

INK SLINGS.

Next week, the Fair. Only seventy-nine more days until Thanksgiving is here. The turkey should worry. Germany is taking on all comers and not even asking for a percentage from the movies. If we behave right we will be every Nation's very dearest friend after the war is over. They'll all be bringing grist to our mill. It may not be out of place to remark that Russia is cutting a small figure on the firing line considering the size of its army. Germany has pushed the battle ground clear through Belgium and right up to the French frontier. It is now do or die for France. Of course Japan will get into the scrimmage in some way. Those who hunt trouble usually find it and sometimes it's a deluge. So far as our voice goes in the matter there will be no war in Europe or elsewhere until RICHARD HARDING DAVIS declares the fact from the firing line. Austria is mobilizing troops along the Italian frontier, according to news dispatches and that calls to mind the fact that there is no war going on in Italy. Maybe if the Hon. JIM BLAKESLIE went over to The Hague and lit a cigarette and gave another imitation of a man thinking a minute he might be able to quiet all this foreign fuss. If the Jews in Russia and Poland are as wise as those in this country they will require the Czar to sign his pledge to give them political rights in return for military service. And it might be a good idea to ask for an endorser. German soldiers have written on the walls of the city of Brussels the following significant words: "WILLIAM II, Emperor of Europe." Doubtless he has the ambition, but the future alone will reveal whether he has the power. Because Europeans are going to war may be the cause of some Americans going to jail. We mean those fellows who are taking advantage of the situation abroad to raise the price of food-stuffs here, the supply of which could not possibly be affected by the war. Next week the mobilization of the school bag brigade will begin in America. In an hour's time millions of them will respond to the call to study. God bless their young souls! May the things they learn equip them for peaceful pursuits and may they never be called to mobilize as targets for an enemy's guns. Anyway American summer resorts ought not to be losing money on account of the foreign war. Thousands of rich ones are paying for ten cent sugar and forty cent meat right here in their own country today merely because it isn't quite safe to be abroad. And if the war be a long drawn out one they will be here next summer too. Right now if some one were to start an agitation for international prohibition of the manufacture of warships, cannons and all other instruments of warfare do you think it would have any followers? Look at it in all its terrible phases and you will probably come to the conclusion that while talking prohibition it would be well to include war with booze. Are the fly swatters responsible for the fact that there have been fewer flies in this vicinity this season than ever before or has it been due to other causes. Certain it is that housewives, these days, are taking every precaution to exterminate the fly and it has been a matter of curious interest to us to determine just what effect the general campaign with the swatter and screen is having. Reports from the seat of war in Europe lead to the conclusion that the Germans are gradually pushing the allied forces of England, France and Belgium back toward Paris. If the German arms can maintain the terrific strain upon them and continue on the offensive France will become the battle ground of a titanic struggle when the last stand is made to keep Paris from falling once more into the hands of the Kaiser. Having failed in his very earnest efforts to get the leaders of our party in Pennsylvania to sit tight and not rock the boat, Col. HAYES GRIER, of the Columbia Independent, is now giving the same advice to all good Americans. His counsel is well worth heeding: The waves from the great battleship "Europe" are running high and the least false move might upset us into the fighting sea; therefore, "Sit tight, don't rock the boat." It cost France \$21,000 for every German soldier she killed in the war of 1870. It cost Russia \$20,400 for every Jap she killed in the war of 1905. Those who agitate war are usually the cold blooded creatures who don't expect to have to go to the front themselves and who measure everything in dollars and cents. They are the fellows who sneered at President Wilson's "watchful waiting" policy in Mexico. Let them now look at the above figures, take their pencils and figure out our probable saving through "watchful waiting."

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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President Wilson's Wholesome Advice.

The timely and appropriate message which President WILSON addressed to the American people, the other day, urging the true spirit of neutrality, can have no other than a beneficial effect. "The effect of the war upon the United States," he writes, "will depend upon what American citizens say and do." In other words by indulgence in passionate partisanship in behalf of one competitor or the other, prejudices may be aroused which will endure after the issue has been determined and work evils which will fester through generations to come and on both sides of the water. The citizenship of the Republic has been drawn from all countries and each of the contending units in the great struggle in progress has contributed a share in the development of our resources and the glory of our achievements. Naturally there is a profound feeling of sympathy for the land of their nativity in the breasts of the millions who compose our naturalized citizens and their sons and daughters but there is no reason why there should be dissensions among them that may be avoided. The message of President WILSON points out the way to avert such sources of trouble. As the President said in another address we are all Americans and there is no occasion for hypenating the title. German-Americans, Irish-Americans, Russian-Americans are alike Americans if they are imbued with the spirit of liberty and believe in fair play among men. That being true it is our duty to preserve toward all the combatants a spirit of justice and fairness. The Germans are as sincere in their belief in the righteousness of their cause as the French are earnest in faith in the justness of their contention. It is our patriotic duty, therefore, to be fair to all. Moreover nobody knows what will be the outcome of the conflict, and it is impossible to estimate the consequences of resentments which may be planted by indiscreet and untimely expressions of partisanship in behalf of one side or the other. But it is certain that evil consequences may be avoided by restraining the impulse to indulge in partisanship and the President is wise in sounding the note of admonition. We will think better of ourselves and of each other, when all is over if we follow his advice.

Of course Mr. D. CLARENCE GIBBONEY, of Philadelphia, felt called upon to advise the President. It may be assumed, therefore, that Mr. GIBBONEY's master, Senator MCNICHOL, is also dissatisfied with the policies of Mr. WILSON. No Reprisals in Mexico. If current reports concerning General VILLA's plans and purposes are anything like accurate, that more or less reformed Mexican bandit is "riding for a fall." With reasonably just and intelligent management of the government of Mexico may be made enduring and beneficent. But if those in authority enter upon a campaign of reprisals and undertake to "get even" with everybody at home and abroad, who has not accepted them at their own valuation, as Mr. VILLA is said to contemplate, their tenure in control will be as brief as it will be infamous. Governments are not agencies of vengeance and they are not organized to work personal revenge. General CARRANZA entered upon the duties of provisional President of Mexico the other day under the most hopeful auspices. He was cordially welcomed to the city by all the people with demonstrations of confidence and affection and his response was equally inspiring. He said substantially that his aim will be to give the people of Mexico a just and beneficent government. In so far as that promise is fulfilled the result will be satisfactory. The people there are tired of war and the desolation and suffering which attends war. What they need and want is peace and the prosperity which is the fruit of peace. They want the opportunity to create wealth and enjoy comfort. General VILLA, if his biographers are truthful, hasn't much idea of the value of thrift and industry. Whatever he has wanted in the past he has taken by force if he had strength enough and left his victims to estimate their losses. That system of acquiring will not do in the future and one man must yield to the changed conditions as well as another. If this policy is put into operation promptly and pursued constantly, there will be little further trouble in Mexico. The wealth is there to be gathered but it must be taken properly. There are legal processes to punish crimes of the past and prevent them in the future. But there can be no campaign of reprisals.

Any way the Kaiser doesn't propose to keep his own family out of the danger zone. He and his three sons are on the firing line. The British government may be giving Belgium splendid moral support but thus far we have been unable to discover any evidence that his British Majesty's soldiers are stopping German bullets. Death of Pope Pius X. The justice and amiability of Pope Pius X has made his death less a calamity than it would have been otherwise. His elevation to the Pontifical throne was the result of the refusal of the Emperor of Austria to assent to the selection of another and during his tenure he revoked that law of the church which gave secular sovereigns that power. The selection of his successor, therefore, will be an ecclesiastical matter entirely and presumably will be determined upon merit. Possibly the church and the world gained by the interposition of the venerable Austrian monarch, for GIUSEPPE SARTO was as free from selfish ambitions as he was earnest in the cause of righteousness. Pope Pius X was of humble birth and through his entire life his deep sympathies for the people were revealed. He was not an illustrious scholar as some of his predecessors were but he was a student of life and nature and he had inclination and zeal in the work of the church and humanity. He lacked diplomatic finesse, probably, and failed in the manipulation of what might be called "church politics." But he was not wanting in the zeal and enthusiasm which guided his people in the faith of their fathers. He quarreled with Kings and potentates but gathered the lowly into his confidence, ministered to their wants and contributed to their comforts, spiritual and physical. The Pope was an old man and in the nature of things could not have long endured the burdens of his office. But his death was hastened, no doubt, by recent events in Europe. Nearly all the combatants in the war now in progress were of his faith and children of his church and the sorrow incident to this great conflict of brothers became a burden greater than he could bear. His successor will be chosen by the College of Cardinals which will be assembled at Rome in the near future and in which the United States will have greater influence than ever before because there are four American Cardinals now while when he was chosen there was but one. Let us hope that his successor will be as worthy.

The French artillery may be the best in the world, as the war experts declare, but it didn't prevent the German army from marching through Belgium from Liege to Brussels. Party Managers Working for Fusion. The movement toward fusion of the Democrats and Bull Moosers on the State ticket in Pennsylvania continues to occupy the attention of the party managers, who, according to an esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, "express confidence that a mutual arrangement will be made before the campaign is many weeks older." No conference has been held yet, for the reason, as the same dependable authority states, that "it is considered good politics, for the present, to let the movement toward fusion develop as though in response to a demand of the voters rather than to give the arrangement the bald appearance of a deal between the leaders." The plan is to have Mr. DRAPER LEWIS withdraw from the Washington party ticket as the candidate for Governor, substitute Mr. VANCE C. MCCORMICK in his place; Mr. CREASY to withdraw from the Democratic ticket as candidate for Lieutenant Governor and put Mr. LEWIS in his place. This might strengthen the Washington party ticket considerably for Mr. LEWIS has no claim upon the public but it would weaken the Democratic ticket in the same ratio. Moreover it would relieve the Washington party leaders from considerable of the financial burdens of the campaign. Mr. MCCORMICK would contribute, out of his vast fortune, with equal liberality to both party organizations. But the Democratic candidates for Congress, State Senate, the Legislature and local offices would suffer in the proportion of Mr. MCCORMICK's contribution to the Bull Moose campaign fund. Every dollar of money contributed by Mr. MCCORMICK to the Washington party treasury would be used against Democratic candidates for all the other offices. Probably this wouldn't make much difference to Mr. MCCORMICK for he has never taken much interest in the election of Democratic candidates except when he was on the ticket. But it will make considerable difference to the gentlemen who suffer defeat, because while they are working for MCCORMICK, his money is working against them.

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Need of American Shipping.

Now that an important step has been taken in a movement for the restoration of our merchant marine the Democratic majority in Congress should address itself to a completion of the work. So long as the European war continues and competition is paralyzed our ships will get the business and charge enough to make it profitable. But when the war ends the strife for business will begin and it will be so sharp and eager enough to suggest the "survival of the fittest." Under such circumstances the several other faults in our maritime legislation and regulation "loom large," and cry loudly for correction. We have begun right but should not stop until the work is complete. Great Britain boasts a mastery of the several seas and it is from that source we may expect the most stubborn competition when the courses of commerce are opened up. British ships are taxed on profits while ours are taxed on the investment. That makes a vast difference in the cost of maintenance of a fleet. First class "liners" cost from three to five million dollars each and even with a low rate of taxation the levy on a fleet of twenty to fifty ships amounts to a considerable sum. If they are freighted to the limit of capacity the business would be profitable nevertheless. But liners are not always so fortunate and the tax burden becomes an important matter. Another source of discrimination against our ships and in favor of British bottoms is in the fact that American ships pay consular fees every time they enter a foreign port while British ships pay only once a year. This is a matter of regulation, of course, but it works a hardship upon American ship owners which ought to be overcome. There are plenty of ways for remedying these evils and they should be remedied before the close of the foreign war opens the competitive contest. Our ship owners will have trouble enough to obtain and retain a share of the business even on an even footing and with such handicaps as now confront them they must lose.

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Foodstuffs in Storage.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Some interesting figures on the foods contained in the cold storage warehouses in Pennsylvania on July 1st, last, are given in the reports made to the Pure Food Division of the State Agricultural Department, and it is intimated by Commissioner Foust that since the quarterly reports were made there has been an increase even over those figures. On April 1st there were in cold storage in this State 111,568 dozens of eggs and this total by July 1st had leaped to the enormous number of 14,638,816 dozens. In April there were 952,645 pounds of butter in cold storage in Pennsylvania, and this had jumped to 5,070,923 pounds by July 1st. In one particular item—that of meat—the supply in cold storage diminished in the three months, but there still were close to 2,000,000 pounds of various kinds of meats stored away on July 1st. Speculators appear to be waiting for a greater rise in food prices that they feel they may be reasonably sure to take advantage of. More than 500,000 pounds of beef and a million pounds of pork, laid away for a rise, mean that food gamblers and speculators are going to do some hard work to advance prices in order to get all they can squeeze out of the public. There is no State law in Pennsylvania to prevent gambling in foods except the law that provides that certain kinds cannot be kept in cold storage beyond a certain time, but that law is easily evaded by the food speculators removing their commodities from a Pennsylvania cold storage warehouse to some warehouse in a near State, letting it remain a brief period and then shipping it back to Pennsylvania as new stuff. Detection of this kind of fraud is almost impossible, and it goes on right under the noses of the authorities, they being powerless to get at the perpetrators. Commissioner Foust's figures furnish interesting reading to those who wonder why we have high food prices.

Beef from the South. From the New York Mail. If nature, in a generous mood, were to offer to America a land of 264,000,000 acres, in which cattle could be pastured from early March to late November, Uncle Sam would probably throw up his hat with joy, finding the beef problem solved. Yet America has such a region, with less than a third of its area in improved farm land, with a population varying from 14 to 57 to the square mile, with room to raise enough beef to supply the entire United States. This is the gist of an informing dispatch from Baltimore setting forth the possibilities of the nine southeastern States offsetting the decrease in beef production in the west. Cattle breeding has proven successful in these States, with their climate highly favorable. Room there is without crowding industry or population. Access to the great markets of the congested north-eastern States, and to foreign markets, is better than in the case of the western producers. Atlanta, Ga., is 500 miles nearer New York than is Omaha, and cattle and beef can be shipped from the south by water as well as by rail. Why, after all, should we be looking so hungrily to Argentina, overlooking the while the nearer possibilities of the great south, which has only begun to develop?

Modern Artillery's Great Scope. From the Springfield Republican. What makes the battle now in progress such a tremendous affair is, perhaps, not so much the unparalleled numbers of men aligned, a number perhaps amounting to 1,000,000, as the fact that for the first time the titanic power of modern artillery will have full scope. At Mukden neither side was as strong in this arm as in infantry, yet there were 3000 guns in the field. The total on the 250-mile-long battle line from Belgium to Alsace must be several times that, perhaps 10,000 or more, and Germany, France and Belgium have all made a specialty of field artillery, which in recent years has come back to almost the importance which it held in Napoleon's campaigns. The guns are no longer brought up late; they go at the head of the marching columns, and are pushed to the very front with the cavalry and the quick-marching skirmish line. Machine guns have their use, but the pride of the modern army is the deadly quick-firing artillery, with an armored shield, from behind which a destructive fire of shrapnel is poured. Ever since the Balkan war there has been an intense jealousy between French and German military men as to the untested merits of the artillery of the two countries, and this rivalry contributed not a little to the bitterness leading up to the war.

A Fair Inference. From the Erie Dispatch. The mere facts of the case would indicate that Russia was not determined to bring on this war, as the Kaiser claims. The outbreak of actual war found Russia utterly unprepared and Germany ready to strike at once, as was Germany. There are other circumstances that lead to the suspicion that Germany was the "efficient factor" in bringing on the war. There is the story of the German count whose Belgian castle was situated precisely along the line of the present German campaign and who, at the advice of the Kaiser, evacuated it weeks ago. This is only a story and not authentic, but has been sufficiently repeated to be reproduced here.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

A charter has been granted to the Monongahela Southern Traction company, with a capital of \$108,000, to construct a line from California to Brownsville. A little Lock Haven tot, Ruth Grozinger, died as the result of drinking a bottle of essence of wintergreen, which she had reached from the mantle piece. A colored porter, leaning too far out of the door of a sleeping car on the Buffalo flier, passing Queens Run, near Lock Haven, lost his balance and was dashed to death. The farmers in Lancaster county are having some trouble in disposing of their fruit. They claim that the high price of sugar is driving the price of anything that may be preserved downward. No trace has been found of William A. Jones, of Ebensburg, who disappeared on last Tuesday, although hunting parties have been searching day and night for some clue as to his whereabouts. Some slick stranger victimized a few Butler attorneys in a clever land swindle, giving mortgage for \$3,000 on land from which he forged deeds. The lawyers found it out eighty days afterwards. The residents of DuBois are complaining about the exceedingly large number of "small, black insects," which seems to be pestering them all summer. Nobody seems able to give them a name or classification. A Hazleton man was out riding in his automobile the other day when the rear axle broke. He pushed the machine to the side of the road, returning the next morning to find that the car had been completely rifled. The management of the Portage silk mill enters an emphatic denial to the reports circulated that the mill would be closed down in a short time on account of inability to secure raw material. It is understood that the supply comes from Japan. During the district conference meeting at the Pike Christian church, near Waverly, Tuesday evening, a certain Mr. Barrett rode down the main aisle, breaking up the meeting. He claims to have been shot thirty times at his home in West Virginia. Harry Thon Jr., who shot and killed Dominic Remedia at Janesville, and who pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to the Clearfield county jail for eleven months, was released on Tuesday on his parole after serving six months of his sentence. Racing through Smithfield, near the Huntingdon reformatory walls, in a buggy, a young girl and her best beau were seriously injured when the shaft struck a pole and the occupants were thrown forcibly to the road. It is probable that both are injured for life. After John Morst, who jumped on the steps of a Reading passenger train from Shamokin to Tamaqua, found he could not enter the car, owing to the door of the vestibule being locked, he turned to leap from the train, but after finding how fast it was traveling, staved on. After a ride of three miles he fell exhausted, but fortunately when the train had stopped. To sleep on a couch and awake to find a four-foot blacksnake crawling over her face was the experience of Miss Violet Ryman, of Berwick, visiting at the time in the home of Ellsworth Hutton, of Mountain Grove. With a piercing shriek the girl sprang from the couch, while Hutton in another room responded to her cries and killed the snake. The girl was not bitten. Fifty-four persons have been taken into custody for participation in a riot of striking miners at Portage last Saturday, during which three men were shot. All the men are recovering. The men arrested have given bail for court, the company arranging bail for those who had been at work in the mine up to the time the riot occurred, while individuals at Portage furnished bond for the strikers implicated. C. A. Rickenbaugh, of Osceola, has been chosen treasurer and manager of the Moshannon Coal Mining Co., succeeding the late Albert S. Brown, who filled these positions so satisfactorily. He is also Mr. Brown's successor as treasurer and general manager for Baird & Co.'s big mercantile establishment. J. E. Kolben-schlag has been elected manager of the latter store. C. H. Rowland is the heaviest stockholder in both of these corporations. The old residents of the southern section of Warren county firmly believe that the appearance of a bald eagle in that section lately augurs war for the United States. Late last week the bird, answering the description of the one which hovered over that section just prior to the Rebellion and revisited it again on the eve of the Spanish-American conflict, again appeared. This most favored and in fact the choicest emblem of Uncle Sam was nearly two feet tall when standing and appeared to be fully six feet from tip to tip when on the wing. A steam roller weighing ten tons, being used by W. H. Lyons, a contractor, in building a street pavement, crashed into a Pennsylvania railroad passenger train on the Sunbury and Lewistown railroad, at Sunbury on Monday, and the lives of fifty persons were endangered when the sides of three cars were ripped and torn so badly that a new train had to be made up. Passengers were much frightened and traffic was delayed more than an hour. Railroaders say that if the roller had gone two inches further there would have been a serious accident. Howard Hyle, a street car conductor, has entered a trespass suit in the Blair county court against Earl Ott to recover damages to the amount of \$1,000. The plaintiff's statement sets forth that the defendant caused to be inserted in a newspaper an item headed, "Treating His Friends to Cigars," and which stated that the plaintiff was doing this on account of the arrival of a baby at his home, whereas he claims that he is an unmarried man and that the joke played upon him is detrimental to him and he has suffered damage to the above amount. Because George W. Gilfillan, of Port Carbon, was such a big man that it was impossible to get his coffin into his home, his body was carried out on the lawn Tuesday and laid into the coffin awaiting outside. This was not the only difficulty, for no hearse in the county would hold the giant coffin, and Gilfillan was conveyed to the cemetery in a furniture van. He was six feet ten inches tall, weighed 900 pounds, and when in his coffin the total weight was 1,200 pounds, under which ten stalwart pall-bearers staggered. Gilfillan measured a full yard across the shoulders. A sad drowning accident occurred at Jersey Shore Saturday afternoon, shortly after 3 o'clock. The victim was Stephen G. Bowen, the 19 year old son of Chief of Police Isaac Bowen. Young Bowen was bathing in the river at the end of the bridge with a large party of boys and girls. He was a good swimmer and when he dove to the bottom no attention was paid to him and it was not noticed that he did not come up. Alfred Young, the colored chef at the Pickering hotel, saw the body lying on the bottom in about four feet of water and when he discovered it did not move he called to the bathers and Frank Fitzgerald dove to the bottom, secured the body and carried it to shore. Drs. Shuman, Mench and Fuller were called and worked over the young man for half an hour, but they failed to revive him. Stephen graduated from High school last spring and at the time of his death was preparing to further his education at college. He was the last of three children, all of whom have died at the age of 19 years.