

INK SLINGS.

—Every man who owns a garden will soon be the man with the hoe. —February was only one day longer than usual, but it seemed longer. —This week's court lasted a day and a half. Surely Centre county is getting good.

—Those seven Governors for ROOSEVELT made nine come for TAFT. It wasn't quite seven come eleven.

—Those who imagine a new "white hope" has been discovered in Bellefonte are mistaken, that's all.

—Hereafter when you read the Outlook you must do so with the knowledge that it isn't what it says that counts. It's what it means.

—It would be most comforting to have this March first day act like the proverbial lion if we were certain that the last day will be the proverbial lamb.

—The public is waiting patiently to hear LAFOLLETTE shout for ROOSEVELT and the public will be compelled to wait until "patience ceases to be a virtue."

—ROOSEVELT'S Columbus speech proclaims to the world that he has absorbed the worst features of the early Populist, BRYAN and LA FOLLETTE propagandas.

—Dodging stray bullets on the Mexican frontier isn't in it for excitement with what is to come before the Republicans finally select the leader of their forlorn hope.

—The primaries and the opening of the trout season are both so near at hand that the politician and the fisherman are beginning to look as though life were worth living.

—TOM BEAVER has declined to run for the Legislature. He didn't say, however, that he was afraid the Democrats might hold another election and forget to notify the Republicans to attend.

—Young Mr. SHUSTER, the deposed Treasurer General of Persia, has gone the way of all celebrities. There being no immediate call to vaudeville he has janded on the lecture platform.

—President TAFT is probably beginning to understand that his friend's idea of "a square deal" is to have a marked deck up his sleeve for use when the regular one doesn't produce the desired hands.

—Russia is said to have the fewest physicians of any civilized country and, excepting China and India, it has the largest population of any country on the globe. There is no moral to this story.

—We are so frequently told that it is acts not words that count that we understand why editor HARTER was so mad when he was fined for using words when he would much rather have had a chance to act.

—The North American may keep on with its straw votes to make ROOSEVELT sentiment in Pennsylvania, but PENROSE will be there with the tombstones and pug dogs when the delegates are to be elected.

—There are a few of us left who were Democrats when it meant much to stand up for the party and its principles and, strange as it may seem, the few old timers are the ones who are to be re-organized by a lot of later day prophets.

—The memoirs of JAMES JEFFRIES might have been very profitable reading for Colonel ROOSEVELT. If he loses in this fight, which he surely will, it will be back to the minors for the man once almost as popular as HANS WAGNER or "Home run" BAKER.

—Col. ROOSEVELT'S hobby, of course, will be the enlargement of the governing powers of "The People." And, as a natural sequence, "The People" will be too blinded by the dust he is throwing in their eyes to see that the Colonel really means ROOSEVELT when he speaks of "The People."

—If TAFT had allowed ROOSEVELT to invade Mexico with an army of roughriders, a couple of years ago, the menace to popular government, of which ROOSEVELT complains, might have been averted. But then that course would have brought on other troubles so that "it's as broad as it's long."

—Half the co-eds in the University of Wisconsin are reported as being knocked. It seems to us that the statement should not have occasioned the surprise that it has throughout the country, for everyone knows that the girl honestly in pursuit of higher education has very little time to become beaux legged.

—The horrors of the conditions of the striking mill workers at Lawrence, Massachusetts, seem incredible. They sound more like conditions among the serfs of Russia or the Peons of Mexico than of free-born American citizens. If you want to know why Socialism is growing; if you want to know why the masses are listening to such dangerous proposals as "the recall"; if you want to know why such soldiers of fortune as ROOSEVELT sway the people as they do read the stories of the Lawrence strike and you will be convinced that something is wrong. Something is wrong, but it is not with the laws, as the agitator would have you believe. It is with the system that prevents their fullest operation.

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What Claim Have They to Leadership.

It may safely be said that the Presidential campaign of 1896 was a crucial event in the history of the Democracy of Pennsylvania. We were a minority party then, but an earnest, virile and courageous minority, faithful to principles and devoted to ideals. At the Democratic State convention of that year, GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, of Pittsburg, was honored by the nomination for the office of elector at large. He had behind him nearly half a million voters of the Commonwealth ready and willing to make sacrifices of time, labor and funds in order that the distinction of sitting in the electoral college of Pennsylvania and casting his vote for the Democratic candidate for President might be bestowed upon him.

After the nomination of WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN as the Democratic candidate for President, at Chicago, Mr. GUTHRIE, repudiated the compliment which had been conferred upon him. In a somewhat scurrilous letter he declined the nomination and announced his opposition to the candidate of his party. Up until that time Mr. BRYAN had done or said nothing to make him obnoxious politically or morally. He had been a faithful and efficient worker in the ranks of the party and in private and public life was as "clean as a hound's tooth." But Mr. GUTHRIE was in opposition to him because he represented the aims and aspirations of the people rather than the schemes of special interests. Mr. VANCE McCORMICK and others of the "disorganizers" were in sympathy with his recusancy.

In this period of comparative freedom from party dominance and growing independence in political action there is probably no valid cause of complaint against an individual for exercising his right to vote as he pleases. But a man who asserts that right and acts upon it has no just claim afterward to leadership in the party which he shamelessly betrayed. Besides, in view of subsequent developments, Mr. GUTHRIE may not be amenable to censure for voting against an individual who happened to be the candidate for his party, if that individual expressed principles to which he was opposed. But in the campaign in question Mr. GUTHRIE and Mr. McCORMICK contributed freely to a corruption fund to defeat candidates for Congress, the General Assembly and local offices who had never faltered in their devotion to Democracy. Why should they be elevated to the leadership of the party now?

—In a straw vote recently taken by the Appeal to Reason, a semi-socialist, semi-anarchist publication, EUGENE DEBS had the highest vote and McNAMARA, the dynamite fiend, was second. But THEODORE ROOSEVELT made a fairly good showing, having received 41,384 votes to 54,726 for McNAMARA. The "Colonel" appears to be getting into bad company.

An Excellent Candidate.

The Democrats of the Twenty-sixth Congressional district are to be congratulated upon the fact that HORACE DEY. LENTZ has entered the contest for the Congressional nomination. He is a lawyer of splendid ability and a citizen of the best type. Personally popular, his fitness for the office will command the enthusiastic support of all the Democrats in the district as well as the full strength of the independent electorate. He was reluctant to enter the contest and yielded only to the demand of an earnest public sentiment. Being in, however, he will strive assiduously for the success which he deserves.

Under the uniform primary election law there is a possibility of the larger counties in the several Congressional districts unjustly dominating the lesser and thus destroying the incentive to party coherence and effort. Four years ago the counties composing the Twenty-sixth district entered into an agreement for the rotation of the nomination. Under that agreement Carbon county is entitled to the nomination this year and failure to accord it the full measure of justice will naturally disappoint the voters and probably alienate some of them from the party. This would be a great misfortune, to say the least.

The protection of the minority is one of the fundamental principles of the Democratic party and unless this principle is protected in the making of Congressional and Senatorial nominations in districts composed of more than one county grave party trouble will be inevitable. It is in order to fulfill this principle that Mr. LENTZ, of Carbon county, has consented to be a candidate and he ought to be nominated by an overwhelming majority. The Twenty-sixth district is Democratic. The only time it has ever failed to elect the Democratic candidate was when an attempt was made to violate this just principle.

Mr. Bryan Again Rebuked.

The adoption of a resolution to investigate the "Money trust," by the House of Representatives at Washington, the other day, is a complete refutation of Mr. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN'S recent imputation against the sincerity and integrity of the Democratic leaders of that body. Mr. BRYAN had fixed in his mind a policy, in connection with this matter, which was not concurred in by leaders in the House. Thereupon he assailed them bitterly, alleging that they were under control of "the interests" and unresponsive to the sentiment of the rank and file of the party throughout the country. At the time we suggested that he was both premature and unjust and expressed the belief that his charges were unfounded. This prediction has been fulfilled.

Representative HENRY, of Texas, chairman of the House Committee on Rules, espoused Mr. BRYAN'S side of the contention at the time and summoned a party caucus with the idea of disciplining those who took a different view of the matter. The subject was fully and freely discussed in the caucus and the plan of procedure since adopted was outlined. Since then it has been carefully considered and fully digested and when brought before the House the other day Mr. HENRY was the first speaker in its favor. In fact only three of the entire Democratic membership voted in the negative and the resolution was adopted by the extraordinary unanimity of 270 against 8, one of the minority being Mr. DIPPENDERFER, of Pennsylvania.

That there is a "Money trust" is hardly susceptible of doubt, and that it has proven inimical to the commercial and industrial life of the country is equally certain. But the consensus of opinion among the Democrats in Congress was that its evil influences can be restrained effectively without plunging the country into a financial panic which Mr. BRYAN'S drastic methods threatened to entail. Mr. PUJO, of Louisiana, chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency, which will conduct the inquiry, declares that it will be "complete, fair and effectual," and that is all that can be desired. The action of the House, therefore, is another rebuke to Mr. BRYAN. It ought to admonish him against further meddling with the business of Congress.

—After all it begins to look as if the nine Congressmen who joined the disorganizing force of GUTHRIE and McCORMICK were more interested in retaining their own Congressional seats than in rejuvenating the Democratic party of the State.

One Battleship is Enough.

The President insists that it is the duty of Congress to provide for the building of two battleships during the present session. In view of the activities of Germany in the matter of naval construction he believes that four dreadnaughts ought to be ordered this year but realizes that such extravagance is out of the question. He hopes, however, to be able to cajole or dragon the House of Representatives into consent for two. They would cost ten or twelve millions of dollars each and the "rake off" from such a constructive enterprise would make a considerable campaign fund. The President is a trifle anxious about money for the coming campaign.

The President doesn't attempt to show why the activities of Germany in the matter of naval construction should have any influence upon the policies of this country, in that respect. Probably he shares with some others of the jingo type of statesmanship the absurd notion that the navy of the United States should be equal to that of any other country. But he ought to know that equaling the German navy does not achieve that result and that there is no chance of putting our navy on a level with that of Great Britain. Besides this country is in no peril of war with any foreign power while Germany is constantly menaced with such an encounter with Great Britain.

The Government of the United States needs a respectable naval equipment for purely ornamental purposes, such as paying compliments to friendly sister governments and transporting our official dignitaries on their too frequent junkets for buncombe. But we do not need a navy, the construction and maintenance of which will impoverish the people or make the problem of living more difficult than it is at present. Even with our present force warships become obsolete, before they have been fairly tried out and the false pride which leads to such policies is that which "goes before a fall." If the Democratic Congress is wise one battleship will be the limit this year.

—Anyway it will be a rollicking, rough-riding campaign but the principal equestrian is "riding for a fall," unless the signs are misleading.

Roosevelt Has Burned the Bridges.

Mr. ROOSEVELT has "burned the bridges behind him." That is to say he has finally announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination with a strong intimation that if he is not nominated, he will run as an independent candidate. "I will accept the nomination if it is tendered me," he writes to the seven Governors who solicited him to be a candidate, but he will not sit idly by waiting for the tender. He is in the fight for all it is worth, and he is an adroit politician. But he is without the resources which made him so potent a force four years ago. The public patronage which he traded like a huckster then is under other control now and the steam roller is operated by other hands.

In 1904 and again in 1907 Mr. ROOSEVELT solemnly declared that "under no circumstances" would he "be a candidate for or accept another nomination." His entrance into the campaign for the nomination is, therefore, a violation of his pledge to the people. But that is not a matter of surprise. He has frequently proved himself a falsifier and this additional offence adds little, if anything, to the moral turpitude in his previous lapses from the standards of veracity. But it ought to admonish all right-thinking men against putting confidence in his promises of whatever kind. His obvious purpose is to convert the government into an oligarchy and his professions of patriotism are "as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals."

We do not regret this action of Mr. ROOSEVELT. In the first place we have no idea that he will be nominated and in the event that a majority of the National Republican convention, under the influence of hysteria, should commit that egregious folly, it is inconceivable that a majority of the voters could be hypnotized into voting for him. His record as a grafter, his reputation as a trader and his absolute disregard of moral obligations will certainly forbid thoughtful men of all parties from returning him to a seat of power which he palpably hopes to pervert. Besides, the people of this country will not contribute to the violation of the unwritten, but sacred, law against a third term.

Declines a Renomination.

The WATCHMAN greatly regrets to learn that Hon. JOHN G. MCHENRY, who for the past four years has so ably and satisfactorily represented the Sixteenth Congressional district at Washington, is compelled to decline a renomination and has withdrawn his name as a candidate for re-election. Mr. MCHENRY gives his reason for this course as "prompted purely by business necessities" and the "decrease of his business associates that he either quit business or politics."

During his two terms in Congress Mr. MCHENRY has made a record for himself, as a working and influential member of that body, that is equalled or surpassed by few,—a record that his constituency, his party and he can point to with much satisfaction. Notwithstanding the fact that his action in joining, with other Democrats elected to Congress from this State, in fomenting and encouraging the factional fight that is demoralizing and dividing the party in Pennsylvania, and which now bids fair to defeat the reelection of a number of them, it takes great pleasure in recognizing his ability and faithfulness as a representative in Congress, and to express its sincere hope that his withdrawal from active participation in political affairs, may be but for a short period, as we feel confident it will. The public can ill afford to lose the services of men of the stamp of Mr. MCHENRY.

—JACK ABERNATHY would make an ideal Chief Justice of the Supreme court after ROOSEVELT'S Columbus speech has been substituted for the constitution of the United States. Then there is "BAR" MASTERSON. How admirably he would fit into the office of Secretary of War. Believe us, we're going some.

—Counting gubernatorial noses TAFT appears to have the best of it. There are nine on his side and only seven on the other.

—The state highway engineers who have been located in Bellefonte the past two weeks surveying on the route from Centre Hall to Bellefonte, have about completed their survey to the borough line and taken the grades and elevations to the Diamond and this week will leave for their headquarters in Bloomsburg. Their work in the future will be confined to their own district, of which Centre county is not a part.

—How do you like the kind of weather we have been having this week?

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

For National Delegate.

From the Clearfield Republican. The McKean Democrat published at Smethport in issue of February 8th, contained the following relative to the candidacy of William Hanley, of that county, for delegate to the National Democratic convention:

"In its proper place at the head of these columns appears the announcement of William Hanley, of Bradford, who aspires to represent this Congressional district in the National Democratic convention which will be held in Baltimore next June. While the editor of the Democrat has never had the good fortune to meet Mr. Hanley personally, we know him very well from general reputation, and judging from this we are safe in saying that he is a gentleman who is in every way qualified to represent this Congressional district in an intelligent and able manner in the National convention, and should the voters of the district decide that he is the man for the place they will have made no mistake in bestowing the honor on this clean cut business man. Mr. Hanley has never before been mixed up in the politics of McKean county to the extent of being an aspirant for any office here and throughout the district, and he at this time comes before the voters free from all entangling alliance—a candidate fresh from the busy ranks of business, and not a chronic office seeker in any sense of the word, all of which cannot help redounding in his favor with all thinking men in this district. We will leave it to the Bradford Era, who knows Mr. Hanley to be one of Bradford's foremost citizens, to speak a good word for this popular gentleman. The Era says:

"Mr. Hanley is one of Bradford's foremost citizens and is favorably known here and throughout the district, as a man of sterling qualities. He located in Bradford in 1876 and was the man who had the contract for placing roofs on the first two iron oil tanks ever constructed in the Bradford oil field. Since that time he has been extensively engaged in building operations in this and in other cities. He is an oil producer and a manufacturer of clay products and other commodities. By his untiring energy and excellent judgment he has been very successful in his various enterprises and his success is well deserved. "Being a busy man of affairs Mr. Hanley has never before been a candidate for any public position although often asked to take such action. He is a Democrat and one who believes sincerely in the principles of that party. He has been active in movements intended to improve political conditions and has a most excellent standing as a citizen of public spirit and helpful purposes. Two aspirants for the honors of National delegate, in the district, on learning that Mr. Hanley is to be a candidate for the position, promptly withdrew from the contest in his behalf and will do what they can to bring about his election. "Regardless of political affiliations a great multitude of friends here would be much gratified to learn of his success in this, his first venture as a candidate."

No Increase Necessary.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. It is hardly to be expected that the President will respond to the message of Congress Taft by increasing the postage on second class mail matter. There is no necessity for such increase, and therefore no excuse for it. When Postmaster General Hitchcock first proposed an increase in the rate of postage the department reports showed a deficit of some \$17,000,000. The report for the last fiscal year showed that the deficit had been wiped out and an excess of \$200,000 substituted.

The President says that it costs five and one-half cents a pound to handle second class mail matter, the postage on which is one cent a pound. He gives that as a reason for increasing the postage to two cents a pound. According to what appears to be the new theory of postal management, that would still leave the business to be handled at a loss. But it would bring more money into the treasury—money which the reports show would not be needed and which experience proves would be squandered if it were collected. What the Postoffice Department needs is not more revenue but more economy. We don't mean the economy that is practiced on employees in the mail service, by means of which more labor is exacted of them under annoying conditions, but that economy which would lessen the absurd cost of handling second class matter, which would oblige senders to pay for everything that is carried in the mails, and which would mean the end of the franking privilege and its abuses. It should be easily possible to reduce the reported cost of handling second class mail. If what is suggested here were done the business of the department would show a surplus every year.

Forces an Irrepressible Conflict.

From the New York Evening Post. There is no need of laboring minor points. The outstanding fact is that Mr. Roosevelt has forced upon the Republican party a conflict which is now irrepressible. It is not simply a fight between Taft and Roosevelt, though that cannot now be avoided. The President must at last know that Roosevelt means to beat him if he can, and there is no longer a reason why either should take refuge behind vague phrases about "eminent lawyers" or "it has been suggested." Let both come out into the open and say plainly what they think of each other. But above any such rivalry for the Presidency rises the bold challenge which Mr. Roosevelt has put before the country. Is his party ready to abandon with Mr. Roosevelt all that it has stood for in the past and go in blindly for a program of upheaval and revolution? That is the question which will have to be fought out between now and the Chicago convention.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Three new cases of scarlet fever were reported in Huntingdon last week and every precaution is being taken to prevent an epidemic.

—Carl Keller, the 4-year old Lock Haven lad who was so badly burned last week succumbed to his injuries at the hospital in that place.

—On the recent observance of Patrons' day in the public schools of Connelisville no less than 2,531 visits were recorded to all the departments.

—Organizers have left Gracetown and danger of a strike at the coke ovens is thought to be over. The men didn't give them any encouragement to stay.

—Samuel Eshelman, a demented citizen of Lancaster, who kindled a fire in his barn and refused to leave it until removed by force, is dead from his burns.

—A man giving his name as Charles Johnson, after being fed recently at the Salvation Army barracks at Philipsburg, stole a \$12 bible, sold it and got drunk on the proceeds.

—The contract for the new Y. M. C. A. building at Indiana has been awarded and work will begin in the early spring. E. M. Lockard, a local contractor will do the work for \$30,485.

—Mount Union royally entertained the bankers of Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clearfield and Huntingdon counties at their annual group meeting on Washington's birthday. They had a turkey dinner and an exchange of ideas.

—E. W. Cleaves, manager of a large Somerset county dairy, comes to the front with figures to show that, despite the high price of butter, the average cow nets its owner a profit of only \$3.72 a year. He allows \$25 a year for labor bestowed on her.

—Claire Kaufman was dismissed by the Black Lick school board on December 29. His father sues for his wages to the end of the term and patrons complain that he was not giving "values received." The outcome will be awaited with interest.

—Alexander Irwin Thompson, of Curwensville, one of Clearfield county's best known citizens, an old time lumberman and one of the ablest pilots on the river in running rafts to Lock Haven, died at his home Thursday after nine months' illness, aged 77 years.

—John Lesko, of Lilly, who was recovering from a self inflicted wound, escaped two hours before the constable arrived to place him under arrest for cutting the wife of his boarding house boss. As he was very weak, it was thought that he would be recaptured.

—John Lesko, of Lilly, on Friday cut the throat of Mrs. John Krenda, wife of his boarding house boss, and then tried to kill himself in the same way. The woman is not seriously hurt and the man may recover. There had not been any intimacy between the two.

—The oldest person now living in Union county is Miss Sarah Templeton Steves, of New Berlin, who has just completed her 97th year. She is a staunch Presbyterian and up until two years ago made a practice of repeating the whole of the shorter catechism each Sunday.

—Barnesboro had a fire a few days ago when the water plugs in the neighborhood were useless owing to a break in the main. The firemen had a gasoline engine and it brought the much needed water supply from the river, 300 feet distant. The property loss is about \$6,000.

—Judge Harry Alvin Hall, presiding over the Elk county courts, permitted forty of the sixty-two applicants for naturalization papers to pass at a recent session. Elk is one of the smallest counties in the State and the addition to the voting list of forty at one "swoop" is unusual.

—There is a heap of coal of more than 10,000 tons stored along the Pennsylvania Railroad, below Montandon, owned by a coal company of which H. Eyer Spuyker, of Lewisburg, is the head. It is an imposing-looking mountain of black fuel and users of coal look upon it with longing eyes.

—At a meeting of the executive committee of the State Firemen's association at Altoona, Saturday, the date of the convention this year which will be held at Lebanon, was changed from the first to the second week in September. The people of Lebanon sent word that the original date was the week after the Lebanon fair and they desired a week intervening.

—The Milton Electric company is arranging for the building of two concrete towers to carry their wires over the river at Lewisburg. The company has made several efforts to secure the use of the bridge for its lines, but the commissioners and the company could not come to terms. The towers will be built between the two bridges. The span of wire between the two towers will be 1500 feet.

—There was a war on between Punxsutawney and DuBois. There was a meeting at Indiana recently when Apollo and Punxsutawney were admitted to the Coal, Iron and oil racing circuit. The DuBois secretary was sick and the town was not represented. In the arrangement of dates Punxsutawney was assigned those previously held by DuBois, and the latter threatens to go ahead on the old dates.

—Wearied of the inconvenience occasioned by the old system, or lack of system, of procuring water on his two farms, J. G. Bower, of Allen wood, has installed a compressed air pump, a gasoline engine and 2900 feet of pipe to force and carry water from a large spring on one of the farms. Each stall for horses and cows has a faucet and the houses and other buildings are equipped with numerous faucets, doing away with the old pumps, the moss-covered buckets and the "long hauls" by pails.

—An explosion at Winburne last Thursday afternoon caused the death of one person and shattered the home of Andrew Kitchen to pieces. It was his three year old son who lost his life. Kitchen is aminer, and had a quantity of powder and carbide in his home. Just where it was stored could not be learned, but in some manner fire reached it and the explosion followed. The child seemed to have been the only person in the house at the time, the father being away at work and his mother some other place. The house was blown to pieces and the men who ran to the place rescued the child, who however, was badly injured. He was taken to the hospital at Philipsburg, where he died later.

—The largest verdict ever obtained against any common carrier in the many discrimination cases brought in the Clearfield soft coal region was that returned Saturday by a jury in the Clearfield common pleas court, in the case of the Sonmen Coal company against the Pennsylvania Railroad, giving the plaintiff \$145,830.25. This company operates a mine in Cambria county, near Portage, and claims damages to the amount of \$180,000. Former Mayor Vance C. McCormick, of Harrisburg, is the president of the company. Operators all over this coal field have been bringing their suits in the Clearfield court. A few weeks ago the Puritan Coal company obtained a substantial verdict from the Pennsy, as also did the Walnut Run Coal company.

—Plans for a monster celebration in Altoona, September, commemorating the gathering of the Lincoln loyal war governors, in September, 1862, were formulated at a meeting of a committee of the Lincoln Loyal War Governors' association, held in the Logan house, Tuesday evening. Congressman Jesse L. Hartman was in attendance, and early next week, the Congressman and a committee will call on Governor John K. Tener, to elicit the aid of the State, for the celebration. It is planned to have the celebration last for three days, September 16, 17 and 18, the same dates as those on which the governors gathered at the Logan house, fifty years ago, to devise ways and means of assisting President Abraham Lincoln to break the backbone of the Rebellion.