

INK SLINGS.

—It takes just a few rays of sunshine, in these March days, to convert the beautiful snow into unlovely mud.

—Remember to wear your green necktie next Wednesday and it might also be apropos to sing a bit of Tipperary.

—Philadelphians are naturally concerned to know whether it is the easiness or the toughness of their town that has made BILLY SUNDAY decide to stay with them two weeks longer than he had planned.

—Once more your Uncle SAMUEL is headed for Vera Cruz with a menacing looking lot of battle ships. CARRANZA may pay more attention to our polite notes if they are handed him from a mailed fist.

—In three years a Democratic board of County Commissioners have practically wiped out an indebtedness of \$132,000.00 and have put the tax rate down to 4 mills. It pays, doesn't it, to elect business men to manage the county's business.

—These "Twilight Sleeps" and "Sunrise Slumber" methods of bringing the little ones into the world may be all that their advocates claim for them, but, take it from us, there isn't any twilight sleep or sunrise slumber when the output gets the colic.

—Of course if the "Jitney" bus is only run in competition with street cars we needn't look for the "Jitney" in Bellefonte soon. However, we'll manage to get where we want to go so long as EMERICK and RERICK, and THOMPSON, and MACKER and our own legs hold out.

—The Public Ledger announces that Pennsylvania is "swept by a tidal wave of Temperance." It always is up to the time that a new Legislature is to be elected, then the tidal wave subsides long enough for those who have heaved it up to vote the same old way.

—That German peace proposal that is heralded as being on the way to publicity will probably be as one-sided as the toast: "Here's luck to the Dutch let the Irish pick rags." However it may prove the entering wedge by which a stop will be put to the awful devastation abroad.

—We have just heard of a fellow who Took three spoons And an old tin can And made a Ford And the blamed thing ran.

Inasmuch as this genius evidently made no provision for the rattle we doubt whether it really was a Ford that he turned out.

—In his weekly health talk Dr. SAMUEL DEXON, Commissioner of Health, has for his text: "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," and he announces that accumulation is a mania with some people. He was speaking, of course, of the habit many have of allowing all manner of junk and useless things to litter up the home and the back yard. But this is not the only habit of accumulation that people have. Some accumulate on themselves real estate enough to make breeding beds for millions of bacteria.

—North Carolina has enacted a real temperance law. That is, they call it temperance in North Carolina. Under this new and real temperance idea of theirs no one man can have more than two quarts of whiskey and ten gallons of beer in a single month. Based on a "two finger" size, that would give each fellow one drink of whiskey and two and two-thirds bottles of beer a day. And if that is what they call being temperate down there we retract most everything we have said in the past about the excesses of our own "Poo Poohs."

—Up to this time we have not completed our annual diagnosis of the statement of Centre county's business affairs which was made public last week. We have given it some attention and by next week, possibly, we will be able to set before you a condensed statement of what has been accomplished by competent officials in the way of cleaning up the county indebtedness. At this time we can say, however, that there is practically no county debt and that the tax rate is to be reduced to four mills next year. That part of it is too good to keep longer, so we tell you of it in advance.

—Secretary REDFIELD'S investigation of the business depression in Montgomery county reveals the fact that only fifty per cent of the industries there manufacture goods that can possibly be affected by a tariff. Among these it was found that unsound business practices, more than anything else, are responsible for their present depressed condition. It seems to us that if the foreign war has done one thing more emphatic than another it has exploded every tariff argument known of. Practically nothing is being imported into this country and we have more consumers at home than ever. Now why aren't we consuming all our factories can make? Tariff advocates say we can demand a tariff to prohibit foreign manufactures from coming in to supply the demand. The war has built a greater wall of protection around this country than any tariff ever enacted, yet they say our industries languish. The truth of the matter is that we are a producer nation and that we have been overstocked for several years and foreign markets being closed to us we are not able to use all we can make.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 60.

BELLEFORTE, PA. MARCH 12, 1915.

NO. 11.

General Wood's Absurd Scheme.

General LEONARD WOOD, who was raised to the highest rank in the army, during ROOSEVELT'S administration, as a reward for favors to ROOSEVELT in earlier life, proposes the organization of a reserve military force to be known as "the American Legion." This is a new kink in the campaign toward militarism. The scheme contemplates the calling of ROOSEVELT to the colors and investing him with the command of this force of 300,000 men. It would give him a new opportunity to stand in the lime light and flourish the big stick.

This country needs no "reservists" or other military force other than the regular army and navy and it might well curtail in the expenses of those departments of our government. So long as we remain within ourselves and practice the arts of peace and pursue the courses of industry, no foreign power will have occasion or opportunity to make war against us. Under existing conditions the dangers from that source are diminished rather than increased for the fighting nations have all they can attend to taking care of themselves.

When the European war ends, and we sincerely hope that will be soon, the participants in it will be so impoverished financially and exhausted physically, that war will be impossible. Already there are signs of exhaustion in every country involved in the struggle and if hostilities continue another year their resources will be so completely dissipated that they will be objects of charity. What is the use in distressing the American people with burdens to meet such a condition? Rather prepare to offer help when needed.

But ROOSEVELT'S lust for power is insatiate and every sycophant who has profited by his favoritism in the past must strive to promote his ambitions. LEONARD WOOD is an officer in the service of the government and his endorsement of this military enterprise is an offence against discipline which should be sharply rebuked. Let ROOSEVELT remain where he is, in private life. He will be able to do considerable harm there and may be depended upon to do all that is possible. His lust for power is equal to his lust for blood.

—The Republican conference at Delmonico's, New York, the other day, has been likened unto Belshazzar's Feast. The last imitation of that luxurious monarch's culinary extravagance put the late Mr. BLAINE out of business and there are other Burchards in the bushes.

Sowing the Seeds of Anarchy.

There will be no abatement in the calamity campaign unless the Republican managers fail in their purposes. Last week a conference was held in New York in which the chairman of the Republican National Committee participated, for the purpose of outlining a system of "howling" against the UNDERWOOD tariff law and the WILSON administration, and similar meetings are to be held in sections of the country. Discontent will be the gospel which these wealthy "grafters" will preach and misrepresentation the vehicle of spreading it abroad. The measure of the enterprise will depend upon the credulity of the people of the country.

No domestic economic policy could have averted the commercial and industrial disturbance of the European war. The revision of the tariff and currency laws mitigated the evil to some extent because one of these measures lightened the tax burdens of the people and the other prevented a panic of dangerous proportions. But the current of commerce was completely checked for a time and the process of readjustment is incomplete so that industry is stagnant and markets practically closed. This condition can be aggravated or abated accordingly as the captains of industry and the leaders in commerce treat the subject. The Republican leaders have deliberately chosen to knock rather than boost.

It was "a lame and impotent conclusion." The restoration of the tariff schedules adopted by the Congress of 1909 would increase the profits of protected manufacturers precisely in the proportion that it multiplied the sufferings of the consumers, but it would register a triumph of national immorality and consummate industrial outrage. Yet the Republican managers have elected to pursue this course and to that end have arranged for a series of meetings throughout the country to promulgate the doctrines of discontent and revenge. They are planting the seeds of anarchy in order that the people may reap a harvest of death and the conspirators increase their profits.

—There are nearly two billion dollars worth of gold coins in this country but we are not covetous. Yellow backs or long green are good enough for us.

Brumbaugh's Conservation Bill.

Governor BRUMBAUGH'S proposed Conservation bill may be justly characterized as a codification of existing conservation legislation. It has the merit of concentration of power now diffused among several departments into one in which responsibility may be fixed, and that is sufficient to commend it, if there were nothing else in its favor. The departments it would abolish are the Game, Water Supply, Fish and Forestry. These would be merged into the Department of Conservation, under the direction of a Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor. This reform would make for efficiency and economy. The measure was prepared by Attorney General BROWN and reflects credit upon its author.

The Game Commission as at present constituted is a travesty. Its purpose appears to be to annoy hunters and spend money. The Forestry Department is only better because of the personal interest of two members of the Commission and one of them is Mr. J. LINN HARRIS, of this place, while the capable and conscientious Commissioner of Fisheries has been hampered in his work by political exigencies almost from the beginning of his service. The consolidation of these departments under a head with understanding and courage might accomplish wonders for the benefit of the public. The Water Commission is an expensive luxury at present and its useful functions might be better performed by a man trained to the duties and big enough to administer the affairs of the consolidated service.

The only new features in the bill in question might better be provided for in a separate law. That is the improvements in Sandy Lake and Sandy creek in Western Pennsylvania and the draining of Pymatuning swamp in the same section. These items contain the symptoms of jobbery and should not be concealed within the body of a bill general in its character. Much valuable land might be reclaimed by the improvements proposed but the benefit would be to individuals rather than to the public and it is not clear why the State should pay the expenses of the enterprise. We would suggest to Governor BRUMBAUGH that there are signs of serpents in these clauses and it would be well to look sharp.

—There was plenty of music at the adjournment of Congress but curiously enough HOBSON, of Alabama, was quiet on the occasion. And a HOBSON "swan song" would have been singularly appropriate.

Drastic Remedies May be Necessary.

The conditions in Mexico grow more distressing, according to news dispatches. The people in the city of Mexico are actually starving owing to a plan formed by General OBREGON to force enlistments in the CARRANZA army. Offers of relief have been declined in discourteous language and the suffering is intense. President WILSON has been compelled to forego his contemplated trip to attend the formal ceremonies at the Pan-American exposition, scheduled for next week, on account of it, and still these ambitious "greasers" pay no heed. CARRANZA supports OBREGON in his cruelties and there seems to be no remedy.

This Mexican problem has been perplexing from the beginning of President WILSON'S administration. He has handled it in a masterful manner and offered opportunities to the people of that unhappy country to establish just and stable government in half a dozen ways. But unfortunately there is an entire absence of patriotic spirit among those who have the wealth and education to assume leadership and the opportunities have been wasted. CARRANZA has proved himself to be little if any better than his numerous predecessor in office. He simply wants power for himself that he may abuse it.

The time will come and it may be that it is already present when it will become the duty of the United States and the other American Republics to intervene in a more drastic way than has heretofore been adopted. In other words it may be necessary in the near future for the governments of North and South America to send a force into Mexico and hang every usurper with the instincts of the beast who imagines it is his right to torture, rob and oppress the people at his fancy. General OBREGON and CARRANZA would be shining marks for such treatment and the sooner that policy is adopted the better.

—ROOSEVELT would like to be Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy of course, but he is willing to compromise on a less powerful post and offers to take command of the proposed "Legion."

—June 7th will be Pennsylvania Day at the San Diego Exposition.

Significant Organization in University.

The organization of a body composed of a considerable number of the students of the University of Pennsylvania to insist upon the right of free speech, is a new and significant development of student life. SAMUEL GOMPERS, president of the American Federation of Labor, had been invited to address the students in one of the University buildings. The University authorities prohibited the use of the building for the purpose. Thereupon Mr. GOMPERS was invited to address the students on the campus and the use of the campus for the purpose was forbidden by the authorities. Then a neighboring hall "was hired" and last Friday evening Mr. GOMPERS spoke, after which the organization was formed.

Some weeks ago the student body of Princeton University invited BILLY SUNDAY to preach at that institution of learning and the President of the University intervened and prevented the incident. Hitherto such diversions from the regular routine of such institutions have been allowed if not encouraged and a year ago BILLY SUNDAY spoke at the University of Pennsylvania and if our memory serves us right made a profound impression upon the student body. Mr. GOMPERS is the recognized head of an important element in the industrial life of the country. He is said to be an able and eloquent speaker and the morality of his teachings has never been questioned.

Of course the discipline of these great institutions of learning must be maintained. The student body, as a rule, is made up of earnest and capable young men who may be trusted to discriminate between right and wrong and there can be little reason for forbidding them to hear leaders of thought in the discussion of public questions, economic or sociological, so long as they refrain from immoral or dangerous doctrines. We may not all agree with Mr. GOMPERS in the things he talks about but young men of University age ought to enjoy the privilege of determining that for themselves after a full hearing. Besides the freedom of speech is a cherished asset in this country.

An effort is to be made to pass a bill at the present session of the Legislature providing for a convention to revise the Constitution of Pennsylvania. The present constitution was adopted in 1874, and in the forty years since then section after section of the Constitution has been amended until the original document is hardly recognizable. On the other hand are the advocates for a revision really sincere in their belief that the Constitution needs revising, or are their efforts being put forth mainly to furnish fat appointments for favored gangsters? This latter might be the "snake in the grass" of the entire movement. But if the time ever comes when the Constitution is revised one of the first clauses should make it a penitentiary offense for Members of the Legislature to introduce and insist upon the passage of the fool bills that clog the calendar of ever Legislative session.

The Bellefonte police deserve credit for their prompt rounding up of the three young men who robbed the Milesburg Store company on Saturday night. Within seventy-two hours after the deed was committed the men were behind bars and one of them had confessed to the crime. While the amount stolen was only of nominal value the degree of crime was just as great and had the men gone undetected it would only have been a question of time until they would have pulled off a job of greater magnitude. Chief of police HARRY DUKEMAN as well as policeman HARRY DUNLAP deserve commendation for their ability and decisive action in handling such cases. They not only seem to smell crime but have the bloodhound scent for criminals and because of that fact Bellefonte and surrounding community are kept particularly free of wrong-doers.

In his appeal to A. MITCHELL PALMER for help in his local option campaign in the Legislature, Governor BRUMBAUGH says the Pennsylvania Democratic platform of last year declared for that policy. As a matter of fact there was no Pennsylvania Democratic platform last year and Democratic candidates for the General Assembly ran on individual pledges with respect to local option and all other issues.

—Wall street has sent out a tip that the war in Europe will soon be over but it is unwise to place confidence in Wall street tips. Many a lamb has been sheared by listening to that song.

—Next Wednesday will be St. Patrick's day.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Wheat Outlook.

From the Philadelphia Record.

One of the momentous consequences of victory by the allies in their efforts to force the Dardanelles and thus bring Russia into free and uninterrupted access to the Mediterranean will be the release of the vast stores of wheat, estimated as high as 300,000,000 bushels, which have been locked in that country through the Turkish control of the straits leading from the Black Sea. The probability that this huge amount of foodstuff will begin to move to its material markets in a few weeks gives a keen interest to the wheat situation in our own country and the probabilities of the coming year. It is not customary for the government to issue its report on winter wheat until after April 1st, but from private sources of information it is claimed that the outlook is excellent. An increased acreage has been sown, and the winter as a whole has been favorable.

It is calculated, therefore, that with average conditions of winter and yield the prospects are good for a wheat crop, both winter and spring, of at least 900,000,000 bushels. This would compare with the record crop produced last year of 891,017,000 bushels, which has been abundant for this country and allowed us to export great quantities abroad for the benefit of the nations at war. There are still in farmers' hands holdings of the 1914 crop estimated at from 120,000,000 to 170,000,000 bushels.

If we are blessed with a crop as great as last year, and to this are added Russia's accumulations from 1914 and a normal crop planted this year, not to speak of the supplies from Rumania, India, Argentina and other countries, it can be seen that the outlook is bright for a supply of wheat ample not only for our own needs, but for those of Europe as well. Possibly the farmer may not receive as much for his yield as last year, but the consumer will benefit accordingly. In this year of high prices, it must be accounted a gain if bread is held down to a reasonable figure.

Now for Business.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

We usually think that the adjournment of Congress is a good thing for business on the theory that congressional legislation is disturbing to it, while it is being agitated, and that when Congress adjourns business men can take their bearings and sail ahead in the direction they give them. Doubtless there is something in the idea, and we will now learn speedily whether there is anything undisturbing in it. Now that Congress has adjourned and the business movement is in full swing, it is possible; and we have even come to think that it is probable, since it has been so long depressed, and nobody knows just why it should be, and everybody believes that it will not long so continue. Now that Congress has adjourned there is no reason in uncertainty as to the laws to charge business depression upon. And there seems to be a great deal less uncertainty as to the war issue to keep business guessing. There is, in truth, nothing discernible in the business situation in the early future that does not indicate its prosperous movement; and if it does not move off at a cheerful gait it will only be because of unforeseen influences, all the perceptible ones being of cheerful import; so that we feel sure that when Congress reconvenes in December it will be in the midst of a world where to get a good gait on; which must be pretty well favored in the countries that have not been crippled by the war, and that will be ready to exploit its business in full measure. We will certainly be established in better condition than ever to lay claim to a fair share of the business of the world, which we may feel assured will come our way readily.

Legislature Not Overworked.

From the Williamsport Sun.

Some mathematician with a penchant for accurate figures, has figured out that in the two months covered by the present legislative session, actual sessions of either body have not totaled thirty hours in all. In the sixty legislative days covered between January 5th and the present time, the Senate has met seventeen times, aggregating sessions of twenty-one hours in length, and the House on twenty-one occasions having aggregated twenty-nine whole hours in its sessions. The reply, of course, is that the actual work is being done in committees, but anyhow, the usual legislative penchant for killing time cannot be concealed.

Also Russia is Bottled Up.

From the Des Moines Capital.

In Russia wheat is selling at 35 cents a bushel. In America it is selling at \$1.50. Russia is at war. America is at peace. Here is a fine opportunity for those philosophers who know all about economics, the laws of trade, the doctrine of supply and demand, the logic of transportation rates, etc., etc. There is something wrong somewhere, but the satisfactory diagnosis is not easily obtained.

Post-Operative Feeding.

From the Pottsville (Pa.) Republican.

No food of any kind will be permitted to be taken in the Shamokin hospital for the patients because one woman took her husband, who had just had a delicate operation performed on him, four hard-boiled eggs and five frank-furter sandwiches, which he ate during the absence of the nurses, and became violently ill.

—They are preparing to give BILLY SUNDAY a big donation in Philadelphia at the close of his campaign against Satan and he deserves all he will get. He went up against a hard proposition.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—"At least 1,000 people in Johnstown are addicted to the use of morphine or cocaine in one form or other," is the declaration of a Johnstown physician.

—Oscrola has had seventeen cases of scarlet fever since the outbreak of the epidemic, most of them a light form of the disease. No deaths have occurred.

—The union painters, paper hangers and decorators of Johnstown are asking that they be paid the same wages eight hours that they now receive for nine hours' work.

—A young Italian answering to the name of Joe Cosamento, alias Joe Love, has been arrested at Gallitzin on suspicion of having murdered John Harley, near Philipsburg, on the 24th ult.

—Charles Calvin Stringfellow, a twenty-one-year-old resident of Clinton county, residing near Mill Hall, has been arrested charged with having sent Black hand letters to a citizen of Lock Haven.

—Judge Rice, of the Superior court, has written the lawyers of Huntingdon county thanking them for their kind words but reiterating his determination to retire at the end of his present term.

—Some citizens of Vandergrift, Westmoreland county, are trying to have Councilman Sheplar removed because the firm of which he is a member sold the borough eight yards of toweling at a total cost of 64 cents.

—The handsome edifice which the members of the Grove Avenue Methodist Episcopal church, Moxham, Johnstown, recently enlarged at a cost of \$30,000 was rededicated last Sunday by Bishop John W. Hamilton, of Boston.

—The large barn of L. L. Shank, in Cherry Hill township, Indiana county, was burned to the ground a few mornings ago and cattle, chickens, grain, farming implements and other articles destroyed. Several head of horses were rescued.

—The new Cunard mine near Morrisdale has had a marked effect in stimulating building operations all through that neighborhood. New dwellings and business places have been springing up on every hand, and others are in course of erection or projected.

—By the will of the late Mrs. Alice Mary Williams, widow of a former Mayor of Williamsport, the Williamsport hospital is awarded \$10,000, the home sold for friendliness was given \$5,000, which is to be paid on the death of a relative, while the boys' industrial home gets \$3,000.

—George Stanley, aged four years, a Williamsport lad, saved his younger brother from burning to death the other day when the latter stuck a celluloid ruler in the fire. The blaze set the child on fire but George threw him to the floor and extinguished the flames by smothering them with a rug.

—The farmers of Lower Lancaster county, headed by D. F. Magee, Esq., who is a large owner of farm lands in the lower end of the county, will meet today at Fairmount, to begin war on what the farmers term the "Milk Trust," which now controls the purchase of milk in lower Lancaster county.

—DuBois is the home of one of the meanest men in the State. He has rigged up an electrical contrivance which turns on a light in his chicken coop at an early hour each morning. When the hens see the light they get off their roosts and begin laying eggs. The fellow says his egg crop is now double what it used to be.

—While at work on the farm of Jesse Horner, near Boswell, Somerset county, cutting down trees, Frank Deitz was struck on the top of the head by a heavy limb. His skull was crushed and he died about three hours later, not having regained consciousness. Deitz was aged 41 years and is survived by his wife and two children.

—Two big gas sushers have been struck in the Elk county gas field within the last ten days and excitement is again at a high pitch. The wells, drilled by the Talmage Natural Gas company, of Johnstown, and the Ridgway Light and Heat company, of Ridgway, registered 4,500,000 feet of gas. The wells were struck at a depth of about 2,500 feet.

—Philip Mushino, aged 70, employed on the Williamsport county farm of Miss Rosa Deitz, arose about 5 o'clock the other morning. He believed, kindled a fire in the kitchen range and sat down to read. When Miss Deitz entered the kitchen about an hour later she found Mushino lying on the floor, dead, the book on the floor and his spectacles in place.

—James Ferlo, residing near Indiana, called his wife out of the house the other evening, asking her to bring his coat to him. He took the garment and suddenly slashed the woman with a razor, inflicting a ghastly and probably fatal wound in her throat. Then he disappeared. Mrs. Ferlo says they had not quarreled and she does not know why he did it.

—Ten years ago Mrs. Arthur Heckert, of Williamsport, while wiping dust from around the edges of her carpet ran a broken sewing machine needle into the palm of her right hand. Last Saturday the needle was removed from her left hand. It had traveled from the right palm up through the arm, across her body and down her left arm, emerging from her left hand. It would be hard to find a similar case.

—Wounded in the war of the Rebellion, fifty years ago, Eliert Ramser, a Springfield township, Huntingdon county farmer, has just had his right leg amputated. During an engagement of the war, Ramser was struck in the right leg by a shell. An army physician dressed the wound, deciding amputation unnecessary. A few days ago, the wound of fifty years became infected in some way and gangrene developed. The operation followed.

—John Wolf, a rural mail carrier of Johnstown, suffering from toothache, strapped an electric light globe in a towel and took the towel and globe into bed with him. The ache stopped and Wolf went to sleep. About one o'clock the mail carrier dreamed there was a fire and that he was fighting his way through smoke and flame. He awoke. The flames were in bed with him. The bulb had ignited the bed clothing. Wolf's home was damaged.

—Miss Lillian Simmons, of Boreville, Lancaster county, was badly crippled by having her right hand cut off by a circular saw. The girl lived with the family of Willis Herr, in Manor township. She was assisting to saw wood and for the purpose a circular saw was being used. The girl was feeding the saw when she had her hand caught. The hand was cut completely off, while there was a deep cut in the shoulder and another in the chest.

—Picking up what she thought was a glass of water in the darkness at her home in Point township, Northumberland county, Sunday, Miss Alice Rhoads, 18 years old, got hold of a glass containing tacks and pins, which stood close to where she thought the water was, and swallowed a mouthful of them. She was rushed to a hospital, where an effort is being made to relieve her of them without an operation. Doctors say her recovery is in doubt.

—Walter McClunkin, assistant cashier in the Clearfield National bank, took his own life at the Dimeling hotel by shooting himself through the head some time during Monday night. He was found in bed, covered, with the revolver in his right hand. Nothing is known of the circumstances that led to the rash act, other than that he had been in poor health during the past year, and only the evening before complained of severe pains in his head. His financial matters were found to be in good shape. Deceased was aged about 60 years.