

INK SLINGS.

Tammany may be bad but it doesn't seem to have much on the Governor of New York.

PAUL CHABAS might have put a slit skirt on his "September Morn" and saved it the ignominy of being classed as indecent without covering up much of the indecency.

Farmers' institutes will be held in Centre county as follows: Pine Grove Mills, December 29th and 30th. Rebersburg, December 31st and January 1st. Jacksonville, January 2nd and 3rd.

Bumper crops in Centre county are being reported since the threshers have started on their rounds and since agriculture is our greatest industry this cannot mean anything else than prosperity.

Recent riots in London would indicate that JOHN BULL might build a few insane asylum traps for those militant suffragettes in his very great advantage. Padded cells are what such women certainly need most.

Under the new election law Centre county can elect a State committeeman at the fall election. The question is, who do you want? And who would make the best one to represent us.

One thing may depend upon as a certainty. Mexico will take good care that no harm befalls Governor JOHN LIND while he is sojourning south of the Rio Grande for the purpose of gathering information for President WILSON.

Cotton exchange speculators are confident that the provision in the UNDERWOOD tariff bill which imposes a tax on transactions in "futures" will be eliminated in the Senate. About everybody else in the country hopes that the speculators will be disappointed.

Among the gentlemen who are to revise the rules of the Democratic party in this State is Mr. PARK DAVIS. We don't know whether it is the famed patent medicine man or not, but if it is he ought to come handy in mixing the dope designed to revitalize the Pennsylvania Democracy.

Under the rules of our party in Centre county there should be a meeting of the county committee on next Tuesday to get ready for the fall campaign. As no call for such a meeting has been issued up to this time we assume that no attention is to be paid to the rules unless they might happen to be needed to pull some particular chestnuts of the Re-organizers out of the fire.

ADAM HAZEL, of Axe Mann, has announced his candidacy for Jury Commissioner. To our mind it would be an exceedingly graceful act on the part of the Democracy of Centre county to give this office to Mr. HAZEL without a contest. He is an upright citizen, incapacitated for working at his trade by physical ailments, and his years of faithful service to the party merit such a recognition.

It is interesting to note that one of the Keystone-Democrats who worked hardest to keep Centre county's vote away from the Hon. WEBSTER GRIM when he was a candidate for Governor in 1910 is now circulating a petition to make Mr. GRIM the Democratic nominee for Supreme Court Justice. Chameleons in politics are getting to be so common now-a-days that one more or less excites little attention.

ULIVI, a Frenchman, claims to have discovered a method for causing the explosion of mines and other war explosives by wireless that may be located anywhere within a radius of fifteen miles of his instrument. We hope the announcement is one of fact, for if it is the invention would put an end to anything else than the most primitive warfare in the future. And that would end the agitation for large standing armies and navies.

The WATCHMAN views with mingled feelings of sadness and amusement the remarks the Centre Hall Reporter so frequently addresses to its readers concerning it. Sadness, because the real man of by-gone days in whom the people of Centre Hall had so much hope for deliverance from prior newspaper unpleasantness seems to be no more; Amusment, because the promising Brother SMITH of several years ago seems to have been transformed into a KURTZ marionette. Surely the days of miracles are not passed.

Quite naturally very little sympathy is being expressed for Gov. SULZER, of New York. If the stories of his conduct before being elected Governor of the Empire State are true, and the evidence seems most convincing, then his parade as a Reformer since election seems hypocritical in the extreme. As in Governor SULZER's case, Reformers are not always what their professions would lead the public to believe them to be. And we have the same kind right here in Pennsylvania. As a rule they are men who want office and find the Reform movement and easy one to serve their purpose. They remind us somewhat of the little boy who is invariably punctual in attending Sunday school for at least two or three Sundays prior to the annual picnic.

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The Alabama Senatorship.

It is not easy to see why the Democrats of the United States Senate are divided in opinion upon the question of filling the vacancy caused by the death of Senator JOHNSON, of Alabama. It is true that the recently adopted amendment to the constitution of the United States provides for the election of Senators by popular vote and if Senator JOHNSON had lived until the expiration of his term his successor would have been chosen in that way. But the death has created a vacancy while the Senate is in session. The State is entitled to full representation in the Senate and it is impossible to get the election machinery in operation in time to secure representation to act upon a pending matter in which the people of the State are vitally interested.

The constitution of the United States provides that "it vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the Legislature of any State, the executive thereof may make temporary appointment until the next meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies." Of course the amendment annuls the power of the Legislature to fill the vacancy upon assembling. But it does not necessarily vacate the authority of the Governor to make temporary appointment or invalidate such temporary appointment. In the case of Senator QUAY, of this State, the Legislature, then the electing agent, failed to perform its duty and for that reason the Senate refused to recognize the power of the Governor to appoint. The vacancy hadn't happened during a recess.

The office of Auditor General, in Pennsylvania, for example, is filled by popular election, but in the event of a vacancy by death or otherwise the Governor may appoint a successor but "in any such case of vacancy in an elective office, a person shall be chosen to said office on the next election day appropriate to such office." In the nature of things this rule would apply to the senatorial situation in Alabama. The vacancy has happened at a time when the full representation of the State is needed to voice the sentiments of the people on a measure of legislation pending. The Senate has no right to deprive the State of its full power in the determination of the legislation. The election machinery cannot be invoked in time and the alternative is an appointment.

If the statement of the cost of the Balkan war is anything like accurate it came to more than it was worth, looked upon from any angle. Nearly a billion and a-half in money and 400,000 lives are too much for the real estate and there is nothing else of value there.

Tariff Taxation and Wages.

Senator HOLLIS, of New Hampshire, added a trifle "to the gayety of nations" and contributed something to public interest in the tariff debate, the other day. After saying that the cotton manufacturers of New England had not been discriminated against in the UNDERWOOD bill, he added, significantly, that "the cotton manufacturers have taken the highest protection and paid pauper wages. They are compelled by statute to work humane hours and conduct their business on humane lines and not one has voluntarily reduced the hours of labor." He might have added that no protected interest has ever willingly paid high wages or offered favorable conditions to labor.

The cotton manufacturers of New England have been the most importunate of all the tariff grafters. They have insisted on prohibitory schedules on all the products of their mills and though making vast profits, mainly out of the distresses of poverty, they have kept wages at the minimum and maintained conditions in their factories almost, if not entirely, intolerable. Only recently some of them have resorted to the most atrocious criminal expedients to defeat a strike against starvation wages and stifling mill conditions. Yet they are always clamoring for tariff taxation that they might grind a trifle more off the wages of operatives and add to the prices of their products.

The passage of the UNDERWOOD tariff bill will work much benefit to the people in reducing the price of necessities of life such as cotton and woolen fabrics. But that is not the only good that will come of it. The educational effect of the tariff discussion will be of incalculable advantage to the people. After this measure has been enacted into law it will be both impossible and unsafe for selfish tariff mongers to fool the people with the false pretense that tariff taxation is for the benefit of the people or that the rate of wages is in any way influenced by it. Tariff taxation robs the consumer and enriches the manufacturer but achieves no other result.

Fusion in Philadelphia.

The esteemed Philadelphia Ledger, invariably the champion of privilege, is entirely accurate in its statement that "it is utterly immaterial what party labels may be worn by the fusion candidates" for municipal offices in that city, in the coming campaign. If "they stand solidly for a greater Philadelphia, honestly administered," they will be all right. But in selecting such a ticket care should be taken that available men be called into the service. All the public virtue is not centered in one party and all the professed reformers are not to be depended upon. Recent incidents show that professing reformers may be tainted with the virus of selfishness and naming fusion candidates all from one party is likely to impair the enthusiasm of others.

Obviously the purpose of our contemporary is to defeat fusion. Ostensibly the Democrats, Progressives and Key-stoners of the city are opposed to "the McNICHOLES and VARES and their puppets in the city hall and in councils." But if the Progressives should make the nomination of a full ticket composed of adherents of their party an essential condition to fusion, there could be no fusion. It is all right and proper to insist that all the nominees should "stand for a greater Philadelphia, honestly administered." But there are Democrats fit and capable in other respects who are quite as certain in that respect as any Progressives or Keystoners that could be chosen. Therefore in arranging a fusion ticket all the elements should be recognized.

There is a vast difference between fusion and the merging of forces. Our contemporary would merge the opposition to the machine without the most necessary element of success, enthusiasm, behind it. The Democrats of Philadelphia favor fusion in which all elements are fairly represented and each unit is encouraged by the hope of gaining through success. Even reformers are not all altruists and a fusion ticket which simply represented an absorption of one or more of the party organizations in order to guarantee offices for another would meet with indifferent support. The McNICHOLES-VARE machine can be defeated easily in Philadelphia but the conditions must be arranged by its enemies.

No one can say that Mr. BRYAN is not on the job now that his presence is needed in Washington and it begins to look as if his mistake was not in keeping his lecture engagements but in giving the reasons he gave for doing so.

The Price of Privilege.

United States Senator JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, of Mississippi, is not always cautious in speech but he is invariably keen of intellect and candid. In his statement the other day, therefore, that the lobby in Washington is striving to foment war with Mexico, he may have been drawing upon conjecture rather than knowledge. But it is safe to say that he was guessing close to the facts. Every close observer of events in Washington since this Mexican problem has become acute must have noticed a trend in the direction of violence in certain quarters. Certain elements in the official life of the capital plainly want war with somebody for selfish reasons.

"War is hell," as General SHERMAN once declared, but it makes wealth for many men. It creates a demand for arms, ammunition, warships and other implements of destruction and it dulls the public conscience as it sharpens the wits of those concerned. A scrimmage with Mexico would be a windfall to thousands who are concerned in the manufacture of such commodities. It would bring poverty and sorrow to many more thousands but that makes no difference to the selfish searchers after money. The distress of others has no terrors for them. "Every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost," expresses the philosophy of their lives and practices.

We can imagine nothing more despicable than this conspiracy to create a war, yet it has been going on in Washington for many years. The war with Spain was brought on in this way and an effort to provoke war with Japan has been in progress for several years. A war with Mexico would be a comparatively trifling affair but it would result in a conquest that would involve perennial disturbance and constant preparation for war. These would bring vast wealth to the few and great suffering to millions. But it is the price civilization pays for maintaining favored classes at the expense of the many. It is the penalty this country pays for legislative privileges.

It may be said with reasonable safety that when the Mexican problem is solved there will be little reason to quarrel with President WILSON for his method of treating it.

Governor Sulzer's Sad Plight.

The evidence brought out by the investigation of the stock operations of Governor SULZER, of New York, leaves no doubt of his culpability. Stock operations of the kind in which he was engaged is a form of gambling but it is so common among business and professional men as to be hardly censurable if fairly conducted. It was charged, however, that Governor SULZER used money contributed to pay campaign expenses in his canvass for Governor, and proved beyond question. That was a misappropriation of funds and a crime against the law. Subsequently he swore to a false statement of the contributions and disbursements for his campaign. That was perjury.

We had hoped for better things from Governor SULZER. The fact that he made pretenses of reform after the fashion of modern political reformers caused suspicion. But his reputation for personal integrity seemed so well established as to create hope that he was different from the average of his kind. After his election, moreover, he revealed such a spirit of independence as to strengthen public faith in him. But the truth as it stands exposed in the light of the evidence has destroyed this fabric of confidence as it has annihilated this public servant. Whether he be impeached or not he is done for. He might as well resign and take himself into obscurity.

Governor SULZER was a TAMMANY man so long as he needed TAMMANY influence and support to keep him in office just as most of the so-called political reformers in Pennsylvania were organization men so long as the organization "helped them." When SULZER imagined he was strong enough to stand alone, he rather ostentatiously repudiated TAMMANY just as the Pennsylvania reformers repudiated the organization which had previously helped them. In neither case was the reform genuine or sincere. In both cases it was selfish, sordid, dishonest. Thus far the Pennsylvania reformers haven't betrayed themselves, but they will. The inordinate lust for power will assert itself sooner or later, with that inevitable result.

The only county office to be filled this year is that of jury commissioner. There will be two to elect and they must be of different party affiliations. Persons desiring to be candidates on the different party tickets to be voted for at the September primaries must file their nomination papers with the county commissioners by August 26th. One hundred signers are necessary on nomination papers for jury commissioner. The fact that an Act of the last Legislature increased the pay of jury commissioners from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per day will doubtless result in bringing out many candidates.

The State Forestry Department calls attention to the losses involved in forest fires and urges campers and others who visit the forests for pleasure or business to exercise greater care against starting fires. It ought not to be necessary to issue such official admonitions but it is. Careless setting fire to a forest is a grave crime against the public for timber is constantly becoming an increasingly valuable asset.

There were twelve wagons at the curb market on Tuesday morning and new potatoes were the principal vegetable offered for sale. There were also apples, plums and a few kinds of garden vegetables. Buyers were not very plentiful, probably because heretofore there was very little to be had at the market, and the farmers were compelled to peddle their produce from door to door to get rid of it.

There may not be any trouble with Mexico but if there is there are a number of old National guardsmen of Bellefonte only waiting for a declaration of war to offer their services to the government. And they appreciate the fact that to fight Mexico on her own soil, and among the vast mountain fastnesses, would be a dead easy game.

There were less than a dozen persons killed in automobile accidents last Sunday in this country, which is a great improvement upon recent casualty records.

Probably if the London police would use a baseball bat on Miss PANKHURST the suffragette agitation in that town would take on a milder form.

The Royal Neighbors of America will hold a social at the Y. M. C. A. on Saturday evening, August 16th. The public is cordially invited to attend.

United States Senator Boies Penrose will be one of the attractions at the Grange encampment at Centre Hall on September 16th.

Between the Mill-Stones.

From the Pittsburgh Post. Governor Sulzer, of New York, went into office as a reformer with a determination to purify the Commonwealth. But all reformers do not reform. In the clean-up of the State the Governor himself is in danger of falling by the way-side. The Frawley committee is no doubt hostile, but if it is because it is engaged in a warfare the Governor started. This committee has produced testimony that practically insures the impeachment of the chief executive of the first State of the Union, which will mean a pathetic ending to a reform administration.

The man who falsifies a sworn statement cannot offer a good defense, and Sulzer's cry that he is being destroyed by political enemies is offset by the tell-tale checks amounting to more than \$6,000 of campaign contributions that he failed to enumerate in his list. The contributors stand before the Governor to rebut any assertion by him that the funds were not received. How is he to explain that his statement, sworn to and filed under the corrupt practices act, was a misleading declaration? Will the Governor fall back on the excuse that he perjured himself unconsciously? In addition, he is accused of using money given him for campaign purposes for speculation in Wall street.

No one has denied that New York stands much in need of reform, and it is proper that the good work should include reformers who are shown to be sailing under false colors. Governor Sulzer cannot be destroyed if he is innocent, and neither will he be condemned before he is convicted. But revelations point conclusively to the fact that the hardest battle that he has to fight will concern his own integrity.

If You Want to Vote.

From the Johnstown Democrat. Have you paid your taxes? Are you registered? Have your party affiliations been enrolled? If a man wants to vote in this State the thing for him to do is to take a week off, hire a lawyer and then under expert advice go through the various prescribed motions. There is no place on top of the earth where the freeman is afflicted with more petty annoyances than right here in Pennsylvania. The poll tax is an abomination. Its history is a history of political corruption. It is scarcely known outside of Pennsylvania. There is no more justice in compelling a man to pay a poll tax than there is in compelling him to pay a cow tax or a horse tax. The whole theory of taxation in Pennsylvania is based on the idea that the tenant and the boarder pay no taxes. Our law makers have taken the stand that a poll tax is the "only way to reach some men." Every man who lives, works and pays his way pays taxes. The worker in this country has been taxed in a thousand ways. He has paid taxes whenever he bought anything in our protected market. He has paid taxes when he paid his room rent. In the middle west a poll tax would cause a revolution. Pennsylvania a poll tax is considered the height of economic and political wisdom. As a matter of fact, as far as the past is concerned, the poll tax has simply been the corner stone of the crooked politician's builded his fortunes. A poll tax as prescribed by law is a thing calculated to make every man of average intelligence want to fight.

The Revision of Express Rates.

From the New York American. Sooner or later the gentlemen in the express business will learn that these new complaints will prove as ineffectual as those that have gone before. The plight of the express companies is due solely to their own greed. Reaching into the public pig they have grabbed too many chestnuts and in consequence couldn't get their hands out again.

In handling this particular monopoly the government has done a workman-like job. But, back of it, it had a zealous public sentiment, built up by the greed of the express companies themselves. There is a lesson here for every over-greedily corporation that seeks not only monopoly but extortions through monopoly. If the express companies can be curbed other monopolies can be curbed—through the antitrust law—by effective and scientific government competition.

Not Looking For Trouble.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Doubtless Brazil, Argentine and Chili feel greatly flattered at the suggestion of Representative Julius Kahn, of California, ranking minority member of the House Military Affairs committee, that they be invited to share with the United States the responsibility for settling the Mexican imbroglio; but the three great South American republics would decline with thanks.

It is doubtless true, as Mr. Kahn says, that these countries are just as much interested in seeing the Monroe Doctrine maintained as we are,—but they are perfectly willing that the burden of maintenance should rest on shoulders not their own. The Latin-American Republics are hot-headed, impulsive nations, but they are neither so indiscreet nor so altruistic as deliberately to step into a hornet's nest that someone else has stirred up.

Has Lots of Nice Friends.

From the New York World. Ambassador Wilson is also heartily approved by Felix Diaz, the traitor and ingrate whose life President Madero had generously spared only to have it turned treacherously against him.

—For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—A total of 400 appeals have been filed by the Berwind-White Coal Mining company from Cambria county tax assessments.

—Meat dealers at the Williamsport curb market have been given emphatic notice that they must have their stands screened, according to law.

—During a recent thunder shower lightning killed a cow in pasture, fired two barns, burned a boy on the back and struck a house at Funks-tawney.

—Thomas Smith, aged 14, is missing from his home at Barnesboro. He is 4 feet 6 inches tall, blue eyes, dark complexion, wore blue suit, tan shoes and heavy cap.

—South Fork is facing a water famine. The company which supplies the town claims that the people are wasting more than twice as much as they are using for actual needs.

—Sangler voters turned down a proposition to bond the borough to buy the water company's plant. It is now proposed to drill for water and then considering buying the pipe line.

—Mrs. A. A. Geisinger has offered the Danville Y. M. C. A. \$10,000, provided a like amount is otherwise raised. The committee has decided to raise \$15,000 and the campaign is on.

—One of the cow elk placed in the Clearfield game preserve last winter wandered out this summer and has been taking her calf to the corn-fields of two Bradford township farmers.

—Alphonse Picaro, who was shot five times by an assassin at Luzon, died at the Greenburg hospital without revealing the identity of the man who shot him. He steadfastly refused to answer questions.

—In a fight near Houtzdale in the Arabian colony at Sterling, a 19-year-old son of Mrs. Moses George, who rushed to her defense when he saw her attacked by William Kurie, was shot by Kurie and instantly killed.

—A dozen college athletes at Eagles Mere dived into the lake to recover a mesh bag containing a quantity of valuable jewels lost by Mrs. De Samo, of Philadelphia, when the canoe in which she was riding capsized.

—Not satisfied with having scored in the fight for better water, Jersey Shore residents want better gas now. They say that biscuits spoil in the oven and that the smell of the gas furnished for cooking spoils their appetite.

—Richard B. Chipman, aged 50 years, died at his desk in the coal company's office at Seward a few days ago. One of his clerks was in the room for a half hour with him before he discovered that his superintendent was a corpse.

—Two years ago five members of the family of John Harr, a farmer on the ridge near Latrobe, suffered from typhoid fever, whose origin was not discovered. Now a 10-year-old son who escaped at that time is afflicted with the disease.

—The plans for the erection of a new hospital by the DuBois hospital association have been approved by the board of public charities. The building will cost \$50,000, and Harrington & Howard, of DuBois, will be the supervising architects.

—Urbah B. Horst, a progressive farmer of near Schaefferstown, secured an average of 40 bushels of wheat from 32 acres this year. This is a banner average. His crop of the whole farm yielded him 3,435 bushels, for which he secured 85 cents per bushel.

—Only fifteen minutes after church service was over a chandelier at St. John's Lutheran church, Boiling Springs, fell and scattered burning oil over the floor. The members who had lingered used extinguishers and a bucket brigade helped save the building. The loss is \$200.

—Climbing up to the cupboard during her mother's absence from the house, four-year-old Orpha Gramley, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gramley, near Lewistown, found tablets intended to cure heart trouble and ate fifteen of them. She was dead in two hours.

—Michael Fetcsik, of Munster township, Cambria county, had his barn struck by lightning and entirely consumed with valuable contents, while he was helping a neighbor to harvest. A year ago his wife died; a month ago a son died and now M. Fetcsik thinks hard luck is surely his portion.

—D. K. Koder pleaded guilty to killing a doe, before a Huntingdon justice, recently. He had found the doe, mortally wounded, lying where fire would burn her in a short time. He could not stand the sight of her suffering and ended it. But he paid the fine rather than tell the name of the man who had shot her.

—A bold robbery occurred in Latrobe recently by which hardware merchant P. H. Saxman was \$150 poorer. His daughter was in charge when a man asked to be shown lawn mowers. While Miss Saxman was at the front complying with his request a confederate entered from the rear and took the money from the safe.

—Sheldon Y. Clarke, a son of the city editor of the Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin, has received notice of an award of a bronze medal and \$2,000 for completing his education from the Carnegie hero commission. He had saved the life of a youth at the Market street bridge. Young Clarke is now a High school senior.

—Mrs. Louis Spears purchased some bass at Shamokin, and was preparing them for dinner when she saw five white objects in the neck of one of the fish. She found they were pearls, three of them the size of a lima bean, while the fourth was cut in two by the knife. It is thought they are worth several hundred dollars.

—There was an exciting time at a carnival at DuBois a few evenings ago, when during the trained animal act, a tiger decided to go into the cage with the leopard instead of into its own. The animals started a fight that rendered necessary the dismissing of the audience and considerable work on the part of the attendants before they were separated.

—Declaring that her former husband, Harry Haas, whom she divorced on the grounds of cruelty, has squatted on her farm in Turbot township, Northumberland county, Mrs. Mary E. Haas has sued to oust him. She says that Haas has spirited her organ and sewing machine from the home, and that he is now trying to keep her out of the farm, which she inherited.

—Chased round and round trees by an angry bull, J. E. Drobough and F. W. Dawson didn't exactly enjoy the picnic of the Young Men's Club of the Williamsport First Presbyterian Church. It was held near Hepburnville and the grove which the bull called his home was being crossed by a party of the picnickers when the tenant objected. The others got out of the way and the farmer came to the rescue of the two named.

—Tony Paps got a fine of \$75 or thirty days in jail at Johnstown a few days ago as a result of persistent unwelcome attentions to two girls who were walking from Prospect. They tried in vain to get rid of him and finally led him to the police station, where they notified officers. After he had been watched long enough for the police to be sure the girls were telling the truth he was arrested. Such happenings have been frequent in Johnstown lately, but this is the first arrest.

—Wednesday the officials of the Bell Telephone company, paid over to the parents of William C. Eiseley, at Sunbury, the sum of \$3,000 less the amount that had been paid to defray the expenses of his funeral. The payment was made from the sum set aside by the company the first year to be paid to the relatives of all employees who are killed or injured while in the employ of the company. The employee is charged nothing for the protection. Eiseley was killed while working upon the lines of the Bell Telephone company at Reading, about a month ago.