

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

INK SLINGS.

In the race for Judgeship of Centre county HENRY FORD has four entries and Mr. BUICK one.

Centre county farmers have much to be thankful for when they think of the havoc played with York county crops by Saturday's storm.

Take the kiddies to the circus today. Remember that you were a little one yourself and that their days of childhood will soon be over.

There are just one hundred working days until Christmas. Have you paid the final installment on the presents you gave last Christmas?

The female of the species is already figuring in the judicial race in Centre county. Four "tin Lizzies" are trying to get the one BUICK in a pocket.

Many travelers are of the opinion that Centre county has more beautiful and more diversified scenery and as good roads as any county in the State.

The Centre county corn crop, that has looked so promising up to the last few weeks, is showing signs of improper development of the ears, due to the cool weather.

When you are working your head off and afraid to stop for a day or so of play once in a while for fear some one will think you are lazy and neglectful remember that the bee, the insect that is synonymous for the word busy, works only three months in the year and loafs nine.

Though reporting the fact that HARRY M. WALKER, of Haines township, threshed 450 bushels of oats as the crop off of a six acre field, our Wolfe's Store correspondent insinuates a doubt as to the truth of the statement. We might also add that there are some doubting THOMASES at this end, too.

The appointment of ROBERT A. ZENTMYER, of Tyrone, to a place on the Pennsylvania Water Commission sends a glimmering hope one or two Bellefontes had of picking up that \$3,000 plum; and also demonstrates the fact that a ride on the water wagon is no surety of a job on the Water Commission.

Mixed up with "the Wolf of Wall Street," interceding for the International Lumber swindlers and charged with betraying State secrets to agents of the German government A MITCHELL PALMER finds himself in a very unenviable position today. It has been announced that the President will not appoint him counsellor to the State Department and it is very probable that the star of this egotistical young hypocrite has set.

After all, if Americans could avert the danger of precipitating a clash between their own country and Germany by not traveling in the war zone wouldn't they have more to be proud of than they will if by persisting in doing it they become the willful cause of carnage such as is now wiping out families and homes on the other side. International law, high ideals of government, the rights of citizenship, etc., are all right, and we all stand for them, but there is just a possibility that a lot of people are exposing themselves when there is no absolute necessity for it.

We notice with a degree of interested curiosity that one of the WATCHMAN's local writers announces, in this issue, that CLEMENT DALE Esq. has purchased a Ford car and that he "had it equipped with shock absorbers in order to reduce the jolt to a minimum." Inasmuch as it is not our function to censor the local news appearing in this paper we can at least raise the question of propriety as to the use of that word "jolt." Mr. DALE is a candidate for judge and there are those mean enough to imagine that our local editor might have referred to other "jolts" than the many recurring varieties handed out by the Ford car.

On Friday the old time Lock Haven Daily Democrat came out under the heading of the Clinton Dispatch. The change in name evidently signifies a change in heart of the present owners who have now begun to realize that the mission of any well conducted paper is far broader than that of being a mere creature of factional politics. The Clinton Dispatch is an ably edited and very much alive newspaper and it can be an agent of much good in Lock Haven and Clinton county with its pen wielded in the right direction, and its convictions not on the market table as they were only a short time ago when it was still the Daily Democrat.

The baby and doll parade that was part of the Lock Haven Old Home week celebration, on Wednesday night, was a charmingly interesting feature, but the mothers and children of that city who evidently went to much trouble in preparation for it were met with scant enthusiasm, as they paraded for the pleasure of the onlookers. Just why the lack of enthusiasm we were at a loss to understand but the crowds stood solidly by when prolonged applause was certainly merited by the efforts of the mothers and their daintily dressed offspring. Lock Haven should catch the Old Home week spirit if she hopes to have her celebration linger as a pleasant memory in the minds of those who have contributed to its success.

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Governor Brumbaugh and the Vares.

Governor BRUMBAUGH protests that his appointment of TOM SMITH of Philadelphia to a seat in the Public Service Commission had nothing to do with Philadelphia machine politics. Then what under the sun influenced him to make the appointment? It is true that Senator PENROSE once had him appointed postmaster in Philadelphia and that he drew the salary of the office for a considerable time. But that fact didn't demonstrate his fitness for any office. It simply gave him the opportunity to draw a salary. He didn't even discharge the duties of the office. He gave most of his time to the management of a bonding company and compelled every employee of the post-office, who required a bond, to patronize his concern.

The Public Service Commission is easily the most important governing agency in the State. Each member receives in salary an amount equal to that paid the Governor. His power over the industrial life of the Commonwealth is even greater than that of the Chief Magistrate. The salary was fixed by the Legislature in order to entice the ablest men into the service. How does TOM SMITH measure up to the requirements of such an office? He may have attained the rank of ward leader by favor, but never rose above that. He is conspicuous in no direction. He is expert in nothing except politics and his efforts in politics have been mainly in the submerged field. No other man who has ever served as Governor would have dreamed of naming him for Commissioner.

But the Governor's actions and statement are not consistent. In his letter tendering TOM SMITH a seat in the Commission he states that the suggestion came from the VARES, "BILL" and "ED," and that the conditions are that he, TOM SMITH, is not to accept any other office without the Governor's consent. The only other office for which SMITH's name was under consideration was that of Mayor of Philadelphia as a compromise candidate to defeat the ambition of BILL VARE. Possibly there are men obtuse enough to be deceived by the subsequent statement that the suggestion that he is "party to a deal in the Mayoralty situation in Philadelphia is too absurd to merit consideration," but under an intelligence test they couldn't vote.

Only one more week until the re-opening of the public schools of Bellefonte for the ensuing school year; and the next week will mark the opening of the Bellefonte Academy and The Pennsylvania State College.

Failure of the Commission.

The Industrial Relations Commission will submit nine reports, according to the press dispatches. There are nine members and no two of them can agree upon any question. They have been taking testimony for nearly two years and have piled up nearly a million pages of evidence. They have also wasted more than a million dollars in paying expenses, and all this comes to nothing. A contemporary suggests that better results might have been obtained if another than Mr. WALSH had been chairman. "His abusive methods of dealing with witnesses," it adds, "was well calculated to discredit the findings." Possibly there is some truth in this. Mr. WALSH treated princes and paupers precisely alike.

But the method of dealing with witnesses is not the only or even the principal cause of the failure of the Industrial Relations Commission to accomplish results. The fault lies far deeper. It failed for the same reason that a tariff commission would fail and that monetary commissions and tax law commissions have failed. Commissions are never intended to achieve results. They are simply expedients to delay action that would accomplish something. When an interest, entrenched in the form of law, discerns a movement toward legislation that might interfere with its graft, it invokes a commission. It is the easiest way to avert impending disaster.

The constitution of the United States and the fundamental laws of the several States provide means for correcting evils by legislation, National or State. The Congress and the Legislatures are the vehicles for the achievement of the legislative reforms. If the Legislators, State and National, are too stupid or too venal to enact the proper legislation the remedy is in the selection of more intelligent and honest men for the service. There are plenty of men capable and willing to serve the public in this way and the crooks and ignoramus who are incapable or unwilling should be kept out of the public service. The people can secure good government if they go about it in the right way.

Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

An Interesting Write-up of Happenings at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, PA., August 25th, 1915.

"They're off." Not the race horses or the motorcycles but the Governor's junketers. They started from Philadelphia on a special train on Monday morning and by the time this is read they will be safely in San Francisco, sharing honors with the Liberty Bell, the "diving beauties," trained animals and other attractions at the Pan-American show. And it is some junket. Only eleven of the twenty-one "Commissioners" were in the party but most of the members of the Governor's staff were present, a few Senators and Representatives in the Legislature answered to roll call and enough of the Governor's personal friends to make up a total of 125 persons responded to the cheerful "all aboard" of the train official in charge.

Of course all the expenses of this enterprise will be paid out of the treasury of the State and it will be a good deal of money. But possibly it will be worth all it costs to the people of Pennsylvania. It will certainly advertise the State for the Governor is a handsome man and his "staff" in full uniform is "a spectacle for the gods." The industrial life of the Commonwealth might have been sufficiently proclaimed in the exhibits and the agricultural resources revealed in the products shown. But those things don't measure the merits of a community. It is the man that counts, the sturdy, courageous, resourceful men make the standard of excellence. In view of these facts what could the newspapers have meant when they said it was "an all-steel train" that carried the party to its Western destination.

The people of the State will be glad to learn, moreover, that during the absence of the Governor Attorney General FRANCIS SHUNK BROWN will exercise whatever executive authority that is dispensed. Mr. BROWN is the gentleman who made the deal which placed Mr. SMITH of Philadelphia, on the Board of Public Service Commissioners and wrote the letter informing Mr. SMITH of his everlasting obligation to the VARE Brothers, "BILL" and "ED." That letter fairly exuded the spirit of statesmanship and proved beyond question Mr. BROWN's fidelity to the contractor bosses, by whom he was formerly employed. Old fashioned folk might imagine that the interests of the people are paramount, but what have old-fashioned folk to do with public questions?

The County Commissioners of Berks county in particular and County Commissioners generally were given a strong hint as to "where to get off" by the State Highway Commissioner, yesterday. The people of Birdsboro, Berks county, have been trying for some time to get the County Commissioners to join with the State Department to construct a road but without success for the reason that the county officials refused to co-operate. Finally the people of the borough appealed direct to the State Highway Department and offered to pay half the expense with the result that an engineer has been directed to proceed with the work. Heretofore the County Commissioners have had "the last word" in such matters and this innovation means much.

A delegation of citizens of Philipsburg, Centre county, headed by Congressman-elect ROWLAND was heard by the Highway Commissioner, yesterday, in relation to the improvement of State highways leading into that borough. The indications are that there will be something doing there in the near future. It is safe to say that wherever there is an opportunity to improve the highways the Department will give it a boost.

The time limit for filing petitions for judicial nominations expired yesterday. Altogether 163 petitions have been filed of which seven are for seats on the Superior court bench, one hundred and eleven for the various common pleas benches, nine for orphans' court, eight for the municipal court, eight for the municipal court of Philadelphia and twenty-eight for associate judges, not learned in the law. The aspirants for the Superior court are JOHN B. HEAD, of Westmoreland county; STEPHEN H. HUSELTON, Allegheny county; GEORGE B. ORLADY, of Huntingdon county; CHARLES PALMER, of Delaware county; WILLIAM D. WALLACE, of Lawrence county; and J. HENRY WILLIAMS and WILLIAM C. WILSON, of Philadelphia. Mr. HEAD and Mr. ORLADY are at present in commission and are widely supported by lawyers throughout the State. It is said that the Republican machine favors J. H. WILLIAMS, of Philadelphia.

The Department of Agriculture is still "on the job," and reports a considerable deficiency in the apple crop, in some counties as much as seventy per cent. Seven counties, Philadelphia, Beaver, Lawrence, Lancaster, Lebanon, Montgomery and Snyder counties will produce about ninety per cent. of the average yield for ten years, and the others will show a much greater falling off. The total crop this year will be about 14,000,000 bushels as against 23,000,000 last year, a decrease of a trifle more than one-third. Later reports on the potato crop are less encouraging, moreover, than that of a week ago. Potato bugs have been surprisingly active of late. In York county it is reported that they have attacked the tomato and pepper plants with damaging results.

In the present frame of the public mind the rifle tournament of the National Guard now in progress at Mt. Gretna is invested with considerable popular interest. This is, in the last analysis, the supreme test of military efficiency and it is a subject of pride that the Pennsylvania militiamen are well up to the high standard. Battles aren't fought at close range these days and the soldier worth while must be a marksman. The ranges are 300, 500 and 600 yards. There are various trophies contested for annually among them the HERSHMAN cup, the WIGGINS cup, the POTTER tablet, the Colonel KAUL cup, the State cup, the BRADLEY cup and several others. Some of the scores were high and all of them above the average.

The Game Department has been forced to an important modification of the law enacted during the recent session of the Legislature with respect to dogs owned by unnaturalized residents. Dr. KALBFUS, Secretary of the Commission, has issued a bulletin in which he says: "This act was not intended to authorize a constable or other officers to go into a foreigner's home and take a lap dog or a child's puppy and arrest the owner of the house." But by what authority does Dr. KALBFUS assume the right to interpret laws? Who commissioned him to usurp the powers of the Supreme court? The truth is that this law is an abomination from whatever angle it is viewed and like most of the other laws prepared by the Game Commission is oppressive, absurd and obnoxious. It simply expresses the prejudices of a certain element against foreigners.

Bills amounting to thousands of dollars have been sent in to cover damages to crops by protected game animals. Farmers say they can't protect themselves without violating the game laws which is an expensive operation. The Game Commission demands proof, however, that the damage was done by protected game and as nobody can sue the State Dr. KALBFUS becomes the autocrat of the question.

GEORGE H. WIRT, of Franklin county, has been appointed chief of the new bureau of Forestry Protection. The salary is \$2300 a year and the job a "snit."

Work was started on Monday on resurfacing the state road on Allegheny street. All holes will be dug out and refilled with broken stone, rolled and a top dressing of asphalt and crushed stone put on. This top dressing will be applied to the entire street to level up all

depressions thereon. While the work is being done the street will be roped off, a block or two at a time, until the asphalt has become thoroughly set. The work is being done jointly by the State and borough.

MYSTERIOUS PRISCILLA.

QUESTION

Mysterious Priscilla of wonderful fame  
Oh where do you live and what is your name?  
Are you playing opossum or hide and go seek?  
We've been trying to find you for many a week.  
Do you dress like a boy or wear clothes like a girl?  
Is your hair long and ratty or done up in curl?  
Pray tell us the story in verse or in prose.  
At present your nature—the Lord only knows.

ANSWER

Merilla Priscilla she lived on a hill  
And if she's not gone she lives there still.  
Her name may be Maggie or Bunny or Dick  
But one thing is sure she is playing a trick.  
She is never in hiding—always happy and free  
On the streets of Bellefonte any day you may see.  
She is handy with paper and handy with pen,  
Is making a living—Independent of men.  
Her name and Her nature is worthy a guess  
If you leave it to Her She will never confess.

—By Priscilla.

Satisfied With the Man at the Wheel.

From the Harrisburg Star Independent.  
There is nothing to be gained by Americans becoming excited over the sinking of the Arabic. This is no occasion for precipitately shouting for harsh measures against Germany if it shall be shown that several citizens of the United States were among those who lost their lives when the White Star liner was torpedoed yesterday off the Irish coast.

The details of the attack on the vessel, a repetition of the war, have not been officially received in this country. Even if, on their arrival, they show that Germany has repeated the offense which she committed when she sent the Lusitania to the bottom with Americans on board, notwithstanding this country's last warning that a repetition of the offense would be regarded as a distinctly unfriendly act regardless of whether Germany contends she is justified in such act, even then there need be no headlong excitement among Americans.

The thinking people of this country have got beyond the stage of becoming unreasonably wrought up over apparently "unfriendly" acts of Germany toward the United States, and there is a good reason for their self-restraint. This reason is that they know that the man in the White House is level headed, wise and intensely earnest in his desire to keep this nation out of war if it can be done with honor—honor in the highest sense. They know they can trust President Wilson to do what is best for the physical and moral welfare of this country in such crises as these, and they are content to abide by his decision and judgment.

The Russian Retreat.

From the Springfield Republican.  
As the Russian retirement proceeds it becomes increasingly plain that it was long premeditated and carefully prepared for. When the colossal German movement, the biggest in history, began at the end of April, the ground plan of the great design was roughly visible even to outsiders. But the outsider could not know what was probably known both at Berlin and at Petrograd, that the German plan was based upon certainty of succeeding at every step. Remote as was the attack plan and the invasion of the Baltic provinces, which superficial commentators took for a mere raid, the two were part of one plan, and the Russian General Staff, aware of the impossibility of holding the line in the South, must have foreseen the development of the general plan and determined to frustrate it by a sweeping sacrifice of territory. At Kovel 400 guns have been taken, but nothing is said of prisoners, and apparently the evacuation of the untenable region has been effected with remarkably small losses. The second line of defense is gone like the first, and the German army can make further great seizures of Russian territory if it is thought worthwhile. But whether the Russian army can be cornered and forced to fight is not so certain, and its position behind the Pripiet marshes, as big as Ireland, will now give it protection from the South. Perhaps the Russian commanders have hopes of finding a Marne; if not it will be a question of how far they can retreat and how far the Germans will care to follow.

Those Bandit Raids.

From the San Francisco Star.  
Small bands of Mexican bandits have crossed into Texas and made trouble. There is nothing to show that Carranza, Villa or any other Mexican leader is responsible for such raids. Some of them may be responsible for the raids, but we have no proof—not even evidence. American land-grabbers and concession-grabbers have made more trouble in Mexico than any number of Mexican bandit bands can make in Texas or any other State on the border.

Feared for Ingenuity.

From the Chicago Daily News.  
Simon Lake, who perfected the modern submarine, including the American submersible that can cruise 6,000 miles without refueling, predicts that if the war lasts two years longer submarine freighters will be carrying supplies to Europe. If we cannot be respected for our ingenuity we may be feared for our ingenuity.

Looks That Way.

From the Boston Record.  
Gov. Whitman orders the Austrians and Slavs of Little Falls to be disarmed. By and by no one in New York State will be armed except the gunmen of the metropolis.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Wilmerding is enjoying a silver jubilee this week and has a good many of its first settlers there to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary.

Ralph McWilliams, aged 35, was crushed to death when a part of the concrete wall of a building in Montgomery, Lycoming county, fell. He was working nearby and was buried in the ruins.

Western Pennsylvania capitalists have purchased land around an old shot factory, an historic building near Buckstown and will have a game preserve. The old edifice will be undisturbed.

The Latrobe Bulletin states that garden truck valued at \$186,585.70 was raised by employees of the H. C. Frick Coke company during the present year. This was raised on 6,819 lots at fifty-six plants.

William Charles Lewis, who is known as "Johnstown's Grand Old Man," celebrated the 95th anniversary of his birth Monday. He is treasurer of the Johnstown Savings bank and is on duty from day to day.

Seven men and four women are now confined in the Cambria county jail at Ebensburg charged with conspiracy to rob a paymaster some days ago. All the members of the party reside in Barnesboro or in its vicinity.

From 3 1/2 acres of ground on the Jefferson county poor farm 280 bushels of oats were cut one day last week. The Puxunataway Spirit says the commissioners are "much belated" over the affair, but we suspect they are elated.

The entire council of the borough of Vintondale, Cambria county, has resigned. The members are all employees of the Vinton Colliery company, and feel that they cannot loyally serve since the borough is a patron of the company.

John Ottino, a resident of Westmoreland county, stood upon the bank of the Yough and shot himself through the mouth, the bullet lodging in the brain and causing instant death. He was 40 years old and was worried about his friends in Italy.

Indolent boys who have been loafing about the streets of Clearfield for some time are believed to have entered the restaurant of Orin C. Barger early the other morning and appropriated \$5 in money and cigars, cigarettes and candy worth about \$8.

Captain and Mrs. William Kemple, of Chambersville, Indiana county, have just celebrated their golden wedding. They were the parents of 18 children and one of their sons, twice married, is said to have been highly pleased when his family contained 19 children.

Annie Hydose, aged 3 years, was drowned in a reservoir near Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland county, a few days ago. The child fell into the water while playing and she was not missed by her mother until an hour later when the body was found in the water partly submerged.

Paul Maguire, Jr., of Morrisdale, while out picking berries found the skeleton of a man who had evidently committed suicide a year or more ago. The lad had reportedly his ghastly find and state constabulary guarded the spot from the morbidly curious crowd until county authorities could take charge.

Next Tuesday the citizens of Reynoldsville will have the opportunity of voting on the bond, line of the borough to the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing the present water works or of building or securing new municipal water works. There is no doubt but that the question will carry by a large majority.

Six youthful bandits in the vicinity of Latrobe practicing on a 9-year-old lad of that town, threw him into Loyalhanna creek and left him to get out or drown. They went through his pockets first. He got a good view of all his assailants and was able to describe them when he had made his way home. Developments are expected.

Deputy Attorney General Horace W. Davis has rendered an opinion for Dr. Joseph H. Kalbfus, secretary of the State Game Commission to the effect that the act prohibiting unnaturalized foreigners from owning dogs does not apply to household pets and puppies. He points out that the intent of the act is to protect the game of the State.

Mrs. Mahalsh Kelly, of Milton, is minus \$145 in bills and some small change and a boarder in her house, missed a suit case containing clothing and a motor car license tag because she didn't listen to her little girl who told her the boarder was in a room that didn't belong to him. After the damage was done she remembered the child's remark.

One night last week in Clearfield, an automobile driven by Emory Shaw plunged into a buggy occupied by Clair Kline, aged 20, and Miss Ellen Cook. The horse was killed, the buggy demolished and Kline's skull fractured. It is said that Shaw was under the influence of liquor and the district attorney of Clearfield county has brought criminal charges against him.

A quarrel over the way to cook beans resulted in the shooting of two men, John Beighley and two sons had been keeping house since the death of his wife near Cavittsburg. Ralph planned to cook beans and during his absence his father put them on. Ralph promptly shot him in the back and his brother in the leg. The injured men are in the Wilkensburg hospital and Ralph is under arrest.

Charles Fochler and Henry Hasse, two prisoners in the Blair county jail, made a successful getaway early Sunday morning, with the aid of a saw and a rope made of their blankets. News of their sensational escape was telegraphed to the heads of the police departments of all the cities and towns in this section of the State. Jail warden John B. Riddle offers \$100 reward for the return of the prisoners to the jail. The men escaped from the same cell that Frank Hohl got out of about sixteen months ago.

Two unknown men entered the home of Jacob Plummer, at Derry, the other night, during his absence at his work, bound and gagged Mrs. Plummer and ransacked the house, getting about \$13 in money. They left the woman bound when they departed. Two children were asleep in the house but they did not get awake for several hours and Mrs. Plummer, clad only in a thin night dress, was almost frozen when one of the children finally awoke, saw her mother's state and called in a neighbor who released her. Two suspects have been arrested.

The annual reunion of the survivors of the Fifty-fifth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers was held in Indiana on Wednesday. A big dinner was served the veterans at the home of Mrs. S. J. Telford, wife of the Judge of Indiana county, and a business session and camp fire was held in the municipal building in the afternoon. Mrs. Telford and Mrs. C. M. Watson, of Indiana, are daughters of the late Col. Dick White, commander of the regiment, and they also take an active interest in the affairs of the regiment, entertaining the members at each annual gathering.

The Munson Lumber company, the leading stockholders of which are three brothers named Knepper, has purchased a large timber area near the Kretschman place, seven miles from Meyersdale, and will soon be ready to operate. The tramway, which will run from the saw mill to the Grassy run extension of the Salisbury branch of the B. & O., is about constructed. The firm states that there is sufficient timber to engage their plant for a period of eight years. The company has contracted with the Economy Telephone company for the installation of service for a period of five years. As the annual rental of this service extends way up into the hundreds of dollars, the indication is that the company will be doing business on a large scale.