

INK SLINGS.

—Even the groundhog voted for a change. —Saturday made the local ice men sit up and take notice.

—In less than a month WOODROW WILSON will be on the biggest job he ever tackled and the whole country is hoping that he will make good.

—We would say more about the cutting of eighteen inch ice up in New York State if it wouldn't make SNYDER TATE and BERT TAYLOR feel so bad.

—Voting President WILSON into a single term of six years looks as though there are some Senators fearful that he might get a second one of four years.

—What's the use. January was the warmest January in thirty-one years and our steam and gas bills are even larger than they were for the coldest one.

—Ten million parcel post stamps are being printed in Washington every day. And every time the press goes round the express company's stocks sag a little more.

—At least our "progressive" friends, at Harrisburg, haven't exceeded the speed limit in accomplishing the reforms they so loudly and vehemently promised the people.

—Mr. MARSHALL evidently don't propose going to Washington unprepared to perform such duties as may fall to his lot as Vice President. He is now learning to play golf.

—A Sacramento, Cal., gentleman of eighty-six years boasts of having seven hundred and eighty descendants. He is not the author of that interesting little story: "Pigs is Pigs."

—There might be less trouble over the question as to whether a newspaper has a right to criticize the court; if the court were a little more careful about keeping itself above criticism.

—Too much publicity is being given that unexpected proposal that was made by the Connecticut farmer to Dr. ANNA SHAW. It will have the effect of materially augmenting the ranks of the suffragettes.

—After losing the best opportunities they had by refusing to hold a caucus of the FLINNIERS at Harrisburg are now going to hold one in order to be united when singing the Swan song of their usefulness.

—Have you noticed how the countenance of the ice man has brightened up since the ground-hog's promise of six weeks of winter. After all he may come to believe, as the rest of us do, that God is good even to the undeserving.

—President TAFT has returned the White House cow to her donor. The reason given is that she was falling off as a result of confinement in Washington. It is just as well, for she probably couldn't have given Democratic milk anyhow.

—Any-while Col. GUFFEY and Senator JIM HALL were looked upon as the leaders and "bosses" of the Democracy, you didn't find four of their followers openly assisting Senator PENROSE to organize the Legislature and to put his friends in all the important positions that were to be filled.

—Hotel waiters all over the country are preparing to strike for a straight salary for their services and to prohibit tipping. The success of their movement is devoutly hoped for. Under present conditions in most big hotels a guest rarely gets as much in food as he has to give up in tips, if he wants to get any food at all.

—Dr. MARY WALKER was arrested in Chicago for wearing pants, so said a Sunday metropolitan paper. Wouldn't it be awful if the journal really meant what it said. As a matter of fact she was arrested for wearing men's trousers, but they didn't know in Chicago that Dr. MARY has a permit from Congress to dress in male attire.

—That big steel mill in Clearfield that has been lying idle for the past six years is being put in condition, as rapidly as possible, to resume. Of course ROOSEVELT didn't put it out of blast six years ago, TAFT didn't keep it out and WILSON isn't starting it up now, but the narrow minded Republican calamity howler might be referred to the incident when he begins his usual "spiel" to you again.

—Group Six, Pennsylvania Bankers Association, was to have met in Bellefonte on Feb. 22nd, but when it was discovered that some of the visitors would have to remain here all night the place of meeting was changed to Tyrone. We can't figure out whether the bankers were afraid to spend a night in Bellefonte or whether the Bellefonte police had tipped the committee of arrangements off to have them here.

—What a God-send it would have been for the fellows who are now bossing the Democratic organization of the State if the treachery to the party, lately exhibited at Harrisburg, had only occurred two years ago. What proof it would have furnished of the "incompetence or treason" of those who were then looked upon as leaders, or what evidence it would have been of the imperative need of the "re-organization" of the party, and a change of those who were in charge of its management?

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An Income Tax in Order.

The ratification of the Sixteenth amendment to the constitution of Delaware on Monday vests in Congress the power to levy a tax on incomes. Up until that time the amendment had not received the endorsement of three-fourths of all the States, though it was submitted to all the Legislatures three years ago. That it would become an integral part of the fundamental law was fully expected. But hardly anybody expected that the distinction of completing the work would go to Delaware. Several other States were in line for the honor. Pennsylvania might have secured it if her legislators were half as alert in serving the people as they are in serving bosses.

It is not certain that a constitutional amendment was necessary to authorize Congress to levy a tax on incomes. During the Civil War such a tax was collected for several years until it was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court about 1869 or 1870. In 1894 an income tax law was enacted and affirmed by the Supreme court which reversed itself next day and nullified the Act. During the Presidential campaign of 1908 WILLIAM H. TAFT, then a candidate for President, declared that Congress had ample power to enact such legislation. But he also reversed himself immediately after the election and recommended an amendment to the constitution. It is suspected that he was bidding for votes in the first instance and sparring for time later.

But the action of the Delaware Legislature has settled the question finally and we believe forever, and settled it right.

It is the first substantial step in the direction of taxing wealth rather than poverty and is a final triumph of one of the fundamental principles of Democracy.

It is also a reversal of the policy of the government which has apparently aimed to shift the burdens of government upon the poor.

Wealth derives the benefits of government and poverty pays the bills under Republican management but the contrary will be the rule hereafter. Each class will discharge its just obligations and in that fact one of the most prolific causes of discontent will be removed.

Of course Turkey has been strengthening her defenses during the period of the armistice and will be able to put up a much stronger fight in the event that hostilities are resumed. But right minded people have the right to hope, nevertheless, that when hostilities are resumed they will continue until the last vestige of Turkish rule is eliminated from the map of the world.

Assurance of the Bosses.

We view with not only regret but alarm the activities of certain would-be political bosses in matters in which they have no right to interfere. For example in the Philadelphia papers on Sunday we note a dispatch dated Pittsburgh which contains the following: "Announcement was made today that State Chairman WASSON, representing the Republicans and Progressives, and Chairman GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, of the Democratic State Committee, will meet in Pittsburgh Tuesday for the long-expected joint conference on progressive legislation. Some very interesting results are expected from this meeting."

We all recall the tradition of the three tailors of Tooley street who issued a proclamation or manifesto beginning with: "We the People." There was some excuse for these self-constituted censors of public morals and social ethics, for according to the best information attainable, things were pretty bad in London at the time. Besides these enterprising tailors didn't undertake to usurp the prerogatives of Parliament or any other agency of government. They simply wanted to hear themselves talk about things generally, and probably found a source of satisfaction in the comments of the public upon their absurd pretensions.

But the presumption of these self-appointed bosses of the Legislature is something different. The people of the State elect Senators and Representatives in the Legislature to perform certain constitutional duties and they are presumed to have sufficient intelligence and integrity to acquit themselves of their public obligations. Therefore the interference of these self-constituted bosses is an aspersion upon the intelligence of the legislators which can hardly be overlooked. Possibly there are some men commissioned to legislate under the constitution who are lacking in qualifications, but it is impolite to remind them of it.

A Philadelphia contemporary observes that New York has spent \$70,000,000 in building docks, which reminds us that Philadelphia wants the State to perform a like service for her.

Benson and Matt Condemned.

That party recreancy is not likely to prove a valuable political asset was clearly shown in the election of the members of the rules committee of the House in Harrisburg, last week. During one of the sessions of the week before, Representative HUMES of Crawford county, introduced a resolution, which was adopted, fixing the time and manner of electing the committee on rules. The resolution provided for the election of six and allowed each member to vote for two. The obvious purpose was to secure a fair committee as there were three groups of practically equal strength and each member voting for two would result in the election of two Democrats, two Republicans and two Bull Moozers.

But the election didn't result that way for reasons equally obvious. The Bull Moozers undertook to elect two of their own members and two recreant Democrats more favorable to the Bull Moose party than to the Democracy. In other words they attempted to force the Democrats to name BENSON, of McKean county, and MATT, of Bedford county, the two Democrats who had betrayed their party in the committee of committees by giving the Bull Moozers all the important offices and leaving to the Democrats only the minor positions. It was a fairly well-laid scheme but didn't work out well. BENSON got only four votes and MATT withdrew before the vote revealed his weakness. He probably wouldn't have gotten more than BENSON.

The Democratic members of the Legislature are practically a unit for sane, safe and better legislation, and with the exceptions of a small handful who desire to sacrifice the party and build up an organization with BILL FLINN at its head, they are true and earnest Democrats. They will allow no opportunity to secure wise, progressive legislation escape, but they are not going to enthrone a moral pervert like BILL FLINN as an invincible party boss. That appears to be the purpose of Representatives BENSON, of McKean county, and MATT, of Bedford. They were endorsed by FLINN in the recent campaign and propose to recompense him for the favor by party recreancy. But it won't go this way.

We can't see how women advance the cause of equal suffrage by indulging in lawlessness. The way for women to make progress in their suffrage movement is to prove that they deserve the right to vote and no man or woman can prove good citizenship by committing acts of depradation.

False Friends of Woodrow Wilson.

The false friends of WOODROW WILSON continue to lament that the adoption of the pending constitutional amendment forbidding the re-election of Presidents would deprive the people of the inherent right to re-elect him in the event that his administration fulfills expectations and they desire to do so. "Before he enters upon the duties of his office an effort is made to prevent his re-election four years hence," writes one of them to a New York contemporary, who adds: "The people who elected him claim or will claim that if he makes a good President he should have another term—i. e., if their votes can effect it."

Whether the pending constitutional amendment is adopted or not WOODROW WILSON will not be a candidate for re-election. The platform upon which he was elected last fall pledged the party against a second term and in accepting the nomination he ratified that and all other pledges of the platform. Men of loose morals and slovenly mental habits may evade such obligations by talking about a second cup of coffee at one time which was not desired at another, but WOODROW WILSON is not that sort of an individual. He says what he thinks and honors his obligations. He will not be a candidate for re-election because he is morally bound not to be.

The pending constitutional amendment can be so framed as to prolong his term of office to six years and within that time he will be able to put his policies to the test. If they meet with public approval as we confidently expect they will, the people who elected him can put another man in his place of the same type and temperament and no harm will be done. But if the amendment is not adopted there is grave danger. There are Absalomists still trying to steal the hearts of the men, not of Israel, but of the United States and a demagogue in office, lusting for power, would be a great evil in this land of promise.

Some enthusiastic Southerner asserts that there is enough unoccupied land in South America to afford room for one half the population of the whole world. We hope that some Pennsylvanians whom we know will take advantage of this opportunity to secure homes.

Party Leadership—A Contrast.

In 1898 the Republicans had 127 Representatives in the General Assembly at Harrisburg, the Democrats 71 and there were six fusion members. On joint ballot the Republicans had 164 votes, the Democrats 84 and the fusionists six. There were enough independent Republicans, "insurgents" they were called, to defeat a regular Republican majority in the House of Representatives or in joint session. The late Senator QUAY, recognized as the most cunning and capable party boss of recent years, was a candidate to succeed himself in the United States Senate. He got the nomination easily and though the balloting was kept up until the close of the session, he failed of an election.

Colonel JAMES M. GUFFEY, of Pittsburgh, was the acknowledged leader of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania and the active manager of the campaign against Senator QUAY. Behind QUAY was the Standard Oil company, the Western Union telegraph company, the Adams Express company and all the railroads, and the corruption fund was the largest within the memory of the oldest politician. Literally money was "as free as water," and the golden tide ebbed and flowed in the interest of the Republican candidate. There were a dozen Democrats inoculated with the virus of QUAY corruption and anxious to revel in the QUAY spoils. But they were held in line by sheer force of vigilance and fidelity in leadership.

In the present House of Representatives there are 57 Democrats while the regular Republicans have precisely the same number of members they had in the session of 1898. Now, as then, they are divided and unable to command a majority on any proposition if the elements of opposition are held together. Mr. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE is now the recognized party leader and the self-appointed manager of the Democratic force on the floor of the House. But the results are vastly different. Thus far Mr. GUTHRIE has not held the Democratic members in tact upon any proposition and the Republican machine has won every test that has been presented. Is the difference in the quality of leadership?

A prisoner discharged at the new penitentiary last Thursday was Jacob Miller, convicted in the Clinton county court of killing Hamilton Mayers, of Kettle Creek. A second degree verdict was rendered against him and he was given a seven year sentence, but the commutation for good behavior reduced his time to a little over five years. He was one of the first lot of "trusties" brought from Pittsburgh to the new penitentiary in Benner township. Miller avers that he will go to Canada and make a new start in life.

Mrs. General Tom Thumb and her husband, Count Magri, had a reception on Saturday that they had not contemplated. It was given them in the parlor of the Brockenhoff house during the most of the forenoon when the various members of the Bellefonte Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, as well as many other ladies called upon them. Though past seventy-one years of age Mrs. Thumb retains all her faculties and is a pleasant and delightful conversationalist.

At Monday night's meeting of the Tyrone council President McCann reported that he had attended a meeting of the trustees of the Pruner orphanage in Bellefonte last week and that it was the sense of the meeting that the auditor's report was correct and satisfactory and all expenditures properly accounted for. D. T. Caldwell was appointed the auditor for the current year.

Boss FLINN threatens to take his followers by the nose and compel them to behave. But that is a dangerous undertaking for FLINN. If he ever brings his followers to the frame of mind which promises good behaviour their first impulse will be to desert FLINN.

The School of Agriculture of the Pennsylvania State College will hold a Corn day on Friday, February 28th, particulars of which will be given in next week's WATCHMAN. It will be something both new and interesting.

We may have plenty of natural ice yet, thanks to the groundhog, but whether we have or not the ice machines will be working and the price will be neither more nor less, merely "what the traffic will bear."

Whether he continues to make good or not the ground hog certainly made this week look as though he knew what is expected of him as a weather maker.

Increasing wage rates continue to make President TAFT ashamed of the speeches he made during the recent campaign.

Democrats and the Tariff.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. The Tariff Reform Club says that "the new tariff bill, now in the formative state in the House of Representatives, runs some danger of being vitiated by the action of weak-kneed Democrats influenced by their own interests" and that "the members who come from farming communities generally are inclined to insist that duties on food products shall not be abandoned." It thinks that "the removal of the duties on these classes of articles is therefore to be insisted upon not only from the standpoint of the public but from the narrow partisan point of view."

The club sends broadcast this rather serious charge against Democrats in the Congress, but in respect of past legislation it can be supported with facts. Every revision of the tariff a few Democrats have insisted upon with the other side for high duties on the products of their own States. The gentlemen from Louisiana stand out for a high duty on sugar, and because they want sugar "protected" they must pay for it by voting for tariffs on other commodities. When the present law was on final passage in the Senate Mr. McENERY voted with Aldrich sixty-six times and dodged thirty-eight times in 129 roll-calls. The other gentleman from Louisiana voted with Aldrich twenty-nine times and with his record better than McENERY's, while the voting of both gentlemen illustrates the points which the tariff club is making, although Democrats can find something to approve in every tariff bill and would be foolish to withhold approval. But the sophistication of the tariff bill of 1894 by Senator Gorman does not come under that head.

As to agricultural products, there is an almost irreconcilable difference of opinion between members of all parties as to whether there should be total removal of duties or a reduction only. The proposed reciprocity with Canada provided an excellent opportunity for removal of the duty, but under its provisions everybody would have been helped and nobody injured. All meats should be included in the free list and the new tariff should be so arranged that the duty on any product could be removed temporarily whenever the needs of the people indicated that such action should be taken.

Nobody Stopped the Panic.

From the New York Evening Post. Judge Dickinson's cross examination of the colonel, in the matter of his giving the Steel Trust permission to swallow the Tennessee Coal and Iron company, was much more searching than anything of the kind he had previously undergone. His complete ignorance regarding point after point in the transaction he was forced to admit. But, like the countess in the play, the colonel had a "bountiful answer that fits all questions." "I had a panic to stop," he repeats vehemently, "and even if I had known all of these suspicious things which you now bring to my knowledge, it would not have made a particle of difference in my action." Yes, but suppose the colonel was as ignorant about the panic as he confesses that he was about the Steel Trust? We know that he congratulated Secretary Cortelyou upon "stopping the panic" by means of having nothing to do with the thing which he now declares to have been vital. Then, too, Mr. Morgan "stopped the panic" and got a degree from Yale for doing it. As a matter of fact, nobody stopped the panic. It ran its course. And when the colonel affirms that his consent to a trust's absorbing a competitor was an end to the financial crisis, he only shows how easy it is for the men whom he describes as "the most competent" to form an opinion to "put one over on him."

May Solve Crookedness of Police.

From the Pittsburgh Post. At last a man comes to the front with a remedy for the corrupt police system of American cities, and he is no other than William G. McArdoo, former police commissioner of New York. He would take the police out of politics, abolish the placemen and give the chief the power of a general in war times. This sounds good, but it is not new. There has been a demand for many years to take the police out of politics, but no Moses has yet appeared capable of leading the reform should be to send criminal policemen to prison as rapidly as they can be gathered up. Making a scapegoat of one occasionally will not produce the desired results.

Mr. Wilson and Wall Street.

From the Chicago Public. Stock exchange seats in New York are reported to have dropped several thousands of dollars in value since Mr. Wilson's Chicago speech. Financial touters lament this decline, evidently hoping or expecting that the "country" will join the aggravated chorus. But as those seats of the mighty represent capitalized values of extortion from the people at large, on the basis of the fundamental monopolies threatened by the Wilson policy, why should their decline in price plunge the country into gloom?

Thirty-five Still to Come.

From the Montgomery Times. Aunt Sallie Bernhardt says death before 100 years is life cut short. In other words, the United States has about 35 more annual farewells tours from Aunt Sallie before she will be lost sight of.

How Rockefeller Thrives.

From the Florida Times-Union. Many a young man today burns the midnight gasoline but his old dad burns the midnight oil to pay for.

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SPAULWS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Typhoid fever has broken out at Johnsonburg and five members of the State Board of Health are investigating.

—Nant-y-Glo was so over run with rats a short time ago that ferrets were imported to fight them. Over 1,400 of the rodents were killed in one day.

—Fifteen men from Philadelphia sent to work for the Glass Sand company, near Ryde, said the job had been misrepresented to them and returned promptly to the city.

—The people of Hastings want the Northern Cambria Trolley company to build a line between that place and Barnesboro. Only four miles of track is needed and the district is thickly populated.

—Told that a train was coming, Grace Lukehart, who was walking on railroad tracks, near Plainville, Indiana county, with others of her family, jumped off into the darkness. She fell 22 feet and was picked up uninjured.

—Although they were married in Wilmington last fourth of July, Mr. and Mrs. George Boyer of Sharon Hill, were married again in the rectory of St. Columbia's church, to convince the bridegroom's mother that they really were not fooling.

—Mines are just being opened on Williams' run, midway between Punxsutawney and Horseshoe. A spur is being built from the Bellwood division line. Over 100 men will be employed at the new operations, which are owned by Dr. W. S. Blaisdell.

—According to the Indiana Gazette, three murderers are wanted at Lucerne. The county commissioners refuse to offer a reward, stating that it is the business of the State constabulary to capture the fugitives, as they are paid by the State for the work.

—As a result of the recent typhoid fever epidemic at Troy, the cutting of ice in that region is to be under the supervision of a man designated by the State to cut the ice at Canton. The lake that has been Troy's source of supply for years will not be used this season.

—Isaac Tate, aged 27, who had part of his right hand amputated by a circular saw at an Aviss saw mill, has been quite unfortunate with that member. Some years ago he had the arm broken and since grown up had the hand almost severed from the arm in a saw mill accident.

—A new trial was refused by Judge Reed, of Jefferson county, in the case of Charles Abrams convicted of arson at Summerville. He was sentenced to twelve years in the penitentiary, with a possibility of having it cut down to eighteen months by good behavior and parole.

—Far away from home and friends, Joseph Campbell, aged 25, just five hours after he started to work in the New York Central shops at Aviss, was taken suddenly ill. He was taken to the Lock Haven hospital, where he died of scarlet fever. His home was in England and he had no relatives in this country.

—Mrs. Samuel Fry, Jr., of Latrobe, took eight headache powders a few days ago, in the effort to secure relief from an obstinate headache. Soon afterward she became unconscious and her body turned to an indigo hue. It was a close battle, with the odds in favor of death, for some time before she was out of danger.

—Near Milton a few nights ago, Henry Zuhler, aged 45 years, was sitting quietly reading the bible when he fell from his chair, dead. On the same night, not far from Sunbury, J. D. Reigel, aged 80 years, stayed up late to finish reading a love story and died in his chair, with an apple in one hand and his book in the other.

—Miss Mary Morrow, of Tyrone, who fell and fractured her hip several years ago by falling over the high embankment near the Ligonier bridge, sued Blair and Huntingdon counties for damages. Her case was brought before the Blair county court on Monday and the same day the jury returned a verdict in her favor for \$2,500 damages, and that Blair and Huntingdon counties pay all the costs.

—Albert Kinney, of Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland county, went out with his employee, William Byers, a few mornings ago to dynamite stumps. Each placed a charge in a stump and walked off. One blew up all right, but the other didn't and after waiting, as he thought, plenty long enough, Kinney went to investigate. He reached the spot in time to be struck by a piece of the stump and instantly killed.

—Attacked by a bull at her home at Mile Run near Sunbury, Miss Naomi Weller was thrown to the ground. She was being trampled upon and viciously gored when her sister Mary, aged 9 years, took a pitchfork and sunk its tines into the animal's neck. The child fought the bull and kept this up until John Weller, her father, came and chased it away. The young woman had three ribs broken and is believed to be internally injured. She wore a red skirt.

—The Broadway house, Jersey Shore, had two sensations a few mornings ago. It was found that the cash register had been robbed and several bottles of whiskey taken from the bar room. Later in the morning the lifeless body of G. C. Ritty, aged 54 years, was found in his room. He had apparently taken carbolic acid. The man had been in the town for some time, employed in the marble yard. No motive is known for the act, unless his despondency at the loss of his job was the cause.

—John Enterline, a young man employed on construction work at the Blaisdell mines, is in the Punxsutawney lockup, charged with killing Nicholas Pascoe, who worked beside him. Pascoe was fond of joking with his friends and told the young man he ought to work harder. Enterline was angered and struck Pascoe over the head with his shovel. Nobody thought 'er injurious and a physician was not summoned, but nine hours later Pascoe died. Enterline is veridically shocked. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict of justifiable homicide.

—President James P. O'Laughlin, at a big booster banquet, attended by 300 leading business and professional men at Clearfield, announced that a deal had been closed and the real money paid would resume operations within the next thirty days. Pittsburgh steel capitalists have secured the plant, which has been idle about six years. With the chamber of commerce less than two years old, five big industries have been secured for that place. Representatives of the four railroads entering Clearfield attended the banquet.

—Attacked by two men while he was leaving the home of his sweetheart, Miss Pearl Golder, near White Deer, Pa., Monday night, Homer Pifer had his throat cut and was left for dead. The frightened girl telephoned for help, and a Milton doctor responded promptly and stopped the flow of blood. Pifer is in a serious condition. The alleged assailants were afterwards caught. They are Andrew Kresleskie and John Leshure, farm hands, and they gave an excuse for the crime that he taunted them. Both men were held with out bail to await the result of the man's injuries. Pifer's sweetheart is prostrated.

—Simon S. Christ, a gang boss in the Pennsylvania Railroad company's Conemaugh shunt, is under arrest on two charges of accepting money from subordinates to make their jobs safe. It is alleged that the practice has been in vogue at points along the Pittsburgh division for some time. A bill was recently passed by the State Legislature making it a misdemeanor, punishable by both a fine or imprisonment or both, for any one to accept money from subordinates to hold their jobs. Christ is the first man to be charged with the offense and it is alleged that he accepted as high as \$10 and \$20 from men under him.