

INK SLINGS.

Rumors of a new opera house for Bellefonte are in the air. Hot air we presume.

—PALMER, PENROSE, PINCHOTT! What's that you accuse the WATCHMAN of doing on the parade?

—It isn't reorganization that the WATCHMAN doesn't like. It is the fellows who are running the party under the guise of reorganization.

—Possibly the fellows who hang onto their money so tenaciously in this life are doing it in the hope of having "money to burn" in the hereafter.

—This week last year the season's ice crop was being harvested in Centre county and business in Bellefonte was bum because that small pox scare was on.

—It took a few days for the groundhog to settle down to the business of weather making, but he has no reason to feel ashamed of his efforts of the past week.

—Judged by the number of carloads of new automobiles already shipped into Bellefonte this spring it looks as though some people are seeing good times not very far off.

—And Mr. PINCHOTT cast his first vote in Pennsylvania in 1912 and now wants to represent the State in the U. S. Senate. Don't you think he'd better get dry behind the ears first.

—Up in Maine they are paying forty cents a pound for lobsters, while down here in Pennsylvania, in the political market, they would be considered dear at half that price per ton.

—Show us an act in the political career of either QUAY or PENROSE that looked any more like owning a great political party than was that of three men meeting in Washington and deciding who the Democrats of Pennsylvania would be permitted to support.

—Life is just one dang thing after another. Here the Republican leaders are seriously considering putting a Prohibition or local option plank into their platform for the campaign in Pennsylvania next fall. Are they really getting good or are they just hunting up dope to make good with.

—Centre county has lost another federal position. G. W. REES, republican district revenue collector, has resigned and a Democrat appointed to take his place, but not a Centre county Democrat. PALMER and MCCORMICK have already bought Centre county and they don't propose to pay anything extra for its vote.

—Of the sixteen thousand converts BILLY SUNDAY has thus far made in Pittsburgh more than a thousand have asked to be affiliated with three churches that refused to participate in the tabernacle meetings. Do you suppose the churches in question will turn down the SUNDAY converts? Really, it wouldn't be much of a surprise.

—Three men met in Washington and named the ticket for the Democrats of Pennsylvania to support. Of course you might say that Democrats are not compelled to support it, and that would be true. But you will find out that all Democrats who don't support it will be called traitors to the best interests of their party and be accused of not supporting President WILSON.

—You can bet all the money you own that MCCORMICK won't tell the BRYAN Democrats of Centre county how many times he voted against BRYAN when he ran for President, unless he has to. He won't tell them, either, that he rode all the way to Denver, with JIM GUFFEY, to try to defeat BRYAN for the nomination for President. Oh no! It's BRYAN votes that MCCORMICK wants now and these little matters had best be forgotten.

—Let us see, could the Democrats of Pennsylvania find some nice office in which to place the janitor of those reorganization headquarters at Harrisburg, and the ice man who kept the cooler cool during the hot days of the reformation in Pennsylvania. GUTHRIE is Ambassador to Japan; PALMER is going to let us vote for him for U. S. Senator; MCCORMICK has decided to let us common people put his perfumed plutocratic person into the Governor's chair; JIMMY BLAKESLE has been made an Assistant Postmaster General and made himself saviour extraordinary of the President, and BERRY has been given an \$8000 job on the Delaware. Surely we ought to be able to run the janitor and the ice man for something.

—Writing to the Raftsmen's Journal some "Recollections of Gen. JAMES A. BEAVER," the Hon. THOMAS MURRAY says: "His lasting fame as a soldier and his enduring renown for having governed wisely and well a State in the days when that State was an Empire greater than was England in the illustrious reign of Elizabeth are quite overshadowed by this single act of moral heroism that will shine out in the years to come brighter and more enduring than the stars that gather in the brow of night." Mr. MURRAY refers, of course, to the position Gen. BEAVER took at the time of the failure of the nail works in this place. It is a beautiful tribute to the integrity of Gen. BEAVER and one everyone as honest as he will say Amen! to.

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Bad Methods Make Trouble.

We cordially agree with the esteemed Philadelphia Record that the impending primary campaign in the Democratic party of Pennsylvania should be conducted upon lines so fair and just that when the nominations are made, neither the candidates nor the friends of the candidates defeated, will have any excuse for withholding their earnest support from their antagonists who are successful. Except for that spirit the Democratic party would not have survived its frequent and sometimes disastrous defeats during the period since the Civil war. There were factions during all that time and we had our fights. But when the nominations were made the result was accepted as the voice of the party and all joined in the several efforts to elect the candidates.

But there is little promise of that sort of a primary campaign this year. Less than half a dozen men met in Washington behind locked doors and selected candidates for the party and then proceeded to use the party organization to dragoon the rank and file of the party to support their usurpation of power. Men of spirit and character will not submit to such outrages. The party organization was not created for such purposes. Hitherto it has never been so employed. Individual party leaders may have had preferences as between candidates but the organization was never used to enforce their preferences upon the voters. There were no outrages to condone, no vital sores to heal after the nominations were made and all factions were ready to engage in battle with the common enemy.

For years VANCE MCCORMICK has been yearning for a seat in the Governor's chair. Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER is equally anxious to occupy a seat in the United States Senate. By the most unscrupulous use of party patronage they have created a personal machine to promote their own ambitions and serve their own purposes. Now they are maligning every citizen who fails or refuses to join in their schemes. Mr. MCCORMICK denounces, in bitter terms, a reputable gentleman who offers to compete for the nomination. PALMER openly declares that all who do not favor his ambitions are venal. We can have no harmony under such circumstances. It is impossible to even hope for success under such conditions. Our Philadelphia contemporary may introduce better methods, however.

—The only surprise about Mr. J. M. BARRIE's liberal contribution to the Shackleton Antarctic enterprise is that he had the money. BARRIE is "one of them literary fellers."

Rockefeller Dodges Taxes.

Mr. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER imagines that he has dodged the Ohio tax collector by stealing away from his residence in Cleveland and taking himself to his vast estate in New York State. During the administration of JUDSON HARMON as Governor of Ohio that sterling Democrat procured the passage of a tax law which equalized taxation as between rich and poor. Under this law Mr. ROCKEFELLER was assessed on personal property at the market value of his shares in the Standard Oil company. It made an aggregate estate of \$90,000,000 upon which the tax would amount to \$12,000,000. All other residents of the State are taxed in the same ratio and those who can't get away are compelled to pay it.

Like most other very rich men, however, Mr. ROCKEFELLER objects to tax bills. They all enjoy the advantages of government and rejoice in the security which a strong government guarantees them alike in person and property. But they are not willing to pay in proportion to the benefit they derive. The man who owns a small farm adjacent to their mansions, they imagine, ought to pay as much, acre for acre, as they. And because just laws are enacted which differentiate, they move off to a neighborhood which has a higher appreciation of wealth. They find protection for their property in communities which have not adopted the Democratic theory of taxation.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER may succeed in evading his just share of the burden of government by the method he has adopted. It is said that under the Ohio law his taxes would amount to \$12,000,000 and it is not at all likely that his magnificent lake shore property at Cleveland would sell for that much. But it will sell for a good deal and it is to be hoped that unless he returns and pays it will be sold. Of course the difference between the product of the sale and the face of the tax bill would be lost. But it is better to lose part than all and the chances are that if he can escape payment by "folding his tent like an Arab," the community which has protected him in the past will get nothing.

Bull Moosers Fail to Agree.

Former State Senator FLINN, of Pittsburgh, has again failed to bring his associates in the Bull Moose party into agreement upon a candidate for Governor. At the meeting in Harrisburg, last week, there was no trouble in concentrating upon GIFFORD PINCHOTT for Senator in Congress. He is ROOSEVELT's choice for the office and represents ROOSEVELT's interest in the party in Pennsylvania. Unless PINCHOTT gets the nomination he wants, ROOSEVELT will refuse to participate in the campaign and the organization will go to pieces. All the leaders understand this and as most of them are anxious to handle the campaign fund, they are willing to agree to any conditions.

But ROOSEVELT has no personal interest in any of the candidates for Governor in the party. Mr. VAN VALKENBURG, of Philadelphia, is anxious to nominate State Treasurer YOUNG but the representatives of the party in the interior counties distrust VAN VALKENBURG and are unwilling to accept his candidate. Hitherto FLINN and VAN VALKENBURG have worked together and originally both favored Mr. YOUNG. But when the opposition to him, on account of VAN VALKENBURG, became formidable, FLINN switched to WILLIAM DRAPER LEWIS, of Philadelphia, and created a suspicion against him. The result was a sort of armistice, or agreement among six candidates to settle the matter among themselves.

It is safe to predict, however, that Mr. LEWIS will be the nominee. He will be accepted for that nomination for the reason that PINCHOTT is agreed upon for the other. The party is quite as dependent upon FLINN's purse as it is upon ROOSEVELT's personality and FLINN having openly declared for LEWIS, will have no reasonable excuse for shifting to another. YOUNG would probably be the strongest candidate except for the burden of VAN VALKENBURG. But the election of the candidate for Governor is not the objective point of the movement. ROOSEVELT wants friends in the United States Senate and believes that it is possible to elect PINCHOTT because of the weakness of PENROSE.

—There are a good many more important things to absorb the attention of Congress than the reduction of letter postage to one cent. Such an alteration of rates would scarcely have a perceptible effect on the cost of living for the common people.

Reports that are Obviously False.

Of course there is no foundation for the published statement that President WILSON has selected candidates for Governor and United States Senator in Pennsylvania, for the Democratic party. Such an action would be subversive of a fundamental Democratic principle and in conflict with a policy which he has declared with great emphasis. It would take from the people the right to govern themselves and assert the authority of bossism in its most offensive form. President WILSON is an avowed and enthusiastic believer in the principle of home rule and an uncompromising opponent of bossism. These truths are expressed in every act of his public life.

President WILSON may have a personal liking for certain candidates for Democratic favor in Pennsylvania. That is a privilege which he enjoys in common with all other Democrats in and out of the State. But he understands that no man, even though he be President, has a right to select the nominees of a great party in a Commonwealth of the proportions and resources of an empire. He knows, moreover, that four or five men have no right to make a ticket for a great party anywhere and especially in a city, not within the jurisdiction of the State concerned in the operation. That is bossism of the most obnoxious type and President WILSON is opposed to bossism of any variety.

We can hardly credit the rumor, either, that Secretary of State BRYAN and other members of the President's cabinet contemplate participation in a primary contest in the Democratic party of Pennsylvania. Secretary BRYAN has become a "worshipper of the golden calf" and a vast fortune may allure him to favor a man who consistently opposed him in three campaigns for the Presidency. But he would hardly violate the principles of Democracy by interfering in a primary election in a State in which he is not a voter, in view of his present relation to the party and the country. For the present, at least, we will discredit all such reports from all sources.

—A German professor declares that "the press, the parliament and the people" are three evils which menace that country. Senator BEVERIDGE probably imagines that this country is suffering from the same causes.

Question of Panama Canal Tolls.

President WILSON is right, as usual, in his view that the provisions of the HAY-PAUNCEPOTE treaty, with respect to the operation of the Panama canal, should be scrupulously maintained, notwithstanding a plank in the Baltimore convention platform, pledging the Democratic party to the policy of discrimination in tolls in the interest of American coasting ships. A treaty cannot be altered by act of Congress. The honor of the subscribing power is pledged for its fulfillment. The HAY-PAUNCEPOTE treaty distinctly pledged the government of the United States to operate the canal without discrimination for or against any ships of any country and that pledge must be kept inviolate.

The plank in the Baltimore platform which would violate the good faith of the American people was probably inspired by the mistaken notion that it would catch votes. The Republican leaders had been trying for years to redeem a promise made by MARK HANNA to American shipbuilders, that in exchange for campaign contributions they would be given a ship-subsidy of some sort. In legalizing conditions for the operation of the Panama canal, they found the opportunity to do this and wrote it into the act. In the face of a protest from Great Britain President TAFT approved the measure and all the units in the ship trust applauded. This was probably mistaken for popular approval.

The Baltimore platform was written by Mr. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN who may not have a clear understanding of public obligations. At any rate he appears to care more for success than for methods and he probably imagined that twisting the British lion's tail might entice voters to his party standard. As a matter of fact the average voter didn't know that there was such a provision in the platform and never gave the subject a thought. But the average voter is not indifferent to moral obligations and a vast majority of the Democrats of the country will cordially approve of President WILSON's advice to amend the legislation so as to make it conform with treaty obligations.

Its Only, May-be-So.

According to the Harrisburg Patriot—the organ of would-be-boss MCCORMICK, our own Col. (?) JOHN A. WOODWARD, of Howard, has written the Honorable A. MITCHELL PALMER, extolling the action of himself, candidate MCCORMICK and chairman MORRIS, in dictating the ticket Pennsylvania Democrats will be expected to support at the primaries, and assuring him that the "back room" methods adopted by this triumvirate of bosses is most warmly approved not only by himself but by the Democrats of the county in general. The letter, we understand, goes on to say that the entire body of Democrats of the county are a unit for the new management of the party and are just aching for an opportunity to show how delighted they are to be relieved of the right to have a voice in presenting candidates, or the privilege of indicating their preference as to the make-up of the ticket they will be expected to support.

Unfortunately for Col. WOODWARD's assurances there would be much more assurance in them if there were not three thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine other Democrats in the county, and each one having a mind and an opinion of his own. What they may conclude to do, finally, we do not know, but have serious doubts if the PENROSE Republican methods of making nominations, which our own would-be leaders are now attempting to force upon the Democratic party, are nearly as popular with the Centre county Democrats, as the Howard statesman and political prophet would try to have the public believe.

—The WATCHMAN has no choice for Governor since Justice MESTREZAT is not to be a candidate. In fact it wouldn't matter much if it had. PALMER and MCCORMICK are the only two men in the Democratic party in Pennsylvania who have any right to have a choice.

Let Us Know, Please.

Really brother Democrats, don't it puzzle you a good deal to distinguish any difference between the methods Mr. PENROSE has always employed to nominate his Republican ticket—methods which we as Democrats have always denounced—and those our own saintly would-be-bosses are now asking us to endorse? For our part we can see none. If you can, please let us know in what and where it is, in order that we can show to our doubting neighbor that our own party is not to be PENROSED, or bossed, just as our Republican friends have been ever since Mr. QUAY first began that bossism.

And we are, in dead earnest in asking you to show us the difference—if you can find any.

Achievements of Ten Months.

From the Philadelphia Record. We commend to every voter who desires to do right by himself and his country the summary of the achievements of the present administration prepared by the National committee. No Democrat can read it without increasing warmth of affection for the party of Jefferson and Jackson and Tilden and Cleveland and Wilson. No Progressive can read it without recognizing that all that his party has clamored for, that is neither destructive nor visionary, is in process of rapid accomplishment. No Republican can read it without admitting to himself that it is a great record of good for the country.

The Republican party bungled the tariff. The promise of the Republican platform of 1908 and the Payne-Aldrich bill were recognitions of the general demand, and the country showed its resentment in the elections of 1910. For twenty years the Republican party evaded or bungled the duty of providing a new currency system. The Democratic party has performed this task, and now Republicans are trying to get some of the credit for it.

But these are only two of the most conspicuous items. The people have been demanding the income tax and the direct election of Senators to make our system more thoroughly Democratic. They have obtained them under a Democratic administration. During all the Republican regime the "Third House" was about as potent at the capitol as the two Houses established by the Constitution. President Wilson has put it to fight. The President has taken a long step toward promoting equity between employers and employees by bringing the representatives of capital and labor, resulting in the passage of the Industrial Employees' Arbitration act.

Secretary Bryan has done much to promote the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, and Secretary McAdoo relieved the stringency in the agricultural regions instead of the financial centres during the crop-moving period. The natural and legitimate demands of the Filipinos for a greater control over their own affairs have been met. The foreign policy of the country has been freed from all suspicion of being in the service of the moneyed interests. The postal service has become self-sustaining. Competition in naval contracts has been forced, with great pecuniary benefit to the country. The House of Representatives is no longer controlled by the Speaker and two colleagues on the committee on rules selected by him.

Everywhere there has been progress toward fuller and better opportunities for "the man on the street," and government has ceased to be in the service of any private interests, and monopolies, political and financial, are being broken up, with the result of the restoration of power to the people.

Wilson's Re-election Predicted.

Washington Dispatch to Chicago Record-Herald. One of the political gossips down East are getting agitated again over President Wilson and 1916. Such agitation shows itself every time the administration wins a Legislative victory, and now and then between times. When Bryan accepted a place in the Cabinet certain wisacres declared that it was an understanding that a single term for Mr. Wilson was to suffice, and that he—Bryan—was to fall heir to the next Presidential nomination if the party made good. The fact is, however, that as matters stand today—if there is no catastrophe affecting the present dominant party—Mr. Wilson is as certain of renomination as McKinley was in 1900, or Roosevelt was of the Republican nomination in 1904.

At the rate he is going the chances are very fair, indeed, for the clearing up of the constructive program undertaken by President Wilson before the end of his present term. If it is cleared up it will be an accomplishment which few, if any, of his predecessors have wrought. It is conceivable that Mr. Wilson, seeing pledges of his party redeemed, might wish to lay down the cares of public office and betake himself to scholarly retirement with undimmed prestige. But while striving as at present to be President of the whole people Mr. Wilson is one of the strongest party men who ever occupied the White House. He believes in the responsibility of the party in control of the Government and has no great faith in the good that would be done if that party was other than the Democratic.

A Delmonico Dynasty.

From the New York World. When Charles F. Murphy, referring to his bossship, declares "I am going to stay here as long as I live!" we wonder what Tammany men themselves think of it. They have always regarded themselves the perpetual ruling caste of New York, but their theory has been that it was their high privilege to vouchsafe a boss to the city at their will and change him at their pleasure.

Now they have a boss who, without a by-your-leave, confers on himself a life tenure of office, and before long may introduce the hereditary principle and found the Delmonico dynasty.

Dr. Anna Shaw's Dilemma.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Dr. Shaw is also said to have been puzzled by the assessments blank called for a declaration of property owned by "him or her." As she was neither, she could not very well comply.

—Senator OLIVER has announced his intention to retire from public life at the expiration of his term as Senator. PENROSE needs some of the virus which has made his colleague so wise.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—A baby girl who came recently to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Rippey, of Lock Haven, is the eighteenth child. Nine of the number are dead and the little girl is the only sister of eight boys.

—Three foreigners were killed and three others were seriously injured near Osceola when the mine car on which they were riding jumped the track, knocking out some timbers, which fell on the men.

—A stogie factory belonging to S. I. Yuleman, of Jersey Shore, was badly damaged by fire a few days ago. Mr. Yuleman had a large stock of tobacco in the basement that is likely ruined by the water.

—The Punxsutawney Fair association is issuing bonds to cover its indebtedness and will take active steps for success at this year's fair. The association has plenty of real estate to make its bonds desirable.

—Two young men named Palmer and Shaffer have been arrested for trying to pass worthless checks at Blairsville. The checks bore the name of S. J. Sides, a prominent Blacklick business man, and totalled \$95.

—Lewistown isn't likely to be pleased with any site for its federal building that can be purchased for the appropriation price. Lock Haven solved the same difficulty by promptly offering to put up the balance.

—Blomberg wants to entertain the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Episcopal conference in 1915 and will send an invitation to the coming Harrisburg meeting. Jersey Shore took a similar action some weeks ago.

—Standing in the door at his home at Lycippus, George Blackburn, pit boss at St. Clairmine, was shot by some unknown miscreant twice. His recovery is likely and state troopers are looking for the would be assassin.

—Miss Lizzie Harper, of Morrisdale, is in the Cottage hospital, Phillipsburg, badly burned. She has been scalding the stove and a match she had lighted caught the kindling prematurely and leaped up to her clothing. Her mother beat out the flames.

—Miss May Pooler, the Madras school teacher, who was recently so badly assaulted by John Wilkinson for keeping his boy in beyond school hours as a reprimand for swearing, has entered a civil suit against Wilkinson demanding \$1,000 for injuries received growing out of the attack.

—Six students at Gettysburg college have been suspended for two weeks for dancing the tango, which had been strictly forbidden by the faculty. There will be no more interfraternity dances until just before commencement. Two of the young men suspended belong to the musical clubs.

—Small pox of the same light variety as is prevalent elsewhere in this part of the State has broken out in Somerset county, near Meyersdale. People at Coal Run, St. Paul and Boynton have been going about with eruptions on their faces for some time and the disease has had every chance to spread.

—A store and three dwellings were burned at Westport recently by fire which started in a store cellar. Frank Skyles owned the store and Mrs. Nancy Robbins the building, both had some insurance. Loss, all told, is about \$30,000. The Renovo fire company was summoned and rendered valuable aid.

—Three Huntingdon county holders of liquor licenses have applied for renewal of the privilege. Others, it is said, will do so in order that the judges may have a chance to put themselves on record. But some are averse to spending money for nothing, as the sentiment of the judges is well known.

—One of those rapid fire courtship ones sometimes reads about occurred at Punxsutawney this week. Bert States was introduced on Sunday evening to Miss Ruth Sobers, of DuBois, a visitor at Punxsutawney. On Tuesday they were married at Cumberland. Their engagement had lasted one day.

—Sometime between 1.30 and 5.15 a. m. Thursday the safe in the post office at Duncanville was blown open and cash amounting to \$12 or \$15 taken, together with stamps to the value of \$80 to \$100. The robbery was discovered by Postmaster I. C. Hess at 5.15, when he went to the building to open the office for the day.

—While Mr. Reed, a young man who teaches the Coal Hill school, near Luthersburg, was chastising a girl pupil, her brother came behind the teacher and plunged a knife into his hip. An artery was severed and Mr. Reed lost a great quantity of blood before medical aid could reach him. He is likely, however, to recover.

—A large amount of the "postage due" stamps and five registered letters, which were part of the loot when the Dunlo postoffice was robbed recently were found the other day by boys, the burglars having thrown them over a railroad embankment. A cave near the place was also found and it is believed the robbers made their headquarters there.

—D. R. Williams was convicted by a Clearfield county jury of negligence and reckless auto driving in a civil court action by which verdict he must pay for the cow he mortally injured when he drove into a herd on the road. The evidence was that he had laughed after he struck the cow and that his wife had told the boys their cows had no right on the road.

—The use of sulphate of coppers in treating the well water of Grove City, where 800 cases of winter cholera have recently developed, will stop the spread of the disease, the state department of health engineers have found. Friday 110 new cases were reported, but Saturday, when the water was treated with sulphate of coppers, the number of new cases dropped to 57 and Sunday but 12 cases were reported.

—With both legs broken and with numerous lacerated wounds about the body, Nicholas Hook a miner employed by the Wilbur Coal company at its operations four miles from Hooversville, lies at the point of death at the Memorial hospital in Johnstown. His injuries were received Tuesday when he kindled a fire in the open and was engaged in throwing out a quantity of dynamite to be used in excavation work. Four sticks of dynamite exploded simultaneously and Hook was hurled a considerable distance.

—Surrounded by the members of her immediate family residing in Steelton, and a number of relatives from a distance, including Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, her daughter, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Trumeter, of Gordon, Schuylkill county, the latter a grand-daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Sharon, Dauphin county's oldest woman, celebrated her one hundred and fourth birthday in a quiet manner at her home, 324 Myers street, Steelton, Sunday. Congratulations, flowers and post cards formed the greetings extended her by relatives and friends.

—A monster survivor of the original forest, the largest white oak tree in Northumberland county and perhaps in the State, had just been cut by L. J. Menzes, of Turbotville. The height of this tree was 125 feet, and the calculation of its age from the number of rings in the trunk made it 30 years old. At the ground the trunk measured eight feet two inches in diameter, and forty-eight feet above the ground the diameter was four feet. A specially constructed saw, ten feet long, was used to fall it. These were the cuts from the tree: Three sixteen-foot logs, measuring, respectively, at the small end, five, six and four feet in diameter; two ten-foot logs, twenty inches each in small end diameter; one eight-foot log, twenty inches small end; twenty large railroad cut logs, nine feet long; eight cords of small wood. The total board feet in the tree was 15,000.