

INK SLINGS.

—During the summer of 1913 council should try to pave that section of Bishop street between Allegheny and Spring.

—Everything thus far reported from Washington indicates that WILSON is the President and proposes to continue on the job.

—If OLNEY is appointed Ambassador it may be accepted as evidence that the MONROE Doctrine will be enforced without too much expense.

—Hay that sold for twenty-six dollars a ton a year ago is down to twelve now. Thus the cow and the horse enjoy the first fruits of the labor to reduce the high cost of living.

—It is beginning to look as if the only hope of the Regular Democrat getting a job must be predicated on the eventuality that enough Reorganizers can't be found to fill all the vacancies.

—The way the Reorganizers are crowding around the federal pie counter makes it look as if the poor old Democratic party in Pennsylvania will have to look out for itself, if they all land the jobs they are after.

—It is surprising the number of men who are turning up in the various Departments in Washington who have been Democrats all their lives, but were merely keeping quiet because it was the better policy.

—Mrs. PANKHURST has broken down physically and while the English people probably won't wish her any bad luck they certainly can't be censured for hoping that her convalescence will be prolonged indefinitely.

—Really, we're not expecting very much from Congress until our friend Col. WARREN WORTH BAILEY, of the Johnstown *Democrat*, gets his feet tucked under one of those mahogany desks and gets his eye on the indicator.

—The new administration has been running along smoothly for ten days and unless some little slip is made soon some of our Republican friends will surely bust. They are entirely too heavily charged with "I told you so's" to stand it much longer.

—A Texas inventor is about to put a wind plow on the market. He claims that it will cut a ten inch furrow with nothing propelling it but wind, but he doesn't explain where the wind is to come from if a purchaser should desire to plow on a calm day.

—The next time that old favorite of yours refers to that old favorite of his about the minister's sons usually being the bad boys of the community, just tell him that three out of the last seven Presidents of the United States have been minister's sons.

—One of the disadvantages of living in a small town is that all of your friends eventually get into the grocery or insurance business. Then you've got to eat yourself to death to make good with your grocery friends and get even with the ones you had to take insurance with.

—There are to be no wines or liquors on the White House tables while the WILSONS occupy that establishment. Vice President MARSHALL and his family and Secretary of State BRYAN and his family are also teetotalers. Now what in the world do you suppose those foolish temperance folks were running CHAPIN for last fall.

—Now what do you suppose the new Secretary of State said to the old assistant Secretary when he found out the nice little ride he was taken in that Mexican matter. We fancy that had Mr. STRAUSS been a little mouse in the corner and heard it all he would have withheld some of that recently published exaltation of Mr. BRYAN as the world's greatest peace advocate.

—Mr. JAMES I. BLAKESLIE, secretary of the Democratic State committee, has been appointed fourth Assistant Postmaster General, and the papers tell us that Mr. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE is booked by President WILSON for an Ambassadorship in Europe. Both good selections for the Pennsylvania Democracy. And if Mr. WILSON will only send two or three more of the chronic kickers, who parade themselves as "re-organization leaders," out of the State there may be an opportunity for peace within the party, and for its organization to amount to something.

—Some years ago Bellefonte amateurs gave a continuous performance show that started at three o'clock in the afternoon and continued, without intermission, until ten at night. The thought was that in order to see the entire performance patrons would go in and out several times during the afternoon and evening thus increasing the revenues two or three hundred per cent. It was a failure. Most of them took lunch boxes, paid the one admission and sat in the opera house from three in the afternoon until ten at night. We know that many of those same people are living in Bellefonte now and inasmuch as one of our local churches had a seven hour continuous prayer service on Monday we just naturally got to wondering how many who had sat in that opera house for seven straight hours some years ago to save twenty cents sat in the church on Monday for seven hours, the saving of their souls probably being the stake.

—In accordance with the recommendation of the State Railroad Commission the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania company has arranged for a rate on lime of five dollars a car from the Empire Lime company's plant east of Bellefonte to the Pennsylvania railroad junction at Bellefonte. Heretofore the has been thirty cents a ton.

—The parcel post has proved its value but it will be worth more when it is made cheaper and more liberal.

THE Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.
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Governor Tener's False Premise.

Governor TENER has formally served notice on the House of Representatives of the General Assembly at Harrisburg, that it has no business to interfere with his affairs. The House has instituted an inquiry concerning employees of the Executive Department. It had been alleged that certain persons were performing the nominal duties of two or more offices and drawing double salaries and the purpose of the investigation was to ascertain the facts. In pursuance of this object some of the officials were subpoenaed to testify. The Governor instructed his Secretary, who is among those accused, to ignore the process. Subsequently he supplemented this action by a letter to the House committee lecturing that body for its impertinence.

In his letter the Governor quotes copiously from the constitution. It provides, as he states, that the executive power is vested in the Governor; that he may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department and that he shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth. Then he adds: "The same fundamental principle in our organic law which exempts the Governor and his subordinates, while engaged in performing the duties pertaining to their respective offices, from the subpoena of the judicial department of the State government, likewise exempts the Governor and his subordinates from the compelling power of a subpoena of an investigation committee created by a resolution adopted by one branch of the General Assembly."

But the Governor's analogy is faulty. The judicial department of the government has no control of the purse strings of the State and nothing whatever to do with the fiscal affairs of the administration. On the other hand the Legislature has all power over the purse and all to do with the fiscal affairs of the administration. If the House of Representatives knows or even imagines that the funds of the people are being wasted, it not only has the absolute right to stop the waste but it is morally obliged to do so. The General Assembly, and particularly the House of Representatives, is the instrument of the people to conserve the public interests and husband the public resources. In the manipulation of offices so that officials are getting more for services than the law contemplated, the public interests are subverted.

The Legislature might, in the exercise of its power of inquiry into the operations of the executive department of the State government, do some harm. That is to say it is conceivable that an exposure to public scrutiny of some public acts of the executive department might defeat meritorious purposes. But that would be possible only in rare and grave cases. There is certainly no public peril in the exposure of such petty graft as is involved in the subject of this inquiry. Besides if it is a mistake the mistake is one of the representatives of the people, in their capacity as agents of the people, and the people have a right to make mistakes. Moreover the Legislature can enforce its mandates by refusing to pay the excessive salaries.

—State College anticipates another big building boom the coming summer. Quite a number of new houses have been contracted for and the University club have plans complete for a new twenty-five thousand dollar building. The College is asking for a large appropriation for new buildings and there is every probability that they will get some if not all of it. The new seventy-five thousand dollar federal building will also be started this year, so that all told hundreds of thousands of dollars will be spent there in building operations during 1913.

—President WILSON in putting a lot of our Democratic "kickers" on the government pay rolls and sending them outside the State is doing much more for the peace of the Democracy of Pennsylvania and the good of its organization than he may imagine. He may not be adding much to the efficiency of the public service, but he is giving a chance for harmony in the party that otherwise would be impossible and for which the real Democrats of the State are profoundly grateful.

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Mr. Bryan's Hopeful Note.

No note has come from Washington since the inauguration of President WILSON with a wholier flavor than is contained in the assertion of Secretary of State BRYAN that "for three quarters of a century the MONROE doctrine has been a shield to neighboring republics and yet it has imposed no pecuniary obligations upon us." What Mr. BRYAN meant by that is that the MONROE doctrine is to be construed literally. In other words it means what JAMES MONROE intended to convey to the world which was that no European intervention would be tolerated on this hemisphere and that the government of the United States would not interfere with the domestic affairs of any other country in the world.

During the administration of THEODORE ROOSEVELT an attempt was made to misinterpret the MONROE doctrine. Mr. ROOSEVELT asserted that it involved the government of the United States in an obligation to police the western hemisphere, collect the bills of other governments and individuals of that hemisphere and make our government a sort of guarantee for the payment of all bills due from the South American Republics to everybody else in the wide world. Mr. BRYAN's statement means, if it means anything, that the policy of our government on this subject is to be reversed and that is a subject for felicitation throughout the country. It is a sort of lifting of a black cloud.

The government of the United States has no reason, either in political morals or international comity, to act as a police officer in South or Central America. It is bound by the provisions of the MONROE doctrine to forbid the intervention of any European government in the domestic affairs of any of the Southern Republics which have declared their independence of Spain or any other European power. But it equally obligates the government of the United States against intervention with the affairs of European or Asiatic powers within the geographical limits of such countries and the statement of Mr. BRYAN may justly be interpreted as meaning that obligations upon all sides are binding.

—No doubt President WILSON will take part in the formation of legislation but it is a safe bet that what he will do within his constitutional rights. There will be no trading patronage for support of pet measures during this administration.

President and Congress Agree.

It is gratifying to learn that President WILSON agrees with the Democratic leaders in Congress on the proposition that the paramount question to be considered during the extra session of Congress is tariff reform and that no other subject ought to be introduced to complicate or confuse that question. No doubt that the worst which has been said of the existing financial laws and system is true and that the necessity for currency legislation is present and pressing. But the one question which demands immediate legislative attention is the tariff and we sincerely hope that nothing will be allowed to prevent its consideration promptly and conclusively.

The matter of the high cost of living is directly affected by the tariff laws. Every article which enters into the daily life of the people is increased in price, directly, or indirectly, by tariff taxes. The tariff tax on woolens, cottons and even food stuffs, adds to the market value of those products and there is no reason in law or morals why such an addition should be continued. The policy of the Democratic majority in Congress is to remove this burden and nothing should be allowed to interfere with the immediate application of this policy. The consideration of financial legislation would necessarily have this effect and consequently should be avoided.

As the esteemed New York *World* remarks: "One Thing at a Time." During the special session the tariff question should receive all the attention of Congress. Even with such concentration of effort a considerable time will be required to cover all the schedules of a tariff bill and it would be a calamity to delay the completion of the work by introducing other and irrelevant questions. Fortunately there is no danger of this result now that the President and the leaders of the Democratic party in Congress are in agreement. The tariff legislation will be disposed of first and the financial reforms may await until the regular session or until another special session is called.

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—The waiter may be able to tell by the way you order whether you are accustomed to it, but he can't make an estimate on the tip until after the check has been paid.

Wilson Gives Surprises.

President WILSON is giving the people of Washington, and incidentally those of the entire country, an interesting job lot of surprises. His inaugural address was quite different from that of some of his predecessors and the announcement that the consideration of applicants for office will not be allowed to interfere with the performance of his more important public duties, literally took the breath of most of the office-hunters away. But the most startling as well as the most gratifying departure from recent presidential practices was revealed in the Sunday of his official residence in Washington.

It is proposed to publish bills, revising a schedule at a time and send them to the Senate separately, in order that the people may see where the fault lies if there be any objectionable amending or holding up of any of the bills. Whilst there is a Democratic majority in the Senate it is so very small that real tariff revision might be frustrated by a coalition of Republicans and high tariff Democrats. This has happened before and it could easily happen again. There are Democrats in the Congress who are willing to cut down the tariff protection on the products of some other fellow's district but want the protection on the products of their own districts let alone. They are like the humorist who said that during the war he was so much of a patriot that he was willing to sacrifice all his relatives for the good of his country.

If the Congress would give real relief to the people it should do more than merely lower tariff rates. A reduction here and there might not bring about any reduction of the prices of commodities; for prices might be maintained through agreements of various kinds, between persons who have a virtual monopoly of the business and are protected by taxes on competing imports. The only way to prevent this is to enact that when prices of necessities or commodities controlled by a trust, or in any other manner, become excessive and reduction is refused, the proper authorities be empowered to remove wholly the tariff on competing articles from abroad.

The tariff has been used as a Jimmie by the "interests" for scores of years. Now let it be used as a club for the protection of the victims of years of legalized dishonesty.

Real Revision.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent.

The Democratic leaders at Washington have taken the right course in deciding that revision of the tariff should be the principal and first business of the extra session of Congress. That is what they were elected for and that must keep and carry out all campaign promises.

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This is precisely what should be expected of an American President.

ROOSEVELT introduced the system for his personal protection. Being a moral and physical coward he imagined that every man he met on the street had homicidal designs upon him. As a matter of fact this was a deliberate insult to every American citizen. There may be cranks, here and there, as there have been, who would murder a President, but they are few and easily avoided. The President of the United States is in no more danger of personal injury on the streets of Washington or any other city than the average business man. To act upon a different idea is an aspersion upon the character of all the people and a public proclamation that we are a nation of assassins.

The Mexican Situation.

It is President WILSON's misfortune that at the outset of his administration he is confronted by a perplexing and probably dangerous state of affairs in Mexico. However careful he may be and however capably he may handle the situation, it is difficult. But he will master it in the end. He is certain to make the best possible out of a bad condition. He will bring order out of chaos, give the Mexicans what is believed to be best for them and violate no principle of international justice and no tradition of our own government worth preserving.

On the other hand what a picnic this Mexican imbroglio would have afforded ROOSEVELT if he had been elected last fall? He would have met the conditions like a swash-buckler administers justice and already the country would have been involved in war with a helpless and misguided people. Thousands of lives would have been sacrificed to his inordinate lust for blood and justice would have been outraged in every possible way. The very thought of what might be makes the heart sick. He would have seized Mexico as he did the canal zone and let Congress debate the question afterward.

The American people can contemplate the danger which is before the President with anxiety but in confidence. We will have no war with Mexico and there will be no conquest of armies or territory. It may be that the revolutionaries will be compelled to abandon their present purpose and it is possible that another President will be called to service. But whatever happens the ends of justice will be preserved, the interests of the people maintained and the finger of scorn will not be pointed toward Washington by the civilized world.

Silk hats are to be out of favor in official Washington, it is said, and cabinet members will adopt the style of hats they have been used to wearing at home. Yet it would be worth a trip to Washington to see WILLIAM JENNINGS in a "top."

We will soon know exactly what sort of legislation will be considered during the coming extra session of Congress and meantime we are permitted to hope that it will be limited to tariff reform.

Ambassador WILSON in Mexico may have "put one over" on Secretary of State BRYAN, but it won't get him much. The distinguished Nebraskan has a habit of resorting to sharp practice.

The waiter may be able to tell by the way you order whether you are accustomed to it, but he can't make an estimate on the tip until after the check has been paid.

The Money Trust.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

The notion that the Money Trust is the foundation of all other trusts seems refuted by J. P. Morgan's testimony before the Pujo committee. In spite of his denial Mr. Morgan has shown that a strong trust exists but instead of being the foundation of all others it is the capital resting on the others to support.

Trusts like the Standard Oil and the Steel Trust together with railroads, telephone companies and the great insurance companies control directly or indirectly bank deposits aggregating over twenty-five billions. These compose the Money Trust of which Mr. Morgan is unquestionably the head. So the special privileges which uphold all other monopolies constitute the foundation of the Money Trust also. There are some auxiliary privileges besides contained in laws relating to banking and issuing of money which serve to give the Money Trust additional power, but these auxiliary measures would help but little were it not for the monstrous fundamental privilege, monopoly of natural resources, upon which other monopoly power is based.

The way to destroy the Money Trust is clearly to destroy the power of the trusts which have combined to create it. First of all land monopoly must be destroyed. This can best be done through the single tax. That will not only destroy land monopoly, including monopoly of franchises, but all the privileges conferred by tariffs and other unjust taxes. The Money Trust will necessarily come to an end when the trusts which have combined to form it have been destroyed.

Tenure in Office.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

Secretary of State Bryan presents his opponent a juicy morsel for speculation by indicating that his tenure of office may be brief. They take it as a sign that there will be an early break in the cabinet. Mr. Bryan's words cannot be construed as meaning anything of the sort, and if any qualifications were needed it is to be found in the last sentence of the address in which he expresses the hope that he will be able to introduce the heads of the various bureaus to his successor amid the same delightful scenes that Mr. Knox had introduced him.

Mr. Bryan doesn't expect to establish a new long-distance record as Secretary of State. At its longest the tenure might be construed as brief, even though he should hold the office through two administrations. Republicans, however, are looking for straws. They grasp this one with avidity and imaging they see in it something of great significance. They are actuated by the same spirit that brought forth predictions weeks ago that the President and Mr. Bryan would not be able to work in harmony.

It is well known that when Mr. Bryan talks he says something, and therefore it is in order to expect that every utterance that he makes will be analyzed by the mischief-makers.

What Missouri Has Yet to Learn.

From the Few York World.

If the Missouri Democracy does not want an Ambassadorship badly enough to ask Secretary Bryan, it should have no trouble in getting along without the honor. It has yet to learn that Champ Clark's defeat at Baltimore was due less to his old friends than to the new friends he was found making there.

With Hearsay to Sick 'em On.

From the New York World.

If all the people who want to fight the Balkan allies and the Turks, the Medjans, Christians and Pankhursts and the rest, could be shut up in one corner of the world and left to have their fill of bloodshed, it would be a more economical arrangement.