

INK SLINGS.

—Only nineteen days until Christmas. Are you ready for it?

—Deer hunting is on. Let us hope that it won't be dear hunting so far as any precious lives are concerned.

—From the way the Italians are fighting the Austrians England may discover that deeds, not threats, count most.

—A baby was born in Ohio last week with a full set of teeth and we'll bet one of those intensive farmers was its pop.

—Now is the time to advertise Christmas wares. Don't wait until your competitor has skimmed the cream from the holiday business.

—Judged from the results of that football game in New York on Saturday the Board of Strategy has the needs of the country doped right for once. The Navy did show the greatest lack of preparedness.

—HENRY FORD certainly ought to have ROOSEVELT with him on his Christmas peace ship. If everything else fails he could then do a little advertising by exhibiting TEDDY as the original "Rough Rider" from which the Ford has evolved.

—Communities expecting the completion of located federal buildings through appropriations by the new Congress for that purpose may as well understand, right now, that the "pork barrel" will be taboo. All the money Uncle SAM can scrape up will be needed for other purposes.

—With \$3,194,258 in the general fund of the State Auditor General POWELL is quoted as having said that the State does not have a comfortable working fund. He probably means that the State's depositories do not have as much cheap money to handle as they are accustomed to having.

—When we come to think of the vast numbers of men who spend much of the summer along the banks of their favorite fishing streams and much of the fall in the woods hunting we are forced to the conclusion that there really was something in that old song of "Everybody Works but Father."

—The present war tax law ends by statute on January 1st next. Don't, however, get it into your head that that will be the last of it. When there is nothing coming into the country from which to derive revenues we have to foot the bills of government by these more direct methods of taxation.

—The blowing up of another powder plant, near Wilmington, Del., with the loss of thirty-one lives adds fuel to the flame of indignation that is sweeping over this country concerning the alleged causes of these horrors. The sooner Uncle SAM departs every alien upon whom any degree of culpability, directly or indirectly, can be fastened the less the danger of more serious consequences will be.

—As an example of the art preservative Governor BRUMBAUGH'S Thanksgiving Proclamation, embossed and embellished as it was on the brochure he sent out, was a distinct triumph for its printer. There was nothing unusual in its composition, however, so that we feel quite justified in remarking that the Governor is not only extravagant, but the proprietor of an unusually hard worked bump of vanity.

—The wail that is coming from Harrisburg about a future scarcity of funds that will curtail departmental endeavor will fall on many deaf ears in the Commonwealth. If the Departments are as extravagant with everything else as they are with the matter of disseminating "news" in which the public is not generally interested it is no wonder the funds are running low. Tons upon tons of stuff are sent out from Harrisburg every day that are far more of an annoyance than they are beneficial.

—The President's message to the new Congress, which he will deliver in person this afternoon or tomorrow, is expected to be one of the most patriotic documents ever issued from the White House. If he lashes the foes of our country who are now being harbored here more than its open ones abroad no surprise will be occasioned, for he is known to have very decided views on such infamous activities. Whatever the message may be it is certain to be a masterpiece of rhetoric and phraseology, as all of WOODROW WILSON'S utterances are that.

—We need three thousand dollars before January 1st, 1916. We don't intend to buy Bethlehem Steel with it, either. We want to pay bills and put in some equipment that will help us to make the WATCHMAN better even than it is. Will you look at the label on your paper right now and see if you are in arrears at all. If you are, send us something before January 1st. If you all chip in a little our hopes will be realized and we won't bother you again for a long time. The WATCHMAN never annoyed you with bills, but we regret to say the time has come when we'll have to dig up a little Mazuma somewhere and we know of no source from which it has more cheerfully flown in the past than from the very responsive readers of this paper. Who'll be the first to come across?

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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The Progressive Plan.

The Progressive National committee of which Mr. GEORGE W. PERKINS is chairman, proposes to conscript Colonel ROOSEVELT for the campaign of next year. At a meeting of the committee held in New York on Monday it was agreed: That there shall be a Progressive Presidential ticket and no deals with Republicans or Democrats; that Colonel ROOSEVELT shall be urged to run for President "if only to hold the major portion of the votes cast for him in 1912," that the National committee shall meet in Chicago on January 11th, 1916, to fix the date and place of the National convention and that the convention shall not be held until the Republicans and Democrats have put their tickets in the field.

These are interesting facts, all things considered. In the first place it is surprising that Colonel ROOSEVELT is to be urged to run. With PERKINS' money guaranteed to pay the expenses of the campaign they couldn't keep ROOSEVELT from running with a derrick. He has been living during the last three years with no other object in mind or incentive for existence. He would prefer to run on the Republican ticket, probably, and has been shaping his actions and regulating his movements with the view of inducing the Republican convention to nominate him. But he has not put "all his grain in one bag" at that. He is willing to take any nomination that comes to him and will grab the first.

Colonel ROOSEVELT is not hampered by political principles or any other kind of conventions. He wants to be President because no other office affords the same opportunity for "a bully thing," and TEDDY is all for that sort of thing. He was the obedient servant of the late J. PIERPONT MORGAN while he occupied the Presidential chair and was always ready to serve any other interest which could help him in his ambition to run things. Even MELLON, of the Hartford road, had him at his beck and call while his wrecking operations were in process and he wants another opportunity to serve his friends in the same way. Mr. PERKINS doesn't have to draft ROOSEVELT. All that is necessary is to honor ROOSEVELT'S drafts.

—Representative MANN failed to create enthusiasm with his impertinent answer to President's WILSON'S invitation to conference. So far as the records indicate he didn't even get approval.

Most Important Present Duty.

In an address delivered in Philadelphia, the other evening, Colonel J. CAMPBELL GILMORE, of the National Guard, declared that "50,000 trained troops could land on the Atlantic coast and walk through the United States without effective interference on the part of the American people." In support of this absurd assertion he gave some statistics which an esteemed Philadelphian pronounces "startling." He said that during 1913 only 36,194 three-inch shells were manufactured at the Frankford arsenal and during 1914 only 102,818 shells of that calibre were made. It is small wonder that such a record would make an amateur soldier worry. He probably thinks that he is the only shell factory.

We really sympathize with Colonel GILMORE. "A million men here might respond to the call of arms," he says, "but what would they fight with? Well, if the enemy consisted of only 50,000 men we could fight with our teeth and literally 'eat 'em up.'" But we have other resources. The "woods are full" of nice saplings and we could cut them into clubs and beat the brains out of the trained soldiers during their "walk through the United States." Or for that matter we might borrow hat pins from our wives, daughters and sweethearts and pick the 100,000 eyes out of the 50,000 trained soldiers who had the temerity to walk through the country if they swaggared the least bit.

The truth is that Colonel GILMORE wants an army of a million men under arms to avert an invasion which could find foothold in the imagination of only a very much excited man. Even if the Frankford arsenal only made a meagre number of shells in 1914 the country now has facilities to turn them out at the rate of nearly a million an hour and even German troops of a total of 50,000 would find "a triumphal march to San Francisco" anything but a picnic. Our greatest danger at this time is not from an invading army, but from twin evils, a bunch of militarists on one hand and a group of peace-at-any-price advocates on the other. Both are nuisances and the most important duty is to abate them.

—The trouble with Lord NORTHCLIFFE is that he is too fresh. He never ought to have been honored with a title that swelled his head. It is a clear case of a beggar on horseback.

Trading Post in Action.

The office brokers of Pennsylvania met at the Trading Post in Harrisburg the other day, according to press dispatches, presumably for the purpose of dividing what remains of the spoils of the victory of 1912 among their friends. There are quite a number of postoffice vacancies coming in the near future and Mr. A. MITCHELL PALMER, Mr. VANCE C. McCORMICK and Mr. JAMES I. BLAKESLIE are "keen on the scent of them." The meeting in Harrisburg, the gentlemen assured the press reporters, was purely accidental. Mr. PALMER was in Harrisburg on professional business and the others "just happened" to be there. The question of dispensing spoils was incidental.

During the session of the brokers Mr. PALMER talked freely of politics, State and National, and declared that President WILSON will be re-nominated without opposition. An intelligent public hardly needed that information. For more than a year it has been evident that no sane man would undertake to defeat him. As CHAMP CLARK said two years ago, "if the WILSON administration is a success no one can defeat him for the nomination and if it is not a success the Democratic nomination would not be worth while." That the WILSON administration has been a splendid success is beyond question. It has more than fulfilled the most sanguine expectations of the President's best friends.

But Democratic sentiment is no more a unit for President WILSON now than it was four years ago in Pennsylvania. Yet ever since the Baltimore convention Mr. PALMER has been posing as the champion of civic righteousness who forced an unwilling party to nominate him and has been trading upon the spoils of office in consequence of his achievement. After the nomination he did little or nothing to promote the election of President WILSON. He was too busy pulling wires to get his friends into office during the campaign and during the nearly three years which have intervened since he has been cultivating party schisms and assiduously marketing his influence with the President.

—Captain Boy-Ed, of the German embassy at Washington, ought not to complain because his name was mentioned by a witness in a New York court the other day. If he had got a good swift kick there would have been some cause of complaint.

Brumbaugh's Waterloo Coming.

The political war for control of the Republican National convention increases in public interest as it progresses. That Governor BRUMBAUGH will invest the full measure of his influence and invoke every expedient to win votes is obvious. But his methods are abhorrent. He is too coarse. He lacks finesse. His bald commerce with BILL ADAMS during the last session of the Legislature expresses his idea of political sagacity. He asked ADAMS to betray his pledges and promised recompense if the perfidy cost him anything. No successful practical politician would "cut it out" so raw.

But late developments indicate that no sort of trading or bargaining will compass the triumph for which the Governor hopes. The rank and file of the party are dead set against him. Reports from Pittsburgh, Erie, Scranton, Harrisburg and Philadelphia are of the same tenor. The PENROSE machine is not only prepared for war but has the victory clinched. The delegates have been chosen, the plans of campaign laid and the work well on the way. There has been no trumpeting, no band playing, no shouting. That isn't the PENROSE way of proceeding. But a thoroughly systematic and effective plan of campaign has been laid and will be pursued to a victorious conclusion.

In Philadelphia the change is most apparent. Since the election of Mayor SMITH the VARES have been keeping him under surveillance so closely that everybody thought they would dominate the new municipal administration. That was while the PENROSE was away. He got back the other day and promptly asserted his property rights in the new Mayor and sent his local antagonists into seclusion. It is now understood that PENROSE will practically name and certainly control the important offices in the new city government and that BRUMBAUGH will get no aid from that source in his political ambitions. The result of the primary will be a Waterloo for the Governor and an end of his methods.

—There is likely to be some restriction put upon filibustering in the Senate by the rules which will be adopted at the opening of the coming session, but it will hardly take the form of a radical cloture. Respect for tradition still continues in Washington.

Business and Politics.

When business got bad during the Republican administration the Republican press and politicians promptly declared that it was because the people apprehended a Democratic victory in the near future. When business is brisk and the country is prosperous under a Democratic administration, the Republican press and politicians with equal promptness declare that it is because the people expect a Republican triumph in the near future. Thus the Republican press and politicians hope to catch credulous voters coming and going. In both instances they are perpetrating a fraud upon the people but they don't mind that. The Republican party has been maintained upon false pretences for a long time.

The panic of 1903 set in as early as February 1892 with a strike at Bethlehem. It reached its climax with the Homestead strike and slaughter in July, 1892, and largely because of it GROVER CLEVELAND was elected President in November, 1892. In March, 1893, CLEVELAND was inaugurated and the WILSON tariff bill was passed a year and a half later though to this day the Republican press and politicians declare that the panic which was intense in July, 1892, is ascribable to the operation of the WILSON tariff law which was enacted and went into operation in October, 1894. Possibly there are some persons outside of insane asylums who are deceived by such rubbish but we protest that there are not many.

The panic of 1907 came upon us during a period of Republican control and at a time when the high tariff was in its greatest prosperity. But for the pledge made in 1908 that the party would reform the tariff downward the Republican ticket would have been overwhelmingly defeated that year, and it was defeated in 1912 because that pledge was violated. The split in the Republican party in 1912 had little, if anything to do with the election of WOODROW WILSON. He was elected because the people demanded a decrease in the rate of tariff taxation and knew that the Republican party would not give them such relief. If there had been no war in Europe good times would have followed instantly.

—Dr. H. Walton Mitchell, of Pittsburgh, has been honored by the class of 1917 at Penn State, which will dedicate to him its issue of the La Vie, the most imposing of the student publications. Dr. Mitchell was graduated from the college in 1890. He is president of the board of trustees. On the twenty-fifth anniversary of his graduation, last June, he delivered the commencement address to the graduating class. He was the business manager of the first La Vie published at the institution, in 1889. In the opinion of the students it was fitting that the publication which Dr. Mitchell was instrumental in organizing should be dedicated to his name twenty-five years after he left the college.

—Already the dear women are practicing machine politics. At the convention of the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage association, in Philadelphia, on Tuesday, their party machine drove the "steam roller" right over the opposition to the slate for officers of the Association. You fellows who voted against giving them the franchise because you thought they didn't know enough about political issues must certainly admit now that they do know something about political practices at least.

—The season for wild turkeys, pheasants, rabbits and squirrel closed on Tuesday, but you can still hunt deer and bear. The latter, by the way, will be lawful game until the last day of December.

—The W. C. T. U. will this year as formerly publish the names of all signers to liquor license petitions. Any one desiring to have his name withdrawn may do so by permission of the court.

—We're expecting a bit of Christmas jingle from "Priscilla," our pet poetess, and we're going to set it in ten point with a big head all because we know it will be something good.

—HENRY FORD may not be able to get any distinguished people to join his peace mission, but he has succeeded in making a donkey of himself.

—Work is plenty and money abundant, according to current reports, and the only persons in actual distress at present are the calamity howlers.

—December 3rd and the calendar is on the final lap of 1915, and the 1916 infant will be out of its swaddling clothes before we realize it.

—Greece seems to be the conundrum of the big war and come to think of it Greece always has been a smooth article and slippery.

Refusing the Presidency.

From the Altoona Times. The reluctance of Kansas Republicans to take Justice Hughes' name off the ballot shows how hard it is for political leaders to understand how any man can refuse the honor of a presidential nomination.

To the politician, it is inconceivable. He regards the Presidency as the natural goal of every public career, and he is certain that even a losing fight for that office as champion of a party is an honor to be grasped at eagerly by any ambitious American.

It is a wholesome thing, then, for the politicians and for the nation at large to be reminded that there are men whose eyes are not dazzled by visions of the White House, and who recognize in the Presidency only one of the many honorable offices worthy of high ability.

Charles E. Hughes would rather have his present job than Mr. Wilson's. He considers the Supreme court of the United States as not inferior to the office of the chief executive. He thinks he can serve the nation better where he is, and he knows that he will be happier there. And Justice Hughes isn't the first man who has been so minded. William H. Taft, it may be remembered, wanted about all other things to be a Supreme court judge, and ran for the Presidency unwillingly.

It is customary in America, if a man shows conspicuous ability in any public place, to begin immediately talking of him for the Presidency. It is unfortunate that this is so. There are many public jobs besides the Presidency that are of great importance. Moreover, the ambition that this practice incites tends to make a public man dissatisfied, viewing whatever place he may hold as a mere stepping stone to something higher—when, as a matter of fact, whether it be a mayoralty or governorship or senatorship or judgeship or any of a dozen other forms of public service, it may be the one place in which he can do his happiest work and render his most effective service. Presidential ambitions have ruined far too many fine public careers in America.

The Lusitania Deadlock.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. It is gratifying to learn that there is absolutely no foundation for the repeated statements that the German Ambassador, Count Von Bernstorff, has offered, on behalf of his government, to pay five thousand dollars a piece for the one hundred and ten American lives lost by the sinking of the Lusitania, refusing, at the same time, to "disavow" that horror as an illegal act.

It has seemed unbelievable that the German government would deliberately take the position that our government must be content to have its slain people paid for at so much a head without any admission on the part of Germany that she had no right to thus sink a passenger steamship regardless of the humane requirements of international law. There could hardly be a more contemptuous or offensive offer to save the skin of the Lusitania, refusing, at the same time, to "disavow" that horror as an illegal act.

Whatever the final adjustment of this matter it is evident that the horrors of submarine warfare may be expected to continue over a wider area, but under increasing limitations. The sudden lull in news of that sort from the British submarine war zone has been followed by a ghastly record from the Mediterranean and other seas, but the means of fighting submarines have evidently been multiplied and the effect of such warfare modified. The submarine has utterly failed to affect the preponderance of sea power.

Three Ways to Get Money.

From the Los Angeles Times. The three legitimate ways to get money are to inherit it, to marry it, or to earn it.

Inheriting it is the most comfortable. But it is an accident, sheer luck. Neither skill nor merit plays a part. It brings the least amount of genuine satisfaction in its train. Unless one has undergone severe probation of poverty inherited wealth is rarely fully appreciated and enjoyed.

Marrying money may be luck, too. Sometimes it is strategy, occasionally merit. But for masculinity, at all events, it is rarely satisfactory. More generally it is highly ignominious. One has to earn every cent of it in the end, one way or another, with never an iota of credit for one's pains.

But earning money—that is pure satisfaction. It is never luck. Money earned represents a happy quid pro quo that no other method of success has to offer. It is the one way of self-respect, proper pride. It is usually a hard way, fraught with tribulations and disappointments, demanding perpetual vigilance, patience, resourcefulness. But it is the one way to get money that leaves least regrets. The man's way.

—Possibly the Kaiser's forces are working as hard as ever, but we don't hear as much about drives as formerly.

—The effort to raise a campaign issue out of the conditions in the Philippines is altogether too far-fetched.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The Pennsylvania State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry will hold its next annual session at State College December 21-24.

—Over in Williamsport many turkeys were taken back home by the farmers who were unable to sell them at the price demanded the day before Thanksgiving.

—William H. Stevenson, one of Lock Haven's foremost citizens, former mayor, is dead at his home in that city at the age of 62 years. He is survived by his wife and four children.

—Cambria county has nearly 650 public school teachers and when they all gathered in the court house at Ebensburg last week here was little room to spare for casual visitors.

—Jefferson county is also to have a farm bureau. The commissioners have appropriated \$1,000 for that purpose and private subscriptions to the amount of \$1,500 have already been secured.

—Centre Methodist Episcopal church, the oldest society of that denomination in Clearfield county, will celebrate its centennial during the first five days of December. An elaborate program is being prepared.

—Peter Malenofski, aged 35, a Slav residing at Osceola Mills, shot and killed himself, following an illness of about two weeks. He used a shot gun, the charge entering his neck and passing out at the top of his head.

—Mrs. Sol Roach, of Windber, who can fish and hunt as cleverly as her husband, who has won renown, accompanied him to Centre county on a recent hunting trip and shot a large fat wild turkey. She did it with a clear rifle shot which killed without fussing up the big bird.

—In Clearfield, Judge Ruppel, of Somerset, specially presiding, has affirmed the verdict of a jury which awarded one Harry Bowes \$500 reward offered by the commissioners of Clearfield county for the capture of John O. Keeler, wanted for murder. Bowes is brother-in-law to Keeler and the commissioners refused to pay him the money.

—Edna Schlesinger, aged 26, whose home is near Avis, Clinton county, wandered away from home last Wednesday while suffering from mental hallucination and has not yet been located. She has dark hair, dark brown eyes, about 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighs about 130 pounds and when she left home was attired in a brown and white sailor suit.

—C. O. Confer, one of Warriorsmark's best known farmers, suffered a peculiar but none the less painful injury on Thanksgiving day. Mr. Confer had been husking corn and finishing his arduous task, attempted to rise, when the large bone in his right leg snapped off below the knee. The fracture was reduced by Dr. Thomas Tobin, of Tyrone.

—LaRue Myers, proprietor of the Heidelberg hotel, of Williamsport, has brought suit against Frederick R. Heller, of Reading, owner of the hotel Brighton, in that city, for recovery of \$15,000 damages for the death of his wife, Ida K. Myers, who was fatally hurt in an elevator in the hotel last August. The papers in the suit were filed at Reading Friday.

—George Shaffer, who conducted a store about three miles from Elderton, Armstrong county, was found dead in his wagon shortly after daylight the other morning. He had been to Kittanning during the day and his failure to return worried his wife. Early next morning she saw the team standing between the barn and the house and upon going out discovered that her husband was dead.

—Six attendants at the Danville state hospital for the insane were on Monday held responsible by a coroner's jury for the death of McNelis, of Indiana county, a patient at the institution, who died Saturday from injuries alleged to have been inflicted by the men named by the jury. The coroner's jury exonerated the attendants. The men held responsible for McNelis' death have not yet been prosecuted.

—An application will be made to the Governor of Pennsylvania on December 21 for a charter for an intended corporation to be known as the Penn Milk company. The object of the company is to manufacture, buy, sell, import, export, trade and deal in milk and dairy products. It is stated that the proposed company will erect a large milk station at Spring Mills and the milk and cream purchased in that district will be shipped to the condensary at Mill Hall.

—W. Atlee Burpee, head of the seed firm of W. Atlee Burpee and Company, and a noted horticulturist, died at his country home in Doylestown on November 26th. He was 57 years old and had been in failing health since last July. Mr. Burpee was a director in several financial institutions in Philadelphia and owned large seed farms in New Jersey and California. His farm at Doylestown was one of the largest in the country, devoted to seed raising.

—E. W. Rodgers and William S. Snyder, of Lock Haven, went on a hunting in the vicinity of McElhattan on Saturday night. Rodgers shot at a coon in a tree, wounded the animal but not killing it. The coon came down with a bump and soon was engaged in a battle royal with the dog. Mr. Snyder took upon himself the task of rescuing the coon from the dogs, and as a reward the desperate animal bit him on both hands and took a big chunk out of one of his trouser legs. He got the coon just the same and it tipped the scales at 27 pounds.

—To safeguard upwards of \$10,000,000 worth of materials for several of Europe's warring nations now stored on 2,000 freight cars in the East Hollidaysburg classification yards, the Pennsylvania Railroad company has placed a number of railroad policemen on duty to patrol the yards. The yards are now the scene of the greatest activity. Shifting engines are busy during the entire twenty-four hours of the day. Owing to the great congestion of freight in New Jersey, the cars are being detained in Hollidaysburg. Much of the detained freight is for Russia, and is composed of steel cars, wheels, etc.

—The jig's up with Sidney Hollister, of Munson Station, Clearfield county, Pa., who spent \$5,000 in less than a year and is now penniless and in the jail in Washington, D. C., awaiting a trial on a charge of stealing an automobile from a man to whom he had sold it but a short time before.

Hollister's run of hard luck started with the death of his wife two weeks after they were married, he told the police. That was more than a year ago. Then he lost a leg on the railroad and got \$5,000 damages from the railroad company. With the \$5,000 he started out for a good time and he landed last summer in Washington with an automobile and no money. He got a job in a garage and worked for a time. Then he sold his car and suddenly disappeared, the car vanishing simultaneously. He was arrested in Harrisburg and returned to Washington.

—The largest timber sale that has been made in this section of the State for some time was successfully closed on Friday of last week whereby John R. Thompson & Son, of Salona, purchased from J. B. Furst and Alpine White, both of Lock Haven, what is considered to be the best tract of white pine and white oak timber standing in Clinton county today. This valuable tract of timber is located only three miles from Mill Hall, and composes what is known as the Joseph Miller and Charles Grieco tracts, consisting of 175 acres of solid timber, estimated to cut 1,000,000 to 1,200,000 feet of white pine and white oak. Over one-half of this timber is of the very finest quality of white pine, and J. R. Thompson & Son mean to erect an up-to-date mill on the property to convert it into the valuable lumber it will produce in the very near future.