

INK SLINGS.

If there had been any pumpkins the frost would have been on them too on Monday morning.

The Legislature has finally agreed upon a day to adjourn. That is something to be thankful for, at least.

Commencements are about over and beginnings have just begun for thousands of our young college graduates.

Johnstown has smallpox now and is blaming it on a circus that visited that city recently. After all, all is not joy that the circus brings to town.

Those Chinese University students from Hawaii showed State College, on Tuesday, and the Academy next day that all the Chinks are not laundry men.

When Paraguay ratified an extradition treaty with the United States the last haven, whence the fugitive from justice couldn't be bought back, went out of business.

"The Bellefonte Six" is to be designed to meet every requirement of the man or woman who wants the most of comfort and satisfaction in an automobile at the lowest cost.

The failure to support the charges against JUDGE BRUMM, of Schuylkill county, ought to discourage impeachment proceedings already begun or contemplated against other judges.

Former President TAFT is reported as being somewhat thinner than he was when he left the White House. Possibly he is undertaking to live on his salary as a law professor at Yale.

Canada hasn't much on Bellefonte in the way of a cold June 9th. There was snow over the border but we had a few heavy enough to fool the near sighted early bird into thinking it was "the beautiful."

In view of the unseasonable weather which has prevailed during the past week we are unable to feel genuine sympathy for the weather bureau officials who have been dismissed or removed recently.

Nobody is ever satisfied. After years of work and worrying to get the good roads movement to bearing fruit there are those who are already complaining that the public highways are being made too smooth.

It would be well for the State Highway Department to make a study of the effects of solid tire motor trucks on its newly constructed roads. To our mind nothing will resist the wearing strain of such vehicles but brick.

Japan used thirty million dollars worth of American wheat and flour in 1912 and yet there are a few dealers in armor plate who would like to get this country into war with Japan so that they can sell the government a little armor plate.

There was a man in our town Who shook with wondrous ease His good warm woolen underwear And donned his B V Ds But Monday's cold and wintry blasts Brought him rheumatic pain So Tuesday morn, sure as your born He donned his woools again.

Old potatoes went down to sixteen and one half cents per bushel in Chicago on Tuesday. It was the lowest price ever recorded there. The usual thing happened to the growers who would not let them go when they were scarce last fall and selling at \$1.15.

That third class cities of the State will pass under commission government in the near future is reasonably certain, the legislation having passed both branches of the General Assembly. It is not equally certain, however, that the new system will be an improvement upon the old though there is consolation in the thought that it can't be worse.

We notice that they have named JOSEPH L. MONTGOMERY, of the Pennsylvania Match Co., as one of the gentlemen who helped swell the "obnoxious lobby" at Washington and consequently, his business down there must be investigated. We have so much confidence in the integrity of Mr. MONTGOMERY that we are constrained to remark that if they find nothing more pernicious than was represented in his mission before the Senators the much talked of "lobby" investigation would far better never have been started.

The efforts of the editor of the Republican to become the journalistic comedian of Centre county are indeed amusing and while we hesitate to divert the vein of humor that is being pounded out of his type-writer it would add to the joyousness of the situation if he were to become serious enough to explain the coolness that exists between himself and Republican county chairman QUIGLEY. Well founded rumor has it that these two Republican worthies nearly came to blows over the question as to which one was entitled to the most credit, from PALMER and MCCORMICK's boss of Centre county, for their efforts in dealing with the PENROSE machine at Harrisburg for him. And, incidentally, it doesn't make a noise like reform and purification in our own party when the new "Reorganizer" boss deals, with the PENROSE lieutenant and the editor of a Republican paper here, to get advertising from the PENROSE machine at Harrisburg, does it?

The Electoral Reform Bill.

There is more reason than rhyme in the statement of Senator PENROSE that his rival in the leadership of the Republican forces, Mr. WILLIAM FLINN, doesn't want electoral reform half as much as he wants campaign material from the present Legislature. It is equally true that the electoral reform legislation has been mutilated in the Senate and impaired by amendments suggested by the old Republican machine. But even at that the pending bills would afford some relief from the iniquities which both PENROSE and FLINN have used to their personal advantage whenever opportunity presented itself. If they are defeated nobody will rejoice more than Mr. FLINN. It will give him an excuse, though a lame one, for squandering money in the next campaign.

The partisan abuse against which public clamor was most outspoken during the last campaign, was expressed in stealing the nominations of the minority party by a fragment of the majority party. By that trick Senator McNICHOL, of Philadelphia, was able to get the Democratic nomination in his last campaign for reelection and Senator VARE, of the same city, did the same thing. Agents of the liquor interests have been able in the same way to steal the nominations of the Prohibition party. The pending State-wide primary bill will put a stop to this crowning evil. A couple of years ago the Republican machine of Philadelphia secretly created a new labor party a few days before the election and defeated two reform candidates for Magistrate. The pending measure would prevent the recurrence of such an outrage.

There are substantial reasons for and against easy facilities for putting independent candidates in the field. Men or factions with abundance of money behind them can work vast harm by launching eleventh hour candidates against first nominees of the regular party organizations and sometimes such movements accomplish good results. But the matter is hardly so important that an otherwise meritorious bill should be defeated because it promoted or prevented such a result. The vital objection to the pending bill is that it permits assistance to voters who are amply able to mark their own ballots. If that fault could be corrected in conference the people could overlook other defects and rejoice that a considerable improvement has been made.

TAFT is having a delightful time during a brief visit to Washington in the capacity of private citizen. But TAFT enjoyed himself fairly well when he used to visit Washington at intervals as President of the United States. As a matter of fact he has a splendid capacity for pleasure.

Futile Kick of the Interests.

When Senator TOWNSEND, of Michigan, inferentially charged President WILSON with lobbying, he revealed a misunderstanding of the word and a misinterpretation of public sentiment. The reason which President WILSON gave for his statement concerning the lobby was that while the interests are abundantly represented, the people have no one to speak for them. Senators and Representatives in Congress are alert enough in local matters, and the iron districts, the coal districts and the sugar districts have spokesmen upon the floors of the legislative chambers. But the farmers, mechanics and laborers have no tongue in the matter unless the President comes forward to represent them.

Senator TOWNSEND imagined, no doubt, that he would create a great sensation by his veiled imputation against the President. He expressed his understanding of a lobbyist as one who unduly and improperly influenced Senators and Representatives to vote for or against pending measures of legislation, contrary to their judgment and against their consciences. In view of that definition to charge the President with being a lobbyist is a grave matter. But in this particular instance it was "a flash in the pan," to use a time-worn figure of speech. It failed to even arouse wide-spread public interest.

President WILSON is too firmly entrenched in the confidence of the people to be discredited by a sinister innuendo. He is not a lobbyist in any sense and has always shown an abhorrence of such things. Ever since his inauguration he has felt the evil influence of the lobby whenever his duties led to a scrutiny of special privilege. If Senator TOWNSEND could have diverted the public mind from the work in which the Democratic majority in Congress is engaged, he would have accomplished great results for the predatory interests. But he failed signally. The charges against the President fell flat and the investigation of the lobby proceeded as if nothing had happened.

The Dirty Insinuations of a Dirty Defamer of Centre County Democrats

Last week the WATCHMAN gave you the names of the Democrats of Centre county whom the Centre Democrat has charged "were selected as delegates to represent the party at State conventions" because, as it said, "they were men invariably without convictions—simply chosen to take orders." After reading their names many of you doubtless came to the conclusion that the Centre Democrat must have made such a charge either from malice, irresponsibility or with a desire to further wreck the party in Centre county.

We confess that one or other of the first two reasons would be less astonishing, as the motive that inspired the scurrilous article that was published in that paper of May 22nd, than the last. But the more the article in question is read the clearer it becomes that certain statements were made with deliberation and design. Veiled hints at what the writer knew would be inimical to the interests of certain Democrats in the county. For instance take the following paragraph:

"County chairmen too often were the WILLING TOOLS to those higher up, and frequently dispensed only part of the grease extracted from big corporations, the whisky distillers and beer brewers, out to their select 'privates' in the ranks."

Last week we showed you who the delegates were that the Centre Democrat charged with being TOOLS in the hands of the Democratic organization in Centre county. Read the above clipping again so that you fully understand what it is saying about the men who have been your county chairmen. Accusing them of appropriating to their personal use funds intended for the use of the party in Centre county and insinuating that such funds were improperly secured and used to over ride the better judgment of the members of our party in the county. Such charges, such insinuations can scarcely be regarded in any other light than a deliberate attempt to wreck the party by making those who have faith in it believe that it has been reeking with corruption.

The following are the gentlemen who have acted as chairmen of the Democratic county committee since 1892 and who can properly be held responsible for the acts and condition of the party during the period which the Democrat alleges it became so corrupt, boss-ridden and unworthy that "re-organization" alone would save it.

COUNTY CHAIRMEN—1892 to 1914.

Table listing County Chairmen from 1892 to 1914. Includes names like L. A. Schaeffer, J. C. Meyer, J. L. Orvis, N. B. Spangler, Capt. Hugh S. Fayler, J. Kennedy Johnston, John J. Bower, Cyrus Brungart, H. S. Taylor, N. B. Spangler, W. D. Zerby, A. B. Kimpfort.

It is for the Democrats of the county, after considering the character of the men who have represented them in State conventions for the last twenty years as published in the WATCHMAN of last week and the above list of gentlemen who have acted as chairmen of the Democratic county committee since 1892—the period during which the Democrat alleges the party went into decay, deteriorated in management, was debauched with money and disgraced by bossism,—to judge of the truthfulness of this dirty defamer of the Democrats of Centre county, and their county organization.

Just here a bit of history might not be amiss. Mr. KURTZ, the editor of the Centre Democrat, came to Bellefonte in 1888 to take charge of the paper which was then published by the Democrat Publishing Co., and owned by the very gentlemen who have had charge of the "Organization" that he charges with being so corrupt almost without interruption from that date to this. It is only a natural conclusion to believe that when these gentlemen were interested enough in Mr. KURTZ to give him charge of their property that they exploited him in every way possible. Just so it is natural to conclude that Mr. KURTZ has been very much in their confidence. Therefore we think the rational reader will see that if the "Organization" brought Mr. KURTZ to Bellefonte to run a Democratic newspaper that it owned Mr. KURTZ was undoubtedly identified with that "Organization." We know it to be the fact that all the publishers of Democratic newspapers in Centre county the editor of the Centre Democrat has been the most intimately connected with the "Organization" since he has been here. With this incontrovertible fact before you we insist that his attack upon the "Organization" of which he has been a party, is either a "sequel" because he didn't get his share of the grease extract of the "big corporations and beer brewers" or an attempt to wreck the party.

As a matter of fact the WATCHMAN does not believe there is truth in any of his charges. But unfortunately a lot of people do, merely because he has been in the habit of abusing everything that happens not to suit his particular whim and no one has taken the trouble to refute the statements. When it comes, however, to this brazen attempt at belittling the character of many of the best men in our party and charging the party itself with having used funds extracted from beer brewers, etc., for improper purposes it is time to call a halt and we think the most effective way to call the halt is to tell you that THE VERY MAN WHO IS MAKING THESE CHARGES OF CORRUPTION NOW WAS THE MAN WHO WENT TO ELK COUNTY ALONE AND CARRIED THE BOODLE BACK TO BELLEFONTE. And so far as our knowledge is concerned that was the only time in the history of our party that any considerable sum of money was secured from an outside source to be used in a campaign for local candidates.

After this astounding revelation are you still unconvinced that the editor of the Centre Democrat was not part and parcel of the "Organization" that he charges with betraying the Democracy of Centre county.

If it was betraying the Democracy of Centre county why was he contributing to that betrayal and why does he now try to exalt himself by veiled hints of corruption on the part of those whom he was working with.

Every political organization requires funds to conduct a campaign and the WATCHMAN is not ready to admit that the Democratic "Organization" in Centre county has acted differently with its funds than those of the other political parties. If the Centre Democrat thinks otherwise, and it evidently does, let it explain the consistency of using part of the fund referred to above to elect ARTHUR KIMFORT Prothonotary while holding him up now as the saviour of the political liberty of the Democracy of Centre county. If it was wrong to use the money why did Mr. KURTZ go for it and carry it back here himself? If it was used wrongfully then ARTHUR KIMFORT was profiting by the corruption.

We have no patience with such inconsistency. We would not have devoted the time or space to these matters if it were not for the fact that the Centre Democrat has been continually throwing dust in the eyes of the Democrats of Centre county and now that it has many of them blinded to its own part in the "Organization" of their party it is trying to exalt itself on a pedestal of purity and getting ready to sink the knife deep into the one who has exalted it most.

The Right Idea.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Professor John Price Jackson, the head of the new State Department of Labor and Industry, begins his administration of the new office with a laudable desire to make it something more than a mere medium for the enforcement of the law. He wants to make the office helpful both to employers and employees and to the industries in which they are engaged. He would have them get together for the good of their common cause. He would promote arbitration and mediation among them.

The Star-Independent wishes him success in this admirable undertaking. It is the best and most rational way of promoting the industrial welfare of Pennsylvania and we endorse Commissioner Jackson's program the more heartily because it is exactly what the Star-Independent has been advocating for years and what must be adopted eventually wherever employers and employees are awake to the fact that the industrial interest of one is the interest of the other. The day will come—as Commissioner Jackson hopes it will—when the employer and the employees will confer together, not for the composing of labor differences but for the consideration of ways and means of promoting the business in which both are engaged. This idea is not Utopian but rational and therefore practical. Moreover, such conferences would mark the first step toward the elimination of strikes. At present employers and employees in certain industries—notably the bituminous coal industry—meet in joint conference for the purpose of making wage and work agreements.

It would be easy to go a step farther in all industries, but especially and particularly in the several and various industrial plants, and have conferences on the promotion of the quality or the quantity of the output. Where the idea of mutual helpfulness is thus developed there will be least likelihood of strikes, but if there are strikes nevertheless, where the conference plan has been in successful operation the natural thing would be to employ mediation and arbitration, if necessary, to end the difference or dispute.

Commissioner Jackson begins his new task hopefully and enthusiastically, and he will have the support and encouragement of right-thinking citizens.

Is Investigation Greatly Needed.

From the Clearfield Republican. Our suggestion in last week's issue that the Hon. Vance C. McCormick should demand an investigation of the charges made by Senator Beidleman, of Dauphin county, on the floor of the Senate has caused some frothing at the mouth on the part of some of the political curs in this neighborhood who are posing just now as McCormick lieutenants. Neither Mr. McCormick nor his friends should fear an investigation of the Beidleman charges. Really, they ought to be the first to demand an investigation—if there is nothing to the charges except "hated." Mr. McCormick himself has given column after column of his valuable newspaper space detailing simple rumors affecting the political character and political records of Pennsylvania Democrats who never aspired to State leadership, but at the time happened to be in opposition to Mr. McCormick's plan of party salvation. If there is nothing in the Beidleman allegations which would carry the county hands down, and he was not for Roosevelt, either.

The Trust Beneficial.

From the Johnstown Democrat. According to the straightforward and illuminating testimony of E. H. Gary, chairman of the Steel Trust, in the suit for its dissolution, the trust has always been managed, not for the benefit of its directors and stockholders, as erroneously assumed, but for the benefit of its employees, its customers and competitors. The managers have never reduced wages but once. They explain to their competitors every detail of their business, and in every conceivable way give them the benefit of their wide experience. Evidently the trust was created for the purpose of fostering and encouraging competition, not to destroy it, as erroneously assumed. Its real purpose in absorbing the Tennessee Coal and Iron company was to foster competition. If there has been any dishonesty or trickery or meanness in the treatment of competitors it has been without the knowledge or consent of the managers.

How shamefully this beneficent corporation has been misjudged only the men who are toiling in its mills twelve hours a day seven days a week for twelve cents an hour and the innocent stockholders of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company who were wrongfully deprived of their property can really tell. This illuminating revelation of noble deeds and high purpose may not be received at its face value by a few hypercritical pessimists, but then as nobody is worse off and Judge Gary's conscience is appeased, it is the part of wisdom to join the chorus and sing a doxology to the benefit of the Steel Trust.

Looks Like Judgment on Her.

From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times. In addition to Governor Johnson and the Japanese issue California now has a plague of grasshoppers.

SPAWS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Somerset county poor funds are short over \$3,000. H. F. Barron, a former treasurer, has been arrested.

Vaccination of an eighteen day quarantine is the alternative before all contacts with small-pox at Johnstown just now.

Williamsport has set September 8th for the opening of an Old Home Week. A "Made in Williamsport" display will be a feature.

Clearfield is worrying about where all the men needed for the various new plants the town is to have are going to find houses to live in.

Guilty of murder in the first degree, is the verdict rendered in the case of John Erble, tried in the Lycoming county court for killing Grace Siddle.

The knitting mill in West Huntingdon may be compelled to shut down because of the difficulty in getting operatives. High wages do not seem to be any inducement.

The Lock Haven school board is considering the proposition of a new High school building and also of introducing manual training and domestic science courses.

Leon Maczynski was shot and died in the Latrobe hospital of wounds received at the hands of an uncle with whom he had quarreled on Saturday night at the Polish club.

A DuBois pool room proprietor who shipped \$46 to a shark to get in on a big deal has asked the aid of the police to find the man who, himself slipped away as soon as he got the \$46.

The Barnesboro public park committee has issued emphatic announcements that the turkey trot, bunny hug, grizzly bear, one step and other dances of similar nature will not be allowed at the park.

To be shorn of his luxuriant growth of hair once in twelve months was the sentence imposed on Harry Lawson Drew, a member of a prominent family of Clearfield, by Judge Smith, in criminal court last week.

Ellery Spotts, of Mt. Union, has had triple misfortune. Within three months his barn burned, he lost a valuable horse by death and recently, while roofing a shed, he fell and gave his hip such a wrench that he cannot walk.

"I took the bird and flew away," declared Bishop Harry M. Lenzel, of the Followers of Christ church, of Reading, who returned home Thursday from Lebanon with his bride. The pair were privately married several days ago.

E. E. Clasby, of Lewisport, was working at a typewriter in his home when a bullet whizzed through the window and imbedded itself in the frame near the stand at which Mr. Clasby was working. The Sentinel says there is entirely too much shooting at night in that region.

Guilty of murder in the second degree was the plea entered in Lycoming county criminal court on Thursday by Michael Kalbach charged with the murder of James Kilgallon, a Wilkes-Barre tramp, during a drunken orgie of hoboism at the Bum's Hole on the night of April 5th last.

The recent forest fire in the Clearfield region burned over 4000 acres of young timber land, entailing a big loss, as the land was well covered with pop timber and a considerable amount of saw timber. John M. Chase says there were 1000 acres burned on his lands in the Sanborn region.

A former city foreigner found a "funny box" out in the woods and took it to his chum. He was told that an animal lived in the box and blew smoke into it to find out. The snapping turtle came out, bit him on the lip and it was a pathetic story he told to the doctor who dressed his injury.

Three cases of the genuine, old fashioned kind of small-pox are under treatment in the Municipal hospital, Johnstown. The contagion is traced to the Hagenbach-Wallace circus crowd in Johnstown and eight cases are reported in different parts of the city. Vaccinations have been numerous.

The State on Tuesday entered suit against the borough of Farrell, Mercer county, claiming \$99,500 for failure to obey a decree requiring sewage improvements. The claim is for \$500 fine and \$99 per day. This is the third suit of the kind to be brought in a year against a borough for failure to obey decrees.

A frightened horse ran into a north bound passenger train near Philadelphia a few days ago. The two boys on the cart jumped and saved themselves. The cart was demolished, but by some strange streak of fate the horse escaped serious injury. The cart steps were torn off and a dent made in the side of the coach.

A big dog came out of the woods along Moose creek a few days ago, crossed the river to Clearfield, passed along the east end cemetery and left for the woods whence it came. In its journey it narrowly escaped being run down by a Pennsy passenger train and went some distance through the New York Central yards.

The connecting of an electric fan with a gasoline tank which employees of a Williamsport garage were cleaning caused an explosion of the fumes in the tank, killed a boy and seriously burned the foreman. The boy was Robert Bennett, aged 13, of an investigating turn of mind, who had been warned to stay away from the tank, but disregarded the warning.

A girl who was cleaning windows on the third-story of a Johnstown hotel had a thrilling experience at noon on Thursday. She says that a drummer came into the room while she was at work on the outside, grew angry at her and set fire to the curtains. Hundreds of persons watched, looking for her to fall, but she held on and after a moment jumped into the room and helped to extinguish the flames.

Former State Treasurer F. G. Harris had a nerve racking experience recently while dining. He was crawling under a log that was lying across stream when just a few inches from his face a rattlesnake lifted its head. He tried to back out but a twig caught his coat and held him fast. Then he grasped the snake by the neck and threw it from him, fortunately before it had struck its fangs into his face.

Three Indiana citizens would like to know the whereabouts of E. Kain, an alleged eye specialist, who disappeared as suddenly as he had appeared on their horizon. He claimed to have offices and a fine residence in Pittsburgh and carried a grip of spectacles when he visited Indiana. Somehow he gained the confidence of the people and the men in question loaned him \$40, \$50 and \$200 respectively. Then he left.

Sheriff Judd H. Bruff, of Pittsburgh, was acquitted Friday morning of the charges of embezzlement and perjury. A third charge of misdemeanor in contracting with banks for payment to him of interest on official deposits was stricken out by Judge Reed. The jury was out only two hours. A case that had threatened to last a long time, but had been shortened by the defense's admission that Bruff had done nearly all the things alleged against him in the two indictments on which he was being tried, had taken only three days to complete. That had official had guilty intent was denied.

Holding that one shipper cannot sue for rebates as damages because competitors received rebates, the United States Supreme court reversed the decision of the Pennsylvania courts awarding to the International Coal Mining company, of the Clearfield region of Pennsylvania, a judgment of \$12,000 against the Pennsylvania railroad. Justice Pitney dissenting, declared the decision practically annulled the right of the shippers to sue for damages conferred by recent legislation, leaving a right to sue only in the almost negligible instances where the goods of a shipper came into competition with competitors who received rebates.