

INK SLINGS.

—Yes, we are of the opinion that spring has arrived for keeps.

—Throughout the world only one person in a hundred lives to the age of sixty-five years.

—Take the brandy and soda from him and about all the English left in the English will be gone.

—BIGELOW has gone. FOSTER has gone, but the thing the highway department most needs to rid itself of is BIGELOWISM.

—The drouth is becoming serious in the county. The grain and the grass both need warm rains and some farmers are hauling water.

—Centre county farmers were sowing clover seed Tuesday morning, but the expected rain that started many of them at it, failed to materialize.

—Don't forget that we are in need of money. Don't forget that the poor ye have always with you and we're them with the word very hanging on in front.

—The Hon. G. F. PINCHOT doesn't seem to have been any more acceptable to the Germans than he was to Pennsylvanians. G. F. is evidently looked upon as a rank outsider everywhere.

—State College and Pleasant Gap are sights for the sore-eyed calamity howler. Both are booming so loud that we can almost imagine them batteries of forty-two centimeter guns charged with money.

—LARRY EYRE probably knew that there would be a vacancy on the bench of his county in the near future when he offered his services to Governor BRUMBAUGH as Generalissimo of the local option army.

—Now it appears that about all JESS WILLARD got for lickin' JACK JOHNSON was the glory. He was to have had twenty-five per cent. of the net receipts, after JOHNSON got his thirty thousand, but like the little boy's apple that had no core for the other boy, there was no net.

—Dr. DIXON's weekly health talk deals with headaches and he finds a thousand and one causes for them. But among them all he never even refers to that popular and widely known variety that BILLY BAXTER once told us was always a forerunner of a visit from old Col. R. E. MORSE.

—Fanatical local optionists are said to be demanding that Fish Commissioner BULLER turn his attention to propagating trout that will not bite at the bait of a fisherman who has a bottle in his pocket. Shades of the days when a little "snake bite" was as essential as an angle worm rise up to encourage us if we have to resort to grape juice to "change our luck."

—The negro population in the United States increased at the rate of 11.2 per cent. during the last decade, while the whites increased at the rate of 22.3 per cent. The negroes made very rapid strides in percentage of school attendance, home ownership, church membership and literacy. All of which are very creditable achievements for the black people.

—What we need more than anything else right now is money. In fact we need it so badly that we unblushingly make this public appeal to our readers to send us some. Won't those of you who are in arrears organize a regular April shower for the benefit of the WATCHMAN. If it doesn't suit to send all you owe send what you can and send it quick.

—Of course we were all glad to see him licked, but the spirit of the true sportsman was stirred in admiration of the way JACK JOHNSON went to defeat. Many a white champion has seen his title wrested from him with far less grace and with all the other faults that the negro may be charged with he fought his last championship fight honorably, displayed amazing courage and accepted his defeat in a mighty manly manner. Really, L'il ARTHUR was more of a hero in defeat than he was in victory.

—Certainly the WATCHMAN's correspondent at Rebersburg is some alliterative. In speaking of a very well known gentleman of that community who is credited with having some horticultural knowledge our very worthy purveyor of the local gossip says: "He knows more about fruit trees than all the pedigreed, pomological peregrinators in the world." There's some class to "pedigreed, pomological peregrinators" and we fancy that the WATCHMAN has uncovered a phrase coiner who will be well worth watching.

—If country newspapers published all the stuff that the various Allied this and Allied that are requesting them to publish nowadays they would have no room for local news whatever. Then every Department of the State government sends us a weekly flood of information for citizens that is really an exploitation of the head of the respective department. The State seems to want everything for nothing and is on record as having told us that it was wrong to give the railroads publicity in exchange for transportation. Verily, after while, the editor will edit no longer.

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Dope for Pinheads.

The pinheads who have no ideas of their own, nor courage to stand long behind those they have absorbed, are invariably noisiest about things they are utterly unable to comprehend.

Really it is a matter scarcely worth noticing, but since the Johnstown Democrat has evidently found it timely to pass up a little information to this class of claqueurs we take pleasure in republishing our esteemed contemporary's comment on their criticisms.

The Democrat is criticised because it does not agree with President WILSON and Secretary BRYAN on the subject of prohibition and its party faith is questioned on this score.

It seems to us that anyone with the brains of a fishing worm should see that if there is to be no honest criticism of the President we would have an absolute monarchy instead of a republican form of government.

—The New Jersey Public Service Commission forbids the increase of fare to commuters. Those fellows haven't been trained. The Pennsylvania Public Service Commission would eat off the cowcatcher of a limited train in motion if the president of the Pennsylvania railroad required such a hazardous service at their hands.

A Fight that Would be Enjoyed.

Mr. JOSEPH R. GRUNDY, president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' association, and Republican boss in Bucks county is "lectioneerin' fer a lickin'".

Mr. GRUNDY is one of those "scurvy politicians" who believe that political platforms are made to deceive the people. He was a member of the Republican State committee that made the platform upon which BRUMBAUGH was elected and pledged the party to effective child labor legislation.

Still we hope the nagging of this machine politician will provoke BRUMBAUGH to a retort in kind. It would be a pleasant thing for the public to contemplate GRUNDY after a scrimmage with BRUMBAUGH. He might retain his self-conceit but even that would be badly battered and it is certain that his power to fool the people would be ended forever.

Our Weekly Summary of Legislative Activities.

Feeling that the people of Centre county have a personal interest in what is being done by the Legislators at Harrisburg and that laws that may affect the future of every individual more directly than ever before are under consideration now and may be written into the statutes of the Commonwealth, the WATCHMAN has arranged to publish a weekly summary of what has been done at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, PA., April 7, 1915.

Public interest has, of course, centered on the local option question, this week, and little else has been talked about in the corridors of the capitol. The Governor's methods have been denounced and commended with equal vigor and enthusiasm but the Governor has had "the right of way" thus far.

During the past week everything has been leading up to the Governor's local option demonstration, which was held yesterday. Whether it was a success or not depends upon the point of view. The local option committee estimated that there would be 70,000 or 80,000 participants.

But the fight is not over. The committee will report the bill with a favorable recommendation and the action will be transferred from the committee room to the floor of the House. And it won't be a sham battle at that.

The Governor narrowly escaped a severe bump yesterday and was saved by Senator McNICHOL, of Philadelphia. The child labor bill was under consideration on second reading.

Of course this doesn't mean that the bill will become a law in the exact form that the Governor has given it. A month ago it was impossible to find a Legislature opposed to the bill.

Representative HARGOOD, of McKean county, created a sensation in the House on Monday evening when he attacked the Governor for vetoing the bill appropriating funds to pay certain country newspapers for advertising the constitutional amendments during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

The bill for the repeal of the Full Crew law was reported out of the Committee of the House yesterday with a favorable recommendation but the representatives of the railroad trainmen who are here looking after their interests express confidence in the defeat of it in the House.

The legislative mill has been grinding some during the last two weeks and the grist is beginning to show. Thus far during the session seventy-eight bills have passed both Houses and gone to the Governor.

But whisper! There is going to be a break. The signs are everywhere. It is in the atmosphere and is felt in committee rooms and on the floors of the legislative chambers. The Governor meant to smash the machine in the hope that the action would advance him in his ambition for the Presidency.

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"Impregnable."

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

The war news suggests the "calm before the storm." It deals mainly with fortresses. Petrograd announces that the Germans had raised the siege of Ossowetz. This is the first news that that Russian stronghold in northern Poland had been besieged, although there have been frequent reports of the persistent attack upon it from the north.

The French are bragging about impregnable Verdun. The one thing in sight that really appears to be impregnable is the serenity of Mexico.

How Some Railroad Income is Used.

From the Chicago Public.

That the railroads worked against a change in railway mail legislation during the recent session of Congress is the charge made by Postmaster General Burleson. Mr. Burleson undoubtedly has good authority for the statement.

A Chastened Bull Moose.

From the Springfield Republican.

Republicans who bore the heat and burden of saving the Republican party from the Progressive assault in 1912 have been aware for some time that Colonel Roosevelt is in chastened mood and disposed to come back to the old fold.

The Figures Speak.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Those six iron and steel companies in the Pittsburgh district that are planning to expend \$10,000,000 in the enlargement and improvement of their plants must have greater faith in the future of their industry under a Democratic tariff than Senator Penrose has.

High Prices in Mexico.

From the Mexican Herald.

Since the shortage of flour has been so acute in the city there has been a run on every kind of crackers, both of local and imported brands. Soda crackers are to be found in very few stores today, and sell at \$10 for a square tin box.

Not Worth a Post-Mortem.

From the Springfield Republican.

Senator Poindexter, of Washington, is the only Progressive in the United States Senate, and even he admits that he is contemplating a candidacy for re-election as a regular Republican.

Should Try Big Stick Diplomacy.

From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Secretary Bryan should begin feeding Carranza stronger medicine. The whistler head of the Carranzistas is now complaining that too much of his time is occupied in American diplomatic correspondence.

No Extra Session in His'n.

From the New York Tribune.

Senator Hoke Smith's embargo outbreak ought to increase President Wilson's satisfaction that he no longer has Congress on his hands.

—If King GEORGE is really in earnest in the matter he will ask Secretary of State BRYAN to send him one of those total abstinence pledges to sign.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The legality of the Johnstown police ordinance is to be tested in the courts in the near future. A rule has been returned and answers filed.

—DuBois had two bad fires within an hour on Saturday night. A large barn was completely destroyed with all the contents and a home valued at \$1,000 was burned to the ground.

—Frank Logan, of Shepherdstown, Pa., rolled into a lime kiln near Lemoine Saturday night and was burned to death. Logan had been visiting friends and is supposed to have lain down for a nap.

—Bertha Anderson, aged 19, a resident of Grampian, Clearfield county, committed suicide by drinking a quantity of lye. She was mentally unsound and made an effort to kill herself some time ago by swallowing poison.

—John Bower, a farmer near Scottdale, Westmoreland county, is said to be the owner of a chicken which has elongated ears—ears which stick up from the side of the fowl's head, like the cropped or pointed ears of a dog.

—An aged married couple, both of whom are foreigners, have been making their home at a coke oven plant in Westmoreland county for some days. They sleep in an empty coke oven at night and seem to be perfectly happy.

—In making rules for the government of the new high school in Lock Haven the directors have decided that the pupils may have one dance each school month under direction of the principal. The dancing must cease at 11 o'clock.

—Professor W. G. Thom, principal of a large business college in DuBois, is dead after an illness of less than a week, at the age of 45. An automobile accident in which he was injured last summer, is believed to have caused his death.

—Daugherty Bros. drug store at Indiana, into which two Pennsylvania railroad engines and an auto truck had bumped, was the scene of a few evenings ago of an attempted burglary. Late passersby gave chase, but the man proved too much of a sprinter to be caught.

—The country home of Mrs. David Gingery, located near Woodland, was recently destroyed by an incendiary fire, with all its contents. The large barn was also consumed, with last year's crops. The house was unoccupied during the winter, the family being in Pittsburgh.

—A twelve year-old son of W. H. Weaver, of Lock Haven, built a bonfire in the yard at his home recently and threw a cartridge into it. It exploded and hit him in the face, causing a laceration which required six stitches to close. This lad will probably not fool with cartridges again.

—The school directors of Falls Creek, Clearfield county, have dismissed Miss Orvetta Pifer, one of the teachers of the schools, because she fed soap to several of her pupils by way of punishment. Perhaps she merely washed their mouths, as some of the old-fashioned mothers used to do.

—A \$74,000 verdict against the Pennsylvania railroad, won by the Puritan, Coal Co., of Cambria county, for discrimination in supplying cars, was affirmed by the United States supreme court sitting at Washington Monday. The railroad contended complaints had been made to the interstate commerce commission.

—Five people who went over a bank at the Loyalsock creek bridge near Montoursville, were spilled from their auto into the icy waters and escaped without fatal injuries, cannot understand how it happened thus. The auto turned turtle and pinned them under for a time. It has no other damage but a broken wind shield.

—The Consolidated Coal company, reported to have received a large order for coal from the Italian government recently, is opening a new mine at the Shaw Mines settlement in Somerset county, which will tap one of the richest deposits of coal to be found in the State. A number of houses will be erected in that vicinity in the near future.

—While Miss Blanche Wilson, aged 22, was cleaning and pressing a dress Monday, fumes from the gasoline were ignited by a gas jet, causing an explosion which blew the windows out of the house and set fire to her clothing. Her father, B. F. Wilson, rushed up from the cellar and in trying to save her was badly injured. Miss Wilson died the same night.

—Judge Bell, of Clearfield county, has decided, in accordance with a mandate of the supreme court in a similar case, that Dr. Kalbus cannot be made pay the costs in a recent case against an alleged deer killer, said costs having been imposed on him by the jury. But the court estimates that Clearfield county may put up a defense and the chances are that the costs, amounting to about \$800, will never be paid.

—The house of Rev. J. V. Kudirka, pastor of Lithuanian church at Kingston, was dynamited shortly after 9 o'clock Monday night. The charge tore away the front of the building, but failed to injure the priest, who sat in his study but ten feet away. Seven letters demanding money have been received by the priest during the past month, but he has ignored them. The state constabulary are searching for the dynamiters.

—M. Huff was held for court by a local justice at Lewisport on Tuesday to answer a charge of embezzlement brought by the Prudential insurance company. Huff was the company agent at Reedsville and is charged with absconding with \$500, one year ago. He was later located near Jacksonville, Fla., where he had invested in an orange grove. Jesse Post of Huntingdon, returned the prisoner, the insurance company paying all travelling expenses.

—The Pennsylvania Railroad company has sold to Blair Seeds and Bernard Gross of Creson about 30 acres of land that was formerly a portion of its Mountain house property there, the consideration being in the neighborhood of \$12,000. Years ago this was one of the favorite recreation spots in the Allegheny mountains, but the Pennsylvania Railroad company discontinued the hotel after the opening of the Bedford Springs resort. It is the intention of the new owners to cut the plot into building lots and to make an effort to have the entire section annexed to Creson borough.

—With the arrest of Clyde Meese, of Kane, by Game Warden Hilton, eleven men have been apprehended for alleged complicity in bounty swindling. Two prisoners were released on \$500 bail. It is expected that ten more arrests will be made. The prisoners, it is alleged, engaged in a combine to swindle McKean, Warren, Jefferson and Forest counties out of bounties for pelts by procuring them from outside the State. The loss to the counties through the machinations of the combine is estimated at \$10,000 or about 80 per cent. of the amount paid out by the county commissioners in bounties in the past year. It is alleged the pelts were purchased outside Pennsylvania and sold for the bounty to commissioners. Game Warden Hilton and Kelly uncovered the alleged combine.

—Charles Norwell, a miner at Oneida, on Monday received \$100 in new United States Treasury notes in return for currency of that amount almost entirely destroyed in a bonfire at Shepton while his boarding mistress, Mrs. Mary Dade, was burning rubbish after cleaning house. Norwell had the money tied up in a newspaper in his room, where it lay on a chair. Mrs. Dade swept out the little package with some other things and deposited them on a fire in the yard, where the bills were so badly burned before the discovery was made that only the numbers were partly distinguishable. Norwell took the charred bills to the office of United States Commissioner Willard Hill who sent them to Washington, where the charred paper was redeemed at its full value.