

INK SLINGS.

Montenegro is ridiculously small but the whole country must be sand. Well, the new tariff bill is before Congress and all good Democrats are for it, sink or swim. Why wasn't it just the proper thing for the President to read his message to Congress. It was his message. Up to this time the gentleness of this spring has been something that poets might sing about, but no one else. What Bellefonte needs most is more boosters and fewer of the kind who sit tight for the profit that comes from the boosting of others. By sending WALTER HINES PAGE to the court of St. James President WILSON has proclaimed the ideal doctrine of Democracy that brains, not money, count. Many a trout that is only six inches long today will be eight or ten before the fellow who brings it home next Tuesday gets through describing his catch to his friends. The weather has been too cold to bring out the snakes, but take no chances when you start fishing next Tuesday. The bait bottle may be as necessary as the bait can. The House of Representatives, on Tuesday, passed, finally, the bill to create a state pension for veterans of the Civil war. It also passed the bill making the violet the State flower. With a committee chairmanship the first crack out of the box Brother Hon. WARREN WORTH BAILEY, of the Johnstown Democrat, must certainly have been preceded to Washington by his fame, or a little pull. Naturally a great howl is to be expected when the bottle is taken away from the tariff pampered infants. But only those that have been nursed beyond the strength of their own legs to carry them will be wobbly. Secretary BRYAN thinks that if persons who are spiritually lean would get to looking lean it would be easy to give them spiritual food. Of course persons who are spiritually lean rarely look the part but a blind man can almost see that they are in that condition from their actions. It is safe to say that every person who isn't liable to the income tax would be only too happy if his income were sufficient to make him so. It is equally safe to say that every person with an income of over \$4000 a year will be very unhappy because he will be compelled to pay a tax on it. It remains to be seen whether direct elections of United States Senators will help any in States like Pennsylvania. There is very little to show that our Governors and other state officers have been superior to our Senators, yet they have always been chosen by the direct vote of the people. The Hon. BILL FLINN, the Boss Bull Moose of Pennsylvania, is back from Florida cured of everything but the itch for office. Accordingly his friends are announcing that he will permit himself to be chosen Mayor of Pittsburgh and later will descend to go to the United States Senate as the successor of Senator PENROSE. Of the twenty-four Republican Congressmen elected from Pennsylvania last fall, eighteen of them announced their determination, at the organization of Congress last Monday, to act with the regular Republicans, and to stick to the g. o. p., while six of them—KELLY, TEMPLE, HERLINGER, WALTERS, LEWIS and RUFLEY, repudiated their former political allies and declared their purpose of acting with the Bull Moosers hereafter. For the benefit of the sixteen or more applicants for the postoffice at State College and the same number of anxious Democrats who want to be postmaster at Philipsburg we take pleasure in announcing that Mr. VANCE McCORMICK and A. MITCHELL PALMER have both informed friends that no applicant for office in Centre county will be seriously considered unless approved by Mr. CHARLES R. KURTZ. And, incidentally, it might be mentioned that county chairman KIMFORT is very anxious to have his Uncle SAM made postmaster at State College and as county chairman KIMFORT gave Mr. KURTZ the opportunity to become dictator of patronage in Centre county, it looks as though "Uncle SAM" has the field all to himself. It will be very pleasant to have Mr. Secretary of State BRYAN come into Pennsylvania to tell the Democrats in the Legislature what they should do. Mr. BRYAN is always interesting, always epigrammatical and food for thought is always to follow the deliverance of his address. But while he is talking for the benefit of the Legislators he might digress long enough to tell the new leaders of our party that "more flies can be caught with sugar than with vinegar." What the Democracy of Pennsylvania needs more than anything else is votes. It can't get votes unless it presents a united front to the enemy and it can never present a united front unless the so-called Reorganizers try some other method than that of making the state organization a closer corporation than it has ever been before.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 58. BELLEFONTE, PA., APRIL 11, 1913. NO. 15.

Electing Senators by Direct Vote.

Almost as soon as the amendment to the Federal constitution providing for the election of Senators in Congress "by direct vote of the people," was passed a correspondent of the esteemed Philadelphia Ledger suggests another amendment abolishing the Senate. "That would simplify the processes of legislation," he says, "would save the taxpayers an enormous sum of money for the support of a body which has outlived its days and would bring the legislative branch of the government into closer touch with the people, to their confusion and loss, doubtless, but within the ready reach of every wind of demagoguery that might blow." Precisely so, but wherein is the advantage. The Senate was created by the Fathers of the Republic to express and preserve the autonomy of the States. As a guarantee of this result it was provided that each State should have two Senators in Congress irrespective of the matter of population and thus Nevada with her less than 100,000 inhabitants has equal voice in conserving her interests in one branch of Congress as Pennsylvania with 7,665,111 inhabitants. Under such conditions a combination of the smaller States could easily prevent legislation inimical to their interests which might be proposed and pressed even though a few of the larger States were to combine in its favor. The merit of the proposed method of electing Senators in Congress remains to be shown. Some have grave doubts about its beneficial effects. Possibly it will work all the advantages that are claimed for it and possibly not. But it may safely be said that nothing would be gained by abolishing the Senate. On the contrary, as the writer in our esteemed Philadelphia contemporary suggests, it would likely result in confusion in the beginning and the complete destruction of our form of government ultimately. Ours is a representative government and those who conceived and created it had that sort of government in mind when they established a Congress consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives and they were wise in their day and generation. If there is a real investigation of the Panama canal operations from the beginning many good men and women will wonder how they ever conceived sentiments of respect for THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Female Suffrage Again.

The resolution proposing to amend the constitution so as to provide for female suffrage was again saved from final defeat, last Monday night, by the casting vote of the Lieutenant Governor in favor of postponement. Upon the test of the week previous the ayes were twenty-one and the nays twenty-one, eight Senators being absent. On Monday night the vote was twenty-two to twenty-two, with six absentees. Twenty-six votes are required for a constitutional majority so that four of the six absentees will have to vote for the measure to secure its passage. One of those, who it is believed would have so voted, is dead and another so ill as to make his appearance on the floor, during the session, unlikely. In the face of these facts it is not easy to see why the advocates of this measure are so persistent in their efforts to retain it on the calendar. It has hardly a chance of passing. It is not certain that the result would be achieved if it did pass. The people are surprisingly indifferent upon the subject. In States which have adopted female suffrage less than a majority of the voters supported the proposition in every case. The campaign in California, recently, was conducted with the greatest vigor and activity and less than one-third of the electorate voted for suffrage. In Pennsylvania it may be doubted if even that proportion of the voters would take the trouble to support it. Of course the excuse given is that the people have the right to vote on any question and that as the conventions of both parties declared in favor of submitting the question, failure to do so is bad faith. As a matter of fact neither of the great parties deliberately pledged the Legislature to enact such legislation. The Republican convention was stamped by ROOSEVELT and BILL FINN and deliberated upon nothing while the Democratic convention treated the subject as a joke. Less than one in every ten delegates in the convention voted for the platform and even fewer knew that it contained such a pledge. The defeat of the proposition, therefore, is no violation of faith with the people. A Philadelphia contemporary admits to a debt of gratitude to Judge STAPLES, of Monroe county, who presided at the trial of grafter CLAY and sentenced him to a term in the penitentiary. But the politicians of that city are not likely to discount the obligation or even be willing to pay it at maturity.

The President's Message.

President WILSON's first message to Congress assumed the unusual form of a personal address delivered to both branches in joint session. It was an innovation, the effect of which is a matter of conjecture. Before the event opinions differed upon the subject. The first two Presidents, WASHINGTON and ADAMS, invariably adopted that method of giving to the Congress "information as to the state of the Union," and "recommending such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." But JEFFERSON adopted the easier process of communicating in writing. All the Presidents since have preferred the Jefferson policy and the action of President WILSON was, therefore, novel. The President's message was as unusual in another respect as in the manner of its delivery. It contained little, if any, more than a thousand words and dwelt entirely upon the subject of tariff reform. There are a few words near the close which touch upon the need of currency reform. But this digression emphasizes the singleness of the President's purpose to alter the tariff schedules "to meet the radical alteration in the conditions of our economic life which the country has witnessed within the last generation." If he had been less specific upon this point the dangers of failure would have multiplied. In concentration of purpose there is hope and strength. The message is hardly a message, measured by those of other Presidents of recent years. It is more like a confidential talk of a scientific and earnest man who feels that he has a mission to fulfill. The duty of lessening the burdens of the people has been laid upon the Congress and the President. In full appreciation of this obligation the President addressed Congress to verify for himself the "impression that the President of the United States is a person, not a mere department of the government, hailing Congress from some isolated island of jealous power." The occasion was worthy of the event and the event a wholesome innovation. Yale students are lusty of lung and hard of muscle, as a rule, and by reason of that fact they may manage to keep former President TAFT in the lime light for awhile.

The Matter of Telephone Charges.

The State Railway Commission has performed no better service since its organization than that expressed in its recent proposition to fix schedules for telephone charges. The telephone is no longer a luxury. It has become an essential in the conduct of business as a building or light and heat. Yet the telephone companies have continued to exercise arbitrary power in the fixing of rates as if they were performing a private rather than a public service. This cannot continue longer. It is absolutely unjust to the public and a menace to the commercial prosperity of the country. Because of these facts telephone rates must be regulated and upon a basis which will protect the public. For a good many years telephone companies have been charging more for their service than a just recompense. In some cases there may have been reason for this, such as when local companies perform local service at large cost in proportion to the amount of work performed. But local telephone service like local transportation service benefits the community served and is entitled to reward in proportion to the good accomplished. In other words local telephone companies honestly organized and economically managed have a just right to charge sufficient for the service rendered to pay legitimate profits. But dishonestly organized and profligately managed they have no right to penalize communities for their own slothfulness. Telephone corporations are public service institutions and depend upon the public not only for their opportunity to do business but for the business they do. That being the case they should be willing to perform the service they are chartered to do at as little expense and inconvenience to the public as possible. We believe some of them are willing to meet these conditions but others protest that the very suggestion is an encroachment upon their rights as artificial persons created by the State or the communities in which they transact business. They must divest themselves of such notions and conform as nearly as possible to fair regulations. Owing to the continued high and murky condition of the water it has been impossible to size up the various trout streams in Centre county and form an opinion as to whether trout will be plentiful for the opening day of the season (next Tuesday) or not, and the scores of fishermen who are sure to go out that morning will have to take pot luck for it. The trout that were put into the streams last fall from the Bellefonte fish hatchery will hardly be of catchable size this spring, and as it is well known that trout were pretty scarce last year, the outlook is not very favorable. Of course there are some trout in the streams and the man who can locate the pools in which they disport will be the lucky one next Tuesday. Governor Tener last Friday signed the bill empowering the inspectors of the new western penitentiary in Centre county to purchase live stock and farming implements, and to charge the cost of same against the several counties in the district in proportion to the number of convicts from each county; and to remove buildings, machinery, appliances and materials from the old penitentiary at Philipsburg to the new institution in Centre county. The bill providing for an appropriation of \$600,000 to continue the work on the new institution during the next two years has not yet passed the Legislature. In last week's WATCHMAN appeared an item relative to the large amount of building to be done at State College this summer and the number of new residences was given at from thirty to fifty. A prominent resident of State College this week told us that we were too low, as contracts had already been made for just fifty-two new buildings, not counting anything the College may do in that line. A free lecture, on "The Battle of Gettysburg" will be given in the auditorium of the High school on Thursday evening, April 17th, at 8 o'clock. The lecturer will be Mr. George L. Kieffer, who will visit Bellefonte, at that time, as the representative of the Chautauqua Association, to make arrangements for the summer entertainment. If the English suffragettes really believe that they may accomplish their ends by the methods they have pursued they are not sufficiently intelligent to enjoy the right of suffrage. Voting is a great privilege and should be limited to sane persons, anyway. The fellow who shook his winter flannels last week has had another kind of shake this week.

Mr. Wilson to The Congress.

President Wilson's first message to Congress, delivered in person Tuesday, is so short and clear that there is no need of an editorial summary of it. It will be read by a thousand times more persons than ever read the first message to a new Congress by any of Mr. Wilson's modern predecessors in his high office. Not one person in a thousand read in full a message by Roosevelt or Taft at the beginning of a session of Congress; probably not one in a million, except those whose duties compelled them. It was such a task that any man who said he had done it was apt to be looked upon as a very nervous man. But any man of ordinary schooling can read and comprehend President Wilson's first message in five minutes, and as it deals with only one subject, and that of paramount interest to all the people—the tariff, involving the cost of living, the extension of our commerce, free competition in business to all the people, and their comfort and happiness, all will read it, understand it and rejoice in it. We have no sympathy with those who profess to see in Mr. Wilson's return to the practice of Washington and Adams, in delivering his message himself, any similarity to a speech from the throne at the opening of the English Parliament. It is rather a heart-to-heart talk with the American people through their representatives, bringing the chief Magistrate and the rank and file closer together, and emphasizing Mr. Wilson's statement that there is an end to the partnership of the government and special interests and the beginning of a partnership of the government and all the people. The Accused Ambassador. From the Pittsburgh Post. The filing of charges against Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson by the vice president of the Mexican congress for moral responsibility for the assassinations of Madero and Suarez, puts the case in a position where prompt action will have to be taken. He is accused of previous knowledge of the conspiracy and of being aware that the officials were to be cruelly slain. Pending a thorough investigation Mr. Wilson ought to be recalled without the loss of time. The country will hope the Ambassador will be able to vindicate himself, but if guilty he should not be allowed to hold his office an hour longer. Conditions in Mexico have not improved since the accession of the present murderous administration, and bad as the situation is it cannot be rendered worse by recalling the present representative from this country, pending the appointment of his successor. The filing of the accusations will not be accepted as conclusive, but it is known that other insinuations have been made as to his conduct before and during the revolution in the city of Mexico. Direct Elections. From the Harrisburg Star Independent. The Legislature has ratified the amendment of the Federal Constitution somewhat tardily yet promptly enough to admit of the enactment of a bill arranging the machinery for the election of United States Senators by direct vote. This can be done at the present session. A House bill provided for the election of Senators by the Oregon method. This includes a primary vote for candidates and election, by the Legislature, of the candidate receiving the highest number of votes at the subsequent general election. It is not an election by direct vote of the people. A bill introduced by Senator McNichol provides for election in the same way that Governors are elected. While these have not been nominated at primaries, nobody has ever objected that they were not elected by direct vote of the people. It would be well to adhere to the strict letter and spirit of what is thought to be a reform in the election of United States Senators. Let "direct election" mean direct election. Snake Legislation. From the Johnstown Democrat. Some of the "snakes" the gang usually introduce into the Legislature have again made their appearance. Senator Snyder's bill to give the Attorney General control of all attorneys employed by each department, commission or committee, is one; taking out of the hands of the Auditor General and State Treasurer the control of the public grounds and buildings, and the authority to say where the State money shall be deposited, and giving this power to the Governor and his cabinet, are two more; giving attorneys a first lien on their client's money is another; putting all State employees under civil service at once, to prevent a cleaning out of the Auditor General's and State Treasurer's office, is another. All these schemes are intended to keep the Tener-Penrose machine in power, and are not the only tricks likely to be turned before the Assembly adjourns in furtherance of restoration to power of the gang that got the grand bounce last fall at the hands of the people. Speaking of the peach crop the chances are that the annual fiction of the killing would have sneaked into the newspapers even if it hadn't snowed on Sunday. We don't hear so much of the Ananias club these days but the ancient declaration that "all men are liars" appears to hold good. Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Six men suspected of robbing New York Central freight cars are in the Lycoming county jail. They were arrested at Jersey Shore and are believed to have turned over their booty to confederates. Two dead babies within a fortnight found near Clearfield, making four within a year and a-half, have aroused feeling that something should be done to bring the guilty to justice, but as yet no efforts appear to have been made. The effort being made to secure a pardon for Jack Keeler, the slayer of Joseph Roemer, the Clearfield brewer, is finding bitter opposition, a counter petition, largely circulated urging that no clemency be shown the convicted murderer. A coroner's jury has decided that the eight men who were killed when stone cars ran away on the incline of the Derry Sand company, came to their death through their own negligence. The men had frequently been warned not to ride the cars. By a decision of Cumberland county court, the property of the Cumberland Clay company will be sold at public sale as the result of the failure to meet the payment of a mortgage for \$75,000, given by the Farmers' Trust company of Carlisle. The Pennsylvania Lime and Stone company, with quarries at Water Street, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors. Frank W. Stewart, a Huntingdon man, is assigned. Petersburg and Huntingdon business men compose the company. A strike, a shut down and a break down in the machinery which necessitated repairs formed a combination which has resulted in a total of two months' idleness for miners at the Eriton shaft, near DuBois. Work has been resumed this week. A reward of \$100 is offered by Mrs. Harry Phelps of Union City, for any information that will lead to her husband's whereabouts. He mysteriously disappeared from his home at Union City on Sunday, March 16th, and has not been seen since. Between 6 and 7 o'clock on Sunday morning, in the icy waters of Stone creek, near Huntingdon, twelve persons were baptized into membership in the Christian Alliance chapel. Twenty were expected to receive the sacrament, but only twelve braved the wintry weather and chilling bath. Mail clerk Jerome C. Bender, of Millintown, who carried the mail from the Millintown and Millin postoffices to the railroad station, is under arrest, charged with rifling the mails. He offered to resign when suspicion first pointed his way, but was too late. He is now said to have confessed. Big rewards are offered for the arrest and conviction of the fiend who assaulted 12-year-old Beanie Miller, near Armhurst, a few days ago. The Westmoreland county commissioners have offered \$500 and \$quire Truxal, of Greensburg, a close friend of the family, adds \$200. The little girl's recovery is now hoped for. Sidney White, aged 15, was drowned in a deep pool of water near Greensburg. With another boy he was playing and floated a mortar box as a boat. When the box began to sink the boy jumped and was drowned. His companion gave an alarm, but before he could be taken out of the water his life was extinct. Potatoes are down from 20 to 50 cents a bushel in Lancaster county. Many farmers held back their supplies in hope that the market would go up, but the coming of warmer weather has forced them to place the supplies on the market. At a sale of upwards of 200 bushels at Lititz the price went as low as 20 cents a bushel. Alex. Siegfried, 25 years old, of Hughesville, was killed and Edward Irwin, salesman, and John Winterstein, chauffeur for a music company of Williamsport, narrowly escaped injury when a big truck owned by the company went over an embankment in the mountain region two miles north of Stoneburg, Monday afternoon. The Williamsport Young Women's Christian association has recently moved to more commodious quarters in the old Crawford house. The building is well adapted to its new uses and will enable the association to care for fifty boarders. The hotel dining room will make a fine gymnasium and the former bar room will make a first class dining room. One of the Grove brothers at Milton went to the stable with a bunch of bills and checks sticking in his hind pocket. Later in the day he discovered that he did not have the money and after a long search went to the stable and found the remnants in his pet colt's stall. About \$15 was lost as there was not enough pieces to identify the notes, but the other securities were all right. Several charges are laid up against Duke Palmer, now in the Indiana county jail. He had a dispute with friends, bought a revolver and then, at another store, bought the wrong kind of cartridges. When chief of police Harris accosted him, he pulled the trigger three times. The chief's life was saved by the fact that the cartridges wouldn't work. After he was lodged in jail smoke was seen coming from his mattress. W. M. Calver, a United States postoffice inspector, says that the accounts of Charles Brightaupt, postmaster at Drums, a fourth-class office, near Berwick, are short \$200. Brightaupt is missing and is said to be in Canada. Other alleged shortages charged to Brightaupt are \$10,000, said to have been raised on false notes, and an alleged shortage in his accounts as collector of Luzerne county taxes. Rev. A. E. Cooper, of Jersey Shore, on Saturday evening married his first couple since he, with a number of other Lycoming county ministers, declared that they would not marry any more couples unless they could produce the necessary health certificate. The couple who were united in marriage by Rev. Cooper after they produced the health certificate, were Willard D. Lelsensinger and Fannie D. Austin, both of Jersey Shore. When he saw a woman paralyzed by fright on a railroad track at Sunbury last Thursday, with a passenger train approaching, Huston Taggart, clerk at a local hotel, at the risk of his own life, jumped to her side and pulled her away. The train brushed his coat and tore his sleeve. The woman, who is said to be the wife of a wealthy Philadelphia, was profuse with her thanks and insisted that he take \$500 in bills, which she pulled from her purse. Taggart declined to accept even five cents. Charles H. Eldon, the Williamsport taxidermist, has received the head of a cow elk for mounting, from the State Game Department. The head was sent in by the game warden at Clearfield. The cow was one of the herd of elk brought into the State last year and placed on a State preserve. The animal became sick and died. Some time ago Mr. Eldon received the preserved head of a bull elk. That animal was injured in transit and died later. The elk are in Clearfield county and outside of the two whose heads were sent to Mr. Eldon, the herd is declared to be doing well. That the telephone lines of the Huntingdon & Clearfield Telephone company are to be repaired and the service put in the shape it was before the American Union company got control and allowed things to deteriorate is the statement made by W. H. Denlinger, one of the capitalists interested in the corporation. A reorganization meeting will be held at Clearfield April 15th, when the plans for the improvements will be outlined. At that meeting, also, officers will be chosen and an organization effected. For the last two weeks the company has been very busy with details of the transfer of ownership, which went into effect April 1st.