

INK SLINGS.

—Really we have forgotten how it did come in, but March certainly went out like a lion on a rampage. —Bellefonte has been responding most generously to the call for help from the flooded districts of the west. —The trouble just now with the "progressive" Democrat is to find out just where he is or likely to come out at. —Bulgaria may be getting close to peace, but it's evidently not the kind of a piece her people thought they were fighting for. —President WILSON's critics will at least allow him the credit of turning up a new Page in that ambassadorship appointment to the court of St. James. —The unhappy condition of having nothing to kick about is the discouraging outlook that faces the Republican worker since WILSON's policies are being put to the test. —It is said that brooding over troubles is the surest way of hatching more. Just imagine what a nest full some fellows you know to be looking for office must be bringing out. —Senator LA FOLLETTE insists that he is still a Republican, which makes it so much the harder for any of us to be certain just what a Republican stands for, now that they have lost the offices. —Poor old Philadelphia seems to be arranging its affairs to get back as quickly as possible into its former political wallow. And its most voluble "reformers" are the fellows busiest on the job. —The wise guy informs us that it is the theories that are not sound that usually makes the greatest noise; a statement that a remembrance of the days of Democratic "re-organization" in Pennsylvania fully verifies. —In the list of flood relief contributors in Altoona we notice this line: "Cash, a boy,05." A trifling amount, to be sure, but large enough to tell the world that here is a boy with a heart in the right place and pumping good red blood all through him. —Since our friends, the "re-organizers," have made the discovery that it is altogether probable that there will be an insufficiency of offices to go around the silence, about the great things they were going to do for the future of the party, has grown to be really painful. —Some Wellesley girls have organized a club and pledged themselves not to marry until three years after their graduation unless they get an offer from a man with five thousand a year. The man with five thousand a year who would marry any girl before she has been out of College for three years didn't earn the coin himself. —The late PAT McCaffrey, of Lock Haven, was a man whom we shall miss very much. One of the oldest, as well as one of the staunchest friends of the editor of this paper, his passing away carried with it a feeling of personal bereavement, because as years creep on the friendships of earlier days become mellowed and are cherished to the fullest. He was an unostentatious, clean man, full of kindness and with a character inflexible and intrepid in right doing. Lock Haven lost a good citizen when PAT McCaffrey, one of the old-fashioned sort that coming generations are not being schooled to replace, passed to his reward. —As the College boys would say: Our new President certainly has the pep. When the first call for help came out of the flood devastated territories of Ohio and Indiana WILSON didn't hesitate a moment. One clear, decisive order sent every trained resource of the army, the navy, the light house crews and life savers flying to the scenes of disaster with all the rations and tents they could gather together. The President said: "Get the relief to them as quickly as possible, there is no time to parley about the cost." That was the kind of action that makes a citizen realize what having the government back of him means. It was the kind of action that makes the world honor the man at the head of this particular government. —When Dean HOLMES, of The Pennsylvania State College, told one of our local congregations on Sunday that, all things considered, young folks have more religion than their elders there was a moment of suspense that could have found mighty relief if a lot of the old new saints could have exploded with: Well, I like that! Yet there was more truth than poetry in what the Dean said. Old folks are not only good because they are too old to be bad any more, as he put it, but most of them had many less temptations in their youthful days than the young folks of today. The allurements of the pool rooms, the cafes, the dance halls, the theatres, the public parks, the clubs, and what not, were very slight fifty or sixty years ago when the singing schools, the spelling bees and the "big meetings" that parents and children attended together were holding sway. In those days they started good because there were fewer roads on which to start bad and the young man or woman who there against myriad more temptations than ever bested father or mother.

Democratic Watchman

No Reason for Disappointment.

The Governor has again defeated the expectations of reformers by signing the "five judges" bill, the pet measure of the Philadelphia Republican machine. There is no more need for five new judges in Philadelphia than there is for five tails on a dog. The vast preponderance of the people of the city had remonstrated against the measure and all the leading lawyers had protested against it. But the politicians of the city need the new judges for trading purposes. They will be made an instrument of closing the chasm between the PENROSE machine and the VARE contingent. The VAREs will probably be allowed to put five of their servile tools on the bench and PENROSE will get the legislative delegation. It is an iniquitous prostitution of political and legislative power to thus pervert the courts into an agency for corrupt political commerce. There is not too much confidence in the integrity of the courts now and anything which tends to increase the public distrust in the judiciary is harmful. The Governor and the Legislature ought to join forces in an effort to restore confidence in the judges of the State. But this open trade between the PENROSE and VARE machines must work the contrary result. Everybody knows that courts thus created are essentially wicked and dangerous. But the Legislature passed Senator VARE's bill and the Governor has signed it notwithstanding the effect upon the public mind. But why should the reformers be disappointed with the Governor's action. It is true that he had inferentially promised to veto the bill but that ought to have fooled nobody. Governor TENER is a politician of the ordinary type. Ever since his induction into the office he has been prostituting the power of his position to the level of a cheap lobby. Take the Resident Hunters' license bill, for example. He knows, if he knows anything, that its only purpose is to create new offices for use of the PENROSE machine in the next legislative fight and yet he has not hesitated to try to coerce Representatives to support it. His promise to veto the "five judges" bill was evidence of intention to sign it. —The parcel post has about twenty-five per cent. of the business of the express companies and there would be something like poetic justice in the fact if the loss to the express companies had been doubled. Those legalized robbers had a long lease of graft in this country and the people have reason to rejoice because the grip is loosening.

Neatness a Great Virtue.

The wholesome influence of good example has not been lost upon Mr. JOHN P. BRACKEN, of Carnegie, Pa., an aspirant for the office of Collector of Internal Revenue for the Pittsburgh district. Mr. BRACKEN has submitted his application for appointment in the form of a beautiful volume bound in morocco the front cover decorated with the words "To the Secretary of the Treasury. Application JOHN P. BRACKEN, of Carnegie, Pa., for Collector of Internal Revenue. Twenty-third District of Pennsylvania," in gold letters. The volume contains the originals of letters of endorsement written by prominent Democrats and is substantial as it is handsome. There is a tradition in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh of a candidate for an important federal office who was chosen from a considerable number of aspirants equally well supported in other respects, because of the superior neatness and method of his application. The story is that several years ago upon a change of administration at Washington several worthy gentlemen aspired to the office of postmaster at Pittsburgh. The uniform excellence of the candidates, the equally strong support given by their friends and the proportionate personal and party standing of the men perplexed the appointing power. Finally the problem was solved by a comparison of the papers filed, the appointment going to the man whose application was neatest and most methodical. If the appointee had failed to make good the example would probably never have been followed. But his conduct of the office was as admirable as his application was excellent and no doubt Mr. BRACKEN had this case in mind when he prepared his papers in an application for the favor of an administration which is looked upon as likely to be more or less punctilious. Of course it would be a bad rule to invariably favor a man because of the neatness of his papers in application but it certainly wouldn't be a bad policy to favor the neat and methodical applicant, all other things being equal. A sloven is not likely to be much better in one thing than another. —The members of WILSON's cabinet tackle the problems precipitated by calamity as if they were used to all sorts of governing questions. President WILSON's cabinet is not made up of dummies. If ROOSEVELT were in the White House all help would emanate from one source or not reveal itself at all.

The Question of Ambassador.

The most perplexing problem which President WILSON has encountered thus far is that of securing fit men for foreign service. Under Republican administrations there was no trouble from that source. The favors of the government were purchased by campaign contributions and any old "money-bags" who had been sufficiently liberal in paying the collector would serve for any ambassadorial post. But President WILSON takes a different view of the subject. He feels that such offices should be filled by capable men and experience in accumulating money isn't always a qualification for diplomatic work. It is a wholesome reform in the practices of our government. There are two ways to solve the problem thus presented. One is to increase the compensation for ambassadorial service so that men of moderate wealth or no wealth at all could accept the responsibility and the other is to simplify the methods of living of foreign ambassadors and ministers. When CLEVELAND became President he adopted the latter and better method. He appointed Mr. BAYARD, of Delaware, ambassador to the Court of St. James, the most expensive and exacting post in the diplomatic service. Mr. BAYARD was in such pecuniary circumstances that he was obliged to live on the salary but we have never heard that the country suffered on account of that fact. The salary of an ambassador is about \$17,000 a year but WHITEHALL REID paid more than that amount for a house to live in. Manifestly he had to have some source of revenue and fortunately he had plenty to draw from. But some of his predecessors in the office had less salary and no other means of getting money and performed the duties of the office quite as well. President WILSON has made a tender of the office to two or three distinguished gentlemen who have been obliged to decline it for the reason that they couldn't hold the REID pace in expenditures. But either of them might have exceeded the REID pace in every other respect. —The liberality of the American people, as shown in the generous contributions to the flood sufferers, may be accounted for in part at least, by the public confidence that a decrease in the cost of living will follow the approaching Democratic revision of the tariff—downward.

The Case For Free Meats.

According to a statement issued by the Department of Commerce there are now only 56,000,000 cattle on the farms in the United States, as against 72,000,000 in 1907. In the eight months ended with February of this year, only 12,000 head of cattle were exported, as compared with 270,000 exported in the corresponding months of 1907. The quantity of fresh beef exported was less than 5,000,000 pounds, as compared with 176,000,000 six years ago. The importation of cattle during the same period was 12,500 in 1907 and 220,000 in 1913; while the value of the cattle exported was \$21,000,000 in 1907, in 1913 it was only \$760,000, a fall-off of over \$20,000,000. And yet, despite this alarming shortage in our supply of beef cattle the Beef Trust is protesting lustily against any reduction of the tariff on cattle and beef. The Taff-Aldrich tariff law imposes a tax of \$2 a head on cattle under one year old; \$3.75, if valued at not more than \$14 a head; and if valued at more than \$14 a head, 27 1/2 per cent ad valorem. Swine are taxed \$1.50 a head and sheep, one year old or over, \$1.50 a head; less than one year old, 75 cents a head. Fresh beef, veal, mutton, lamb, pork and venison are assessed at 14 cents a pound. Meats of all kinds, prepared or preserved, not specially provided for, 25 per cent ad valorem. Extract of meat, 35 cents a pound, and fluid extract, 15 cents a pound. It will be seen at a glance that the Beef Trust was not forgotten when the minions of the predatory interests were distributing tariff favors at the expense of the people. With the rapid decline in the number of cattle and the high tariff on all kinds of meats and in every form it is not surprising that there has been a steady rise in domestic prices. Unless the tariff is abolished entirely the expectation of lower prices may as well be abandoned. The American people should not be at the mercy of this rapacious trust any longer. Meat of all kinds should be put on the free list.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Dr. Nathan C. Shaeffer was this week re-appointed superintendent of public instruction for another term of four years. He has held the position for the past twenty years. —Harry Goldberg, of Berlin, awaiting trial on a charge of arson, has been refused his freedom by Judge Ruppel, of Somerset county, after arguments in a habeas corpus proceeding. —Typhoid in its worst type prevails at Ralph-ton, Somerset county. Six cases have been taken to a Johnstown hospital, one proving fatal, and others have been treated at home. —Huntingdon hotels did not close on April 1st. Two of them will raise rates, but others will not do this. Some of the proprietors are quoted as saying that unless they get license next year they will close. —John Krieger, aged 30, walked out of a second story window at a Hastings hotel and fell upon the top of a large brick furnace. He was picked up badly stunned but not injured. For many years he had been a somnambulist. —Special quarantine officers are patrolling Brookville, on account of more than 200 cases of measles and a number of cases of mumps. Schools and Sunday schools are closed and children forbidden to congregate anywhere. —The school board and citizens of Portage are united in their opinion as to the necessity of a new high school building at that place and are also trying to get through a measure for street paving in the region of the school building. —The lifeless body of Eugene Rentz, aged 53, was found by his son Ralph, at the barn in the rear of the hotel at Ralston, of which Mr. Rentz was proprietor. He had several times threatened to take his life and this time had managed to elude his friends. —State Senator Jacob E. Stineman died at his home at South Fork Tuesday morning of erysipelas. While he had been ill for about a month, it was only on Monday that his condition was regarded as serious. At one time he was the largest individual coal operator in the State. —Mrs. Albert Seager, of Shamokin, after fleeing recently from a hospital three times, fearing to undergo an operation for appendicitis, leaped into Shamokin creek Tuesday. She resisted the efforts of the men who plunged into the stream to rescue her, but they brought her ashore. —A trio of Williamsport boys, Raymond Davenport, Frank Miller and James Murman, rescued Chas. Maynard, a seven-year-old lad who had sunk in a clay pit at the brick yard up to his chin. The three boys formed a human chain and by lying flat on their faces reached the imprisoned lad. —About ten days ago Joseph Herondowsa, the thirteen-year-old son of Charles Herondowsa, of Munson, accompanied by two other boys of about the same age, Slavish and Polish, left their homes. Any information concerning their whereabouts will be thankfully received by Charles Herondowsa, Munson, Pa. —Two little children of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Thomas, near Blue Ball, amused themselves on Saturday stirring up the ashes of an out door fire on which water had been poured to extinguish it. Enough embers remained to set fire to the clothing of Dorothy, who died the next morning of her burns. She was 4 years old. —John Entler, the Sprankle Mills youth who six weeks ago killed an Italian laborer during an altercation in a mine by hitting him over the head with a shovel, has been re-arrested after being cleared by the coroner's jury. He had left for Ohio after his plea of self defense was accepted and was only recently located. —The strike or walk-out of Pennsylvania railroad track hands, which started on the Camden division March 5th, reached Altoona on Tuesday morning when 88 of 290 laborers employed in the railroad yards either failed to go to work or walked away shortly after reporting for work. The demand is for higher wages. The men get \$1.66 for a ten hour day and they want \$2.00. —Rising his life to go to the aid of a patient whose home was surrounded with water, Dr. C. W. Rice, of Northumberland, was thrown into six feet of water when his motorboat upset in a flooded section of Sunbury, Sunday night. The doctor was rescued after some difficulty. Only the fact that he had been an expert swimmer during his college days saved him from being drowned. —Entering the residence of Miss Margaret Weimer, at Sunbury, during her absence, a scoundrel cut to pieces hundreds of dollars' worth of fine carpets, draperies and bedding and broke every piece of furniture in the house with the exception of the furnishings of her bedroom. The police have no clue. Miss Weimer says she has no enemies and can give no cause for the ruining of her home. The loss will reach \$500. —Miss Marie Johns, of Williamsport, didn't exercise good judgment in her choice of a location from which to view the swollen Susquehanna a few days ago. While she was standing on the Reading switch tracks, talking to a friend, a draft of empty cars came up behind her and knocked her down. She has a broken leg and both feet somewhat crushed. Only a short time ago she had three ribs fractured in a fall down stairs. —A deal has been consummated by John Lochrie, of Windber, a prominent coal operator, leases 400 acres of coal lands near Duster, owned by Matthew Colvin and Mrs. Eliza C. Smith, of Hollidaysburg. A shaft will be sunk at once and it is expected that 1,000 tons of coal daily will be mined within a short time. The agreement provides that Mr. Lochrie shall mine not less than 2,000 tons of coal daily as soon as the developments contemplated are completed. —John Mose, a Somerset county murderer, has applied to the Board of Pardons for a commutation of the death sentence to imprisonment for life. Mose was convicted of killing a mail carrier named Harrison Brown, who traveled one of the rural routes. On September 14, 1912, Brown went on his usual route carrying \$490 and did not return. Search was made and his dead body was found in the road, the money gone. Suspicion finally caught at Cumberland, Md., taken to Somerset, tried and convicted. —Hawk Run, Clearfield county, was visited by a fire Tuesday afternoon which destroyed the Good Shepherd Episcopalian chapel and two dwellings, and for a while threatened a still much larger damage. The fire started shortly after two o'clock at the home of John Condon, and soon spread to the neighboring dwelling of Leon Lucher, burning both homes. The high winds at the time changed the course of the fire sufficiently to save the two adjoining buildings, and the flames, leaping over to the church building, reduced it to ashes in a few minutes. The organs, robes, books and some of the pews were saved. —Present indications point to the reopening of the iron ore mines located along the mountains at the east end of the Lewistown Narrows. This was one of the chief industries of that section prior to the flood of June 1, 1889, when the ore was shipped by canal boat to the furnaces of the Glamorgan Iron company, in Lewistown. The canal was so badly damaged by the flood that it was abandoned a short time later. There being no facilities for transportation, the mines were closed and Minersville became an abandoned town. Some years later an attempt was made to ferry the ore across the Juniata to be loaded on steam cars at Denholm, but floods again destroyed the enterprise before it was fully established. John Heydan, of Greensburg, has now secured a long term lease on the ore deposits and will transport it by wagon over the new State road, when completed, to Millintown, a distance of two miles, where it will be put on board the cars for shipment.

The Hunters' License Bill.

The final passage of the Resident Hunters' license bill by the House of Representatives on Monday night, after it had been defeated on a previous vote, measures the servility of the Legislature to the power of the executive or the hopeless stupidity of the average Member of the House. Governor TENER, probably with the idea in his mind that the PENROSE machine needs help in an impending contest, dragged men to vote for the measure against their better judgment. But his work would have proved abortive if Members had not been deceived by promises of achievement under the bill which are impossible. For example the lobby which filled the corridors of the House while the bill was under consideration assured Members that the passage of the bill would guarantee an ample fund to secure the extermination of predatory animals and noxious birds, whereas any man of common sense knows that it will accomplish nothing of the kind. Its provision for the automatic withdrawal of funds from the treasury for that purpose is both invalid and absurd and yet dozens of Members voted for the bill on that account. The exemption of farmers from the tax, if they own and cultivate ten acres or more, is palpably unconstitutional and void. No doubt, however, the Senate will put the seal of its condemnation upon the measure when it comes up for consideration in that body. There is enough intelligence and respect for official obligations in that chamber to compel obedience to the mandates of the constitution in the framing of legislation and if asserted the bill will find a safe and certain grave with the rest of the legislative rubbish of the present session. Meantime we congratulate the people of Centre county upon the fact that our Representative in the Legislature, Mr. GRAMLEY, not only spoke eloquently but voted emphatically against the measure. —When President WOODROW WILSON on Tuesday got that check for \$5,625 for his March pay as President of the United States he doubtless realized more fully than ever before how much better his present job is than being president of a big college or Governor of New Jersey.

Causes for the Vote.

The vote in the State Senate on Tuesday on the question of postponing the consideration of the joint resolution to amend the constitution so as to provide female suffrage will probably not be the last word upon that subject during the present session of the Legislature, but it forecasts the ultimate defeat of the resolution. With only nine Senators absent the measure fell five votes short of a constitutional majority on final passage and it is doubtful if more than two of the nine absentees would have voted in the affirmative. The vote is more or less significant, however. That there is considerable public sentiment in favor of female suffrage among the voters of Pennsylvania is shown by sundry incidents. The activities of women in the political life of the Commonwealth are constantly increasing and a tendency to appeal to mothers in educational matters is becoming common. But we do not believe that the majority of the people favor unlimited female suffrage now or are likely to in the near future. The idea is an expression of radicalism to which the people have not come but the defeat of the joint resolution in the Senate, the other day, is not attributable to that cause. There could be no real harm and probably there is little actual objection to submitting the question of female suffrage to a vote of the people and the resolution was not defeated on that account. But Mr. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE, chairman of the Democratic State committee, projected himself into the equation and we are assured that a number of Senators voted against the resolution as a rebuke to his impertinence. Representatives of the people are patient but sometimes they resent the usurpation of authority. —The election of "HAM" LEWIS to the United States Senate by the Legislature of Illinois is a new expression of the fact that people don't care as much as they used to.

A Rumor.

It has been rumored for some time that Rev. JOHN HEWITT, of this place, would accept a foreign consularship under the new administration should it be tendered. As to whether there is any foundation for such a rumor we know not and giving it even this publicity may prove very distasteful to our distinguished resident. However, the WATCHMAN seizes the opportunity to say that President WILSON could tender such a post to no man who would be superior to Rev. HEWITT in the conception of his duties or in the intelligent and tactful exercise of them. Holding high rank among the rectors of his church, being grand prelate of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania Masons, having been actively identified with movements for civic improvement in many parts of the country, he is a typical American with that finish only secured by wide intercourse with people of all classes. Personally, he is a man of much magnetism and most admirably endowed by nature for just such a position as a foreign consularship. If Central Pennsylvania is to be honored by the WILSON administration with such an appointment we know that this entire community will heartily join in the WILSON administration would follow the preference of Rev. JOHN HEWITT. —"What's the matter with the lights on the corners of the court house?" is a question the writer has been asked several times lately. So far as we can see there are no lights there, and why there are not can possibly be best explained by the county commissioners. When the bracket lamps were put there it was for a double effect, to light the exterior of the court house and its surroundings and show it off as a beautiful public building, and also to prevent it becoming a loafing place for undesirable people. But for weeks and months there has been no light. Whether it has been cut off as a matter of economy or the lamps burned out and merely a case of neglect in replacing them is a question that can be answered only by those in charge. —If the English government had been sooner to treat the militant suffragists as other violators of the law are treated, a good deal of useless trouble might have been saved.

Punish the Grafters.

From the Pittsburgh Post. The result of an investigation into the Indian situation in Oklahoma has just been reported to the Interior Department, and it verifies the charges of extensive graft by the whites in their dealings with the wards of the Government. The next step in this matter should be the punishment of the grafters. It is shown that much of the land allotted to the Indians has been acquired by the whites through dishonest means. We do not believe the administration will be slow in its dealing with these land thieves. The facts are known and it is said the evidence is at hand. This country has been accused of harshness in dealing with the original inhabitants, but it cannot be denied that the Government has been generous in its care for those that came under its care. When the Indian wars ended the red race was given every opportunity to better its conditions. Immediately the white men got busy in robbing the Indians of the Government's bounty. The taking of this unfair advantage is worse than any ordinary form of graft practiced by the whites, and calls for a severer application of the law. The few remaining Indians deserve protection. Many of the tribes have reached a high stage of civilization, and it is left alone will be able to care for themselves. The crafty thieves who have been depriving them of their lands have been found out, and that is sufficient. Let the remedy be applied.

Forcing Hunters' License Bill.

From the Altoona Times. A vigorous lobby maintained at Harrisburg by so-called sportsmen's associations has succeeded in securing the reconsideration and passage of the hunters' license bill, and it is predicted that favorable action will be taken by the Senate. It is urged in behalf of this measure that it will protect wild game by discouraging lawless killing out of season, and also afford greater protection to hunters, as it will in large measure eliminate reckless and incompetent hunters. In practice, however, it is probable that just opposite results will be achieved. There has been a hopeless and impossible task to prevent clandestine hunting, and the enactment of additional rigid regulations will tend to further lawbreaking. A great body of people will resent the new law as an infringement upon their rights, and justly so. The farming population cannot understand why they should be taxed to hunt over their own property, while "sportsmen" from the city, upon payment of a nominal sum, can roam at will, destroying property and slaying every living thing that comes within range of their guns. If sportsmen are sincerely desirous of protecting game they will urge the enactment of laws that will really protect. The licensing of hunters savors of feudalism and will be resented by a large body of citizenship.

Scholars in Public Life.

From the Chicago Journal. President Wilson stands almost alone in this country as a scholar in public life. Across the water scholars in public positions are common. James Bryce, British ambassador to America, will be remembered as a historian long after his mission is forgotten. Poincare, president of France, is an authority on art. Mommsen, historian of Rome, had a seat in the German Reichstag; and Lepine, who just resigned as chief of police of Paris, is an accomplished lawyer and art critic. —Anyway there wasn't much reminder of the English Suffraget in the manner in which April started its campaign on Tuesday.