

INK SLINGS.

—There is some hope for Mexico, after all. They have started to praying for peace.

—Get a Christmas smile in your heart, then it will shine out through your eyes and express itself on your lips.

—A dollar on that subscription account of yours would go a long way toward helping Santy down the WATCHMAN office chimney.

—Boost the new glass works proposition. Don't knock it. That is all the promoters ask of you, if you are unable to do more.

—We can't conceal a feeling of sympathy for Senator PENROSE. FLINN appears to have "licked him to a frazzle," tactically as well as actually.

—Poor PERKINS is back in the fold again. But then it was so foolish to imagine that TEDDY would ever permit the expulsion of such a "good angel."

—Of course it is to be expected that our friends, the enemy, will lose no opportunity to stir up a fight between President-elect WILSON and Representatives CLARK and UNDERWOOD.

—The fact that more foreign junk dealers have been in town during the week looking over the Nittany furnace makes it look more and more like the industrial bone-yard for that once great plant.

—LAURA JEAN LIBBY, she of the mushy novel fame, advises those who can afford nothing else to give kisses for Christmas. Regular Indian gifts they'd be because nearly every one who gave one would want it given right back.

—The Keystone Gazette announced last week that two Bellefonte girls made a frolic of going "to the butchering of their uncle." We don't believe such heartless creatures exist in this community. And even if they do, we haven't heard of anybody's uncle having been butchered about here lately.

—Next month will tell the tale of who's to be who in Harrisburg. PENROSE men will certainly organize the Senate and we shouldn't be surprised if they meet with the same success in the House. It will be a fight to the finish between the old and the would be new boss and the scrap will be worth watching.

—It certainly must have come as more or less of a shock to a few of the respectable Republicans in this community to learn that "no honest man can be a member of the Republican party." Yet that is exactly the way Col. THEODORE ROOSEVELT put it and they were all declaring Mr. ROOSEVELT a demi-God not more than eight years ago.

—It has just been announced that no award of the NOBEL prize will be made this year because the committee has failed to observe any "work deserving of the prize." The fellow who can make the elephant and the bull moose lie down in peace together by this time next year might stand a pretty fair chance of winning two year's accumulations in one.

—We can't agree with Mrs. LAURA G. FIXEN, business manager of the Chicago Working Women's Home, when she says: "Man has usurped almost everything in religion, as well as everything else." A visit to any of the churches on Sunday or their prayer meetings at other times will prove the fallacy of Mrs. FIXEN's declaration; unless it is to be inferred that man has only usurped religion through having appropriated the women possessors of it.

—Lock Haven is very much wrought up over a hair snipping feud who has been visiting the picture shows and surreptitiously cutting hair from the heads of the spectators. All the efforts of the police to catch the snipper in the act have been without avail and possessors of luxuriant tresses are in fear of being snipped every time they go out at night. In fact it is reported that our friend Geo. W. A. McDONALD is so scared of his hat that he is never seen on the streets after nightfall any more.

—We can scarcely credit the latest Washington gossip which runs to the effect that Mr. BRYAN will decline a place in President WILSON's cabinet, if it is offered, unless President WILSON will declare in his inaugural address that he will not be a candidate for re-election. The purpose being, of course, to commit President WILSON to one term so that Mr. BRYAN can have himself nominated again in 1916. While we are not in sympathy with many of Mr. BRYAN's plans we have always believed him to be sincere, therefore we cannot credit this latest gossip. It is too small for WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.

—Representative-elect GRAMLEY will vote for GEORGE E. ALTER, of Pittsburgh, for speaker of the next House. At least that is our prediction and it is based on no other ground than the exigencies of the situation. ALLEN is the avowed candidate of the liquor interests. ALTER is his only opponent who has strength. Centre county has always favored local option and the liquor question entered more or less into the fight in which Mr. GRAMLEY was successful in being elected to the Legislature, therefore it looks like a sure thing that he will be for ALTER, and, incidentally, it would be hard to find a better man in the next House for that particular position.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Local Hospital Appropriations.

One of the gravest problems which will confront the Legislature during the approaching session is the question of making appropriations for charitable institutions such as local hospitals. Beyond a doubt the liberality of the Commonwealth has been greatly abused in this connection in the past. The system of log-rolling in legislation is inimical to public interests from whatever viewpoint it is contemplated and when the measure of charity is determined by the servility of Legislators a crime is perpetrated. But the solution of this problem is not to be found in the plan which some amateur statesmen have devised of refusing State aid to all hospitals other than such as are under State control. There are infinitely better and safer remedies to be had.

Manifestly the spirit of paternalism is responsible for this movement to cripple the resources and impair the efficiency of the local hospitals throughout the State. This is clearly expressed in the purpose to create a department or bureau of the State government which like the Highway Department, the Health Department, the Water Commission and similar bodies are taking out of the hands of communities both the right and opportunity to regulate their home affairs. The school system adopted during the last session of the Legislature practically divests communities of control of local educational facilities and the proposition to limit appropriations to hospitals to such as are under State control means a similar surrender of management by the community to the State.

Every progressive community of considerable population has established and maintains a local hospital. These beneficent institutions represent the generosity and humanitarianism of the people of the communities in which they are located. Because in the nature of things they are compelled at times to offer their beneficences to "strangers within their gates," the State has been in the habit of appropriating small sums of money toward their maintenance or to increase their efficiency. But the burden of the cost always has been and still is borne by the communities in which they are located and it would be a shame to take them out of the control of the good men and women who have labored so zealously to bring them up to their present high standard of efficiency.

Our own splendidly equipped and admirably managed hospital is a case in point. It is the rich fruit of a spirit of benevolence and christian charity which has been assiduously cultivated in this community for many years. Urging a small appropriation for this splendid institution biennially has been not only a labor of love but an object of pride to every Senator and Representative which the people of Centre county have sent to the General Assembly in recent years. Are we now, because certain gentlemen imagine that cutting off the foot is the only way to cure a corn, going to be forced to turn the management of this institution over to a bureau in Harrisburg which has no local interest in its work or pride in its achievements? God forbid.

—Upon the principle that it "is better late than never," Senator WORKS, of California, was justified in assailing Colonel ROOSEVELT, the other day, as an instrument of the trusts. But he ought to have indulged himself in those observations before November 5, when ROOSEVELT was a live one. There is an adage that nothing evil should be said of the dead and politically speaking ROOSEVELT is dead and an Egyptian mummy.

—The American hen is all right and her egg achievement this year is something to cackle over. But the corn product, the wheat yield and other farm products have so far exceeded the yield of the hen that we are forced to modify our admiration for waffles.

—Meantime what became of the money sent by the Democratic State committee to this county for the late campaign? The election returns indicate that it must have been dumped where it did no good.

—Really HADLEY is to be pitied. Yet if he had refrained from the society of the "seven little Governors" there might now be a Republican party which didn't need reorganization.

—Speaking of the great battles of the world that affair at Armageddon recently appears to have dwindled down to a slight skirmish which didn't pan out right at that.

—It would be interesting to know how the respectable element of the Republican party regards Mayor MAGEE, of Pittsburgh, as a boss. He is certainly "a corker."

Pretty Fight Impending.

There is to be a test of strength between the PENROSE and FLINN forces at the opening of the session of the Legislature after all, unless the leaders undergo another change of mind, meantime. A couple of weeks ago an agreement seemed to have been reached which would have avoided such a test. Both the leading candidates for Speaker of the House are Allegheny county men and presumably friends of FLINN. But PENROSE announced his willingness to let the Allegheny county delegation decide between the two and elect the one so designated after the choice had been ratified by caucus. FLINN took umbrage at the caucus proposition, however. He doesn't want to allow PENROSE to participate in the matter even to that extent.

With customary vehemence and his usual lack of tact FLINN declared himself on the subject a few days after the agreement had been announced. The result was that PENROSE is now determined to have a caucus and Mayor MAGEE, of Pittsburgh, appears to be in accord with him on the subject. PENROSE and MAGEE want the credit for contemplated reform legislation to go to the Republican party while FLINN, protesting that there is no virtue in the Republican party, insists on ascribing all the good that is expected from the Legislature to the Washington party. The issue of this conflict will be watched with keen interest by the people of the State. There is grave danger, however, that it will result in defeating the hoped for reforms.

Of course neither FLINN nor PENROSE is sincerely for any of the reforms of which they speak. But they have come to a realization of the fact that unless some legislation in the interest of the people is enacted both the Republican machine and the FLINN organization will be submerged in a deluge of popular indignation as soon as the Legislature adjourns. The question uppermost in the minds of both of them, under the circumstances, is not the public good but which of the two conspirators will emerge from the scrimmage in control of the party machinery. FLINN has the advantage because after the induction of the new Auditor General and State Treasurer into office, he will have control of most of the governing boards at Harrisburg. It will be a pretty fight, however.

One Way to Silence Roosevelt.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT is really a source of amazement. During his last term in the office of President he entered the lobby of Congress and freely offered the patronage of his office for votes against an investigation of the Postoffice Department. He had been using the service of certain railroads freely and giving excessive rates for carrying mails as a recompense for the service. Irregularities in other branches of the postal service had challenged Congressional attention and it was proposed to make a thorough investigation of the Department. ROOSEVELT feared the result and stopped the movement. If it had gone on he would probably have been impeached.

In Chicago the other day this political charlatan made a speech in which political morality was the dominant note. He denounced the old parties as inequities to be shunned and yet an examination of his official record shows that no other public official has been so steeped in political crime. During his seven and a half years in the White House he never paid a single cent of personal expenses, though all his predecessors in the office had discharged all their personal obligations out of their private purses. But ROOSEVELT's barber, his cook, his body servants and all his domestic employees were on the payroll of the government in one capacity or another and the payment of their wages was graft.

It is amazing that this political charlatan can fool the public as he seems able to do in view of his long and uninterrupted record of fraud and false pretense. His achievements at San Juan were manufactured by press agents and he has never performed a service of public value in civil or military life. Yet he has the hardihood to assume the character of a censor of public morals whereas he is nothing more or less than a political and public fraud. It is time that popular intelligence asserts itself against such charlatanism. The people ought to openly denounce THEODORE ROOSEVELT as a humbug and grafter. It is the only way to put an end to his false pretenses.

—All the morning trains coming to Bellefonte on Wednesday missed connection from both the east and west; the result of the heavy holiday trade. Extra express cars are carried on every train to meet the demand of shippers. In Bellefonte, however, the shipments have not yet reached high water mark, but they are increasing every day.

Cole Blease and Others.

Of course there is no excuse for the unspeakable COLE BLEASE, Governor of South Carolina. He has been offending official dignity and decency ever since he entered public life, in one way or another, and finally he outraged the recent convention of Governors by a coarse reference to the constitution. But it is hardly worth while to go into "connotation fits" on account of this last incident. At least we can't see why certain Republican contemporaries in this State should take the matter so much to heart. Supporters of WILLIAM A. STONE, SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER and EDWIN S. STUART, recently, in the order named, Governors of Pennsylvania, are not in good position to throw stones at BLEASE.

"Actions speak louder than words," according to the adage, and those Governors of Pennsylvania treated the fundamental law of their State quite as discourteously as BLEASE has the constitution of South Carolina. Each in turn violated the constitution of the State, not once but frequently, and was cordially supported in the actions by the very party organs which are now outraged by the loose tongue of BLEASE. When Governor STONE, after the legislative session of 1899 reduced items in appropriation bills, he violated the constitution both in letter and spirit and his successors in office have been guilty of the same offense against public morals and official rectitude.

We offer no apology for BLEASE. He is probably as bad as his bitterest enemies have painted him, but at his worst he is not as bad as PENNYPACKER or nearly as censurable as THEODORE ROOSEVELT who not only habitually violated the constitution of the United States but robbed the public treasury through every form of graft which a cunningly rapacious mind could conceive. In view of these facts what right have the newspapers which support these malefactors in public life to censure BLEASE? Taking him at his worst he is a paragon of official dignity and personal probity compared with ROOSEVELT. But as he is better than others who are reckoned as honorable.

—Judge Harry Alvan Hall is being censured rather severely by the school teachers and newspapers of Elk county because he refused to allow the county teachers' institute to be held in the court house last week. The court house at Ridgway has just been remodeled and the judge evidently thought it too fine a place for a gathering of teachers, or else he was afraid they might in some way mar its beauty. In Centre county the teachers were never refused the court house, even after it was remodeled at a cost of in the neighborhood of \$150,000, and we'll wager Elk county taxpayers were not milked to that extent.

Reorganizing the G. O. P.

The reorganization of the Republican party has been wisely postponed. Governor HADLEY, of Missouri, had undertaken the task and imagined that the recent convention of Governors in Washington would be a suitable time to perform the work. President TAFT had previously expressed a willingness to participate in such a movement and various other more or less crippled statesmen have indicated a desire to bear a share of the burden. But after a conference on the subject in Washington HADLEY has given it up as a bad job. He could get no encouragement from any responsible source and is unwilling to undertake it alone.

One of the oldest gags of the most ancient of all the jokesmiths was expressed in the form of a recipe for cooking a hare. It began: "First catch the hare." When HADLEY undertook to engineer the reorganization of the Republican party he couldn't find a party. In Pennsylvania there is a small remnant of a discredited machine "masquerading" in that guise and there are various fragments labeled "Washington party," "Bull Moose," "ROOSEVELT Progressives" and "Socialists." But there is hardly enough of either of them to form a party worth reorganizing, and now that there is no hope for spoils it is clearly impossible to get them together.

In the other States things are [little, if any, better. Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts and all the other strongholds of Republicanism are lost to the party and in the South there is hardly the ghost of an organization left for the future operation of the steam roller. Besides, it is justly reasoned, that HADLEY is a poor instrument for the work of rehabilitation. He was one of the "seven little Governors" who called ROOSEVELT's abnormal ambition into life a year ago and began the work of destruction. It is true that he repented afterwards but it is not certain that he is forgiven. TAFT is the only reorganizer.

Their Fears Unwarranted.

From the Johnstown Democrat. Those suspicious and distrustful Democrats who refused to support Woodrow Wilson for the Presidency, because they feared he would prove to be a second Grover Cleveland, must now admit that their fears were entirely unwarranted.

His first public announcement was made just before his departure for Bermuda. It was in the form of an assurance that he will call Congress together in extraordinary session not later than April 15, that the pledges of the party may be redeemed as promptly as possible and all uncertainty as to what particular tariff schedules are to be revised should be removed without delay.

This prompt announcement inspires greater confidence than ever in the commendable purpose, sound judgment and high ideals of the President-elect. It proves conclusively that the predatory and selfish interests which dominated and ultimately discredited Cleveland's second administration shall exert no influence over Woodrow Wilson's first. Hardly had the smoke of the great political battle cleared away and it was known that the Democratic forces had won a decisive victory than the President-elect was besieged by the hirelings of the law-breaking, competition-destroying, public-plundering corporations and trusts, importing him not to call Congress together in special session to revise the tariff in conformity with the party's pledge. To this counsel of iniquity and dishonor Mr. Wilson turned a deaf ear. It was in vain that these unscrupulous hirelings warned him that a special session would unsettle present prosperous conditions and consequently tariff revision should be postponed until the regular session, "in order that business may have time to reap the benefits of prosperity while it lasts and also have time in which to prepare for the change which must come with tariff reduction."

But Mr. Wilson realizes that our protective tariff is a combination of grand and petty larceny and that the people have demanded its abolition. What right have these beneficiaries of a predatory privilege to ask for the postponement of its elimination? Because they have robbed the people yesterday and today, does that give them a vested right to continue the robbery for a year after the people have declared against it? Every sign of the times portends that Woodrow Wilson's administration will be one of the most successful and broad-minded in our country's history.

Mr. Wilson is satisfactory in clear-headed, stout-hearted; he will meet his responsibilities and discharge his duties to the people without any dictation from the pirates of privilege or the bandits of the stock exchange.

Democrats and the Tariff.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. It is quite true that some times a few individuals who were elected to office as Democrats fail the party in crises. One or two failed in the notorious manipulation of the Wilson tariff bill when that tariff gave them a vested right to continue the robbery for a year after the people have declared against it? Every sign of the times portends that Woodrow Wilson's administration will be one of the most successful and broad-minded in our country's history.

What was the platform on which those Democrats were elected? It has been taken for granted that all the Democratic Congressional candidates were elected on the platform of reduction of the tariff. If the Massachusetts gentlemen were opposed to reduction, did they mention that fact to the electors in their districts? If they did, and were elected notwithstanding, they and the majority of their constituents are Democrats only in name.

The man who goes to the Congress to defend and support a high tariff on a commodity that is manufactured in his district has no moral right to vote for a reduction of that tariff on any commodity that is produced in any other district. Every Congressman who is elected on a party ticket is morally bound to support the principles of that party. It is hoped that the Democratic delegation in the next Congress does not include any more like the gentlemen from Massachusetts. If it does the people may again be given into the rapacious hands of Special Privilege.

A Rapid Response.

From the Pittsburgh Post. There is every reason to believe that the members of the mob at Butler, Ala., that is reported to have lynched four negroes, were eager readers of the recent speech of Governor Blease, of South Carolina, in which he attempted to justify this form of lawlessness. The negroes, however, were not accused "of a crime against women." They were charged with the murder of a man, whose riddled body was found on the outskirts of the town. But with the racial hatred aroused it required little time for the mob to organize and proceed with the lawless work. The sheriff with six suspects, managed to escape and reach Mobile where the negroes were placed in jail for safe keeping.

Following so closely on the agitation of lynch-law in the Richmond conference, and the open advocacy thereof by the chief executive of a State, it is not surprising that this outbreak of the mob should occur. It is in direct line with the teaching; instead of influencing the people to self-restraint under racial provocation wholesale lynching is the result. Of course there is no way of telling at this time whether the victims were guilty, but guilty or not the mob was not justified in taking the law in its own hands.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The real estate of the defunct Glazier bank, Huntingdon, will be sold in the near future for the benefit of creditors.

—Just getting over diphtheria, Johnston now finds itself sorely afflicted with measles, mumps, scarlet fever and whooping cough.

—Plans for Williamsport's new high school are taking shape. It has been decided that the structure shall not cost over \$300,000.

—Edward D. Hemmingway, of Philadelphia, a junk dealer, found more than \$100,000 worth of rare stamps in \$50 worth of waste paper.

—The typhoid fever epidemic at Troy is practically over. Fifteen patients are in the hospital and the emergency hospital has been closed.

—George Strawcutter, of Beech Creek, set traps in his chicken coop to catch the thief that had been at work there. Next morning he had two fine opossums.

—There are ten men and one woman who want to be postmaster of Millburg. The woman, Mrs. Susan Brubaker, is leader of the woman suffragettes' Union county.

—James C. V. Henry, of Lebanon, appointed Paul G. Adams district attorney to serve until January, 1914, to succeed his twin brother, Robert L. Adams, who died Saturday.

—Seventy dollars in silver was stolen from a hiding place in the cellar of the butcher shop of Householder & Stahl, in Latrobe, but \$10 in the cash register was left untouched.

—Vandergrift Heights has closed its schools because of diphtheria. Thirty cases have been reported. Vandergrift also has a number of cases and one case of smallpox is reported.

—There was an unique fire at Lock Haven a few nights ago. Richard Quigley's big touring car took fire at the city end of the bridge, and word was sent to the firemen. Mr. Quigley's loss is \$700.

—A gang of youthful shoplifters has been broken up in Lock Haven. One of the number was caught in the act by a floor walker. He confessed to his own misdeeds and also to those of some of his friends.

—Annie Kitting, of Lewistown, subject to fainting spells, fell as she was passing an open store. The stove upon which she fell over it, being terribly burned before her mother, who was in the next room, could reach her.

—Finleyville, in the Broad Top coal region, has twenty-five cases of typhoid fever. One of the mountain springs that furnish the water supply haws the typhoid bacilli in large numbers—much to the mystification of everybody.

—It will take skin grafting to save the hands of Miss Ora Bettner, of Scottsdale, who was cleaning her long gloves with gasoline and ether. She went into the house where a gas stove was burning and the gloves took fire on her hands.

—Robbers at Mineral Point broke open the door of a box car and stole \$4.50 worth of meat in course of shipment. The constable who is investigating also has in progress a hunt after chicken thieves. Has been playing their trade near the same place.

—By a verdict of consent, Elsie Hayes and her father, Thomas Hayes, will receive \$2,000 from the borough of McKees Rocks, near Pittsburgh, for the loss of an eye of Elsie Hayes, when she fell into a ditch at McKees Rocks, her eye being pierced by a piece of glass.

—Mrs. John Pock, aged 69, of Shamokin, swore she was single in order to get a license to wed Walter Gumbeli, aged 24. Her husband prosecuted and the woman and her youthful admirer were convicted of perjury. Her sentence was suspended and he got one year.

—A dozen Indian skeletons have been found at Dickerson Run, where the excavation is being made for the new roundhouse of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad company. Seven of the skeletons were found in what apparently had been a trench. In a rib was found imbedded an arrowhead.

—The suit of Rebecca Calvin, Eliza C. Smith and Matthew Calvin of Hollidaysburg, to recover a claim of \$31,331.93 from the Henrietta Coal company, came to an end Saturday night, after a trial that lasted for a period of three weeks in the Cambria county court at Ebensburg. They were awarded a verdict of \$16,107.57.

—When Leon Shumenski, of Shamokin, after a trial of two days, was found guilty of assault and battery in a case caused by two chickens trespassing on his neighbor's garden, Judge Moser declared that the chickens should have been confined. He said that the jurors' fees and other court costs had mulcted the county out of \$300.

—Not knowing that there was anything in the envelope which her father had just handed to her, Miss Harriet Carpenter, a Bloomsburg school teacher, threw the paper in the kitchen stove and before she discovered the mistake \$50 in paper money was badly scorched. Fortunately however, enough of the pieces remained so that it can be redeemed.

—Mrs. Susan Brennenman, of Lewistown, has sued her son, C. B. Brennenman, for \$200,000, the largest amount ever involved in a suit in Milford county court. Mrs. Brennenman was by her husband's will, made sole owner of the Valley house property and business. Her son had been in charge for a number of years, but failed to turn over the income to his mother.

—Armstrong authorities are investigating the gruesome find of an aged man who attends the oven that makes coke for the brass foundry at Yatesboro. Last week when he was taking out the fresh made coke, he took with it the bones of a man. It is suspected that the bones were those of a foreigner, killed in a quarrel and stuffed into the oven in order to avoid discovery.

—Shella P. Hower, the Conneville Tri-State baseball pitcher, who was shot October 27th while hunting on A. W. Mechlins' farm, has entered suit in Greensburg for \$25,000 damages. Hower was hunting on the farm, he says, with permission of the owner, when Mechlins gave out of the house and ordered he and his companion to leave. They had started to do so when Mechlins, it is alleged, fired and hit Hower.

—Somerset county has a sensation in the shape of charges against Samuel A. Shober, steward and superintendent of the county poor farm and insane hospital. "A corrupt and criminal condition" is the general charge. Dr. J. H. Louthier, the county home physician, leads in the investigation movement, which has gone so far that the grand jury has authorized the district attorney to take action. At last reports the accused man could not be located.

—Believed dead years ago, word has been received in Phillipsburg concerning Samuel and Henry Miller, who left that place in 1872 for the west and were not heard of again until last week, when they sent a letter for a younger brother, John C. Miller, now living at Coalport, Clearfield county. The brothers were soldiers in the Civil war, went away to claim government land given them. They spent 20 years in Alaska and are now prosperous ranch owners in Washington. All the other members of the family have died or moved away.

—Starting out as a peddler thirty-seven years ago, Josiah W. Klingensmith died at his home in Burrell township, Indiana county, a few days ago, counted one of the wealthiest citizens of all that section. When he commenced his trips through the country districts with a peddler wagon his success was something amazing and he amassed wealth in a most astonishing manner, investing his earnings mostly in farm land. At the time of his death he owned thirteen rood farms, including the one on which he spent his boyhood days and that of his wife's father.