

INK SLINGS.

—Next Tuesday will be the shortest day of the year.

—Anyway we'll bet HENRY FORD didn't know whether he was the Earl of Roseberry or Gooseberry.

—State College will entertain the State Grange next week. It should prove a very interesting gathering of practical and theoretical farmers.

—Poor Greece. She has so many guests that they are becoming an embarrassment. Unhappily she can't say: "Here's your hat, what's your hurry?"

—The preparedness that the American people need most of all is that preparedness that will make them unafraid when the call comes to go into that 3x6 trench in God's acre.

—The hunting camps that have been notified to settle for killing deer at the rate of \$100 a piece, want to know what "a piece" means. It makes a difference as to whether it is a doe or "a piece" of doe.

—The great decrease in the consumption of spirituous and malt liquors in this country might be partially responsible for the great revival of ice skating that is now sweeping over the land. We simple must have some sort of a skate on.

—The Earl of Roseberry's remark to the effect that HENRY FORD is a gentleman engaged in the manufacture of perambulators or some such contraption, wasn't calculated to promote peace, so far as HENRY'S state of mind is concerned.

—There are many things we'd like to have But we won't be happy 'till Three thousand long green Williams Are lying in our till If you're a WATCHMAN reader and There's anything you owe We'll wish the happiness all on you If you send in the "dough."

—If you are still at a loss to know what to send that friend at home or at a distance, why don't you try the WATCHMAN. Anyone with an interest in Bellefonte or Centre county would appreciate the weekly visits of a really clean, intelligently edited paper like the WATCHMAN.

—The stockings were hung by the chimney with care In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

Oh, God! May it be that in every home where innocent childhood dwells there may be something, just something, so that the "hopes" of no one of the little ones may be blasted on the morning of the birth of Thy child.

—This week last year we had twelve inches of snow on the ground. It began snowing on Sunday and continued until late Sunday night then it turned cold and by Tuesday morning thermometers registered from 5 degrees to 10 degrees below zero. We have very little snow now and the lowest temperature thus far has been about 16 degrees above zero.

—They've got to come faster, friends. We have had some splendid letters with satisfactory enclosures but they're not coming fast enough. It's a long, long way to three thousand dollars. GEORGE O'BRYAN, of Montpelier, Ohio, writes "Enclosed find my \$1.50. The other fellows will have to send you the balance of the \$3,000." Are you one of "the other fellows?" If you are, it's up to you.

—There were fifty-three million gallons less of distilled and fermented liquors manufactured in the United States in 1915 than in 1913. And the first three months of 1916 indicate that this year the production will be considerably less than in 1915. Government officials ascribe the great falling off in the manufacture and consumption of liquors to the more temperate use of them by the American people.

—The writer of the Pleasant Gap Pickings, that appear regularly in this paper, is contributing a feature that is designed not only to please the people of the community he covers, but to interest all of the WATCHMAN readers. It is this paper's aim to secure the very best presentation possible of news that is news and in the Pleasant Gap field it is doing that with signal success, thanks to the work of a most capable writer.

—Brother BRUMBAUGH has not much to expect from Philadelphia since Mayor PENROSE. Come to think of it, had Brother BRUMBAUGH any right to expect anything. Like SAMUEL PENNYPACKER and EDWIN S. STUART, he lent a little respectability to the Machine when it was in sore straits for some of that commodity, and, having served the purpose, he is done. It remains for him to demonstrate that he can make a good Governor before his ambitions will be allowed to vaunt too high.

—Many interesting features are to be found in this issue of the WATCHMAN. The splendid "Song of Christmas Cheer," the frontispiece, of Section 1 is beautiful in thought and expression. The article on "Early Educational Institutions in Pennsylvally," by Dr. THOMAS C. VANTRIES, that appears on page 4 of Section 1 contains a lot of hitherto unwritten history that will be well worth preserving and the Christmas story "Santa Claus Sweetheart," is a captivating bit of fiction for the younger folks that will be concluded next week.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Lansing's Note to Austria.

There is no uncertainty in the language of the note addressed by Secretary of State LANSING to the Imperial government of Austria in reference to the torpedoing of the Italian Liner Anconia, in which several citizens of the United States lost their lives. It is declared that the commander of the submarine which perpetrated the outrage "violated the principles of international law," and that his conduct "can only be characterized as a wanton slaughter of defenceless non-combatants." The note demands, moreover, that the Imperial government of Austria "denounce the sinking of the Anconia as an illegal and indefensible act; that the officer who perpetrated the deed be punished and that reparation by the payment of indemnity be made for the citizens of the United States who were killed or injured by the attack on the vessel."

It has been alleged, of course, that the government of Austria was under no pledge to refrain from such attacks upon ships of commerce whether sailing under hostile or neutral flags. But all belligerents are under moral as well as legal obligations to conduct their warfare under the rules of civilization and within the lines of humanitarian principles. If there had been no other consideration that ought to have been sufficient reason for such restraint as would have obviated this brutal and murderous attack upon defenceless travelers. But as a matter of fact the government of Austria had been fully informed of the attitude of the government of the United States upon this subject and the attack on the Anconia was, therefore, wanton and inexcusable. The conditions laid down in Mr. LANSING'S note are therefore just and reasonable.

It may result in the severance of diplomatic relations between the governments and before these lines are read by those to whom they are directed, the diplomatic agents of Austria may be handed their passports and invited to take themselves out of the country. But the government of the United States will not be to blame if that shall be the result. Our authorities at Washington have been patient with the arrogant idiots who appear to have control of affairs in Europe since the beginning of the war. Not only Germany and Austria but Great Britain and France have been indulging in excesses and interfering with our commerce to an extent which provokes resentment. It is to be hoped that Austria will have the good sense to comply with the demands contained in the note in question, but if she hasn't let her take the consequences.

Roosevelt a Republican Bugaboo.

The New York Tribune and other influential Republican papers are more or less worried because of a fear that Colonel ROOSEVELT will seize the Republican nomination for President. For months these framers of popular opinion have been rejoicing over the "return of the prodigals," as they piously termed the return of the Bull Mooseers to the Republican fold. Now that they discern a dangerous "frame up" in this movement they are greatly distressed. They realize that under no circumstances could the "old liners," such as PENROSE, GALLINGER, CANNON and others come to the support of ROOSEVELT even if he were nominated and such a division of forces would spell defeat.

There can be little doubt, however, that ROOSEVELT aspires to the nomination of the Republican convention and that he will exhaust all his strength in his effort to secure it. He doesn't care anything about principle. His ambition is to break down the tradition created by WASHINGTON when he declined a third election and incidentally to get that third cup of coffee to which his chief on the editorial staff of The Outlook referred to about four years ago. ROOSEVELT cannot endure the notion that anyone exerts greater influence upon the affairs of the country than he and if he can overcome the public antipathy to the third term of the Presidency he will have achieved his highest ambition.

And viewing the situation at long range it looks to us as though the Colonel will succeed in grabbing the nomination. The party is destitute of leaders. Of course ROOT is a great lawyer and a statesman of some distinction. But his affiliation with corporate interests makes him impossible and there is not another man within the ranks of the "regulars" who can make even a decent false pretense of fitness for the office. "Taking one consideration with another," therefore, we are convinced that the apprehensions of the Tribune and others are fully justified. ROOSEVELT is a candidate and it is doubtful if he can be defeated for the nomination. At the election it will be different.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

"The Goose Hangs High."

Mayor-elect TOM SMITH, of Philadelphia, has undertaken that which has always been reckoned as impossible. He is trying to ride two horses going in opposite directions and appearances indicate that he may "pull it off." Of course the conditions are unusual, which is in his favor. He is dealing with elements that are quite as opposite as his purposes and he has begun with great tact. The VARES, for example, have no higher aspirations than the spoils of office. Given all, or nearly all, the patronage, they are content. PENROSE, on the other hand, has ambition for power. He doesn't care much who gets the spoils if he has the direction of affairs. In other words one wants patronage and the other covets power.

A good many of those Philadelphia voters who supported TOM SMITH for Mayor misconceived or misinterpreted him. He was generally regarded by those who knew him as a good natured fatty with little ability. He represented that sacred fœtus, the tariff, and that is all they cared for. But since his election he has developed an ability in manipulation which is surprising. He accurately estimated the dilemma into which good fortune had thrown him and put himself to the task of solving a vexed problem. Understanding the characteristics of the contending forces in the equation he wisely determined to give to the VARES the spoils. He gave them all the offices at his disposal and surfeited them with self-satisfaction.

After the announcement of the cabinet the VARES strutted about like a rooster on a dung hill and crowed, lustily. The Mayor was their meat for he had divided among them all that had value. They began talking of State leadership and the elimination of PENROSE. But at the psychological moment the Senior Senator swooped down upon the perplexed Mayor and procured from him a statement that PENROSE is the only favorite son of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, and whoever associated with his administration should dispute or even question the fact, would be penalized to the full measure. That satisfied PENROSE, of course, and as the VARES have the spoils, so long as they use them in the interest of PENROSE, they are content. "Everything is lovely and the goose hangs high."

—Mr. FORD sent a message from the deck of his peace ark to the several crowned heads now engaged in war, the other day, asking them to quit their expensive and destructive foolishness. And there are people who wonder what influences impel a dog to "bay the moon."

Party National Conventions.

The time and place of the National conventions of both the great parties have been fixed and preparations to make both of them eventful will tax the energy and ingenuity of party managers meantime. The Democratic convention will be held in St. Louis on June 14 and the Republican convention in Chicago on June 7. The Progressives declare that they will hold a convention somewhere, some time, but that depends. If ROOSEVELT is able to stampee and run away with the Republican convention, which now seems probable, the Progressive convention will simply be a ratification meeting, and one place will serve as well as another for that purpose and any old time will do.

The date of the Democratic convention is early enough if the laws of the several States are to be respected. The primary elections will not be held in some of the States until the first week in June, on June 6, to be exact, and it will be impossible to get the certified returns from those States within a week. But the panic-stricken Republican committeemen fixed the date of their convention a week earlier, for two reasons. The first lies in the hope that ROOSEVELT will not be able to get his lines laid by that time to capture the convention and the other in the desire to assert Democratic principles and pledge Democratic policies ahead of the Democratic meeting thus stealing Democratic thunder.

But nothing will avail to rejuvenate the moribund Republican machine which stands disgraced and discredited in the public mind all over the country. The aspiration of Philadelphia politicians to take the convention to that city in order to crystallize the BRUMBAUGH boom, failed, of course, but it placed HAMPTON MOORE, BILL VARE and BRUMBAUGH in the lime light for a brief period. The BRUMBAUGH boom is too dead to be revived and there is no reason under the sun why the convention should be held there. The city is thoroughly corrupt and entirely content to vote the ticket so long as it gives the promise of graft to the few millionaires who keep up the campaign fund.

—Have your Job Work done here.

Treasonable Conspiracy Defeated.

The purchase of part of the Pacific Mail fleet by the American International Corporation, averts the disappearance of the American flag from the Pacific ocean, the public is informed through news dispatches. This is most gratifying information. Nothing contributes more generously to National pride than the knowledge that the National colors are proudly floating in every centre of commerce in the wide world. We have recently been reminded, in an official and most substantial way of the decadence of our ocean carrying facilities, and this evidence that it is not to be eliminated entirely from the ports which give greatest promise of trade cannot fail to convey comfort to all our countrymen.

After the adjournment of the last Congress groups of men in various sections of the country set out to paralyze commerce and industry. The tariff mongers determined to prove that practically prohibitive tariff taxation is essential to industrial prosperity and one of the expedients invoked to accomplish the result was the transfer of the Pacific Mail company's ships to alien ownership, some pernicious provisions of the LA FOLLETTE shipping bill being made the "goat" for this unpatriotic action. But their scheme has miscarried. WILLIAM R. GRACE & Co., of New York, organized a corporation which has just taken over what remains of the fleet, which will be operated under their direction and we hope at great profit to those concerned.

We are prepared to believe that the LA FOLLETTE shipping bill is as vicious as most of the schemes of that "million dollar beauty" projected into the public life of the country by former Senator ISAAC STEPHENSON, of Wisconsin. But its iniquities didn't justify the radical action adopted, that of selling the ships to foreign owners so that they might be operated under foreign flags any more than the reduction of the excessive tariff taxes justified industrial and transportation corporations in closing mills and discharging employees in order to compel industrial and commercial stagnation. Both actions were the result of treasonable conspiracies to restore the Republican party to power.

—JOHN HAYS HAMMOND, whose generous contribution to the last campaign fund entitles him to a hearing, wants the Republican party to declare for a tariff commission. But JOHN HAYS HAMMOND will be disappointed. A tariff commission would delay the restoration of the PAYNE-ALDRICH schedules and the tariff mongers who control the party will not stand for that.

—The attention of WATCHMAN readers is called to the very interesting article on "Education in Pennsylvania Sixty-five Years Ago," published on the 4th page of the first section of today's paper. It was compiled by Dr. T. C. Van Tries and is worth the time it will take to read it.

—The farmers' institute at Pine Grove Mills Wednesday and yesterday was largely attended, according to a report received yesterday afternoon. Col. John F. Woodward was in charge and among the lecturers was W. H. Hamer, of Tyrone, an expert engineer.

—Army and navy men say the President's preparedness plans are inadequate. It may safely be said that in the opinion of army and navy men any defense legislation which doesn't make Major Generals of all the commissioned officers in service is inadequate.

—It is a pity to disappoint Colonel ROOSEVELT'S hope for war but as a matter of fact the majority of people are opposed to war with reason, and that is the sort that ROOSEVELT yearns for.

—Of course the Christmas trade is great. Everybody has work who wants to work and those who work have money. Money makes the rein-deer run as certainly as it makes the mare go.

—British troops may require the stimulating influence of Bulgarian bayonets to urge them to swift motion but they have amply proved capability in emergency.

—Sheriff A. B. Lee now has twelve boarders in the bastle on the hill, last week's session of court turning out eight, which included all of his female visitors.

—A new fire alarm has been installed on the steam heat works, but let us hope that there will never be any occasion to test its capacity to alarm.

—Hunters can now devote their time entirely to hunting bear, as the legal season for bruin will not expire until January first.

—They are all good enough, but the WATCHMAN is always the best.

The Beginning of the End.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

The peace note in the daily war news grows unmistakably stronger.

The brief cables extracts from speeches in the German parliament show this distinctly despite the tones of confidence, triumph or defiance which are natural enough under the circumstances and which many themselves give additional value to the expressions of hope and longing for peace. So far as Germany is concerned there could hardly be any doubt that now is the time to make peace if it can be made upon terms which to Germans would appear reasonable; but reasonable Germans must see that the nations at war with them can not be expected to see the matter in the same light. This should dispose the Germans to be more moderate in their terms but there is too much reason to fear that their ideas of moderation will appear extravagant to their foes. They may be willing to restore to Russia a large part of the lands they have won from her. They may even be inclined to consent to retire from Belgium.

There is a strong German faction against great increase of territory. But it is not to be expected that Austria will retire from Serbia or that Germany will consent even to discuss the relinquishment of any part of Alsace and Lorraine.

The powers opposed to the Teutonic powers are manifest, and with reason, hopeful of a more favorable outlook the longer the war lasts. Their people, though undoubtedly weary of the war, are by no means as restive under it as the people of Germany and Austro-Hungary are shown to be by reports from many sources. The stories of serious rioting in Berlin itself which come by way of Switzerland may be fiction but it is plausible fiction. From the beginning of this apparently senseless war it has seemed that the end would be in revolution on one side or the other if not on both sides and now the signs point more distinctly towards that climax.

The Pendulum Swings.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

No one has ever described the state of mind of the foreign-born citizens of our land better than Carl Schurz, who said: "You cannot expect me to forget my mother because I have taken a bride. Nor can you. The love of the home land is a love that has been a heritage of the race for centuries. Internationalism is a mere infant compared with patriotism."

The Germans of this country are today paying for mistakes that many of them made during the early stages of the present world war. There was a time when German-Americans in many places attempted to dominate opinion. In many of our cities, so strong was the pressure, few men dared openly to express sympathy with the allies. It was inevitable that there should have been a reaction. Opinion in this country cannot long be controlled.

There can be no doubt that the present wave of intolerance will likewise pass. The Germany-baiting press is playing the game too strong. In the end the German people will be judged by the Germans all of us know. Metropolitan papers, for purposes of their own, may attempt to portray the Teuton as an intellectual superhuman devoid of all conscience. In this country the average man knows from first hand knowledge that Germans are made out of the universal clay. They are pretty much like other folks. In the first rush of passion following the war our German-Americans overstepped the bounds in their efforts to control opinion. Now the shoe is on the other foot. It is the supporters of the allies who offend. But the situation will right itself if we all have patience.

"Crushing Germany."

From the New Republic.

But the cause of international righteousness, in so far as it is involved, will be sufficiently served by the checking of Germany—by teaching her the lesson that the attainment of primacy in Europe is beyond her power, just as it was beyond the power of Spain and France.

By proposing to subjugate Germany the allies are planning to do to the German people just what they are fighting to prevent the Germans from doing to them. They are proposing to strip Germany of her defenses, prevent her from having anything to say about the affairs of Europe, and to reduce her permanently to the condition of a subject and helpless nation. Merely to suggest such a policy is an indication of moral deterioration. The attempt to carry it out would do more harm to the allies than it would to Germany. The Germans would never willingly submit. The allies would be trying to accomplish European pacification exclusively by the sword, and the result would be to convert Europe into an international despotism and a moral chaos.

Mince Pie and Booze.

From the Salt Lake Tribune.

Of course there is such a thing as mince pie without the booze habit, but it is enough to drive a man to drink. There are perfectly respectable mince pies with which no one wishes to associate. The mince pie which is addicted to booze is devilish but alluring. And yet there are some outside of Colorado who accuse all mince pies of being diabolical, so that the banishing of the pie from Colorado may be but the beginning of a nationwide ban on this reprobate, said to have originated among the Puritans of New England.

—The public is less interested in Germany's inquiry as to what BOY-ED did than in what he is going to do. What he did was plenty and it is to be hoped that what he will do will be speedy. "Beat it."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Twenty-nine applications for divorces were presented to the county court of Westmoreland county, when it met in regular session this week.

—More than \$19,000 has been subscribed by the citizens of Lock Haven for the purchase of a site for an aniline chemical plant wishing to locate there.

—The St. Clair theatre, in Greensburg, was damaged by fire to the extent of \$7,000 on Sunday afternoon. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—George Dumire, of near McVestown, slaughtered a hog last week that weighed 540 pounds and also disposed of a turkey that weighed thirty pounds.

—While lighting a fire in the kitchen stove with gasoline an explosion occurred and Mrs. Mary Mudray, of Portage, was so badly burned that she died in a short time.

—The sheriff of Union county has determined hereafter to give the inmates of the county jail a bit of necessary exercise by having them sweep the streets of Lewisburg at proper intervals.

—The journey through the air of the old Schwab mansion at Loretto has been completed and the structure now occupies its new site without the jarring of a single brick out of place.

—Seven residents of Huntingdon county, convicted of selling liquor without license, were on last Saturday sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 each and the costs and to spend three months in jail.

—Melvin Breth, a resident of Burnside, Clearfield county, who permitted one of his children to die for lack of medical care, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter last Saturday afternoon.

—A dispatch from Huntingdon says: A mysterious disease having incapacitated about forty of the students at Juniata College, here, this institution closed Wednesday until after the holidays.

—Samuel Powell, a well known carpenter of Falls Creek, Clearfield county, dropped dead on his way from work one evening last week. He was fifty years old and is survived by his wife and four sons.

—Henry Link, a farmer residing in Susquehanna township, Cambria county, had an ingrowing toe nail which caused blood poisoning. The foot was amputated in November. Last week the entire leg was amputated.

—It is reported that a considerable number of the teachers of Somerset county are suffering from measles, supposed to have been caught while attending the annual session of the county institute in Somerset.

—The pastor of Punksstaveny's Central Presbyterian church persuaded all the men and boys to whistle while the women sang the hymn last Sunday night. It is reported that the innovation greatly pleased the boys.

—Miss Irene Anderson, of Morrison, McKean county, who is only sixteen years of age, does not have to take a back seat among hunters as she bagged a fine bear, which was seen near a flock of sheep on her father's farm in the Kinzua valley.

—Passerby in an isolated district of Indiana county found the ruins of a dwelling, that had been destroyed by fire and the charred remains of Mrs. William Kelly, an aged woman who had lived alone in the house since the death of her husband a couple of weeks ago.

—Fleming Clements, aged 55, a resident of Fayette county, near Uniontown, was probably fatally injured by burns caused by a smouldering pipe in his pocket setting fire to his greasy clothing. He was removed to the Uniontown hospital where he lies in a serious condition.

—Four boys and one girl, pupils of the Williamsport High school, are believed to be responsible for several thefts of more or less magnitude which have occurred since the term began. The girl picked up a pocket book containing some money and street car tickets. A teacher was the loser.

—T. C. and J. L. Stratton, both experienced coal men, have taken over from the Moshannon Coal company on a lease, the well known Pauline mine, located near the Hillside Colliery, close to Moshannon, and will begin at once to operate the same, expecting to run it to its fullest capacity.

—The statement was made at the recent meeting of the Cambria County Medical society that the money expended for medical care, nursing, medicine and hospital charges as a result of the recent typhoid epidemic in Johnstown and vicinity was sufficient to have paid a director of public health a salary of \$10,000 a year.

—An overflow of iron running into a pool of water in the cinder pit of the furnace of the Punksstaveny Iron company, shattered windows throughout the town, shook buildings and caused a convulsive tremor of the earth that was felt within a radius of eight miles of Punksstaveny, shortly after eight o'clock Sunday evening. One man, Claude Suckles, received a scalp wound.

—Jeremiah J. Lehman, of Monarch Shaft, sentenced last week to the penitentiary by Judge Bell, of Clearfield, after having pleaded guilty to brutally treating his little three year old son, along with another prisoner or two, attempted to escape from the Clearfield jail at night or two ago. They were foiled in their plans, however, by a timely discovery made by Sheriff McCloskey.

—The first definite clue to Albert and Walter Wendt, charged with murdering Constable Michael McGinley, in a woods near Altoona on October 13th, was obtained last week, when the dead man's stop watch, which he used at race-tracks, was found in a pawnshop in a western city, the name of which is kept a secret. The watch was pawned several days after the murder, and the clerk's description of the man who got \$12 on it fits Albert Wendt exactly.

—Awakened at three o'clock Wednesday morning to find his home a prey to fire and escape cut off by way of the stairway, Frank Hunker, of Yukon, Westmoreland county, seized the mattress and other bedding and dropped them from a third story window. Then he lowered his wife and child out of the same window, holding on to each as long as possible. They fell on the bed clothing and escaped unhurt. Hunker made a rope of part of the bed clothing, and escaped also.

—A large part of the Van Tassel tract of land in Cameron county has been recently leased by the State for a game preserve, and E. W. Kelley, the game protector, is now on the land with several assistants, busy at work enclosing several thousand acres with strong wire fencing. It is thought that the work will be finished in a few weeks and that it will form a haven for a large amount of game. This tract will add materially to the thousands of acres now under State protection.

—What is thought to be the largest order ever offered to a gasoline manufacturer in this State, has been offered to the Kane Gasoline company. The order, which was for 35,000,000 gallons of gasoline, was received from representatives of the Allies, who have placed \$100,000 on deposit as a guarantee of good faith. Although the local company could have received almost double the price they are now receiving for their gasoline, had they accepted the order, they were compelled to decline it for two reasons, one on account of the large domestic orders on hand, and the other on account of the size of the order. Some of the refiners in that section were also offered the order it is understood, but declined it on account of the quantity. A gasoline expert stated Sunday night that it would require the output of all the gasoline plants and refineries in McKean and Warren counties for two years to fill the order, while the local demand is greater than the present output.