

INK SLINGS.

The Centre county fair will be held the first week in September.

There are probably worse things than war, but we are of the opinion that the masses of our people don't want either.

Like EZRA KENDALL, about all the men and women in the Diamond could talk about, was how they missed the babies.

The hay that is being harvested in Centre county this season is not only unusually short but most of it has been more or less damaged by rain.

The Kaiser has set the ending of the war to be in October. It is at least hopeful that he has decided that he must either win or lose by that time.

Just to prove to yourself that a thing of beauty is not always a joy forever look at The Island and recall its verdant beauty before the carnival occupied it.

There was too much to see during Old Home week. In fact so much that it was next to impossible to see the Old Homers for whom all the fuss was made.

The Old Home week horse is dead. It was a splendid animal for seven days and performed its work well. Keep this in mind if you are asked to help pay for it.

Any Old Home week did Bellefonte one good turn. It brought babies into numerous homes that had never had them before. We mean the dolls, of course.

Finally HARRY THAW has been declared sane. It will be interesting to watch the treatment the law will mete out to a sane man who enacted a crazy man's crime.

About the only comfort the farmer can get out of this wet harvest weather is that it will probably produce a second hay crop to make up part of the shortage of the first.

We need the little quiet that has fallen on the town this week, for next week the Chautauqua begins and there will be an aesthetic commotion, if such a thing is possible.

A pair of New Jersey robins are reported as having found a \$2 bill and woven it into the nest they built. The report is incomplete as to who robbed the robins' nest.

The wheat crop of Pennsylvania will be 16.2 bushels this year as against 18.6 per acre last year. The hard winter, the unpropitious spring and the fly have been the causes of the decrease.

The biggest surprise of Old Home week was the industrial parade. Of course everyone expected something creditable, but few imagined that it could be made so wonderfully so.

With HARRY THAW free the alienists of the country and the builders of hypothetical questions will have little, indeed, to do. And, for many of them, the goose that has been laying the golden eggs for the past nine years will be killed.

The latest fad in men's wear is to have the necktie match the hair. FRANK SMITH and some of the rest of us will probably be out of fashion until we can find a microscope sufficiently powerful to discover what is the color of the fuzz we have left.

With thousands of grown folks and children using our streets as if they were side-walks last week it was little short of a miracle that not a single accident was reported. The traffic guard certainly deserves the highest commendation for the thoroughness and courtesy with which it handled the unusual situation.

A Philadelphia newspaper conducted a canvass to ascertain whom Pennsylvanians regard as the greatest living Pennsylvanian. It was not a surprise, at all, that JOHN WANAMAKER should have been the overwhelming choice, but it was a great surprise to see among those named for the honor many men scarcely known outside their local communities.

In calling an advisory board of civilian inventors to discuss ways and means of making our defensive armament more impregnable Secretary DANIELS, of the Navy, has taken a wise step. With THOMAS A. EDISON at the head of such a body surely we should be reassured with the thought that the world's greatest electrical genius must surely be able to work out some means of combating the work of the submarine, especially.

The fact that the police had so little to do in Bellefonte last week is the most positive answer that can be given to those pessimists who think this part of the world is not getting better. With only eleven arrests for all causes, one fight and not a single pocket picked Bellefonte went through a seven day celebration in which fully fifty thousand people participated at one time or another. This couldn't possibly have happened five years ago and at the time of our centennial celebration a horse was nearly worn out hauling the drunks, alone, to the lockup, while Gen. NELSON A. MILES' address upon that occasion was nearly broken up by meles in the Diamond. Times are not changing; just the people. Education and christianity are working the problem out, slowly but surely and the narrow minded bigot is the only one who can't see it.

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Efficiency of the National Guard.

Citizens of Pennsylvania have abundant reasons for feeling pride in the efficiency of our National Guard, a considerable part of which is now encamped at Mount Gretna. The reports of experts in military affairs are uniformly flattering and fully justify the belief that in an emergency the entire body of State troops would be fit for service in the field. It is to be regretted that the guardsmen have lost to a considerable extent their local identity but the greater efficiency attained by the division of authority with the National force is recompense to some extent at least. The aim of both State and Federal officials is to create an effective defensive force.

But we have no sympathy with the spirit of militarism expressed by some of the officers in Camp JOHN W. SHALL. For example the other day Major JAMES KEMPER, one of the Federal instructors of the guard, in an interview for publication permitted himself to indulge in a comparison of our force with that of the German empire and sharply protested against maintaining the guard on a peace rather than a war basis. He justified this absurdity by stating that "Germany has tonnage to land 4,000,000 seasoned soldiers in this country." HOBSON could hardly have gone further in the direction of jingoism and nobody could have been more preposterous. Yet such talk from such sources mislead the minds of men in the ranks of the National Guard and plant the seeds of militarism.

The strength of Germany's naval equipment was brought to Major KEMPER'S mind by a discussion of the Kaiser's note with respect to submarine operations. He meant, therefore, if he meant anything, a present power and yet the German navy with the exception of submarines and aircraft is so completely bottled up that one of our local fire companies with a good supply of hose could prevent the landing of any troops which the German empire might send overseas. That being true the silly talk to which we refer is worthless though mischievous. Major KEMPER would, therefore, better restrict his activities to teaching our troops the science of war rather than trying to educate them in civic affairs.

The State Fish Commission will hold a meeting in Bellefonte next Monday, July 19th, and after inspecting the Bellefonte fish hatchery will award the contract for the erection of a new fire-proof hatchery house at the hatchery. This is an improvement that is badly needed and when completed will put the Bellefonte hatchery in the front rank of all the hatcheries in the State.

Germany's Last Note.

Germany's answer to the last note of President WILSON upon the subject of submarine atrocities on the high seas indicates that the Kaiser is simply sparing for time. He probably believes that so long as he evades the real issue the people of this country, being anxious for peace, will be satisfied with controversy. Therefore he neither affirms nor denies the accusations against his government but promises liberally in friendship and accuses profigately against his enemies. Meantime the atrocities, somewhat modified in form, continue. The destruction of life is not as great as before the protest, but it is intolerable and the destruction of property is only limited by opportunity.

The Kaiser is making a grave mistake in thus treating the subject. In common with most of his countrymen he believes that Germany enjoys a monopoly of culture and at least a controlling interest in the supply of intelligence in the world. Therefore he insults the American people by his evasive answers to plain propositions and delaying the reforms demanded in the name of common humanity. The murder of innocents is abhorrent and the people of the United States demand that so far as people of this country are concerned, it must stop. Emperor WILLIAM must answer directly and unequivocally and he may as well do so at one time as another. Pettyfogging will no longer serve the purpose.

It is not necessary for Emperor WILLIAM'S Secretary of State to tell us that citizens will not be killed by submarine torpedoes if they remain at home and we need no advice from him as to what sort of vehicle to adopt in the event that we travel abroad. What we do want of him is an assurance that no American citizens will be murdered by submarine torpedoes while traveling, whatever the nationality of the ship upon which they are traveling if it be a passenger ship. This information can be given without evasion and unless it is given we are not too peaceful to demand satisfaction. The time for controversy is past. The time for fair dealing has arrived.

Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

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. It is not the purpose to go into detail of the various Acts proposed and furnish you with a burdensome account of them. Merely to set them, and whatever else is deemed of interest to the people of this community, before you in a general, unbiased statement that will keep you informed of the progress that is being made. The contributor of this Summary is one of the most capable and best informed of Harrisburg's newspaper men and the WATCHMAN has been very fortunate in enlisting his service for this work.—ED.

HARRISBURG, PA., July 14th, 1915.

The man upon whom the eyes of official Harrisburg are focused at this blessed moment is JOHN PRICE JACKSON, Commissioner of Labor and Industry. JOHN PRICE J. has a lot of patronage concealed on his person and every official on the Hill and most of the people of the town are interested. Only those who have lived a considerable time at a seat of government know the attractions of office or the interest which office holders feel in vacancies and prospective appointments. A close observer would imagine that every office holder wants every office.

You Centre county folk know JOHN PRICE JACKSON. A good man and efficient officer, he is not what you would call profligate with his confidences. He names a factory inspector now and then but every appointment is a surprise. Not that he isn't a party man, for he is. Not that he is against the machine, for he is not. But as a matter of fact he is an important cog in the BRUMBAUGH machine and every appointment he makes contributes to the strength and efficiency of that machine. Before another year has come and gone it will be discovered that BOIES PENROSE is a party piker and the BRUMBAUGH machine will be operating a steam roller of such power and potency as even QUAY never dreamed of.

And the BRUMBAUGH colossal juggernaut will be operated in the name of righteousness. Captain KIDD, the famous or infamous pirate and some of the ancient buccaners understood the value of a reputation for benevolence and studiously spread abroad the impression that whatever they took from the rich was distributed among the poor. But none of them worked hypocrisy as hard and effectively as the modern reform politicians. They invariably do the "lively of heaven" when they have a particularly selfish and sordid job to put over and by using a pulpit on Sunday and a "poisoned pen" during the week deceive the average citizen into the belief that they are fountains of righteousness.

Governor BRUMBAUGH preached last Sunday from the pulpit of a Brethren church near Meyersdale, Somerset county. Of course there was neither intrigue nor politics in this incident, for the Governor is an ordained minister in that Christian denomination and there is no guile in the Brethren. The late Judge JEREMIAH S. BLACK was a shining pillar in the church and the town derived its name from the sturdy ancestors of my distinguished and valued friend, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MEYERS, of Harrisburg, Democratic war horse and veteran editor. But Governor BRUMBAUGH was looking for a Commissioner of Agriculture and it's dollars to doughnuts that he had more politics than religion in his mind even while in the pulpit.

The Highway Department has been making an inspection of the roads in southern Pennsylvania and last week visited and feasted in Delaware county. This may have been a very important event, but took on something of the appearance of a junket. Besides the Commissioner the first deputy, the engineer, and the statistician of the department were in the party and their passage through Delaware county was like a "triumphal march." Afterward they crossed the Susquehanna river and running through York and Adams counties struck the national pike at Emmittsburg, Maryland, and followed that highway to the Ohio river. It is remembered that such junkets were the weakness of commissioner BIGELOW.

The initial step toward establishing a State Insurance fund under the act approved June 2nd, 1915, was taken on Monday by the State Sinking fund Commissioners. The sum of \$175,000 was transferred from the sinking fund to the new fund and it was determined that all monies received for the sinking fund in excess of the bonded debt at the time will be so disposed of until the insurance fund reaches the million dollar mark. This act is one of the group known as the Governor's employer's liability laws and is designed to relieve employers of that part of the burdens which such laws might involve. The employers who subscribe according to a fixed rate will be reimbursed for losses sustained.

The food stuffs in storage in all the cold storage plants in the State, according to a statement recently issued by JAMES FOUST, Dairy and Food Commissioner, would last for only a short time. On June 30th, there were in storage: 18,800,169 dozen eggs, 362,878 pounds of eggs out of shells, 4,962,877 pounds of butter and 1,800,188 pounds of fish. In each of these items there was a considerable increase as compared with the quantities held on the 31st day of March. The stored poultry dropped from 3,438,302 pounds on the 31st day of March to 2,261,431 on the last day of June and game decreased from 7,422 pounds in March to 6,978 in June. On the last day of June there were only 48 pounds of squabs in storage through the State.

Judge MCCARRELL, of the Dauphin county court, handed down an opinion the other day which may prevent the issue of certificates to the hundred or so applicants for positions as mine foremen. The court held that the law requires the Department of Mines to examine applicants and issue certificates if the applicants qualified. The opinion of Judge MCCARRELL raises a question as to whether the Department of Mines has the right to name men as inspectors who have had only a few months' experience. President MATTHEWS, of district No. 9, holds that such men are competent.

The Governor says that he will allow the workmen's compensation board to work out its own problems before naming a chairman. The board is composed of JOHN A. SCOTT, of Indiana; JAMES W. LEECH, of Ebensburg, and HARRY A. MACKEY, of Philadelphia. One of the hardest problems it will encounter will be to hold Mr. MACKEY down to the earth. Meantime it is safe to predict that he will be the chairman if there is any advantage in occupying that position. MACKEY is one of the VARE followers and they are not a modest bunch.

The new Board of Agriculture will meet in this city on Friday and it is expected that during that meeting the Governor will announce the chairman. But there is no certainty of that, for BRUMBAUGH appears to enjoy uncertainty in such things. He hasn't appointed a chairman of the Public Service Commission as yet, and shows no inclination to do so. Meantime AINEY is running the machine on his own hook by holding conferences with the heads of bureaus at regular intervals. Congressman KEISS has declined the seat on the board which was tendered to him nearly two months ago, but not a word has been said about his successor. It would be a saving of money without impairment of efficiency if the place were left vacant indefinitely.

The money appropriated for the establishment and maintenance of continuation schools will be disbursed by the local school boards in the sensible conclusion and welcome announcement of the State Board of Education. The funds will be distributed, or rather apportioned, upon the basis upon which other school funds are apportioned. It is estimated that nearly 50,000 pupils will have to be provided for, but about half of them will be in Philadelphia.

The Highway Department is still hot after drunken automobile drivers. Several licenses have been revoked and the announcement is that more will follow. This is one reform in which the entire public sympathizes. Drunken drivers are a menace, not only to the users of cars, but to everybody else. Judge GEORGE KUNKEL showed that his head is properly working on this point the other day when he sent a jitney driver to jail and fined him \$100 for intoxication.

That good times are coming is indicated by numerous signs in this neighborhood. Nearly all the iron and steel plants are running to capacity and some of them twenty-four hours a day. There will soon be work for everybody except the calamity howler and nobody will regret if he starves to death.

Let the President Decide.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent.

Bearing ever in mind that the most important thing for the United States and the thing most desired by our people is to keep out of war if there is a possible way of doing it without sacrificing our honor,—and adhering steadfastly to our expressed intention to stand by the President,—who has won the nation's confidence,—and whatever he may do in relation to our serious controversy with Germany, it is neither wise nor coming for the people of the United States at this moment to shout for war or against war as a result of the publication of the report of the Imperial Government to the last American note.

Now that the text of the reply has been published, subject, perhaps, to changes of a few words in the official document that has not yet reached Washington but which changes manifestly cannot alter the general purport of the document, it would be puerile to endeavor to attempt to construe Germany's answer as satisfying the specific demands made in the last American note,—chief of which demands was that for the discontinuance of submarine attacks made in a way to imperil the lives of neutrals.

Germany's suggestions of arrangements designed in some respects to protect purely neutral shipping do not satisfy the specific demands of the Washington government. Yet it is not impossible that they may be made the basis of further negotiations which may ultimately result in an agreement which would guarantee protection of Americans on the high seas in a way to conform with our just demand that all of our rights be respected.

Patriotic Americans, at any rate, will not shout for war or do anything else to embarrass President Wilson, to whom they have unqualifiedly pledged their support in whatever he may decide is the right course to follow, so long as he proves himself entitled to our confidence in the same measure as he has proved himself entitled to it by his every act thus far with relation to the controversy with Germany.

The State and its Obligation.

From the Harrisburg Patriot.

Figures published in the Patriot recently show how laggard Pennsylvania has been in the great extension movements of the State colleges and Universities of the country. In a comparison of figures for 1913, Pennsylvania appropriated for this purpose less money than any of thirty-one of the more important States. Its contribution was \$6,000. States like Maryland and Utah were considerably ahead of the Commonwealth. The home of such extensive work has been in the west which may account for the fact that States like Minnesota, Ohio, and Illinois head the list, but for years State College in Pennsylvania has been doing pioneer work in this State despite the fact that the Legislatures have not done all they should not only for this phase but all phases of work at Penn State.

Back of extension work is the same problem as back of the public schools. It aims to carry the college to the public rather than the reverse. It makes possible instruction for the farmer and the mechanic in much the same way as through enrollment at the institution. It is giving a direct return to the man whose taxes help pay for the work.

Organized as such the movement merits generous treatment from the law-making bodies. Penn State now is eager to enlarge this part of its work but must keep within the limits set by the Legislature. Counties throughout the State are asking for farm agents; industrial centers are seeking schools, but these can be granted only in proportion to the assistance given by the legislators. And it is apparent that these need further urging before they realize fully the possibilities that rest with Penn State.

The Demand for Steel.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The increase in unfilled orders for steel bringing them to the highest point in the history of a year ago, is the more remarkable because of this being ordinarily the slack period. The causes that have produced this condition are practically only beginning to operate. A continued and increasing gain in demand is looked for.

War orders have heretofore monopolized popular attention, but there are other factors more important and, what is better, some of which are likely to be permanent. The phenomenal demand for our foodstuffs, and the exceptional production is increasing the demand for steel for agricultural implements at home, while the general prosperity resulting from the farmer's success will of course lead to betterments and expansions in every other line. Our opportunity for export is little more than opening. The war has paralyzed or transformed the steel industries of Europe. The paramount demand there is for munitions, and every plant that can be utilized is engaged on that. This leaves the world largely dependent upon the United States for commercial steel. The markets thus thrown open will give us a chance to establish ourselves, so that when the war ends we will have a definite standing upon which to meet competition.

It is not by any means over optimistic to say that we are entering a period of unequalled opportunity in which Pittsburgh, as the center of the industry, is certain to reap a splendid harvest.

Old Jupe Pluvius is certainly the hail fellow these days, but he is not well met with the farmers who can't get their hay dry enough to get into the barn.

Have your Job Work done here.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Renovo has recently increased its water supply by boring an artesian well which now has a daily flow of 325,000 gallons of water of excellent quality.

The effort of Ezra Buskirk to murder his wife, an employee of a DuBois hotel, which at first promised to be successful, has proved a failure, as the woman is out of danger and has been discharged from the hospital.

At the coming term of the Clinton county court, beginning July 19th, there will be no jury trials, Judge Hall, who has had that county restored to his bailiwick by the decision of the Supreme court, having so decided.

The Baptist people of Clearfield celebrated a long anticipated event last Sunday when they dedicated their new meeting house with appropriate ceremonies. The preacher of the day was the Rev. Samuel G. Neil, of Philadelphia.

D. A. Smith, one of the best known residents of Nippenose valley, Clinton county, committed suicide by hanging the other afternoon. He was aged 60 years and is thought to have been working over a criminal suit in which he was involved.

It is believed that Mrs. Julia Shaffer, postmistress of Hilltop, adjacent to Johnstown, the poorest paid postoffice official in the country. Her salary from April 1st to July 1st aggregated \$8.04, out of which she paid the mail carrier a little over \$5.

A survey of practically all the streams in Jefferson, northern Indiana and western Clearfield counties will be made by members of the Wild Life League of the first named county, with a view to restocking the various streams with fish adaptable to them.

Freeman Wilson, a Lycoming county desperado, who has been terrorizing some of the farming communities of that county, is to be sought for by a detachment of state constables (the local officers evidently preferring to let strangers tackle the job).

Mrs. Mathias Melver, wife of one of the most prominent farmers of Heath township, Jefferson county, was burned to death in a fire that destroyed the Melver home a few nights ago. The fire is believed to have been caused by the explosion of a lamp.

Albert Clawson, aged 60, familiarly known as "Black Al," a well-known resident of Indiana county for many years, committed suicide by hanging himself to a tree in the woods of the county home, where he was an inmate. He was a sufferer from tuberculosis and grew despondent.

Three colored boys were engaged in shooting mark on the outskirts of Williamsport when one of the trio, Noble Hunsucker, aged 15, jumped directly in front of the rifle in the hands of Henry Brewer, aged about 16, receiving the bullet in his heart. He died while being conveyed to the hospital.

Alexander Dupan, an old-time resident of Woodland, Clearfield county, was found dead in his home early Monday morning. He was sitting on a couch and had probably been dead three hours. He had nearly completed his 65th year. Heart disease is supposed to have caused his sudden death.

While cleaning a gun which he had used on Independence day, and which he supposed to be unloaded, Fred Whitmore, a young resident of DuBois, shot his wife, the charge that he supposed to be absent entering her breast and killing her instantly. The unfortunate victim of this deplorable accident was aged 19.

Prisoners confined in the county jail, except those under sentence of death may be put to work upon the written request of the state highway department, any township supervisors, or the mayor or burgess of any city or borough. Such is the tenor of an act, passed by the Legislature and approved by Governor Brumbaugh.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo G. Cyphert, of DuBois, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last Sunday in the presence of their children and a company of friends. They have ten living children, fifty-six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Mr. Cyphert was a veteran of the Civil war, a member of the famous Wild-cat Regiment.

William Reiser, aged about 70 years, a member of the firm of Reiser & Seiler, lumber merchants doing business in Clearfield, was stricken with paralysis while on a train bound for Tyrone. He was removed from the train at Woodland and hurried in an automobile to the hospital at Clearfield, where he died soon after being admitted. His family reside in Watonsport.

Mrs. A. L. Stuechel, of Indiana, has a hen that wanted to set. The lady was of another mind. She got an alarm clock, set it to go off at 9 a. m., and put it in the nest, intending to frighten the fowl. When the alarm went off the hen looked at the clock an instant and then pushed it back into the nest. When the clock was removed the next day the hen protested vigorously.

Pulling the trigger of his shotgun with the big toe of his right foot, Jesse Hess, 34 years old, a farmer, of near Potosi, York county, blew off his head. He had worried because of a delay in harvesting his crops due, it is said, to a failure of a shipment of farming implements to arrive on time. When his body was found lying under a fence, the shoe was off the right foot and a string was attached to the trigger and tied to the big toe.

Three young men named Thomas, Rodabaugh and Merrill, two of them coming from Clinton county, were arraigned before Judge Harvey Whitehead, of Lycoming county, charged with the theft of butter. They were given a bad reputation by a railroad officer who appeared against them. Merrill was turned over to his uncle, a commissioner of Clinton county, while the other two were sent to jail pending an inquiry into their bad records.

Announcement was made at Berwick last week that the order for 4,100 box cars for the Russian government, the placing of which with the American Car and Foundry company has been anticipated, has been closed and 2,000 of the cars will be built in the Berwick plant and the remaining 2,100 in the Detroit or Madison (Ill.) plants. Following the Pennsylvania order 3,400 freight cars and the New York subway and Pennsylvania passenger car orders for the Berwick plant, every department will soon be in full-handed operation.

The aftermath of a blackmail case nipped in the bud by postoffice inspector William M. Calvert, of Altoona, came Wednesday in Johnstown, when Peter Kyner was arraigned before United States Commissioner Robert C. Hoerle on a charge of trying to blackmail Joon Kazmaier, a wealthy Altoona brewer. Kyner, who is 30 years old, was taken to the Allegheny county jail to await trial at the October term of federal court in Scranton. Kazmaier received a letter demanding that \$1,500 be placed in a letter box along a country road. Kyner was found to be the author.

The gas well bored Wednesday on the farm of George Spiegel, near McKeesport, is the biggest ever drilled in Pennsylvania and is one of the largest ever struck in the United States, according to T. O. Sullivan, general manager of the Manufacturers' Light and Heat company, a gas expert. Mr. Sullivan late yesterday made a test of the flow of gas and estimated the pressure at 70 pounds and the flow at least 75,000,000 cubic feet a day. He said, however, that the test was inaccurate, for, because of the tremendous pressure, it was impossible to hold a gauge over the mouth of the well, and that he believed the flow might reach 100,000,000 cubic feet.