and begged to be permitted to serve out his term of imprisonment. The cold weather was entirely too much for him.

—The pupils of the school at Blue Rock, Westmoreland county, were somewhat startled and amazed the other day when a huge cake of ice came hurtling through the door and a lot of beer kegs began to pile themselves up on the porch. A brewery wagon had upset.

—Jefferson Harris, former sheriff of Fulton county, was sentenced a few days ago on a charge of gross negligence in permitting Russell Sipen, charged with arson, to escape. Sipen was recaptured and the sheriff convicted in October. He is to pay \$100 fine and costs and stay in jail for two months.

—John and Stephen Tunstall, the oldest twins in the State, celebrated the 89th anniversary of their birth at the residence of John W. Pello, of Scranton, last Thursday night. They resemble each other so closely that Mrs. Pello mistook her uncle John for her father, an incident that greatly amused the old gentlemen.

—One of the lines of the Nipponese Telephone company recently went out of business in a most unique way. Linemen hunted the trouble for two days before locating it at a house where a phone had been taken out. The wires had been left sticking through the wall and one of the new tenants had wrapped the ends together and hung something on them.

—In the United States court at Williamsport last week, F. J. Schaffer, of Hummelstown, was fined \$20 and costs for sending a letter through the mail closed in a newspaper on which he had paid one cent postage. This was not his first offense and he had been warned by his postmaster. It is safe to say that he will now try, some other way to save his small change.

—Records of the state railroad commission show that during 1911 there were 1,114 persons killed and 8,449 injured on the steam railroads in Pennsylvania, and on street railways 193 persons were killed and 3,752 injured. There was a decrease of 63 killed and 1,518 injured on steam roads and an increase of six killed and a decrease of 384 injured on trolley lines, as compared with the year 1910.

—When J. B. Rusan, of Johnstown, went to his cellar a few nights ago to see that everything was all right for the night, he found the stone foundation wall ablaze. A gas main in the wall had burst and the gas leaked through in a number of places. Wood work in the vicinity had caught and firemen were obliged to keep a stream on it until somebody arrived who could turn the gas off.

—Having read in his Monday evening newspaper about the death on Monday of J. Woods, Musina and Lewis D. Rauck, his lifelong friends, Charles D. Fisher, a veteran blacksmith of Williamsport, Monday night remarked to his wife that his old friends were going fast. At midnight Mrs. Fisher heard her husband struggling for breath, and before she could procure a light, he had died of apoplexy.

—The State Highway Department has turned into the State Treasury \$168,209 as receipts from automobile licenses for 1912, establishing a record for the first twelve days of the year. The department has registered 16,361 cars and 6,144 chauffeurs. In addition registration has been granted to 673 motor cycles and to seventeen special paid drivers. The number of dealers receiving licenses is 1,540.

—Sleeping under short covers, John McLung, a bridge worker, boarding at the home of Louis Beider, in Allentown, is being thawed out at the hospital there after being frozen in bed. He retired early Monday night with the hope of getting a long sleep, but was awakened Tuesday morning by a stinging sensation in his toes, ears and nose, which were all frozen. His toes were affected the worst, and may have to be amputated.

—Former Sheriff John E. Shields, of Westmoreland county, convicted of misconduct in office and sentenced to serve two years and four months in the western penitentiary, is still at liberty, having appealed to the Superior court, which will not meet until next month. In the meantime Shields has assumed his duties as commissioner of Westmoreland county, to which office he was elected in November, receiving the second largest vote cast.

—Officers of the Pennsylvania Textile company of York, Pa., will issue \$2,000,000 in 6 per cent gold bonds, which will be sold to put in operation the bankrupt York Silk Manufacturing company and the old Monarch Silk company. This action, according to Michael S. Niles, president of the new company, means that the silk industry of that city will be revived. The financial difficulties have already been straightened out and the three big mills there and the one at Carlisle will be opened between now and February 15.

—Sheriff Allen Fultz, with his deputy, M. M. Bricker, Thursday visited the cell in the jail at Lewistown of William Schrader, sentenced to hang January 25th for the murder of his sweetheart, Myrtle Singley, and following this consultation announced that the execution would be conducted privately. No tickets will be issued and only the jury, physicians and local newspaper reporters will be admitted. During the visit the condemned man asked the sheriff to send him a pound of pudding and two pounds of English walnuts, of which he is very fond. Schrader's sister visits him daily, but his parents, who reside only a few miles from the jail, have not seen him in weeks.