

INK SLINGS.

-The oyster is in the soup again and there is real pig in the sausage all because September is here.

-And the women are to wear fur-belts during the fall and winter. They will wear fur above, as well, because everything is to be trimmed with fur.

-Just eighteen more days of the race between the Fords and the Buick. And it must be acknowledged that the Fords can get furthest on the same quantity of gas.

-Many a car load of automobilists was stuck in that slough west of Zion on Sunday, when, really, its occupants might have had far less discomfort had they been in church or Sunday school.

-Really the campaign for primary preference is disappointing. Can't somebody start something? This thing of purifying politics is all right, but there certainly ought to be some ginger left in it.

-Germany has come to her senses. She has seen the submarine question through Uncle SAM's glasses. Washington is happy. The Germans are happy and ROOSEVELT and the rest of the jingoes are madder than ever.

-There are a great many customs that have changed within recent years. Nowadays you rarely hear of a brass band serenading a newspaper office, whereas it used to be that a band's parade was never complete until it had played one or two tunes for the editor and one or two more for the "puff."

-MR. BRYAN has just delivered himself of this announcement: "The work which I have mapped out for my remaining years does not include the occupying of any political positions." It is a safe bet to wager that his work does include the prevention of some others from occupying any political position.

-PRISCILLA still persists in hiding her identity. The muse gave her another little tickle last week with the result that we were able to produce another of her teasing, jingles. This is such a fickle world, however, that we must admonish our unknown but pet poetess that she will have to keep going, else others might forget her. We never will.

-OROZCO, one of the HUERTA generals in Mexico and the hero of many hard fought battles, has been shot to death by Mexican cowboys who caught him stealing horses. Here might be the solution of all the Mexican troubles. Most of the Generals down there are of the Orozco stripe and if they were out of the way peace would come to the country so why not set out decoy horses all over Mexico and do a little "watchful waiting" within rifle shot of them.

-IRA BURKETT, of Stormstown, disturbed the placidity of the political pond at the eleventh hour by jumping in after the Republican nomination for Prothonary. They say that the water got up WILLARD HALL's nose, into his eyes and ears and, altogether, he wasn't able to do much but splutter for about twenty-four hours. It was a mean trick when WILLARD was having such a nice time all by himself in the pond and, you know, he isn't a very strong swimmer and that big IRA BURKETT makes some waves when he jumps in.

-A trio of bums has been loafing about Bellefonte for two weeks or more and it is our opinion that it is time for the police to give them their passports and inform them that Bellefonte is at war with the bums. Gradually the old order of things when they were ordered out of town immediately upon arrival is being changed. For what reason we know not. Certainly there can't be a good one for it and the WATCHMAN voices the sentiments of many people when it urges our police department to clear the town of such indigent characters and keep it cleared.

-A few days ago a prospective Bellefonte father was called to the hospital in order that he might be near when the stork arrived. It was about 5 p. m. when he received the summons and upon arrival at the institution was assigned to the anxious bench in the waiting room on the first floor. An hour or so later the night nurses reported for duty. Shortly after that the stork came flying in with the dearest little boy. Of course none of the night nurses knew that the father was waiting to have a look at his offspring, so he was left to do his share toward rubbing the polish off of that old anxious bench. They did, however, call up his home and inform the friends there of the happy advent. About two hours later one of the nurses accidentally discovered a "strange man," who was acting "kind of suspicious like," down in the waiting room. An investigation soon revealed the fact he really had business there and after explanations were made he was informed that the stork had left him a fine son some two hours or more before that. He had every right to be mad and probably forgot to ask any more questions so he flew to the telephone where he informed his good mother-in-law of the arrival of another boy. The lady, having heard that a boy had arrived two hours before, must have been almost overcome for she exclaimed: "Twins! You don't mean it!"

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Secretary Garrison was Right.

Secretary of War GARRISON was eminently right in publicly rebuking General LEONARD WOOD for the unpatriotic and untruthful speech made by THEODORE ROOSEVELT at the Plattsburg training camp last week. Of course General WOOD didn't know exactly what ROOSEVELT would say when he invited him to speak. Probably ROOSEVELT didn't know what he would say when he ascended the platform. No one can predict what will come out of a crazy brain when it gets into motion. But General WOOD knew that ROOSEVELT would proclaim militarism. It may safely be said that because he knew that ROOSEVELT was invited to speak. Anybody else would have known, moreover, that ROOSEVELT would traduce the President.

We have no objection to the training camps which General WOOD has projected. They may serve an admirable purpose if held strictly to educational lines. But General WOOD has perverted that one held at Plattsburg into a propaganda of militarism. His own speech of a few days previous to the ROOSEVELT eruption was in that line and nearly all the other speeches made tended in the same direction. In so far as the cultivation of that spirit runs against the policies of the administration at Washington, it is objectionable, if not actually treasonable. In the present frame of the public mind it is intolerable and if Secretary GARRISON had ordered General WOOD to return to his headquarters on Governor's Island, New York, he would have been within reason.

When ROOSEVELT was President he prohibited cabinet officers from communicating official information to the public and censured General MILES because he complained of one of the absurd orders which came from the President through the office of the Secretary of War. Yet before he became President he was constantly violating rules and offending propriety by asserting his individual views. Since he was refused "the third cup of coffee" he has gone from bad to worse in this direction and made of himself a perpetual nuisance. He is obsessed with himself and imagines that his opinions are desired by everybody upon every subject whereas his views are less potent than those of a child.

From the number of wet days we have had and the amount of rain that has fallen since Mary came back across the mountain there is room for grave suspicion of her having gone on another trip and using a leaky water wagon to make it.

Proper Military Preparations.

That provision should be made for increasing the strength and efficiency of the army and navy is made imperative by recent events. Probably the war cloud which has been discernible in the eastern sky since the sinking of the Lusitania may blow away and leave us in the enjoyment of peace. But at present it is sufficiently menacing to admonish us to preparation and therefore the steps which have been taken by the administration at Washington will meet with practically universal popular approval. The plans of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy and approved by the President are sufficiently conservative to challenge admiration and radical enough to serve the purpose in mind.

It is proposed to increase the army to 200,000 men and the navy by the addition of four or five battleships of the dreadnaught type and as many cruisers, destroyers and submarines as will make a well-balanced floating force. Special attention will be given to improving the efficiency of the National Guard of the several States and increasing that important defensive element by introducing all the modern devices and equipments. This will guarantee the maximum of strength and efficiency at a minimum of expense and, in so far as possible, avoid the evil of militarism. At least it will hold in check that spirit which leads to war of conquest and restrains the impulse to "hunt trouble."

Probably even this conservative increase of the army and navy may not be needed for after the close of the present war in Europe there will be little inclination to foment trouble in any direction. But it is as well to make some preparation for emergencies, however remote, and the present administration may be depended upon to go as far as necessary and to do well whatever it undertakes. Meantime the activities of the President, Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy should silence the military propaganda of which Major General LEONARD WOOD appears to be the head and Congressman GARDNER, of Massachusetts, the tail. At least something better ought to be found for General WOOD to do.

-Have your Job Work done here.

An Interesting Write-up of Happenings at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, PA., September, 1st, 1915.

Governor BRUMBAUGH has shown scant respect for the intelligence of the people of Pennsylvania in his mix-up with the Philadelphia bosses in the Mayoralty matter. In the first place the contractor bosses had an irreconcilable fight on concerning the spoils of the municipal administration. Each wanted the lion's share of the contracts and all knew that unless there was agreement among them both sets would lose to an aroused public conscience as happened four years ago. The VARES felt that they had strength to win the nomination. But a nomination headed toward certain defeat is a mighty poor asset.

The McNICHOL contingent was in even a worse plight. All it could possibly do was beg for harmony and plead for compromise. Four years ago things were different and instead of offering the VARES peace platitudes they threw harpoons. After the primary battle attempts to reconcile failed. The VARES gladly accepted the proffered olive branch but their followers were obdurate. That experience taught both sides that while the leaders are satisfied the followers must be fooled. In other words the compromise on a McNICHOL candidate must be made appear like a VARE victory to give it any value.

Accordingly Governor BRUMBAUGH was brought into the conspiracy. Probably it wasn't hard to entice him for his ambition is colossal and his conscience infinitesimal. He appointed the McNICHOL candidate to an important State office and publicly announced that the VARES were responsible for the favor. There was a double purpose in this. It made the VARE followers imagine a servile PENROSE adherent had been bought or stolen and could be depended upon to serve his new masters with the fidelity he had previously shown for the old. Then it was hoped that the BRUMBAUGH endorsement would invest him with character to deceive the reputable voters.

If the conspiracy had ended there it would have been scurvy enough. But it didn't. BRUMBAUGH denied that he had any part in a frame up to fasten boss control on the city and that accusing him of such an outrage was absurd. Subsequent events have proved, however, not only that he was a party to one of the most corrupt political deals ever perpetrated, but that he is absolutely indifferent to his reputation for veracity.

As was predicted in this letter two weeks ago BILL VARE has withdrawn from the contest for the Mayoralty and TOM SMITH has become the candidate. BRUMBAUGH's reward for the perfidy which made this possible is the promise of the PENROSE machine to present his name for the Presidential nomination. It is a poor recompense for a great sacrifice for BRUMBAUGH might have made himself a credible figure in the history of Pennsylvania. He came into the limelight under auspicious conditions. But an abnormal and absurd ambition has made a monkey of him as it most always does with its victims.

There are only \$4,088,009.36 in the State Treasury at this blessed moment and some of the officials on the Hill are beginning to worry. During the month of August the receipts were \$1,800,270.98 and the disbursements \$2,258,978.54. At that rate the salary list is good for several months even if the collections should stop altogether for a time and such a calamity is not likely to happen. But jokes aside Pennsylvania is spending too much money. The late Senator ALDRICH said on an occasion that he could administer the affairs of the United States government at a saving of \$300,000,000 annually. The government of Pennsylvania could be cheapened in the same ratio without impairment of efficiency.

If you have any unused or inactive State charters concealed about your person, get busy. The Attorney General has issued an order to vacate charters of four corporations created to furnish gas or electricity in Monroe and Northampton counties. Moreover he has declared that hereafter it will be the policy of the Department in every instance and it may safely be said that the policy will meet with public approval. Unused charters are a positive evil. They keep out of the industrial life of the community in which they happen to be active capital and energetic men and nothing could be more harmful.

The information from Pittsburgh that the followers of Senator OLIVER have invited former State Senator BILL FLINN to become their leader in future political fights caused more amusement among politicians here than surprise. It has been apparent for some time that there is a political convulsion impending in that old town. The retirement of Senator OLIVER from official life was the first indication of an upheaval and the almost immediately following appointment of former Mayor GAGNE to the board of Public Utility Commissioners, confirmed it. But nobody imagined that a FLINN-OLIVER alliance was possible, though there is no obvious reason against it. Both leaders are influenced by selfish considerations and in the absence of principle anything may turn up.

The new workmen's compensation bureau, scheduled to begin business on the first of next year, has secured a home, a capacious and luxurious suite having been leased in the Masonic temple. It is less than ten years since our magnificent palace of graft was completed and already it is greatly overcrowded, though the Game Commission, the Department of Fisheries, the Water Supply Commission and the Bureau of Veterinary have expensive quarters outside. The proposition to enlarge the capitol building which was made during the last session of the Legislature met with little popular favor, but as a matter of fact that would work an economy. The State always pays enormous rents.

The record of attendance at the several camps of the National Guard this year is a subject of pride in the Adjutant General's office, and justly so. There were in attendance 752 commissioned officers out of a total of 781, the average being 96.3 per cent. There are 10,751 non-commissioned officers and enlisted men in the force of whom 9748 attended camp, an average of 90.7 per cent. No regiment or other unit had a full attendance though all the officers of the field artillery, the Third, Fourth and Eighth regiments and the separate battalion of infantry were present. The division and brigade headquarters had a perfect attendance of non-commissioned officers and enlisted men. This indicates a high standard of efficiency as well as deep interest in the service.

JOHN J. DOHONEY, the capable and alert Chief of the Bureau of Accidents of the Public Service Commission, puts an admonitory note in his report recently submitted to the Commission. He says that between July 1, 1914, and June 30, 1915, there was an increase in the number of fatalities at grade crossings of twenty-nine and in the number of non-fatal injuries of sixty-six. Thirty-four of those killed, out of a total of 108, were stricken at what are known as protected crossings. The total of accidents to pedestrians was eighty-four; to automobiles fifty-five; to wagons, ninety-six; to motorcycles six; to trolley cars four. Mr. DOHONEY attributes many of the accidents to reckless running of automobiles.

The State Highway Department has determined to invoke the aid of the State Constabulary. Commissioner CUNNINGHAM appealed to Major GROOME, head of the State police, the other day "to have the troopers instructed to report all violations of the automobile law which comes under their notice, including improperly displayed registration tags, reckless driving and all other violations." Major GROOME replied that the request will be complied with and automobilists "had better look out."

Congressman EDGAR KEISS, of Lycoming county, has been reappointed a Trustee of State College. Having declined the office of Public Service Commissioner the Governor determined to put him into some office worth while and in which he would stay.

Small Game.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Colonel Roosevelt's retort of Friday to Secretary Garrison's strictures upon his indiscretion at the Plattsburg camp is characteristically unscrupulous and hypocritical. The man never did have any regard for the truth when the truth did not serve his personal and political ends, and this is an occasion when mendacity achieved by influence to better answers his purpose. Therefore he professes to believe that it was his advocacy of military preparedness, and not his sneaking, furtive attack upon the foreign policy of the government in the midst of an international crisis, that brought down upon his head the displeasure of the Secretary of War. What could be more discreditable to a man having any pretensions of honor than the contemptibly false statement that "it is an unconscious commentary by the administration itself upon its own attitude that the administration should once denounce a plea for preparedness as an assault upon the War Department under the administration?"

Secretary of War Garrison was at particular pains on Friday to make it clear that his rebuke of General Wood, and his subsequent informal retort to the original Roosevelt statement, were of his own volition and that he had not consulted the President about the matter. The Colonel is similarly at particular pains to ignore the facts and to involve the President at any hazard. Thus "the administration, through Mr. Garrison, has sought," "the administration," when it is set through Mr. Garrison," "the administration, through Mr. Garrison, says of me," etc.

Colonel Roosevelt flatters himself by his own labored falsehoods. "The administration," meaning the President, is busy with affairs of state, trying to serve the interests of a majority of his citizens, and has no time for the pleasures of the chase. And even if President Wilson had time to go hunting, it is unthinkable that he would waste his ammunition on polecats or chipmunks.

The End Not in Sight.

From the Altoona Times.

Notwithstanding the rapid fall in the value of the English pound sterling and the steady decline of all European credit, there are large orders being placed by the belligerent governments on the basis of three years more of war. During the first year of the war the hope that it would be short has been steadily declining. It was incredible a year ago that any group of nations in the world would endure losses of more than 14,298,000 of men killed, wounded and captured, and of more billions of dollars, than can be even approximately estimated, or that any nation would propose an indefinite extension of a war at a cost of more than \$1,500,000 a day, which is the estimate for each of the nations of Germany, France, Britain and Russia, or that the world would look calmly on at a war that is causing an average of more than 10,000 casualties a day.

But such is the fact. And the end is not in sight. It recedes rather than draws near, as far as seeming prospects go.

The deadlock in the west shows no sign of breaking. The prospect that Russia would be able to force a peace in the east has disappeared.

The hope of a peace by the capture of Constantinople is indefinitely delayed.

Even if Italy should gain substantial successes in the Adriatic region that would not affect the final outcome of the war.

The most doubtful element in the forces that might possibly bring peace earlier than now appears probable is the lack of knowledge as to how far the scientists of Germany have been or will be able to supply substitutes for those things used in making ammunition, the supply of which has been largely lost because of the blockade.

The truth is unknown to the outside world and can only appear in the future conduct of the war.

The Quality of Silence.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Whatever may be the real importance, if any at all, of the Belgian diplomatic correspondence from Paris several years ago, which Germany is now publishing with much glee, it is plain enough that diplomats, like politicians, sometimes write too much. Moreover, what most of them write is mere gossip anyhow. They are not in actual touch with what goes on vitally, and, knowing this, the minors resort to speculation to impress superiors with their sagacity and activity.

Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, was once minister from this country to Russia, and he held to a philosophic principle respecting politics which is as applicable internationally as nationally, and which it would have been well for the chancelleries of Europe to have adopted for their representatives. This was to the effect that, when an important matter of politics was to be discussed, it were better to travel 100 miles to see the man than write him a letter. This wisdom was emphasized in late years by Senator Quay in his famous four-word telegram: "Dear Beaver—Don't talk." Both these astute men were past masters in the game of politics, and they knew that it had no more winning quality than that of holding one's tongue and pen at the right time. But Talleyrand's policy was that all "Never write a letter and never destroy one."

This is Deliberately Unfriendly.

From the New York World.

Ohio's offer of four candidates for the Republican nomination for President shows that there has been no decline in the State's traditional output of favorite sons. But the test of quality remains to be applied.

-Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-Charles Winslow, an inmate of the Clinton county prison at Lock Haven, has escaped. He is charged with attempted burglary and other crimes.

-Charles Pross company, a Greensburg firm, sustained a heavy loss by fire of unknown origin that damaged their stock to an extent of \$35,000 to \$40,000.

-The presence of eighteen cases of typhoid fever in the State hospital for the insane at Danville indicates the existence of a very serious state of affairs.

-Fred Covert, of Falls Creek, driving a new Ford car on a trial trip near DuBois, didn't see a turn in the road and upset the car. His mother-in-law was the only one of the family to sustain injuries.

-Christian Maurer, an aged resident of Lock Haven, was seriously injured when his horse dragged him for two squares before passersby could catch it. The animal frightened at a passing train.

-W. H. Sandford, treasurer, and J. W. Grant, former Phillipsburg camp is two of the four incorporators of the Central Hardware & Supply Co., of Patton, for which a charter has just been granted, with a capital of \$50,000.

-Russell Breen, aged 12, of Williamsport, wasn't allowed to ride a bicycle, but borrowed one for a ride the other day. When the ride was over he had a sprained ankle and a number of bruises and the machine was wrecked. He collided with a motor car.

-Annie Gubas, a pretty little Slavish girl 17 years old, plunged head first to death through an elevator shaft last Sunday afternoon. Her skull was crushed and her jaw broken. Death came to her relief a half hour after the accident. She had been employed in the hotel but four days.

-Clay Hosten, who stabbed to death John A. Dunlap, at a dance, at Karthaus, in April 1914, died a few days ago in the Clearfield jail. For over a year he suffered from a complication of diseases which made him an object of pity and prevented his execution by due process of law.

-John Legonsky, a Crabtree boy who has been doing well under the care of the probation office, found that his mother had \$740 and appropriated it to have a good time. He was caught in New York city with \$700 still in his possession. His mother pleaded that he be given another chance.

-Johnstown people who invested in lots at the site of a new town, Lacolle, near New Florence, are feeling rather sore these days since the office of the realty company that sold them is closed and the sheriff is selling the entire tract. Eighty or more people have had their savings subtracted from their sum total of wealth.

-A fire of alleged incendiary origin on Sunday destroyed the Kane sawmill, three miles north of Kane, one of the finest in the State, entailing a loss of \$25,000. The mill, which was to have started operation next November, was enveloped in flames when the furnace arrived. Several thousand dollars worth of lumber was saved.

-C. E. Shirley, a farmer living near Derry, was awakened early the other morning by the barking of dogs. He and his son took their shotguns and went out. The elder man, carrying his weapon under his arm, stooped to tie his shoes. The weapon was accidentally discharged and Shirley is in the Latrobe hospital in a critical condition.

-At a special session of court held in Lewis town on Thursday, Harry F. Westbrook, of Reading, who failed a rescue of a Pennsylvanian, pleaded guilty to carrying dynamite on passenger trains and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1, the costs, and to undergo imprisonment in the county jail for ninety days, to date from the time of his first incarceration, July 19th.

-A trip of loaded cars in the mine of the Garrett (Somerset county) Coal company ran away from Elmer Deapner recently. He was knocked against the rib of the mine as each of the fourteen cars passed him and finally landed on a seam pipe, which had burned his back badly before he was rescued. One of his arms was broken and cut and he had numerous other cuts, but will recover.

-The advantages of electricity are never better appreciated than when the current is turned off, as it was in DuBois for four hours a few afternoons ago. A cross bar on the engine at the plant broke and the steam burst out from the front of the building, causing great excitement. The engineer, Grant Douth, was struck on the head by a piece of iron. But repairs were quickly made and the lights were on before dark.

-The Reilly Coal company, which has headquarters in Philadelphia, has begun the development of a 600-acre tract of the grade coal in the neighborhood of Spanler, work on a shaft having begun a few days ago. The equipment will be of the most modern character and will include a steel tippie and electric machinery. The four-foot vein that will be tapped is declared to be one of the best in that section of Cambria county.

-An event of great interest to every business man in Pennsylvania is the annual gathering of the Retail Merchants' Association of Pennsylvania, at Exposition Park, near Meadville. The convention will open with a meeting of the secretaries, September 6th, and will continue for three days. Some splendid speakers on business topics have been secured, and the program is replete with interest. The State Association is a body formed of the various local associations throughout the State and numbers about 12,000 members.

-Charged with making a false return on the stamps he cancelled, Lewis C. Herbert, postmaster of Shamokin Dam, was held in \$600 bail for appearance before the United States Court. G. L. Moser, Harrisburg, a postoffice inspector, was the informant. The postmaster at Shamokin Dam is paid by percentage on the number of stamps cancelled in that office and the amount reported to the government is far in excess of the number of stamps sent to the postoffice for sale, it is alleged. Mr. Herbert claims that the trouble is the result of the method of book-keeping adopted by his wife, who has had charge of the business.

-By agreement of counsel Judge Witmer, of the United States court at Sunbury on Monday, signed a decree directing the sale of the property of the African Ostrich Farm and Feather Company, at Bloomsburg, against which there is a debt of more than \$30,000. Personal property including 36 ostriches, will be sold first, after which the real estate, or enough of it to meet the bills and liens will be sold by the receiver. It was also agreed to sell the real estate divided of all liens. The African Ostrich Farm and Feather Company was organized in 1910, and since then \$152,000 worth of stock was sold but no dividends were paid. More than two months ago dissatisfied stockholders petitioned for a receiver.

-Harry Rutter Jr., of Northumberland, a graduate of State College and an all around athlete, figured in his third rescue within two years on Friday afternoon, when he ran in front of a fast approaching train near his home town and pulled James Grape, an aged workman, from under the car wheels. Grape, a trackman in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad, had just stepped from a work train directly in the path of the passenger train. Rutter, seeing the man's danger, dashed to his side and jerked him from the track, just as the train steamed past. In the summer of 1914 Rutter rescued Howard Heisley, a young man of Huntingdon, from the Susquehanna, and last month he saved Howard Duke, aged sixteen, of Northumberland, from drowning at the fourth pier of the covered bridge between that place and Blue Hill.