

INK SLINGS.

—Welcome, 1914.
—Happy New Year.
—Here's hoping that the new resolution hasn't already gone to the scrap heap.
—And the President has given evidence of knowing something about being a good volunteer fireman, too.
—Let us all pull together to make the New Year the happiest and most prosperous the country has ever had.
—The ladies who are cultivating the Mona Lisa smile are probably hoping that some titled dago will tote them off some day.
—We await with interest, and a suspicion that there will be something doing, the induction of the new borough council into office.
—Remember, if you're going to try to live better, do better and be better in 1914 than you have ever been before, that there is no middle ground between right and wrong.
—There are a lot of things you didn't do in 1913 that you might do to your profit in 1914, and there were a lot of things you did do in 1913 that had better not be done over in 1914.
—The forth-coming "Hickory" dinner in Philadelphia will probably be the occasion of an announcement as to who the country Democrats will be expected to support for Governor next fall.
—BILLY SUNDAY is in Pittsburgh for an eight weeks campaign and he promises to make it so interesting for them out there that by the time he leaves the half of them will not even remember who Honus WAGNER is.
—The first thing that young 1914 drops into the gossip circle is the announcement that prominent Republicans throughout the State are urging president SPARKS of the Pennsylvania State College to become their candidate for Governor. These are great days for school-masters in politics.
—1913 wasn't a bad year. The fact that you are alive and well is the proof conclusive of that. But the WATCHMAN hopes that 1914 holds in store for all of you more of goodness, happiness, health, and then contentment in everything except your ambition to be better, than you have ever known or even dreamed of before.
—A piece of radium not larger than half the head of a pin and valued at \$4,500 was stolen from a Chicago hospital, on Wednesday. It was being used in curing cancer and while it is hailed as the new panacea for this malignant growth it will certainly kill the thief unless he knows how to protect himself from its powerfully penetrative rays.
—The WATCHMAN's dollar shower was a great success, thanks to its many responsive readers. We would like to print some of the many nice things said about the good old Democratic stand-by by those who were showering dollars on it but they were all so complimentary that we couldn't pick out the nicest, so we'll just keep them all to our own selfish enjoyment.
—Rev. Dr. ANNA SHAW will probably now discover that all women assembled under the "Suffrage" banners are not fools. When she calls upon them to resist payment of taxes because they have no votes and to defy the law concerning taxes, she is trying to spread PANKHURST militancy among dignified well meaning American women, who will neither stand for such doctrine nor longer exalt Dr. SHAW as their leader.
—The Adams Express Co. has announced a prospective reduction in its dividend rate, due to the loss of business through the parcels post. At the Bellefonte office, for instance, there were more than three hundred less Christmas packages handled this year than last and if every Adams office suffered proportionately it isn't any wonder that retrenchment orders are already in effect and dividend checks with smaller figures are out.
—If there are not enough Democrats rich enough to accept all the foreign Ambassadorships, about all we can do is leave the rich Republicans stay on the job. Mr. McCOMBS, our national chairman, says he can't make that \$17,500 salary pay the \$150,000 expenditures that the Ambassador to France shoulders and there is no reason why he should. As a matter of fact if it actually costs our Ambassador to France such a sum to keep up a creditable establishment Uncle SAM ought to foot the bill and not his representative.
—The Conneville Courier is trying to make the coke operators of that vicinity sore at the Democratic administration because coke that was selling at the ovens for \$4 a year ago can now be had at less than \$2. If coke is being produced now at a profit at less than that, certainly there was something wrong with it that made it pay more than it should.
—One of the New York grafters has been convicted and sentenced so that there is no further reason to lament the disposal of Sulzer.

Democratic Watchman

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Pay the Bill in Cash.

Something ought to be done by the Democrats of Pennsylvania to discharge the obligations of President WILSON to A. MITCHELL PALMER. The frequent references to them in the public prints is scandalous. The payment of personal debts with public patronage is abhorrent to political morals and yet whenever a vacancy occurs in the public service Mr. PALMER sets up an unsatisfied claim. For example the other day, according to Washington dispatches, the President indicated a purpose to appoint for comptroller of the currency, a gentleman recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury. It seems that Mr. PALMER had a candidate for the office as usual, and upon the announcement that the President had determined to follow the advice of the gentleman responsible for the administration of the office, Mr. PALMER's friends set up the howl that the obligations to him were being repudiated. This sounds bad in the public ear and looks worse in the public eye. That public office is a public trust is an unwritten law in the Democratic party. Therefore the use of public patronage to pay the personal or political debts of the President to Mr. PALMER or any one else is an infraction of moral and political ethics. But in the case in question the Republican papers in Philadelphia and elsewhere in Pennsylvania, obviously inspired, declared that an injustice had been done to Mr. PALMER. But for him, these newspapers declared, Mr. WILSON would not have been nominated and in that event would have had no patronage to dispose of. "Why," they add, substantially, "during the balloting in the Baltimore convention, when a majority of the delegates had voted for CHAMP CLARK, WILSON telegraphed to his party manager, Mr. McCOMBS, asking that his name be withdrawn. But when Mr. PALMER saw the telegram he tore it up and on one of the subsequent ballots Mr. WILSON was nominated." The friends of Mr. BRYAN boldly claim that the nomination of Mr. WILSON was the result of the Nebraska's mastery management of the convention and they are justified in some measure because when CHAMP CLARK's vote reached the proportions of a majority Mr. BRYAN, though instructed for Mr. CLARK, deserted him and started the tide in favor of WILSON. The friends of Mr. McCOMBS insist that Mr. WILSON's nomination was the fruit of his splendid management of the primary campaign and Mr. WILSON has given encouragement to this claim by calling Mr. McCOMBS to the management of the final contest and praising his ability and fidelity at every opportunity. Other claims have been set up, more or less well supported and all the several claimants have received some consideration. But we don't know of any one who has been as glutinous in his demands for recompense or as unwise in the distribution of the favors which have been bestowed upon him as Mr. PALMER. For the sake of argument, however, we will admit that President WILSON is under some obligation to Mr. PALMER. Pennsylvania gave him no electoral votes, it is true, and if the party in other States had slumped as it did in this State, the nomination would have been of little benefit to Mr. WILSON. But "the laborer is worthy of his hire" and whether Mr. PALMER appeared in the campaign as lawyer, lobbyist or simply camp-follower, he is entitled to his fee. But the fee should be paid in cash. Only petty-foggers engage in litigation on the basis of contingencies, and Mr. PALMER doesn't want to be put in that class. For that reason he ought to be paid a sum equal to the amount needed to discharge his debt. This constant repetition of the claim is unfair to the President and to the party and to the country.

Calamity Howlers are Public Enemies.

Ever since the signing of the Underwood tariff bill the calamity howlers of the Republican party have been weaving stories of industrial distress in all parts of the country. Here and there men willing to work have been laid off but in every instance investigation proves that other reasons than the tariff law were responsible. Certain bankers hoped to defeat the currency bill by creating the impression that capital is frightened and some of the railroad managers imagined that they might be able to force the Interstate Commerce Commission to rule as they desired by "making a poor mouth" and reducing operating forces. But the records have been against them. In a speech delivered by JAMES R. MANN, Republican floor leader in the House of Representatives at Washington, the other day, the most forbidding picture of poverty and want was depicted. Thousands of idle men were conjured into view and millions of starving children summoned for public contemplation and all this misery was attributed to the policies of the Democratic administration and majority in Congress. This absurd speech has since been made the basis of hundreds of screeds by other calamity howlers until persons who think little and never analyze at all have come to the belief that the country is in the throes of a disastrous panic. Such falsehoods are worse than crimes. If there were any real foundation for such tales of suffering they might be justified upon the principle that all is fair in political war. But they are absolutely without foundation. There is no more idleness and less industrial paralysis now than usual at this season of the year and the false statements only frighten timid people. For example Mr. MANN stated that there are now 30,000 idle workmen in the city of Los Angeles, California, whereas an official statement by the Mayor of that city, after a thorough investigation of the subject, shows that there are only 5000 unemployed men there. The statements with respect to other cities were equally exaggerated and those responsible for them are public enemies. —What would the late Mark Hanna have thought of a proposition to eliminate purchasable delegates from a Republican National convention? It is the People's Work Anyway. The new currency bill has been in operation two weeks and we can discover no signs that the country is going to the "demonition bow-wow," as was predicted by the Republican press and prophets. Senator WEEKS, of Massachusetts, voted for the measure on final passage and Mr. VANDERSLIP, head of the biggest bank in the country declares it is ninety per cent. good. Both these gentlemen opposed the bill while it was pending and professed to share the apprehensions of others that it would bring disaster. But it has done nothing of the kind. As a matter of fact conditions improved materially with the settlement of the question. The Democrats of the country have quite as much interest in industrial and commercial prosperity as their political opponents. No considerable body of men wants to organize disaster. But the financial system was bad and not only the Democrats but all others who have suffered in consequence, wanted a change. Every Republican Senator and Representative in Congress who spoke upon the subject, with the probable exception of MANN, of Illinois, who is an ass, admitted that a change was needed. But because they wanted the change to be made under Republican auspices, they opposed the bill that has become a law. We firmly believe that great good will come from this measure. The currency question is an intricate one and difficult to solve. But the Democrats in Congress were absolutely right in refusing to allow the bankers to make the change. For more than a dozen years the Republican party had been promising reforms in this respect. But they insisted on letting the bankers shape the changes and in their selfishness the bankers couldn't agree. Then the people took the matter in hand and elected a Democratic President and Congress and the work has been done. If it is a mistake it is the people's mistake. —Chinese eggs have been imported and declared satisfactory. China eggs had long since made good as encouragers of infant industries. —The millennium will be here by January 1915 if each church member in the world will resolve to so live during 1914 that he will be certain of winning one of the NOBEL peace prizes. —If you want to get results, advertise in the WATCHMAN.

Prostitution of Politics and Power.

At the Democratic State convention, held prior to the nomination of WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN for President in 1896, GEORGE W. GUTHRIE was nominated as the party candidate for Elector-at-Large. After the nomination of Mr. BRYAN Mr. GUTHRIE declined the nomination in a letter addressed to the Chairman, for the reason that he was opposed to Mr. BRYAN and the Populist heresies for which many claimed he stood. Subsequently he contributed liberally, and somewhat ostentatiously, to the Republican campaign fund, which was corrupted used to defeat Democratic candidates for Congress, State Senate, Representatives in the General Assembly and county offices in most of the counties of the State. In 1900 Mr. BRYAN again being the candidate of the Democratic party for President, Mr. GUTHRIE continued his alliance with and renewed his contribution to the Republican corruption fund which was again employed to defeat Democratic candidates for Congress, State Senate, the Legislature and county offices. That year several Republican candidates had narrow margins, one having been elected by forty-four majority and a number of Democratic candidates for Assembly were unsuccessful by majorities of less than two hundred. Mr. GUTHRIE's generous campaign contribution might have easily turned the tables in a dozen cases. In both of these campaigns Mr. VANCE C. MCCORMICK was associated with Mr. GUTHRIE in his work to defeat the Democratic candidate for President and the other candidates on the ticket with him. In 1908 these two gentlemen were again aligned with the Republicans in opposition to Mr. BRYAN and his associates on the Democratic ticket. Yet during all this they were scheming to get control of the Democratic organization and seized the opportunity to steal it after the political tragedy which resulted in the defeat of WEBSTER GRIM in 1910. Now these men are posing as party bosses and are dispensing the party favors with an arrogance never equaled before. How long will the Democrats of Pennsylvania stand for this prostitution of politics and power. "How long, O Lord, how long!" —Anyway the Mexican situation is less tense and the probabilities that it will ultimately adjust itself to rational conditions are multiplying. And it should be borne in mind that rational conditions involve the elimination of HUERTA. All Alike to the Law. Out of the din and confusion incident to the departure of the old year there came one joyous note which inspired hope. The Philadelphia Manufacturers' Association, in a bulletin issued for December, declares that the members of that organization intend to obey at least one law. This is a magnanimous concession to the government of the State. We all know that these smug gentlemen are not obliged to obey any law. It has long been their custom to do as they please, loot where they like and snap their fingers at authority. But they are going to obey the new factory law, though they know it is atrociously bad. The members of the Philadelphia Manufacturers' Association make the average citizen tired. It was organized to corrupt politics and debauch legislation. From the beginning it has pursued its purpose with the result that its members have all, or nearly all, grown rich out of graft flowing from one source or another. It and other organizations of its kind have maintained lobbies in Washington and at nearly every State capital for the purpose of influencing legislation by the only means; its members thoroughly understand, bribery. Now it announces in a tone that reveals hypocrisy that it will obey one law. Let us hope that these gentlemen will some time be obliged to obey all laws and that in some way the fact will reach their brains that the moral law which forbids robbery applies to them just as it does to less fortunate folk. They have already come to an understanding that for the present, at least, and so long as there is a Democrat in the White House they will be compelled to obey the laws of Congress or pay the penalties. But they can flout the laws of the State Legislature, though their period of immunity in this respect is drawing short. The next Governor will be a Democrat and then we will all look alike to the law. —Mayor MITCHELL of New York has taken a long stride toward averting an encounter with the suffragettes. He has appointed a woman to a place in his cabinet. —One of the New York grafters has been convicted and sentenced so that there is no further reason to lament the disposal of Sulzer.

President Indeed.

From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times. It is not inappropriate at this time to extend personal felicitations to Woodrow Wilson for that he has so signally demonstrated he is indeed President of the United States. However much as a Republican newspaper firm in the faith, the Gazette Times may regret passage of the Underwood tariff bill, and despite misgivings entertained with respect to the currency act, it is impossible to ignore the force of purpose and strength of character exhibited by Mr. Wilson in securing these two momentous pieces of legislation. Even if they turn out to be futile in accomplishment of the regenerative ends sought by their framers and sponsors—which, let us hope, may not be the case—still one cannot but admire the man in the White House for going forward with what he believed to be right and what he considered to be necessary. Nothing as important and radical on the tariff has been done in 60 years or more, while on currency the practice and standards of half a century have been set aside. So that, entirely apart from the soundness of these acts, to have gone so far in so short a time as Mr. Wilson has done is a remarkable executive performance. Presumed not to be a politician, doubted as to his statesmanship, questioned as to his comprehension of the intricacies and scope of legislation, an utter stranger to congressional procedure, he has overcome every obstacle, been deterred by no precedents and ignored all efforts to divert him from the task he had set his mind to. To the man, therefore, congratulations are due, with the acknowledgment that, whatever his failings of temperament may be, or his errors of judgment, he has not studied "The Gospel of Get There" in vain. A merry Christmas to him, and a good rest at his Christmas, in the soft and soothing sunshine of the Southland! No Comfort for the Calamity Howler. From the Altoona Times. Large mercantile agencies which endeavor to interpret and analyze fluctuating industrial and commercial conditions offer little comfort to the army of woeiferous calamity howlers who are predicting all kinds of dire disaster for the country. The summaries for the week and forecasts for the new year are uniformly reassuring, the prediction being that there will be a turn for the better in the very near future. It is stated that business conditions are basically sound, and that there are already heartening signs of an immediate improvement. Those people who make the "visit" to the thought are "making too much" of the fact that a great many thousands of men are idle in large industrial centers. A commission which recently investigated conditions in Chicago declares that the number of idle men in that city is not larger than in former years. It is a demonstrable fact that a certain percentage of workers is always vainly seeking employment, which is the result of an unbalanced industrial system, and not due to changes of tariff, currency and other governmental policies, as partisans strive to prove. The conditions of the unfortunates who are haunting bread lines and inhaling municipal homes will not be made better or worse by the wild clamoring of men who are yelling for partisan effect. But it is well to look the situation fairly in the face and place the blame where it belongs. He Had a Reason. From the Louisville Times. O' Bije Wilson was the sole proprietor of a bally horse down in McCracken county, according to Senator Wheeler Campbell. The fact was pretty well known throughout the neighborhood and Bije couldn't have disposed of that horse even to David Harum, who bought a horse that would "stand without hitching." One day a neighbor drove up behind Bije, who was stalled, as usual. It was a narrow embankment and there was no room to pass. The neighbor accepted the situation philosophically. Every now and then Bije's horse would turn his head and as promptly Bije would shy a pebble at it. It seemed that the box bed of his "side-bar" buggy was loaded with pebbles. "What'er ye doin' that fer, Bije?" the neighbor asked. "That won't start 'im." "Wall, ye see," Bije answered, "I don't mind a hawse balkin' now and then, but I be durned if he can turn around an' grin at me about it." Must Show the Goods. From the Clearfield Republican. Calamity howlers, whether big or little, should be treated with contempt by all patriotic citizens so long as they do not produce evidence of their charges. The best evidence to be demanded are empty stomachs, and the consequent necessity for free soup houses. So long as the Billy Sunday can extract tens of thousands from the Johnstons at a single hold-up there is little likelihood that the empty stomachs will be forthcoming. So is the Millennium Coming. From the Milwaukee News. "Everything comes to him who waits." And now the solution of Mexican troubles is coming to President Wilson by the simple process of "waiting." —Bellefonte merchants mostly claim that their holiday business this season was in excess of that of any former year, and their statement is substantiated by the banks, according to the volume of individual deposits. And this notwithstanding the fact that the cry has gone forth of hard times ahead.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—An average of 50 cases of diphtheria a month for eleven months of 1913 has caused the State Department of Health to ask the reason of the continued prevalence of the disease at Johnstown. —During the recent storm telephone communication was had from Williamsport to Lock Haven through Sunbury, Harrisburg, Altoona and Bellefonte, a distance probably 200 miles around to cover 25 miles. —There is a quarantine of dogs in Clearfield for 100 days and the dog catcher promptly put his net over those who were not muzzled. The recent biting of a number of people is responsible for this action. —At Washington thousands of people gathered around the community Christmas tree and sang carols and on Friday afternoon 4,000 school children gathered around the tree, which stands on the college campus. —Two more Mill Hill homes are quarantined for smallpox, but as the families came there but a short time ago and had not mingled with the people of the town, it is not thought that the disease will have further spread. —Grasping a live wire to remove it from over the trolley track in Williamsport after the recent storm, Charles Stroble was electrocuted. It was twenty minutes before the current could be shut off and his body released. —Blairsville authorities are following up all possible clues to find the would be assassin of Rev. Mr. McClure. His activity in the temperance cause is everywhere assigned as the probable reason for the effort to end his life. —A peculiarly sad mine accident occurred near Clearfield last week. A fall of rock caught James Cramm and Ephraim Leash. The latter leaves a wife and seven children and the former's widow was a bride of three short weeks. —Mr. and Mrs. Uriah Blackburn, of Fishertown, Bedford county, recently celebrated their golden wedding. Eighty-eight guests were present at the dinner, including their only son, Dr. A. E. Blackburn, of Philadelphia, and his family. —The store of F. C. Bowersox, of Sunbury, was robbed twice within forty-eight hours, goods worth several hundred dollars being taken. The Reading railroad station at Clermont was also entered, but nothing of value was found by the thieves. —E. J. Ross, employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad company, while working near the Mt. Etna stone quarry, was struck on the hip by pieces of flying metal. He lingered in agony from blood poisoning for several days, then succumbed. —A Christmas tragedy came to light at La Trobe, when William Love, of Scranton, was found after lying in a cove over two nights and a day. He died at the La Trobe hospital and his wife was too poor to have his body taken home for burial. —Daniel Folmer, of Great Falls, who was shot by young Joseph Hemmes during a quarrel near Drifiting on the evening of December 10th, is recovering and it is thought will soon be able to recover again. Young Hemmes is still in jail in Clearfield. —Shot by his wife at their home in Williamsport on Christmas night, Harry G. Troxell is in the hospital at that place in a serious condition, and Mrs. Troxell is under arrest. She says she thought he was an intruder and he says some other things. —Using benzine in mistake for coal oil to hurry a slow fire at a shoe shop in Williamsport, Sebastian Scubase and his helper, Benjamin Perarolo, were badly burned. They were saved from death by railroad men working nearby, who rolled them in the snow. —To the fact that Mike Hermely, who robbed Dick Hughes of his watch and roll of bills, crept into bed and overcame himself. His recovery of his worldly wealth, Hughes awakened first and missed his possessions and the chief of police awakened Hermely. —The State board of pardons has recommended the pardon of John E. Shields, ex-sheriff of Westmoreland county, who has been in the western penitentiary since May 1912, serving an indeterminate sentence of from two years and two months to six years for embezzlement. —Two women were arrested at Lewistown for the theft of \$20.75 from the maid at Mrs. E. J. Mayes at the opera house. Within an hour or two after the arrest the purse was returned to the manager of the house with its contents intact. The accused woman gave bail for a hearing. —A severe thunder storm proved disastrous to the Somerset Mining company at Hooversville. Lightning struck the office building and the consequent fire destroyed it, with records, books and mine supplies, including a large amount of dynamite and powder, which constituted the excitement by exploding during the progress of the blaze. —In an attempt to light the kitchen fire with kerosene, Geraldine Harvey, of Rossiter, was terribly burned and is lying at the point of death at a Punxsutawney hospital. The girl, who is 15 years old, had only a few months ago been discharged from the hospital after a long illness resulting from the accidental discharge of her brother's gun. This time it is feared she cannot recover. —W. J. Boyce, a clerk in the employ of the Dull Mercantile company at Acosta, was shot in the act of trying to blow up the company safe. He went back to his room after the burglars had fled, put on his hat and coat and walked to a doctor's office. He is now in a critical condition at the Johnstown hospital and bloodhounds are hunting for the robbers. —A tramp taking refuge in the barn on the farm of John McKassey, in Wayne township, Clinton county, probably lighted a pipe as he was leaving and dropped the match in the entry. Footsteps leading from the barn to the nearby woods confirm the theory of the origin of the blaze that cost the lives of two horses, two cows and a heifer, besides crops, farming machinery and vehicles. A large tobacco shed, filled to the roof, was saved with difficulty. —Six industrial plants in the vicinity of Williamsport have had their officials arrested on charge of polluting the Susquehanna or its tributaries. The complaint is in line with that against other plants further up the stream thought to be responsible for the death of many fish in the river. The arrests were only technical and the accused gave bail for a hearing in February. Some of them have expensive filter plants installed on advice of Dr. Dixon. —James Morrison, a farmer residing at Newton Hamilton, was held up by two masked burglars, who entered his home about seven o'clock on Wednesday evening and robbed him of \$105. The men carried revolvers which they held to his head and demanded his purse, which he was forced to give up. They then warned him not to follow them. They were masked and he could give the railroad police but a poor description of them. An automobile belonging to the Dr. C. M. McCoy, of Lewistown, was stolen the same evening from the front of the doctor's office. —Morphine, administered by their mother as medicine, was the cause of the deaths Saturday of Harry and Miss Laura Pifer respectively 36 and 38 years of age, and of two younger children and the mother herself two weeks ago, at Altoona, according to the verdict of a coroner's jury Monday. James Pifer, the father, and Lawrence Pifer, another son, are dangerously ill and are not expected to recover. It was testified that Mrs. Pifer, who was alleged to have been a trafficker in the drug, had administered it to members of her family as medicine for all complaints. No criminal intent was shown.