

INK SLINGS.

The Institute.

Next week the county pedagogues are coming in to town. And salt the wisdom down. We know they're always on the job. They have no time to mope. Because there's nothin' changes like The modern teachin' dope.

Often the most trifling thing makes a child the happiest.

This will be the last copy of the WATCHMAN you will receive this year.

Surely this must be winter. With twelve inches of snow on the ground and the mercury flirting with zero we know not what else to call it.

Look over what the WATCHMAN advertisers have to tell you this morning and finish up that Christmas shopping ere all the choice things are picked out.

Brother BRYAN led the Prohibitionists to the very summit of expectancy a few weeks ago and now he heads them back to the vale of despair which he finds in "States Rights."

It certainly must be that old Duke of Yorkshire, so famous in song, who is at the head of the Austrian army. It is marched into Serbia nearly every week and then it marches back again.

What's the use of building more battleships now. After the war is over our navy will probably be the biggest one in the world and it will take the other countries years to build enough to match it.

President FARRELL, of the Steel trust, predicts vast improvements in business and great prosperity in the future. The election being over President FARRELL has no reason for predicting anything else.

In Manila all new houses must be made rat proof. In America we couldn't promulgate such an order because the Independent Order of Rat Trap Makers wouldn't vote for us if we stood for such a business killer.

The Erie Dispatch advises you to keep your window open at night and your heart open during the day. What a healthy world and what a happy world this would be should all of its inhabitants follow such a course.

It may be only a word or smile, That you have to give this year. But it may count more than golden gifts To some one who holds you dear. So don't be stint of these costless gems, That were given you to give. They may be treasures in the life Your brothers have to live.

The Rev. R. OSBORNE, head of the campmeeting at Sterling Junction, Mass., last summer had a woman's chorus to whistle all the hymns. He called it his "Canary" chorus. It seems to us that he should have named it the symphony of the birds of Paradise.

The shop windows in Bellefonte never looked more attractive. Most of our merchants have gone to considerable trouble and expense to brighten up for the Holidays and the WATCHMAN hopes that each and every one will find the reward in satisfactory patronage.

Any way the European war has given the nobility the opportunity to show that it can do other things than stand off its creditors and angle for American heiresses. There are quite as many of those caricatured gentlemen on the firing line as any other class and they don't have to be shamed into the service either, if reports be true.

The new superintendent of the Philadelphia mint condemns the new gold pieces and the Buffalo nickel because they are hard to mint and accumulate filth in the depressions. Let us see, seems to us that we heard that term filthy lucre long before St. GAUDENS started the work of making our coins look more like medals than money.

With the advent of zero weather before the middle of December we just couldn't help expressing our sympathy for Col. TAYLOR and his steam heat works. But in the midst of convulsions of regret at the way he will have to shovel in the coal we reserve the right to cuss him out as usual if he doesn't shovel it in fast enough to keep us warm.

After you have enjoyed this, our Christmas number, to the fullest, and expressed the opinion that it is fine, just as we hope you will, then slip a dollar and a half into an envelope and send it in for your own or a new subscription. The WATCHMAN has been thinking of you else it wouldn't have tried this to please you. Won't you think of it long enough to comply with this request.

This is the child's season and it doesn't matter whose child it is, some act of kindness on your part might leave an impression on the little heart that will last through its life time. Only the other day a gentleman met a little boy on High street whose bare feet were protruding through a pair of shoes so far gone that they were utterly useless. He took him into his home and put a pair on him that protected the chubby toes from the cold pavement, whereupon the child heart swelled to the bursting point and with tears streaming down his cheeks he sobbed his gratitude in a way that was as impressive as it was unexpected.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 59.

BELLEFONTE, PA., DECEMBER 18, 1914.

NO. 50.

Militarism Raging Mad.

Colonel JOHN A. WEIDERSHEIM, of Philadelphia, a retired officer of the National Guard, not only wants the federal government to be prepared for war with the whole world, but thinks the State of Pennsylvania ought to be equipped with a military force capable of "licking the stuffin'" out of any government on earth. In an interview published in an esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, the other day, Colonel WEIDERSHEIM said the State ought to have ten batteries of artillery instead of three. "I am almost inclined to believe," he added, "that thirty batteries would not be too many."

The Colonel laments, moreover, that "the militia does not have within its ranks a single man trained in the use of pieces of ordnance corresponding in range and size to the siege guns used by the armies of Europe. Of course Colonel WEIDERSHEIM favors the payment of militiamen. "The National Guard must be put on a better basis," he adds, "and to do this you must compensate the men. To do this you must have regular army officers as drill masters," he continues. "A few conscientious military men can do a great deal toward whipping into shape a comparatively untrained body of men."

Marvels, he might have said. But a few such officers would not be sufficient to whip into shape an army properly proportioned with thirty or even ten batteries of artillery. A large number would be necessary and the expense would be enormous. Even the meager force we have costs considerable and though the money is well spent, probably, times are hard and taxes burdensome. Multiplying the cost by ten would involve hardships. The militia forces of the States should be fostered and made efficient. It is the defensive force favored by WASHINGTON and encouraged by JEFFERSON. But the militia force they had in mind was literally as well as figuratively a state institution. The Federal government had no voice in its management or share in its maintenance. Probably the system now existing is better. State Legislatures might be reluctant to provide the funds necessary to guarantee efficiency. In fact, even with the appropriations by Congress, some of the States are woefully delinquent. But our military friends should not be exorbitant in their demands. They shouldn't let the gold braid on their gorgeous uniforms turn their heads. The head of the regular army declares that even the Federal government has no use for the big guns used in Europe.

Mr. BRYAN admits that a man may be a Democrat without being a Prohibitionist, which is a good deal of a concession upon his part. As a rule, anybody must think as Mr. BRYAN thinks in order to maintain a place in his party and he wants to be the judge himself.

Co-Operative Land Banks.

There will be two pieces of legislation introduced during the coming session of the General Assembly which will deserve careful and probably favorable consideration. One of these will be entitled "An Act to Create Co-operative Banks for Personal Credits" and the other "An Act to Create Co-operative Land Banks for Realty Credits." Both of these measures come from the same source. The author of them is Mr. HERBERT MYRICK, president of the ORANGE JUDD company, publishers of agricultural papers and literature. The Co-operative Finance League has been organized to present the measures to the several State Legislatures.

These bills are intended to serve the purpose of the legislation referred to by President WILSON in his recent message to Congress under the head of Farm Credit banks. The first is for the benefit of persons not owners of real estate who desire to save with the view of acquiring property. The other is intended to supply farmers with a way of procuring needed additional capital to finance their operations or make improvements to their properties. Both are hedged about with conditions which would make customers and share holders equally secure and the institutions themselves instruments of public good.

Of course there is always hazard in legislation which gives a group of men control of other people's money. It has been said that no bank which is honestly and intelligently managed can fail and presumably these co-operative institutions would be put under the control of honest and capable men. Nevertheless, great care should be exercised in considering such legislation. We have a reasonably good banking system in Pennsylvania now and facilities for saving are afforded to the thrifty in nearly all communities. But farmers are at a disadvantage compared with commercial men and manufacturers which is not altogether just.

The Legend of the Christmas Roses.

Loretta, the wood-cutter's widow, dwelt, old and very poor, In a hut on the edge of the forest, beyond the desolate moor, And while through the lighted village the voice of gladness rang, And merrily parents and children the Christmas carols sang, She covered at her blackened hearthstone and heard the keen winds blow, And, beating at crack and crevice, the onset of the snow.

On a sudden a sound of knocking came faintly to her ear. "God pity," she said, "the stranger, whoever has wandered here!" Then with stiffened hands unbarring the door to the tempest wild, Behold, on the storm-swept threshold she saw a little child!

In her feeble arms she raised him and, speechless with amaze, The last of her sheaf of fagots she threw on the dying blaze. From his hair she brushed the snowflakes, she chafed his hands so sweet, In the cloak from her own thin shoulders she wrapped his small, bare feet, And a barleycrust from her cupboard empty of all beside, She crumbed at his lips, soft smiling to see him satisfied.

But e'en as she held him closer, intent on his infant charms, A dimness fell on her vision, and he faded from her arms! All trembling she reached the doorway, and lo, the storm was done! And the moon and the stars in splendor from the bending heaven shone. She peered through the thronging shadows—no gentle guest was there, But a new and wonderful fragrance thrilled all the pulsing air, And the track of a child wound whitely amid the circling snows, And in every tiny footprint blossomed a crimson rose!

'Twas the Christ Child! sobbed Loretta, and sank upon her knee, Up the ruddy throat of the chimney the fire roared merrily, Showing the fresh-cut fagots piled high on the earthen floor, With steaming loaves in the larder, a sweet and plenteous store!

So he, says the ancient legend, who, giving his all, has fed One needier yet and weaker, has cherished his Lord instead, While doubled in his bosom the measures of blessing flow, And out of the heart of winter the Christmas roses blow.

Appleton, Wis.

By Mary A. P. Stansbury.

Independence of the Philippines.

No feature of President WILSON'S message is more deserving of prompt and favorable consideration by Congress than that which urges completion of the pending legislation providing for the "ultimate independence of the Philippines." Governments are all and always under suspicion. When the government of the United States declared that its purpose in assuming control of the Philippine Islands was temporary control, the world was clearly incredulous. The lust for conquest and the desire for expansion of territory which is common to most people led to the belief that the promise was a subterfuge and would be violated. The policy of "benevolent assimilation" gave color to this impression.

A Republican government can have no subjects. A free people must be equal before the law. The relations which have been maintained between the people of the United States and the Philippines since the end of the Spanish war have not fulfilled these conditions. Those people are as much subjects of our government as the people of India are subjects of King GEORGE. Possibly they are not fit for self-government but who knows? They have not been a self-governing people but how did we acquire the right to measure their intellectual capacity without putting them to the test? The aim of the legislation in question is to advance them as far as their capacity will justify.

The release of the Filipinos from the alien sovereignty under which they have been living for more than fifteen years will be the consummation of a pledge as rare as it will be beneficent. It will set the government of the United States on a higher plane than has ever been occupied by any people. From the beginning of his administration WOODROW WILSON has been moving in that direction. In so far as it seemed expedient the natives have been entrusted with governmental functions and they have met the highest expectations. Therefore it is the duty of Congress to hasten the completion of the work begun so auspiciously. It will prove the crowning glory of a splendid administration.

General CROZIER, of the army, also imagines that we have some war defensive armament worth speaking about but General CROZIER is only a trained soldier and educated gentleman. To thoroughly understand the question it is necessary to be a Massachusetts politician.

After a dangerous illness of several days the Kaiser is again preparing to go upon the firing line. You couldn't keep the Kaiser off the firing line with a trip hammer.

Representative GARDNER, of Massachusetts, got a hint from the Committee on Rules of the House which ought to do him good, but it won't. Nothing but death will cure GARDNER.

Anyhow there will be fewer chips on shoulders after the war ends but unfortunately, in the same ratio, there will be fewer shoulders to carry chips.

Real Warriors Confident.

The jingoes in Congress received a sharp and just rebuke when Admiral FLETCHER, of the Navy, and General SCOTT, Chief of Staff of the Army, testified before the House committee on Naval and Military Affairs upon the question of "preparedness," the other day. President WILSON had previously delivered a "solar plexus blow" upon their absurd pretensions, but the President is not only a civilian but a pacifist and men of his type make little impression upon the minds of war maniacs. But FLETCHER and SCOTT are men of actual war with ability and experience to justify their opinions and lend credence to their views. What they say will challenge public attention.

Admiral FLETCHER declared in his testimony that the navy of England is the only navy in the world superior to that of the United States. "I think," he added, "that our more powerful fleet could keep control of the seas as against Japan." He expressed, moreover, the highest appreciation of the efficiency of our warships and navy in general and refused to give the jingoes the least encouragement. General SCOTT is equally optimistic and confident of the adequacy of our defensive forces. "The conditions of the national defence are constantly improving," and he laid before the committee a list of our armament and ammunition to prove his estimate.

Representative GARDNER and his father-in-law, Senator LODGE, who are leading the senseless agitation in Congress, got little comfort from these real soldiers and sailors. They favor the policy of President WILSON in quietly improving conditions and strengthening our resources along defensive lines, but are not panic stricken or willing to sacrifice the material interests of the country in order to make capital for partisan purposes. FLETCHER and SCOTT fight on, the firing lines and with instruments of war, while the jingoes fight with their jaws in the security of their walls. The intelligence of the country will discriminate between them beyond question.

Tyrone has a twenty-four hour rule for the cleaning of pavements after a snow fall. And it does not mean just the sweeping or shoveling off of the loose snow, but all packed snow and ice must be removed. If it is not the street cleaning department is put to work on the morning of the second day and all pavements cleaned at the cost of the property resident. And the cost is just about double what the resident could have gotten the work done for. If such an order were in vogue in Bellefonte a few weeks it might result in property holders giving more care to cleaning their pavements, and would certainly avert the danger of pedestrians getting a neck, leg or arm broken in a fall.

Congress is setting an example of industry and assiduity that ought to work a decrease in the cost of living.

Italy will probably get into the war in order to give Turkey a swipe, if no better reason can be discovered.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Balance of Trade.

From the Altoona Times.

Unless there is disappointment in the final accounting for November, our trade balance at the end of the eleven months of this calendar year was not far from \$200,000,000.

December now promises to close up the year with another \$100,000,000, making a total of \$300,000,000. The war has brought this sudden and swift rise after the persistent balances current accounts was about that very

When the war broke out it was estimated that our indebtedness abroad on current accounts was about that very sum, \$300,000,000. The indicated trade balance for 1914, therefore, not to mention the more than \$160,000,000 of gold which we shipped abroad in the first ten months of the year, would about wipe clean that slate of foreign current debts against us. Now must come, as long as the war continues, the piling up of foreign trade credits.

With the international trade balance tending at this moment to range in our favor at the rate of \$100,000,000 a month, our cotton at last beginning to go across the sea in great volume, with millions of tons of goods ordered weeks ago but only now coming out of the mills and factories for shipment, with the needs of all the rest of the world increasing as supplies previously stored away are eaten up and worn out—with all this, it is not wild dream to picture in the very near future trade balances in our favor of \$200,000,000 a month. These are stupendous figures. But they are cold facts.

When we have anything like that, Europe, compelled to sell us back its American securities to pay for its imperative purchases of our products, can send over our stocks and bonds by the bale, and we shall be able to take them without even turning a hair.

Uncle Sam is to be no idle looker-on at the great conflict. Neutrality may require a stiffer backbone and sterner nerves in our war. And it may require stricter activity, too.

Signs of the Times.

From the Erie Dispatch.

There never was so much to think about and talk about as now. Of course we are doing our Christmas shopping early, some of us are broke already. We have read the President's message, no address, and we think he is all right except where he is in error. We note that the ladies' skirts are no longer to be tight and one line of vision will be cut off and the street car companies will not have to go to the expense of lowering their steps—but they are going to come higher, they mean the skirts, though even that can be interpreted in two ways. And Chicago—well Chicago is going to adopt Eastern time. It's bad enough for Erie and Pittsburg to have two kinds of time. Uncle Sam is going into the shipping will soon be all kinds of a plutocrat. We are beginning to find some good old-fashioned American news on the front page mornings and we don't really see that it is anybody's business if Champ Clark did get that way, he knows what is good for a cold as well as the rest of us. We are finding out the physical valuation of the railroads, even if it does take \$50,000,000 and a hundred years or so to do it. As for Congress this session don't interest us in the least. We want the one that's coming with Uncle Joe and Nick Longworth and our own Mike Lieb Jr. But the most important news is the revelation of Goliatti. Don't know who Goliatti is? Well he is the late premier of Italy and he knows what started the war. Locally we are glad the majestic is going to have a stock company to give speaking plays that we can alternate with the movies and if you don't shovel the snow from your sidewalk, we will cross over on the other side of the street. Oh there's plenty to think about these merry, happy, sneezing days. Keep your window open at night, your heart open during the day and thank your stars you live in the good old United States of America.

One Justification for Law.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

The detestable stamp tax has justified itself after all. It has rendered and will probably continue to render a real service as long as it continues in existence. Because of the stamp tax it is now necessary to disclose the figures involved in all real estate deals. Deeds will no longer read "one dollar and other valuable considerations" in listing the price paid. To undertake to guess how much property has escaped taxation simply because purchase prices have not been listed in deeds would be a perilous undertaking. Of course, it is quite likely that some way will be found to evade the stamp law. But there will be some risks involved in that sort of business.

Taxes are supposed to be assessed on real values. If sales cannot be taken as an indication of values there are few guide posts to steer the assessor on his way. Since the public has a real interest in the subject of taxation the public has a real interest in the prices quoted in deeds. Real estate transactions are not purely private transactions that concern a few people. The public has a right to know what a certain piece of land sells for in order that the public may be certain that the assessor is on the job. When the stamp tax disappears all these who transfer property to list the consideration in the deed. Such a law would put a crimp in the practices of many a tax dodger.

For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The family baby overturned a lamp in the residence of W. H. Bowden, Johnstown, and the resultant fire damaged the premises to the value of \$450.

During the Sunday evening services in Johnstown's Presbyterian church two overcoats were stolen from the vestibule, one a new one that was purchased only last week.

Philipsburg's recent church parade, participated in by the Presbyterian, Methodist, United Brethren, Baptist and Lutheran congregations, numbered about 1,600 persons.

Two students of Dr. Connor's Dickinson Seminary, at Williamsport, saw snow last week for the first time, and regarded it as a wonderful spectacle. They are from Central America.

Mrs. A. T. Parker, the oldest woman in Jersey Shore, and believed to be the oldest inhabitant of Lycoming county, celebrated the 96th anniversary of her birth on Friday of last week.

Robert, the 15 months-old son of Harry Greiner, of Williamsport, managed to find some strychnine pills in the family cupboard the other day and is dead as a consequence of eating them.

The snow and wind storm which passed over Lycoming county last week was the most costly in Nippenese valley in thirty years. Hardly a section of the valley escaped without some damage.

A feminine "fortune teller" was arrested in Johnstown the other evening and taken before the mayor, who left her go until the next day, when she put up \$10 as security. Next day she appeared and was fined \$50 and costs.

Marion Sheppard, a 15-year-old student of the Greensburg High school is under arrest on the charge of attempting to destroy the school building by fire. He admits his guilt and says he did it because he was tired of going to school.

Mrs. Harriet Leeper, the oldest resident, is dead at Burnham at the age of 99 years, after an illness of two weeks. She retained her mental faculties and could read without glasses until the last and is survived by two sons, fifteen grandchildren and thirty great-grandchildren.

James J. Lemon, of Arnold, Westmoreland county, was awarded damages in the sum of \$11,500 in his suit against the People's National Gas company. By an explosion of gas in Lemon's home his wife was fatally injured and himself and two small children badly hurt.

Franklin Koonz, former tax collector of Quemahoning township, Somerset county, who disappeared nearly two years ago, leaving a shortage of about \$6,000 in his accounts, has returned home and is to be given a chance by his bondsmen to refund the amount they paid for him.

They have a man named Frank Bernard in the Westmoreland county jail charged with sending threatening letters to a Greensburg bank, declaring he would blow it up unless he was given \$5,000. He is believed to be the man who threatened to blow up the jail unless given a similar sum.

A man who pleaded guilty to selling liquor without license told Judge Telford, of Indiana county, before whom the transgressor from Earnest appeared, that he had paid various persons monthly sums for which they guaranteed that he would not be prosecuted. Judge Telford is withholding the names for the present.

The grand jury of Cambria county last week recommended the employment of a practical farmer to manage the farm connected with the county poor house, believing that the steward has plenty to do in attending to the inmates. It also recommended the employment of the inmates of the county jail on the farm so far as the law will allow.

The Westmoreland county man who was released from jail the other day to care for his six children, his wife having died of exposure and incessant toil, is now back in jail, having proceeded to get drunk again at the first opportunity. The people who are willing to furnish liquor to such a man should be compelled to support the children.

In response to a supposed telephone message from the residence of J. L. Frick, in Irwin, S. C. Brainer, a traveling diamond salesman started out with about \$10,000 worth of diamonds in his possession. He was held up by two men who carried off the diamonds and his money. No message had been sent from the Frick house. The robbers got away.

A fairly well dressed young man entered a Johnstown's and looted the other night, jauntily announced to a clerk who stood near by that he was the "new assistant manager" of the boarding house on Washington avenue, Scranton, on Sunday. Charged with snatching a case and handed the woman a revolver saying: "Shoot yourself while your happy" when the gun went off accidentally in her hands. The police are investigating.

Lucas Keltz, a prominent citizen of Lioniger, left his home last Monday week, intending to visit a stone quarry operated by him near Johnstown. He carried a large sum of money with him, planning to pay the employees of the quarry. Nothing more was heard from or about him until Monday of the present week, when word reached Lioniger that his dead body was found in Washington.

Former prothonotary and clerk of the courts Ned F. Church, of Millburg, Pa., was accidentally shot to death by Mrs. Margaret McLaughlin at his boarding house on Washington avenue, Scranton, on Sunday. Church was snatching a case and handed the woman a revolver saying: "Shoot yourself while your happy" when the gun went off accidentally in her hands. The police are investigating.

A strange series of accidents occurred while butchering one hog on the farm of James P. Ardoe, in Point township, Northumberland county, last Friday. Miss Bertha Eyster's finger was caught in a sausage grinder and cut off. Hardly had she been taken to a doctor, when William Hower stumbled over the head of the hog and suffered a broken leg. He was taken to the Mary M. Packer hospital at Sunbury. A few minutes later John Byrem got a thumb in the same machine, where the young woman lost a finger, and it, too, was cut off.

Harry Wayne, of Huntingdon, was awarded \$2,000 damages in court on Tuesday because W. H. Nycum, of Salford, had had him arrested on a theft charge several months ago. Wayne was the chief witness in his own behalf and the suit was not contested by the defendant. Wayne, a barber, told how he had found a pocketbook containing \$100, which he had returned to Nycum, the owner. Later when Nycum came to Huntingdon and lost his pocketbook a second time he had Wayne arrested, charging him with stealing the money from his coat while in the Wayne barber shop. Wayne was then taken before Justice of the Peace Isenberg, who discharged him. Wayne then brought suit for damages.

A sheer fall of 36 feet in the new shaft of the Clearfield Bituminous Coal corporation at Juncus resulted in serious injuries to Cyrus Hawkins on Friday. He is suffering with a dislocation of a shoulder, a fracture of the nose, many bruises and abrasions and possible internal injuries. The new shaft, which is 60 feet in depth, is being lined with concrete and the work has proceeded from the ground up about 40 feet. The shaft connects with No. 3 mine at Kossiter. Hawkins had made his way underground to the shaft and started up. When he had climbed about 36 feet he slipped and tumbled to the bottom. He was taken on a trip to Rossiter and despite his injuries he walked to the doctor's office. Just how badly he is injured cannot be determined for several days.