

INK SLINGS.

Germany is making tentative plans for a big Russian bear hunt. Buck deer can now roam the mountains without fear of the red capped hunter. A glass factory can be started in Bellefonte if some one will take enough pains to raise the money. Many a good woman's daily fear of being made a widow was minimized when the deer hunting season closed. The war is on. Council has told the borough engineer to take the strip off the dam in Spring creek and KEEP IT OFF. Thank the Lord! The bunny hug, the grizzly bear and the turkey trot are no longer considered fashionable for dancers. How about that Christmas shopping? Are you doing it now or are you putting it off until the last minute like you did last year. When tried out at football the sea legs of the Navy seem to have more steadiness and speed than the land legs of the Army. Congress is in session; a sort of fall house cleaning to be ready for the new tenants in the spring will probably be the order of things. Just the same if WOODROW WILSON hadn't changed his mind he could easily knock Mr. BRYAN "into a cocked hat" in the near future. Don't forget that you can send the WATCHMAN to any friend for an entire year for \$1.00. It would make a most acceptable Christmas gift. There is plenty of unhusked corn in the fields of Centre county and tardy farmers can't expect anything else than cold fingers as the penalty for not having gotten at it earlier. If DEXTER VERY, the wonderful State end, had been a Yale man he would probably have been on WALTER CAMP'S first All-American eleven in big black tux, but having gone to a school where every man stands on his own legs, both in scholastic standing and athletic successes, he is given a place on the second eleven. Having spent more money and polled fewer Democratic votes than in any presidential election in Pennsylvania for thirty-two years chairman GUTHRIE has called his State central committee to meet in Harrisburg on the 19th to tell the Democratic Legislators-elect what the wishes of the people of Pennsylvania really are in the matter of legislation. It is to laugh! When the new foundry gets well under way in Bellefonte it might be well for those in the community who will have the most cause to rejoice over whatever business that it has brought to remember that in the last analysis Mr. J. HOWARD LINGLE is the man they should take their hats off to. He was the gentleman who told the present owners where the opportunity was to be found and sicked them on it. President-elect WILSON's suggestion that he be quietly inaugurated on March 4th and that the ceremonial function be deferred until the last Thursday in April might possibly reduce the number of pneumonia cases that invariably follow a presidential inauguration celebration, but it seems a good bit like inviting Santa Claus down the chimney on Christmas eve and then not looking to see what he brought until the Fourth of July. Latest gossip has it that Mr. BRYAN will decline any cabinet office. President-elect WILSON might offer him and has rented a suite of offices in Washington where he will edit the Commoner and do other newspaper work. There are those who "view with alarm" and those who "point with pride" to the plan, but among them be the argument. In all probability Mr. BRYAN will do exactly as he pleases and the country and the Democratic party will survive whether his efforts be constructive or destructive. Just before the close of his first administration GROVER CLEVELAND issued an order putting all railroad mail clerks on the civil service list. Within a month after his inauguration President HARRISON rescinded the order. Should President TAFT now attempt to fasten forty thousand fourth-class postmasters on the country without as much as a formal examination of their fitness President WILSON will have a precedent to fall back on should he revoke the order and call on them to be examined like anyone else who is ambitious to get into the government service. Governor TENER is a much interviewed man these days. It is interesting to note that whatever reporter gets his ear the same "dope" as to the next session is forthcoming. The Governor insists that he does not intend training with any faction, that all legislation must "come clean" to the executive office before it will secure his approval and that he wants Pennsylvania's Legislature to redeem the State in every way possible. TENER is young and TENER is ambitious. He came into the Governor's office with little but he might go out to greater things if he proves that he means what he is reported as saying now.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Gratifying Assurance.

In an interview published on the eve of the reassembling of Congress Representative UNDERWOOD, of Alabama, chairman of the House committee on Ways and Means, indicates the program of the Democrats of that body with respect to the revision of the tariff downward, during the special session which is promised soon after the inauguration of WOODROW WILSON. He says, substantially, that the work will be executed with "neatness and dispatch," to the end that doubts in the minds of men may be promptly removed and business interests relieved from anxiety. This is precisely what the people expected, and is, moreover, in strict conformity with the pledges of the party during the campaign. The Ways and Means committee will give ample opportunity for such of the tariff mongers as imagine that they have a right to instruct Congress on the subject, to speak their little pieces before the Committee, but it will be before the opening of the special session and not afterward. The personnel of the committee of the next Congress will be practically the same as that of the present House and within a week the hearings will begin, to continue during the interval between the close of the present session and the opening of the next. In other words upon the day the new Congress is organized the work of tariff revision will begin and it will proceed without interruption until finished.

The gratifying feature of this statement lies in the fact that it means the entire elimination of that most preposterous of all legislative humbugs, the Tariff Commission. That body of "beef eaters" was created for the purpose of delaying tariff reduction and incidentally affording an asylum for a few political "lame ducks." It has cost hundreds of thousands of dollars directly and hundreds of millions indirectly and has been of no more service to the public than a committee of High school boys would render if sent out to serenade the man in the moon. The assurance, therefore, that this expensive and useless luxury will be discontinued immediately is most gratifying and encouraging.

President TAFT may be influenced by the purest motives in putting the fourth class postmasters in the civil service class but there are a good many people who will doubt. There are 40,000 of them, or more, and TAFT wants to be President again. That many grateful office holders would make a hopeful nucleus for a campaign force and TAFT has done so many small things since he became President that suspicions of his motives are simply natural.

Economy the Keynote.

The various heads of departments of the government at Washington estimate that expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, exclusive of the postal service, will aggregate \$823,415,455.14. This is an increase over the appropriations of the present fiscal year of \$72,078,348. Of the increase \$28,312,220 is for the Navy Department which contemplates the construction of three battleships instead of the one provided for during the last session of Congress. There will be an increase of \$20,000,000 in the pension appropriation, in accordance with the provisions of the SHERWOOD law passed during the last session. An increase is also asked for public buildings.

One of the greatest dangers which the Democratic administration will encounter during the early period of its operations will be the tendency to extravagance. Of course the increase in the pension appropriation is unavoidable and the people will not grudge the additional sum that goes to relieve the wants of the veterans of the several wars through which the country has passed. But there is neither rhyme nor reason in the further increase of the Naval appropriation. During the last session the Democratic majority of the House set its face against the construction of two battleships and the recent Democratic landslide was one of the results. There ought to be no departure from that policy.

President TAFT had an inordinate penchant for commissions. In addition to his absurd Tariff commission he had an Economic and Efficiency commission and the Department estimates provide for the maintenance of both of these tax-eating bodies. We sincerely hope that during the present session both of them will be eliminated and that the Commerce Court will be similarly disposed of. The keynote of the Democrats in the present session should be rigid economy in everything and the best way to put such policies in force is to cut out all the needless bodies created from time to time to provide berths for superannuated party sers. And there are other ways to economize.

Put Flinn to the Test.

We most cordially approve the expressed purpose of the Democrats in the Legislature to put the sincerity of BOSS FLINN's professions of political conviction to the test at the opening of the Legislature. Mr. FLINN protests with much unctious that he favors the rule of the people and the elimination of bossism from the government of the Commonwealth. His first opportunity to "prove his faith by works" will come in the selection of the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives. The Democrats will propose that the committees be named by the bodies of which they are organs rather than by the Speaker of the House and President pro tem. of the Senate, as heretofore.

We do not concur in the absurd view expressed by the Harrisburg Patriot, that the present system of selecting committees in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, and until recently in the House of Representatives in Washington, was a device of the bosses to serve the interests of the bosses. It is the system that has been in vogue both in Harrisburg and Washington from the beginning of legislative organization in those capitals. But of late years it has been perverted to the base uses of the bosses and because of that fact it ought to be abolished in Harrisburg as it has been in Washington. Considerable good may come from the proposed change and that makes it worth trying.

The experience in Washington justifies the change in Harrisburg, moreover. It curtailed the power of the Speaker materially both in the committee rooms and upon the floor of the House, but did not, as the congressional bosses predicted, retard legislation or impair the efficiency of the chair in preserving order and dispatching business. We doubt FLINN's willingness to make the change, however. It will vastly curtail his control of the membership and legislation and that is what FLINN wants to avoid. He is in the game for the power it promises to give him and we are greatly mistaken in the man if he willingly relinquishes any opportunities to boss the job.

Anyway those impudent office seekers who are breaking into President-elect WILSON's period of rest by deluging him with letters ought to pay the postage. It is said that he has been obliged to pay a considerable sum on postage due thus far and no man is entitled to an office who will put such a burden upon him.

President Taft's Message.

President TAFT's last annual message to Congress sounds like a "swan song." It treats only of our foreign relations and diplomatic achievements and from beginning to end it carries a note of fear that some of the policies may be changed. The President would regret beyond expression if the "Dollar Diplomacy" which he inaugurated, and in the imaginary success of which he takes so much pride should be forced aside in order that a diplomacy which recognized human rights as more important than dollars, should be substituted. We sincerely hope his apprehensions upon the subject will not be disappointed.

The President is careful, moreover, to dwell upon the non-partisanship of his diplomatic policy. "Three ambassadors now serving held their present rank at the beginning of my administration," he declares. "Of the ten ambassadors whom I have appointed," he adds, "five were by promotion from the rank of minister. Of the thirteen ministers whom I have appointed, eleven were promoted from the lower grades of the foreign service or from the Department of State." But as practically all of them were Republicans appointed by ROOSEVELT or MCKINLEY, we can see little evidence of non-partisanship in it from first to last.

We are not inclined to captious criticism either of President TAFT's administration or his message. He has been an amiable, well-meaning, but sadly disappointing executive. His message reads well and will no doubt interest the public considerably. But it palpably reveals a purpose to entrench the present Republican officials in their places or embarrass his successor in office in the removal of them. What he says of the merits of his policies may be true from his point of view but the country will suffer no evil consequences if there is a complete reorganization and renovation of the service.

The complete though not official election returns show that ROOSEVELT polled only a trifle more than half a million votes more than TAFT and an analysis of the figures indicate that WILSON would have been elected if only one of the two had been in the field.

If the railroad corporations paid less in dividends on water the charges for maintenance and labor wouldn't bother them half as much.

Palpably an Outrage.

Obviously the "interests" are trying to "make good" on their pre-election predictions that in the event of the election of WOODROW WILSON, industrial paralysis would follow. In a statement made by the Secretary of the Treasury, recently, and commented upon in these columns last week, it was alleged that the secretary has power to create a panic whenever he is so inclined. It is equally certain that the industrial trusts, by combination and collusion, can similarly cripple the industrial life of the country. The discharge of 900 employees of the CARNEGIE Steel company at its Pittsburgh plant the other day is ominous of a purpose to exercise this outrageous power.

Four men in the employ of the CARNEGIE Steel company were discharged, recently, for circulating petitions asking the company for improved industrial conditions. Their fellow workers to the number mentioned, demanded the restoration of these men to their places and last Saturday held a conference with the president of the company, A. C. DIXKEY, who demanded that they return to work without a promise of the fulfillment of their request. They refused to do so and were immediately discharged, which drastic action threw 11,000 men out of employment. Of course times will be hard in that neighborhood so long as the lockout continues, and the calamity howls of the late campaign will be in some measure justified.

As a matter of fact there has been no actual change in industrial condition since the election of WOODROW WILSON and there will be none unless it is forced by such conspiracies as that which resulted in the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company in 1907. That such a conspiracy is now impending is plainly indicated by this action of the CARNEGIE Steel company and it ought to be checked if there is any legal process available to accomplish that result. We have no sympathy with heedless strikes nor patience with riotous strikers. But this is so palpably an infringement of the rights of citizenship that it can't be condoned or should not be permitted.

When former Speaker CANNON appeared on the floor of the House on Monday he was generously applauded by his associates in the body. But nobody indicated, thus far, whether those who applauded were glad for his defeat or that he will never appear at another opening of the session.

Every evening the passenger train on the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad is from fifteen minutes to three quarters of an hour late, caused by the time it takes to load milk cans at various stations throughout Pennsylvania for shipment to the milk condensary at Mill Hall. During the summer a sub-station was built at Spring Mills and a month or six weeks ago a special car was put on to be loaded at Spring Mills and ready for the afternoon train. It was believed that this would solve the problem of late trains but now so much milk is shipped from other stations in Pennsylvania that it takes considerable time to handle it.

A dispatch from Detroit, Mich., states that on Sunday, November 24th, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey F. York was burglarized and jewelry valued at three thousand dollars taken. The thief was arrested and the jewels recovered on Thanksgiving day, but when recovered they were found to be paste imitations of real gems. The thief declares he did not make the substitution and Mr. York claims the jewels were never out of the family possession before and he is in possession of the substitution was made is inexplicable. Mr. York is a son-in-law of Col. Emanuel Noll, of this place.

A recent order from the War Department at Washington detached Capt. Walter B. McCaskey from the Twelfth infantry and gave him the assignment of construction quartermaster, with residence on Alcatraz Island, a government presidio in the bay of San Francisco. The captain is thus virtually placed in charge of the construction of all the buildings to be erected by the United States for the Panama exposition. Captain McCaskey is a graduate of State College and well remembered by many Centre county people.

Farmer's week at State College will this year be held December 26th to January 2nd inclusive. Inaugurated five or six years ago farmer's week has grown to be as much of an established course at the college as any study in the curriculum and farmers all over the State take advantage of it to spend the week there and learn everything possible about modern methods of agriculture. The course of lectures and demonstrations this year will be equal to those given in past years.

A Hole in the Tom-Tom.

From the Johnstown Democrat. "Dare to vote against the Republican party and you shall have panic, drought and hail; a man in Ohio voted the Democratic ticket in 1872—and next day all his chickens died the pip!" In these words the Saturday Evening Post sums up the argument for a protective tariff—a tariff that will protect "our infant industries." "They have beaten that old tom-tom until there's a hole in it," says the Post, "but comparatively few braves responded this year." And the reason, comparatively few heard the call of the wild is because the great majority of American voters recognize the fact that at the bottom of most of our troubles today is the tariff which protects those who have need for protection and fails to secure those who need defense.

The tariff is to be revised. The Democratic party in making that promise made it in good faith. The same promise was made four years ago by the Republican party, which promised a downward revision; and when the revision came it was upward. President-elect Wilson has called a special session of Congress for tariff revision. This time it will be downward. But there is no need to fear the consequences. There will be no disastrous results. Honest business suffers dishonest business itself will feel the blow and none else.

But we may expect the American Protective Tariff league to resume in a few weeks the agitation it dropped just before election. The interests whose pocketbooks will suffer through a revision of similar materials and goods will put up a fight for the retention of duties as they stand today. These interests will not be without friends in the national legislative bodies. But the tariff will be reduced. And as a result of the reduction that is to come it may be taken for granted that within a short time there will be a drastic drop in the cost of necessities of life, with no accompanying drop in wages. There will be no lowering of wages because as a result of downward revision will mean a larger demand for goods; and a larger demand for goods will mean a greater demand for labor to produce them. If anything wages will go higher, because a greater demand for labor means higher wages.

Presidential Votes.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Compilations of the vote cast at the Presidential election this year indicate a falling off of nearly six hundred thousand in the popular vote as compared with that of 1908. But, as the returns are not complete; as the tables include unofficial as well as official returns, and as the vote cast in fifty counties and parishes was not obtainable when that of all the States was compiled, the loss is much more apparent than real. The difference between 1908 and 1912 will be greatly reduced when all the returns are in. In the last sixteen years there has not been a normal increase in the popular vote cast in Presidential elections. In 1896 the total was 13,962,000. In 1900 it increased only 18,000, to 13,880,000. There must have been a much larger increase in the number of citizens who had reached the voting age in that time. Worse still, there was an actual decrease of more than 400,000 in 1904, when the total was only 13,525,000. However, the decrease can be attributed to the candidacy of Parker, for the Democratic vote was more than a million less than in 1900. In 1908 the popular vote jumped to 14,888,000.

That there should be any slump this year cannot be explained on any reasonable theory, and as a matter of fact all deductions from the figures at hand may have to be discarded when the full returns are at hand. All the parties were fighting hard during the entire campaign. There was more political matter franked by Congressmen than ever before. The committees' bureau of publicity worked as never before. There was a greater effort to reach individual voters with booklets and advertisements than ever before. It was said again and again that the Democratic party was united and would get converts from other parties, yet the Democratic vote is 250,000 less (according to the incomplete statistics) than in 1908, and the Republican vote is 374,000 less. It would take a college of political experts to explain the why and wherefore of the slump of 1912.

What One Mayor Learned.

From the Wilmington Evening Eveninging. Mayor Brand Whitlock, of Toledo, O., has made a fine record for excellent results in municipal administration, yet during the tour of observation in foreign countries, which he is now making, especially in Germany, he has learned things which fairly amaze him. "I have been bewildered," he writes in the New York Times, "by the thoroughness of everything. Everywhere I have encountered burgomasters and town councilors with whom the science of municipal government is not a political opportunity or a passing occupation, but a profession which they have practiced for years, and intend to practice all their lives. Everywhere I have found the city in possession of what belongs to the city." But in our country, unfortunately, the foundation of municipal administration is partisanship. Political parties are entrusted with the work of administration and municipal offices are awarded as paymaster for party services. Experience and ability count for nothing against party connection. No wonder the results are unsatisfactory and unduly costly. A revolution will have to be brought about before we successfully solve the problem of good municipal administration in the cities of the United States.

For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

W. D. Krebs, aged 20, started from his home in Renovo to ride to Lock Haven on a N. Y. Central freight. His mangled body was found a short distance east of Hyner. While workmen were cleaning out the fireplace in a vacant house at Sunbury, they came on the body of a male child. There is no clue to the identity but the matter is to be investigated. The most important coal deal in Somerset county in a decade was consummated last week, when 5,000 acres in Shade, Stonycreek and Quakering townships changed hands. The price was \$250,000. A party of Salladasburg hunters celebrated Thanksgiving day by killing the biggest buck of the season. It weighed 223 pounds dressed. Twelve had been seen by the party but only this one with horns. The Progressive Oil and Gas company, composed entirely of Juniata men, is having drilling machinery placed on the property occupied by Lan Turner, near McAllisterville. Drilling will begin in a few days. Edward Mansell, of Morrisdale, was chopping kindling when a piece became fast under a stump. When he tried to pull it out, he fell backward, breaking his leg. He lost a foot in a mine accident some years ago. John A. Carna, aged 69, of DuBois, has been traveling the hunting ground of that region for more than a half century, during which time he has killed more than 200 deer, besides several bears and smaller game too numerous to mention. State veterinarians report that "blackleg," which made its appearance in the northern part of Cambria county a few weeks ago, is now under control and there has been no further spread of hog cholera which broke out near Hastings recently. Fred Yueston is under arrest at Greensburg, charged with having been watchman for years who dynamited the safe of the Eureka Supply company store at Herminie, near Greensburg. The booty was \$2,000 cash, \$800 checks, jewelry worth \$1,000 and a quantity of clothing. Miss Minnie Snook, aged twenty-five years, a Lewisburg seamstress, was held up at a lonely spot near Lewisburg Junction and robbed of \$25 which she carried in a hand bag. The highwayman escaped in the direction of Lewisburg. Near Harrisburg police men are searching for him. Three coal miners were seriously injured near Phillipsburg on Monday. Charles and Irvin Meyers, of Lock Lomond, and William Hughes, of Hawk Run, each has an injured back, Hughes having the vertebrae partially dislocated. Charles Meyers has three ribs broken and an injured back. Passengers on a trolley car coming into DuBois a few evenings ago heard a splash as they approached Falls Creek and saw two hands reaching up out of the water. An hour later the body of Gordon Harris, aged 48, a resident of Reynoldsville, was recovered. He had fallen from a foot bridge. The unconscious form of Archie Morris, an engineer on the Williamsport and North Branch railroad, was found beside his engine a few mornings ago. His fireman was ill and Morris was working alone at the engine. It is thought that there must have been an explosion, as he was frightfully burned. He died later at the Williamsport hospital. A son of John Stone, of Wheatfield township, Perry county, recently took a new rifle with him to the field when he went to bring in the horses and cows. He fired several shots, just to hurry them along, and soon after they reached the barn two of the horses and one cow fell dead. The boy didn't think the gun would shoot hard enough to hurt them. There are two men named Henry Wenner, one of whom lives in Williamsport and one at Baxters. Each has a son and the boys have the same birthday, although they were not born in the same year. Recently the boy in the city fell and broke a collarbone and the boy at Baxters within an hour had his leg badly mashed in a corn sheller. While hunting rabbits in the woods near Mt. Union, Huntingdon county, Miles Preston, of that place, discovered the skeleton of a man last Friday evening. A gold watch, chain and eye-glasses were identified by relatives as belonging to George Banawalk, aged 60, of Mt. Union, who disappeared from that place last June. A coroner is believed to have been the cause of his death. Stephen Barrett, of Franklin, who has worked more than forty-eight years for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad without a vacation and without missing a whole day, went on the retired list Sunday. His record for fidelity is so remarkable that D. T. Murray, division superintendent, and other officials went to Franklin Saturday night on a special train and gave the retiring employee a banquet. Leo Sprout, aged 14, a farmer boy residing near Chest Springs, met a terrible death the last of the week by being dragged more than a quarter of a mile by a frightened cow. The animal became unmanageable when an automobile suddenly bore down on her in the narrow highway. She turned and ran the other way, dragging the helpless boy, who had tied the rope to his wrist. He was dead when found. A posse of private citizens scoured Bald Eagle mountain, south of Williamsport, Sunday in search of a bold highwayman who held up Samuel Miller and stole his money and watch at a lonely spot along the public road Saturday afternoon. Miller was returning from Williamsport where he attended market. Gunshots were exchanged and the robber was wounded, but at last reports had not been apprehended. The associate judges of Columbia county, Messrs. Krickbaum and Hoock, overruled President Judge Evans and exercised mercy to Mrs. Martin Probst and Mrs. Cora Houck, who had pleaded guilty to stealing \$100 worth of merchandise from seven Bloomsburg stores in less than two hours. Judge Evans thought they merited more severe punishment, but they got off with fines of 5 cents apiece, costs of prosecution and four months each in the county jail. Henry W. Shoemaker, president of the Altoona Tribune, has purchased at Old Glory sale in New York city, the first trotting stallion Major Delmar, Jr. This animal which is standard bred and registered is a son of Major Delmar, 1894, and is said to be the only living foal of a twofold trotter. Mr. Shoemaker intends using him as a road horse, and will probably drive him double with Nicholas, a black stallion which he purchased in Centre county last summer. Mrs. Charles Rebeck, of Selingsgrove, near Sunbury, at the peril of her life rushed through a furnace of flames on Saturday morning to save three horses from perishing in a burning barn. The woman was alone on the farm, her husband having started for market at Sunbury when the fire was discovered. The horses were so that the plucky woman succeeded in saving them. The barn went up in a \$5,000 blaze, and with five cows, several hundred dollars worth of new farming implements were consumed. Thomas J. Stewart, Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pa., is compiling information relative to the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, to be held at Gettysburg, July 1st, to 4th, 1913, and desires the name, command, date of enlistment, date of discharge and post office address of each surviving soldier now residing in Pennsylvania who served in a Pennsylvania organization that participated in the Battle of Gettysburg, and who enlisted and served therein prior to July 4th, 1863.