

INK SLINGS.

—Yesterday was hot enough to need only a circus to convince everyone that it is real summer.

—We wonder whether Mr. BRYAN ever thinks of asking VANCE McCORMICK how many times he voted for him.

—Mr. BRYAN is showing the country that he can play the "second fiddle" quite as capably as he could be the "Peerless Leader."

—The fact that leading Republicans of the country are trying to get together to reorganize their party, is, at least, an admission of weakness.

—The government's efforts to reduce the dangers of coal mining do not seem to be bearing fruit enough to prevent the usual number of terrible explosions.

—Those forty-three wool Democrats couldn't pull the wool over the eyes of the rest of the Democrats in Congress though they did their best in that direction.

—If Mr. BRYAN gets into the habit of apologizing to people he has vilified, during his career as self-appointed party boss, he will be kept busy a considerable part of his time.

—Montenegro has gone ahead and captured Scutari in defiance of the admonition of The Powers to withdraw from the city. Now all of Europe is threatened with war.

—It is quite evident that the ambitious Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER would have Pennsylvania believe that he is the President's mouth piece. It is equally evident that the Congressman isn't in as close touch with the President as he tries to make believe.

—The Johnstown Democrat yesterday launched the boom for A. MITCHELL PALMER, for Governor. We don't know whether it was intentional or by accident that our esteemed contemporary failed to state what ticket Mr. PALMER proposes to run on. When all the circumstances are considered the omission is significant.

—No, dear reader, the president of council was not in collusion with the brewers when he insisted on putting up the water rentals. It might look as though he were trying to make water cost you more than beer, but don't believe it, for the president of council is one of the very few simple-pure temperance men in Bellefonte.

—The Japs are working themselves into a fury over California's proposed land law that is designed to prevent them from becoming free holders in that State unless they become citizens of the United States. The Jingo is howling for war, but the Mikado knows that hunting the American eagle is a very different game from that of hunting the Russian bear.

—"The Murder Dance" and "the Kitchen Sink" are two of the latest terpsichorean fads in New York. If the girls who are evidently spending so much time figuring out these latter day scandalous wiggles would put in a little more time around the kitchen sink their homes would be happier and the country not so frequently shocked by vulgar new dances.

—The late J. PIERPONT MORGAN may have been the ruler of our financial world, but the very first paragraph in his will reveals the fact that he knew and recognized the Supreme Ruler of all the universe. He made no attempt to buy favor with bequests to churches and charities, but resorted to the same means that you and I must use if we hope to attain it and that is prayer.

—The Surveyor of the Customs at the port of Philadelphia will have two deputies to appoint, each with a salary of \$2500 a year. Where could two better men be found to fill such places than W. MILLS WALKER, of Bellefonte, and Col. JOHN A. WOODWARD, of Howard. Both are able men and Progressive to the core, though we confess that we use the word "Progressive" without knowing exactly what it means.

—Mr. BRYAN has started to California to confer with the Governor and the Legislature of that State on the matter of the proposed Japanese land law. Neither the President nor the Secretary of State are assuming to interfere with the rights of California to make laws of her own, but the conference is to be held merely to avoid writing anything into the California Act that may be out of harmony with our treaty obligations to Japan.

—Not that he is objecting to paying whatever share he may have to of the income tax HARRY FENLON has a little theory, all his own, as to how the deficit occasioned by lower tariff duties could be made up. He thinks postmasters should be done away with, that is, all salaried officers. As a matter of fact the assistant postmaster in every office is quite competent to do the work and could do it along with his own very handsily, thus saving the government the salaries paid the postmasters. Mr. FENLON is preaching his doctrine so broadcast that there certainly can't be any truth in the rumor that he expects to be on his toes when the bunch of applicants start the race for the Bellefonte postoffice.

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The License Source of Graft.

One of the members of the New York plumbers' examining board has testified that the graft from that source in that State amounts to about \$100,000 a year. This tainted money is obtained by giving licenses to practice plumbing to persons who are not qualified, for a consideration, the price for such favors ranging from \$200 to \$2000 according to the ability of the applicant to pay. The method of the New York board was to write out the questions put in the examination and the answers to them and give the applicants for license time to commit them to memory. Under those circumstances no technical knowledge was needed to get a license.

A good many people have wondered why men of this vocation or that have been so anxious to put operatives under the necessity of undergoing an examination. The license costs money and men are averse to wasting money as a rule. But a board of examiners for plumbers, or barbers, or blacksmiths afford lucrative positions for a considerable number of men and the testimony of these New York plumbers shows that it is also a considerable source of graft to those "on the inside." For it may safely be assumed that what the examiners in the plumbing trade do the examiners in all other trades do. Human nature is pretty much the same all over the world.

At every session of the Legislature during the last quarter of a century bills have been introduced to put some line of work or another under a board of examiners. As a rule the fellows who expect appointments upon the boards do the lobbying and they are ably assisted by politicians who expect to share the graft. But only a few have been able to accomplish their purpose in this State thus far. The others will continue to try, however, until it is plainly revealed to them that in the opinion of Legislators those who are anxious to tax and trouble themselves have some ulterior purpose to subserve. Honest men never impose useless burdens upon themselves.

—The one thing about the UNDERWOOD tariff bill which the tariff-mongers detest is the ad valorem duties. They are awfully afraid it will have a tendency to the falsification of values and that would be atrocious. But they may compose their perturbed souls. The market value of products will be known to customs officials and undervaluations will be promptly discovered and penalized. The graft of the tariff barons will be stopped, however, and that is the real source of objection.

The Illustrious Ty Cobb.

Mr. TY COBB has contributed both to the "gayety of nations," and the pleasure of the world many times and in various ways since he began his stellar career as a base ball player. But he has never performed a more useful service than he has just rendered in kicking up a row over the peonage which prevails in the base ball world. Because Mr. COBB undertook to exercise the fundamental right of contract in his relation with the Detroit team, he has been driven out of the game by a process which is little, if any, short of barbarism. Refusing to accept terms made for him without his acquiescence by one club he is blacklisted by all clubs. TY COBB is easily the best base ball player of this or any other time. His sensational and successful achievements have caused more thrills to the base ball fans than those of any other half dozen players. Thousands patronized the game for no other reason than to witness his performance on the diamond. Yet the game is to be deprived of the advantage of his genius and the fans of the pleasure he gave them because a tyrannical management undertook to deny him a right common to all American citizens and one which no thorough American would relinquish for any price or under any circumstances. We can imagine no greater outrage.

But Mr. COBB doesn't propose to let the base ball magnates "get away" with their trick. At least the friends of Mr. COBB propose to institute proceedings which will not only restore him to his rightful place in the world of national sports but will enable all other experts in the game of base ball to assert their manhood. In other words Congressman GALLAGHER, of Illinois, proposes a congressional investigation of the methods of base ball managers with the view to putting an end to the peonage and other forms of slavery which have been tolerated too long. We hope the matter will be carried to an ultimate conclusion and that TY will be vindicated.

—Probably the Japs are only making an excitement to keep RICHARD PEARSON HOBSON in mental exercise. HOBSON feeds on "wars and rumors of war."

Secretary Bryan and Speaker Clark.

The Democracy of the entire country will be glad to learn, as it has through recent dispatches from Washington, that the entente cordiale between Speaker CLARK and Secretary of State BRYAN has been restored. Mr. BRYAN has frankly declared that he didn't mean to asperse the Speaker in the several speeches delivered during the Baltimore convention and the Speaker with equal candor observes that while the harm done by the aspersions is irreparable, he forgives the Secretary of State in the interest of party harmony. This is really a beautiful exhibition of self-abnegation upon the part of the Speaker and a characteristic expression of BRYANISM on the part of the Secretary of State.

For years previous to that of the last Presidential nomination Mr. BRYAN and Mr. CLARK had been fast friends. Mr. BRYAN was always a candidate and CLARK an obedient and faithful follower. During the canvass for the nomination last year Mr. BRYAN played fast and loose with several candidates but in his own State supported Mr. CLARK with much earnestness. As a result of his endeavors Mr. BRYAN was elected a delegate-at-large to the Baltimore convention and had himself instructed to vote for and support Mr. CLARK for the nomination. Subsequently he discovered that he could do better for himself by supporting another candidate and he abandoned Mr. CLARK.

Of course Mr. BRYAN had to give some reason to justify the perfidy and the most available excuse was trading Mr. CLARK, which he proceeded to do with characteristic vehemence and acerbity. It is believed that the result was the defeat of Mr. CLARK and the nomination of Mr. WILSON at the time and a break in the friendship between the gentlemen subsequently. But they met at a social function in Washington, the other day, when Mr. BRYAN shook hands with Mr. CLARK, forgave him for living and later issued a public statement in which he alleged that he didn't mean what he said and the public had no business to think he did mean it. Mr. CLARK could hardly do otherwise than be satisfied.

—Of course California will be less obstreperous when the "sober second thought" asserts itself, as it will in due time. The way to prevent alien Japanese from buying real estate is to forbid all aliens from doing so and that is what the present agitation will resolve itself into finally.

The Women Suffrage Question.

To the surprise of both friends and foes of the measure the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for female suffrage passed the State Senate on Tuesday by the constitutional majority. It had been postponed twice to save it from defeat and when the roll call was ordered for the final vote nobody dreamed that it had a ghost of a show. But like many other unexpected things it happened that way. Men who voted for it openly and candidly declared that they are opposed to the proposition. Others remained silent on the subject and voted affirmatively in the hope that enough others would vote the other way to defeat it. But they were disappointed.

The arguments in favor of the resolution centered around the proposition that it is a vital question and the people have a right to pass upon it. An argument that is true beyond question. Many of the advocates of woman suffrage have no idea however that it will finally become a law, but much worse enactments have been passed and there are many substantial reasons why it should.

As the matter now stands the probabilities are against the consummation of this submission even with the advantage it gained on Tuesday. It will have to pass both branches of the Legislature again before it is submitted to the people and the next Legislature may not be of the same kind as that now in session. In other words the next Legislature will be chosen under different auspices and though it may be responsive to the will of the people, as it ought to be, it may not accept what many believe to be the paroxysms of agitators as the voice of the people. Maybe by that time public sentiment will favor female suffrage and in that event it ought to prevail. But there is no positive evidence of it now perceptible.

—Besides it is not improbable that most of the war rumors are invented by the press agents of the powder trust and the ordnance makers. A rumor that will force governments to buy war materials is quite as useful to those fellows as a real war.

—The tariff lobby at Washington is as powerless as it is disconsolate. There are no open hands for its "arguments."

The Tariff Bill Perfected.

The tariff bill introduced by Mr. UNDERWOOD at the beginning of the present session of Congress was finally perfected by the Democratic caucus on Saturday evening last and formally put upon its passage on Monday of this week. Some unimportant changes have been made in the measure and some compromises effected. But in its present form it is a better bill than the original draft. It is assured of a practically unanimous support of the majority party and is equally certain to pass the Senate without material alteration. That is a great achievement for the Democracy and will be of vast advantage to the people of the country.

No better proof of the integrity, capability and courage of the Democratic majority in Congress could be given. As has been said in these columns before, every expedient to divide and distract the Democrats from their duty and purpose was invoked, but without success. A few were beguiled by selfishness to antagonize the rate of duty on sugar and another group were induced by the same impulse to oppose the placing of raw wool upon the free list. But the party was morally bound to carry out the purpose expressed by the Ways and Means Committee on both these items and fulfilled the pledge with practical unanimity.

It is estimated that the passage of this bill will cut down the customs revenues by about \$80,000,000 but more than that amount will be obtained by the graduated tax on incomes and an inestimable gain will lie in the fact that the new tax will be upon wealth rather than poverty. The iniquity of our tariff tax system, under Republican usage, is in the fact that the heaviest burdens were put upon those least able to bear them. The new system will reverse this and send comfort and hope throughout the land. The emissaries of privilege will delay the consummation as much as possible, no doubt, but the end of tariff graft is near.

—Ten days of the trout fishing season have passed but there have been no reports of phenomenal catches or unusually well stocked streams. A few fishermen who went to the mountains and whipped the mountain streams have made fair catches, probably one of the most successful being postmaster Phil D. Foster, of State College. Mr. Foster is just as enthusiastic an angler as he is a hunter and he must have a nose for trout, because he hardly ever fails in bringing home a nice basket from one of the various streams in the Seven mountains. Since the opening day no big catches have been made on Logan's Branch and Spring creek, though a few trout are being caught almost every day. There are still some big ones in Spring Creek, as was proven on Monday evening when a dozen or more fishermen threw all kinds of enticing bait to two trout in the stream opposite Beezer's garage, that must have been at least twenty inches long, but they were not feeding at that especial time.

—The State Railroad Commission has recommended to the Central Railroad Company of Pennsylvania that the rate for the transportation of lime—five dollars per car—from the plant of the Empire Lime company to the Pennsylvania railroad junction near Bellefonte, a distance of 7,976 feet, be reduced to such a sum as will constitute a reasonable charge. The rate charged by the defendant company for hauling limestone from the American Lime and Stone company's pike plant to the junction, a distance of 3,933 feet, is but two dollars per car, and it is the judgment of the commission that this is a greater difference in rate than the difference in distance and material would seem to justify.

—It cost the borough of Bellefonte just \$42.46 for formaldehyde for fumigating the houses in which there were cases of smallpox during the winter, and there were not many cases at that. All told the disease will cost the borough over five hundred dollars when the bills are all paid, while the loss in business owing to people being afraid to come to town cannot be accurately computed. But it is all over now and the one hope is that it will never occur again.

—The freeze we had on Saturday and Sunday nights may have done serious damage to fruit, though it is too early to tell. Ice half an inch thick was formed and magnolias in bloom in gardens on Curtin street were frozen black.

—Judge Ben Lindsay, of Denver, the world famous jurist and originator of treatment for juvenile offenders, is to be one of the lecturers who will be in Bellefonte during our Chautauque week in July.

The Fuss with Japan.

From the Johnstown Democrat. California, holding that the Japanese cannot be assimilated in an American Commonwealth and never really fit into a Democracy, is bent upon upholding a law designed to prevent men from the land of the Mikado from acquiring title to real estate within her borders. In spite of the fact that the State Department at Washington is trying its best to straighten out the tangle there is some danger of a rather protracted snarl. The excitable Japs are making the most of the situation. Last week it appears that twenty thousand or so cheered the suggestion that the Mikado's government proceed to give Uncle Sam a good trouncing. But there really is no cause for alarm. Japan is on the other side of the ocean. And, moreover, its warships will keep rather near home waters for a time at least. The fuss will cause the present Japanese government a great deal more trouble than it will cause us. Since the Japs have awakened from their long slumber they have developed the sort of person very frequently seen in this country—the demagogue. Such an incident as the alien land law presents a great opportunity to the demagogue. By passionate appeals to the public it is quite possible for him to gain an office; to annoy or even overthrow the present government.

Japan has been playing the game pretty strongly lately. The cabinet is not universally popular. The government leaders have turned their faces against increased expenditures for the army and navy and are striving to lead the people along the path of peace. Consequently the opposition, when it appeals hysterically for more ships with which to "wipe out the insular empire upon Nippon by the United States," is sure of a hearing. The orator is playing politics. He is having his fling at arousing the "gusty passions of the mob." But while the crowd in the park is cheering for war the business interests, the leaders of the real progressive thought in Japan and all the forces of the government are bent upon preserving peace. Japan is not looking for war. Just a few men upon the street corners are calling for a speedy invasion of our Pacific coast. That is the main reason the situation is not alarming as far as this country is concerned.

For a Share of the "Swag."

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Fifty members of the Manufacturers' Club of Philadelphia, have united in protesting against the reduction of tariff bills, and against the Walnut labor bills and the Bigger minimum salary bill. They say that the enactment of all these measures would cause the greatest industrial disaster in the history of the country.

Now, what else could the gentlemen be expected to say? The title of the club itself answers that question. Being manufacturers, they are strong believers in high tariff. Holding to that belief, they also look upon any proposed reduction of duties as a crime against industry, commerce, prosperity and profits. In every campaign the club has supported a high tariff as a business proposition. It is not to be blamed much for doing that. It did it openly and above board, and everybody knew exactly where to find it in every national campaign.

The fifty's predictions of calamity are not to be taken too seriously. The Congress and the Legislature and the Governor of this Commonwealth should turn on a deaf ear toward them. What are the Congress and the Legislature doing? Nothing but giving the people possession of their own house, as Wilson said so many only a few months ago. The Congress is doing what everybody knew it did to do. The Legislature is keeping its pledges. Manufacturers appeared before both law-making bodies with statements and protests. They have had their day. The people must not be scared by the canty howlers. They permitted themselves to be scared for forty years while the other fellows piled up enormous fortunes. Now it is time, as Roosevelt says, that the people themselves get "a share of the swag." And they are going to get it.

Our Expensive Toys.

From the Lowell Courier-Citizen.

Those trifling toys of a nation known as battleships or warships, under the modern standards are obsolete and undesirable after a certain period of years. It is somewhat startling to read that the vessels that took part in the battle off Santiago, Cuba, are now worthless and will be used as targets for the modern ships of the navy. The Spanish war seems recent to this generation, and the great ships that fought the naval battles and scored victories are all well known by name throughout the country. One would not expect all of them still to be of great service value, but the sweeping statement that all of the ships of that era are doomed to the scrap heap emphasizes tremendously the passing of time and the deterioration which comes to warships. The nation must keep building to keep up a navy. The Indiana, Massachusetts, Iowa and Illinois, great ships in their time, are slated for the fate that came to the Texas. They are to be shot at for practice. It is truly a scrap heap when the target practice is over, and they are expensive targets. The millions spent in their construction have been eaten up, year in and year out, and the ships are consigned to oblivion. The short life of battleships is shameful, in view of the money spent in building them. There can be no inspiration now for such a poem as "Old Ironsides."

—The late J. PIERPONT MORGAN reveals extreme devoutness in his will but it came to the public too late for him to take advantage of the admiration by forming another industrial trust.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The entire board of health of Burnham has resigned, owing to friction which nobody concerned will talk about.

—It is expected that the contract for the new hospital at Indiana will be let this week yet and that active work will begin in a few days.

—William Heivley, who killed a robin near Ellimspport nearly a year ago, was taken before a Williamsport alderman last week and fined \$10.

—The "Safety First" campaign is being carried on by the H. C. Frick Coke company in Westmoreland county by means of moving pictures.

—Charges of criminal negligence have been preferred against three officials of the Ligonier Valley railroad in connection with the fatal wreck last summer.

—Operations have been resumed at the Patton silk mill, which has been idle for some time because a strike in New England rendered it impossible to secure material.

—A true bill has been found against H. F. Barron, charged with embezzling \$43,000 of the funds of the Somerset National bank. There are six counts on the indictment.

—The First Presbyterian church at Johnstown is to raise \$40,000 by April 29th, in one of those whirlwind campaigns that have become so popular as a way to raise money.

—The plant of the Clearfield Brick Manufacturing company, located four miles from Clearfield, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning. The loss is about \$25,000, and it is said there is no insurance.

—Claude S. Armer, of a Lock Haven manufacturing plant, was caught in the belting and whirled around a shaft several times before the machinery could be stopped. Strangely enough, he escaped with minor injuries.

—The wood pipe plant at Williamsport is having serious trouble on account of breaks in the machinery which are strongly suspected to be malicious mischief, due to a desire to prevent the firm from filling certain contracts on time.

—The well known Kiskiminetus school, near Saltsburg, has bought a farm of 136 acres and will spend \$50,000 on new buildings. A new firm is at the helm of the old school and greater developments are expected in the way of betterments.

—John Enterline, who was discharged recently by the Jefferson county grand jury on a murder charge, has sued Dr. Frank A. Lorenzo, who prosecuted the case after the coroner's jury and the justice had cleared Enterline. The damage is fixed at \$10,000.

—A large quantity of the stolen pipe and quite a number of spigots and like supplies were found on the creek bank, near Latrobe, where police had followed two boys whom they suspected. The boys got away, but the police are convinced of their identity.

—When the special trains from Mt. Union and Robertsdale arrived at Oribasima on Saturday evening, thirty people were disappointed to find that Landlord Shaffner had closed his bar. He was not accommodating that particular portion of the "traveling public."

—Regina Cerwinski has sued the borough of Windfor \$25,000 because of the death of her daughter, Martha Cerwinski, who was killed during a Fourth of July celebration when a piece of pipe exploded and a fragment hit her on the head. The girl was 18 years old. Judge Baldrige is at Somerset this week, assisting Judge Ruppel.

—Clarence Terrell, of Stone Creek, near Huntingdon, went fishing in the stream that places its name on Thursday and caught a fifteen-inch black bass. He didn't know a bass from any other fish and was surprised when he was told that he was a law breaker. The justice was lenient and gave him an opportunity to work out the usual fine.

—There was no one at home when Miss Lelia Lewis, of Latrobe, returned from school a few days ago and decided to bake a pie. She used kerosene to revive the apparently dead kitchen fire and was terribly burned in the consequent explosion. Her screams attracted a neighbor, who succeeded in extinguishing the flames before she was fatally burned.

—John Perry Sutton has been missing from his home at Apollo for ten days. He and his wife had decided to go to the soldiers' home at Dayton, Ohio, and Mr. Sutton had gone to the bank at Apollo to draw out his deposit. He was last seen at Vandergriff and relatives fear that he was taken suddenly ill and fell into the river or wandered away and died of exposure.

—Hundreds of acres of mountain land were devastated near Williamsport by fire supposed to have originated from matches carelessly dropped in the woods. The same kind of a report comes from the ridges of Westmoreland county in the vicinity of Youngstown. In the latter case, the mountain had been previously burned over and there was not much left for the flames this year.

—J. L. McGregor, of Kane, visiting his former home at Flemington, went fishing a few days ago. He lost his balance and went into the river at the chute above the dam. He was carried through the swamp for fifteen minutes before he was able to make his way to the island a little farther down stream. He is 81 years old and was heavily clothed, which makes his escape from drowning all the more remarkable. After recovering from his exhaustion on the island he was obliged to swim to the shore.

—Sheridan Maloy, of Curwensville, is in jail at Clearfield charged with arson. He had left the town some years ago because of a forged check and some time after his return was heard to say that he would get even with those responsible for his leaving. Within a month three barns, the old grist mill, a large store building near it and the band hall have been burned and many other buildings have been saved only by timely discovery. A detective traveled with him for some days and called the police in time to have them see him fire a building.

—Robert S. Flemming was arrested at Lewisburg on Monday on a charge of arson, preferred by Deputy State Fire Marshal J. William Morgan, in connection with the burning of his automobile garage in that place on September 13, 1912, in which eleven machines, the property of business and professional men, were destroyed, at a loss of \$30,000. Flemming went to Lewisburg from Bellefonte and started in business with the idea that the state road through the Narrows would be finished last year. Its failure affected his prospects and he is said to have been bankrupt when the garage burned. He waived a hearing and bail for \$1,000 was furnished by his father.

—A meeting of the stockholders of the Huntingdon & Clearfield Telephone company was held at Clearfield last week and the reorganization was effected by the election of A. W. Lee, of Clearfield, president; John W. Wrigley, Clearfield, vice president; Singleton Bell, Clearfield, secretary; H. J. Patton, Philadelphia, treasurer. The directors are as follows: A. W. Lee, Clearfield; John W. Wrigley, Clearfield; Singleton Bell, Clearfield; H. J. Patton, Philadelphia, and Rembrandt Peale, New York. New exchanges will be installed at Clearfield, Philipsburg and Madera as early a date as possible. Considerable improvement is contemplated in the Cambria and Indiana county district, details of which have not as yet been decided upon. The new management is confident of the future success and prosperity of the Huntingdon & Clearfield Telephone company.