

INK SLINGS.

—It looks like there is nothing to it but fight, for PENROSE to keep his place in the sun.

—Talking about March winds, April had something to blow about on Monday and Tuesday.

—Practically every farmer in Centre county is plowing, and pushing his teams as he has never done before.

—Next week the Odd Fellows will be with us. Let us give them the glad hand and look as gay as NICHOLS' decorations.

—Hair cutting was once a crime in France and it still appears to be regarded as such by some people in our midst.

—Anyway, all the trout were not taken out of the streams on the opening day of the season. It will be several weeks before the water falls enough to make trout fishing worth while.

—Now is the time to put a little time into the business of reducing the high cost of living. If you have a little garden make it yield something. If you have a chicken house raise some chickens.

—Ten years ago today the meeting was called to make arrangements for the dedication of Centre county's soldiers monument. It doesn't seem possible that the monument has been standing that long, does it?

—Just ten years ago during this week D. PAUL FORTNEY and JAS. C. FURST were admitted to the practice of law. They have both been District Attorney of the county and each one has beaten the other for the office.

—Very little has been heard from Uncle CEPHAS GRAMLEY lately. Inasmuch as we haven't heard the rattle of the water wagon at all we surmise he is trying to pussy foot it a little of the way back to the Legislature.

—The employees of the United States Steel company have just been notified that they are to receive another raise of ten per cent. in wages, the second since February 1st. And WOODROW WILSON is President of the United States.

—And we're to have a fifty-eight car circus in May, all the commences in June, the Chautauqua in July, the dog days in August, the kids back to school in September and then—winter. It can't come too soon, we don't think.

—The total product of the farms of the United States has amounted to more than that of all the gold mines in the world during the last six centuries. The wealth of our country surely is its agriculture and it seems to be coming into its own as fast as automobiles will carry it.

—The mother who discarded her three weeks' old baby on the convent porch, on Bishop street, Monday night, didn't know Bellefonte well or she would have deposited it on a certain section of North Allegheny street, where open arms have been extended for just such blessings for, lo! these many years.

—The inconsistencies of government are very forcibly illustrated in the destruction of \$9000 worth of illegally imported feathers by U. S. customs officials at Laredo, Texas, the other day. While the government is teaching and preaching conservation in everything it is destroying valuable property just because no better way to dispose of it has been provided.

—Let us hope that our relations with Germany are not strained to the point where they must shortly break. While a severance of diplomatic relations would not necessarily mean war it would be a step in that direction and with all course broken off the slightest false move on the part of either country would certainly precipitate the clash that is so horrible to contemplate.

—When it takes three days for a letter to go from Bellefonte to Stormstown and return by the fastest mail route, and Stormstown is only fifteen miles from Bellefonte, it seems to us that JIM BLAKESLIE would earn more of his salary if he were to spend more time reorganizing the postal service and less of it attempting to "reorganize" the Democratic party in Pennsylvania.

—The opinion of Deputy Attorney General KELLER on the matter of state-aid for borough streets isn't calculated to please the people of his old home town much, but they have the satisfaction of knowing that WILL KELLER wouldn't have rendered it if he hadn't believed it to be an exact interpretation of the law and they know that he is a very conscientious and capable interpreter.

—Many a Republican newspaper that has been busy for months trying to embarrass the President by criticism of his foreign policy will get cold feet as a result of his message to Congress Wednesday. They have all been yelling for more display of determination and now that the President has put it squarely up to Congress to put its seal of approval on such a course they are beginning to sing out of the other corner of the mouth.

—Notably among them is the Pittsburgh Dispatch, which reversed its form on Wednesday by editorially declaring that "the safety of Americans and other neutrals at sea will be more endangered than before" should we sever diplomatic relations with Germany.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 61.

BELLEFONTE, PA., APRIL 21, 1916.

NO. 16.

Last Hour Trick of Shunk Brown.

The "fine Roman hand" of SHUNK BROWN, Attorney General, is clearly revealed in what the friends of Senator PENROSE have denounced as "the last hour trick of the BRUMBAUGH-VARE faction," in the pending party strife for control of the organization. Under the State wide primary law a candidate for delegate to the National convention may make affidavit that "he will" or "will not" support the popular choice of his district, as expressed in the ballot, for President. Mr. BROWN had one of his deputies officially declare that such an affidavit is essential to qualify as a candidate for delegate and when a petition was received in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth without the affidavit it was returned with a suggestion to amend, according to the decision of the deputy Attorney General, which was enclosed.

As the only candidate for President who has qualified under the law is BRUMBAUGH, and no candidate for delegate would be likely to swear that "he will not support the popular choice," BRUMBAUGH stood an easy fifty-to-one chance of getting a majority of the delegates. Accepting support under such circumstances would be like obtaining goods under false pretense, but SHUNK BROWN and the VARES wouldn't mind a little thing like that. Their political morality is based upon the commercial idea that everything is fair in war and that stealing votes is a meritorious operation if successful. A considerable number of BRUMBAUGH's votes for Governor were secured through his nomination on the Personal Liberty party ticket which was inferentially pledged to the liquor interests.

It seems that a copy of this letter sent out from the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth came into the possession of Senator PENROSE on Monday and he immediately dispatched a telegraphic letter to the several county chairmen calling their attention to the fraud. How many candidates for the office were deceived and decryed by the false advice is not known but it is certain that a good many were worried as is shown by the action of former Judge BUSHONG, of Reading, who filed a statement declaring that as he does "not consider the Governor a possible candidate for President," therefore he filed no statement with his papers. But all candidates for delegate are not as familiar with the law as Mr. BUSHONG, as all of them have not served upon the bench, the trick may have produced a considerable harvest of fraud.

—VILLA is dead. So say some rumors from Mexico. But VILLA is the kind of a Mexican cat who has eight more lives to live.

The Soft Coal Agreement.

The soft coal operators of Central Pennsylvania have wisely come to an agreement with their employees even though it involves a considerable increase in wages. Nothing is more discouraging to men and demoralizing to business than labor troubles and the agreement arrived at in Philadelphia last Friday evening is for a period of two years. It is estimated that the increase in wages during the period will amount to three and a-half million dollars a year, but there are a vast number of men to share this fund and as it will be taken from the consumers, in the last analysis, the operators will lose nothing. This sounds like an unfair proposition but it represents the exact facts.

Whatever happens in the industrial world the consumer is "the goat." If there is a strike prices are increased because of the scarcity of product and if there is an increase of wages prices are advanced on account of the added cost of production. If the increase follows a strike the advance is doubled because there has been both scarcity of product added to cost of production. The trap is always set so as to catch the consumer "coming or going" and however careful the consumer may be he falls into the trap. "This agreement," the president of the labor organization states, "gives the highest rate of wages ever paid in District No. 2."

But notwithstanding these facts the public will learn of the settlement with satisfaction. Strikes are an abomination. As a rule the labor element which is the weaker loses and at the settlement finds the wasted time irrecoverable and a mortgage on his energies for the future to pay the debt incurred for maintenance during the period of idleness. The operator suffers of course, for his profits are cut out. But his unmined coal is in the ground worth full value and he is able to lose the profits. For all these reasons as well as plenty of others the agreement is a subject for popular felicitation.

Pennypacker and Brumbaugh.

The letter of former Governor PENNYPACKER assuring Governor BRUMBAUGH of his sympathy and continued confidence in his present dilemma, may have been comforting to BRUMBAUGH but it didn't help him much in popular estimation. Governor BRUMBAUGH is accused of having sworn falsely concerning the receipts and expenditures for his campaign two years ago and has practically confessed the crime, for it is nothing less. But PENNYPACKER writes him to "bear up," intimates that no harm will follow, and tells him that he, (PENNYPACKER,) was maligned while in office and came out of it without impairment of his character or reputation. He paid no attention to charges and suggests that BRUMBAUGH follow his example.

It is literally true that PENNYPACKER passed "through a period of scandal" that is without parallel in the history of the State. During his administration those about him were plundering the public constantly and he made no protest. When the exposure came he brazenly faced it, and boldly defended the criminals, and as he says, apparently no harm to him followed. He has been kept in public service at high salary ever since and has been permitted to pose as a beneficent philosopher and safe guide to the public. Probably that was his share of the loot. In any event he has been generously recompensed for his acquiescence in the crimes and his subsequent defense of the criminals.

But Mr. PENNYPACKER misinterprets public sentiment in relation to looting operations during his term as Governor, in his letter to BRUMBAUGH. For some reason he was not indicted with the others and thus escaped the prison sentence imposed upon them. But he is held in contempt by every right thinking citizen of the Commonwealth who understands the case and if he would submit any ambition he may have to the arbitration of the ballot, he would discover the truth. He is grateful to BRUMBAUGH for his present office, of course, though probably BRUMBAUGH had nothing to do with his selection. That was the work of the machine out of respect to the memory of QUAY.

In view of that fact Mr. PENNYPACKER not only insults the intelligence and asperses the integrity of the people of Pennsylvania by assuring BRUMBAUGH that possible perjury injures no public official in the popular mind and he misrepresents the facts. The electorate of Pennsylvania will not put the seal of approval upon criminal practices by high public officials. They will not condone the apparent perjury resorted to to conceal facts which under the law they have a right to know. The citizens of Pennsylvania do not and will not accept such slovenly morality and in giving BRUMBAUGH such assurance PENNYPACKER did him more harm than good, however soothing the statement may have been.

When ROOSEVELT sent the battleships around the world the squadron was eulogized by the magazine writers as the perfection of power. All experts admit that the ships are in better form now than ever before and the same writers are denouncing them as bundles of junk. The main difference is in the fact that we have a Democratic administration.

ROOSEVELT isn't in favor of making the tariff a leading issue in the campaign. He isn't strong on tariff. When he was young and honest he wrote a lot of things about the iniquity of tariff which he is unable to refute now. Hence his aversion to tackling the subject.

Spain and other neutral countries have suffered from the operations of the German submarines but they are not urged to declare war in consequence. In other countries, however, political prejudices do not lead to reasonable expressions.

The picture of "Uncle Joe" CANNON voting for ROOSEVELT would be an interesting spectacle on a movie film. TEDDY has said things about "UNCLE JOE" which wouldn't look well in print and "Uncle Joe" hates to "forget and forgive."

England promises to take an active part on the firing line early in the Spring. Thus far the French and Russians have done most of the fighting but there will be plenty of opportunities to make a record of achievement yet.

Of course this country ought to be prepared for self-defense, but that obligation doesn't require us to tax the people into poverty in order to build battleships and maintain armies.

If VILLA is dead let us hope that he will stay dead a long time.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN

Brumbaugh and His Defenders.

The most surprising feature of the BRUMBAUGH-OLIVER incident is the tolerance of fraud expressed in the comments of a considerable number of apparently good citizens. The law explicitly requires every candidate for public office, in the event his expenditures have exceeded fifty dollars, to file an affidavit "setting forth each and every sum of money contributed, received or disbursed by him for election expenses." Governor BRUMBAUGH received from DAVID B. OLIVER, of Pittsburgh, a contribution of \$1000 and his sworn statement of receipts and expenditures contains no mention of it. This omission was not only a violation of the law but a falsification of the facts under oath.

Some two or three weeks ago Governor BRUMBAUGH was notified through friends that the details of his offence against the law had been assembled and that if he persisted in his declared purpose of running for the Presidential nomination, they would be published. He promptly entered into negotiations to prevent such an exposure and, according to current gossip, promised to relinquish his purpose. But SHUNK BROWN and the VARES subsequently persuaded him to violate that promise, publish a statement of the case and set up the claim that an attempt had been made to black mail him. Finally he acted upon this sinister suggestion and strangely enough a lot of honest men have certified to their cordial approval of an obvious fraud.

Public morals will never be materially improved so long as men representing the righteousness of the community will acquiesce in fraud and encourage false pretense. If what has been charged against the Governor is true he has committed perjury and the crime is aggravated by his position in the social and political life of the State. It is no more heroic to admit perjury in order to forestall exposure than it is to confess burglary that conviction in court may be avoided. A just man may properly remain silent if his friend is caught in some crooked transaction. But when he commends the crime and eulogizes the criminal, he becomes accessory and is little better than the principal.

Roosevelt and the Nomination.

The Old Guard Republicans are ciphers out an easy victory over ROOSEVELT in the Republican National convention. They claim that of 581 delegates already elected, 339 are pledged to "favorite sons" or are uninstructed. There are 404 delegates yet to be elected in twenty-three States and the five territories, including Pennsylvania which is entitled to seventy-six delegates. If the regulars secure the same ratio of delegates yet to be chosen as they claim of those already elected, their expectations will be fulfilled. But at this distance from the base of computation it doesn't seem likely that their present estimates are accurate or their hopes based on solid foundations.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT is a marvelously adroit politician. Absolutely without conscience or honor he will employ methods utterly abhorrent to men of fine instincts. Backed by all the predatory forces of Wall Street he will buy or steal votes wherever possible. Besides he will go to the convention with the Progressive nomination in his pocket and threaten a repetition of the campaign of 1912 unless he is nominated. That will have potent influence upon the prejudiced minds of delegates and it is not certain that a majority of the Pennsylvania delegation will vote against him. He has been working with that purpose ever since the Democratic State committee brought him into the State in 1914 to "tear WILSON to pieces," which he then tried his best to accomplish.

The stalwart Republicans who claim that he is already doomed to defeat are "laying a flattering unction to their souls." He may be defeated for the nomination, as his enemies in the party predict, but it is no certain proposition at this time. He will summon to his support every corrupting influence and the "hoards of Wall Street" are very enticing to the hungry partisans who have been living on husks for four years and moulder husks at that. We sincerely hope the estimates of his opponents are accurate, for the nomination of such a man at this time by any party is a reflection upon the intelligence and patriotism of the people of this country.

The board of pardons on Wednesday refused to interfere in the case of Henry J. H. Webb, the colored man of Pittsburgh, who is under sentence to be electrocuted the week of May 1st, but granted a rehearing in the case of Thomas Chicklerilla and Gaspar Marturana, the two Cambria county Italians who were to have been electrocuted next week.

When the Wind Blows.

A jingle by "George" in Johnstown Democrat. When the North wind blows— Awesome sights it shows— Different heights of hose, And the good lawd knows— What the winds expose— Is certainly no trifle! So last night I stood— Where my optics could— Not only could, but would— Look long and good, And I certainly got an eyefull!

If they Would Only Do It.

From the Altoona Times. The Bethlehem Steel company, alarmed at the demand for the government to go into the armor-making game, makes this statement:

"We offer to place all the cards on the table—to open our books to the federal trade commission, and to put our experience, our facilities and our economies at the service of the nation upon such terms as the government itself shall name as fair."

That will solve all of our troubles—if only they will do it. And we refer not only to the matter of armor plate, but to other industries. The trouble all along has been that the great corporations would not do that, and the people have become tired of being robbed.

The day will come when the Standard Oil company will make the same promises, but not until after the people have become disgusted with the way the corporation sends up the price of gasoline every time it needs the money. When the government is finally driven to take over the oil business, or to prohibit the exportation of oil—which will amount to about the same thing—the Standard Oil company will be as meek as the Bethlehem Steel company is at this time; but it may be too late, even as it seems to be too late now for the steel corporation to make its fair proposition.

Big business has been its own worst enemy. Take the railroads, as an illustration. They were not willing to put their cards upon the table. They were operated upon the people-be-damned basis for a long time. Their policies engendered prejudice against them, and every State in the Union passed regulatory laws and hampered the roads in a hundred ways. Now the roads want the government to regulate them; they, too, are willing to put their cards upon the table.

Scratching the Surface.

From the New York World. Considering that the diameter of the earth is 8,000 miles, we can only scratch the surface.

One of the Lake Superior copper mines has reached a depth of 4,675 feet; the Spermberg shaft, near Berlin, is 3,810 feet deep; the Schladeloch mine, near Merseburg, Germany, has gone down 5,528 feet, and the Paruschowitz mine, in Silesia, had to give up operations after 6,009 feet had been reached. The gigantic ropes can barely carry their own weight after they reach a depth of 6,000 feet, and are unable to carry a carriage besides. Moreover, mining entails a turning of diamond or other drills, and no power has been discovered to turn a drill at a greater distance than 6,000 feet; and even then several hours are required to give the drills a turning movement.

So far all delving into the ground has had a commercial objective; but the Austrian government has promised scientists to allow them to exploit, after the war, the Silesian mines for scientific purposes. Prof. Hanauer, of the University of Breslau, is promoting this investigation and has arranged to have "way stations" built along the original shaft, and these can be multiplied ad libitum. Exactly how he intends to meet the temperature conditions has not been disclosed. Practical men hold that 6,000 feet is the limit of depth that can be reached in safety.

In Respect to the President.

From the Advance.

Let us quarrel among ourselves all we choose, but let us remember that we are in the midst, not merely of a political campaign, but of a grave international complication. Let us support the President in his endeavors to keep the peace, whether we vote for his re-election or not. Politically, he is a Democratic candidate for re-election; but internationally he is our President, a conscientious and high-minded Christian gentleman seeking light upon very vexed problems. It is the privilege of any American to vote against his re-election; on that matter the Advance offers no advice; but while he is President, and while his hands are full and his heart is burdened with conditions that threaten our peace and the peace of the whole world, if he can keep us out of war, may God and every good citizen assist him. What we shall do, individually, next November, let each voter determine for himself; but from now to March 4th, 1917, Woodrow Wilson is the President, not of the Democratic party or a faction within it, but of the United States.

Violet Has Nothing on Bill.

From the Boston Transcript.

Bill Sulzer is so modest that he merely claims credit for writing the seventeenth amendment to the constitution, without making any mention of his share in magna charta and the declaration of independence.

Helps Add to Gayety of Nations.

From the New York Telegram.

According to the Springfield Republican, people like Mr. Taft because he can disagree with others without being angry. So? Thought it was because he is the one man who can make Mr. Roosevelt throw fits.

—Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—State inspectors of the public health department are engaged in paying friendly visits to restaurants in various sections of the Commonwealth.

—The rubber works at Williamsport are calling for 400 more workers and for the next two months will take on fifty more hands each week, beginning at once.

—Some bold thief, as yet unknown, walked boldly up to a hitching post in Latrobe and stole a pony and buggy belonging to Edward Johnson. The property is still lost.

—Johnstown Moose have rejected all bids for the contract to build their projected new home. The lowest of the nine bids was \$61,000 and the building committee will revise the bids.

—Frank Gagz, aged 48, a miner employed at Clymer, was struck by a fall of rock and coal in the Indiana county mine where he was employed and instantly killed. He is survived by his wife and eight children.

—A double house at Morrisdale was totally destroyed by fire early Wednesday morning, together with all the contents. The total loss will reach about \$5,000, with partial insurance. The cause of the fire was a defective flue.

—The Brotherhood of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, Clearfield, recently tendered a complimentary dinner to Dr. H. R. Bender, who has been returned to the pastorate of that church for the seventh time.

—In Lewistown some days ago a 12-year-old lad named Austin Bell, playing marbles with some comrades, approached too closely a chained dog belonging to Grocer C. P. Calderwood and was severely bitten on the right arm and hip.

—A car load of horses purchased for the war zone from the farmers of the Big Valley, Mifflin county, stampeded a few days ago when a shotgun was fired at a muskrat. Some of the animals were caught two days later at the home barns fifty miles away.

—What proves to be a mysterious affair occurred recently when a well known Everett man on going to the basement of the Reformed church to bank the fire for the night was assaulted and badly beaten up and was later found lying unconscious on the back porch of his father's house.

—Six of the big smokestacks at the Morrisdale Coal Company's No. 1 colliery, near Philipsburg, were blown over by a sudden wind-storm of cyclone severity that swept over the locality Wednesday. One of the stacks dropped on the air compressor building and crushed in the roof.

—Setting an old wolf trap near his duck pen with the purpose of learning the identity of a night prowler that had frequented his coop and taken several fowls, Gallitzin Hammell, who resides on a farm near Hellwood, Indiana county, was surprised to discover next morning that he had caught an American eagle.

—An early morning fire Saturday, on the Tomb farm, at Montoursville, Lycoming county, destroyed a barn which was 100 years old and burned twenty-three head of cattle, the latter belonging to William Lutz, the tenant, who was almost smothered under an avalanche of burning hay. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—Arrested in Altoona last Friday on the charge of stealing an express package containing \$617.94 Otis Wilson, a New York Central brakeman at Patton, confessed to Captain Clymer, of the Pennsylvania railroad police, and returned \$498.62. The money was to pay railroad employees at Patton. Wilson has been held for trial.

—After a quarter-century Gildo Ramsey, of Monongahela, has caused the arrest of a man who he says robbed him of money and jewelry to the value of \$700. The man is under arrest in St. Marys, Elk county. Twenty-five years ago, while the Ramsey family was residing in Smithton, Pa., a boarder disappeared. Money and jewelry belonging to Mrs. Ramsey vanished at the same time. Mr. Ramsey was in St. Marys and saw the man.

—In a gale that made fire fighting useless, Kings hotel, the homes of George Hill and Miles Flegal, and seven other dwellings at Morrisdale, were totally destroyed by fire Tuesday afternoon. All of the buildings were occupied, three of them being double houses owned by the Morrisdale Coal company. The fire started in the Kings hotel and consumed everything in its path. Both Phillipsburg fire companies were rushed to the blaze but could accomplish nothing in the high wind. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

—John Singley, 28, of Manheim, fatally wounded his sweetheart, Emma Schoenberger, 26, of Litz, Lancaster county, at the young woman's home early Sunday night, and then sent a bullet through his own head, dying instantly. Jealousy was ascribed as the motive. Singley was at the young woman's home and when she came to the door he said: "I've got a present for you." When Miss Schoenberger extended her hand for the "package" Singley fired two bullets into her body below the heart. Her condition is critical.

—Natt Beers, 32 years old, of St. Marys, was instantly killed while walking on the Pennsylvania tracks near the Elk county home on Monday afternoon. The body was seen lying along the track at 1:30 by a brakeman. Identification was made by means of a storebook on which the man's name was written. The body was so badly mutilated that features were unrecognizable. Both legs and the right arm were cut off and mangled, and every bone in the skull was broken. Dr. C. G. Wilson, deputy coroner, made an investigation. Beers leaves a widow and two children.

—Carried by terrific winds, sparks from an engine on a farm near Milton, on Tuesday set fire to the barn of John Brown at Lewisburg, four miles away, and is said to have been indirectly responsible for the destruction of two other barns several miles further out in the country. Sparks from the burning barn at Lewisburg were carried to the barn of James Packer, five miles distance, and from there to John Shaffer's barn, three miles further away. All of the structures with their contents were destroyed at a total estimated loss of \$20,000. Adam Rishel, a farm hand was badly burned in attempting to save the live stock of one of the barns.

—Novel means of making some of the bachelors of New Castle, Pa., take an active part in cleanup week the first week of May has been decided. Girls of the Y. M. C. A. have selected 100 bachelors and Saturday 100 small balloons with tags attached will be released. Whoever finds a balloon is to turn it over to an unmarried woman, who in turn will take the tag to the committee. The holder of the tag will be told the name of the bachelor opposite the number and the man and the woman are to cultivate a vacant lot. Should the bachelor not comply he will be assessed \$5 and should the balloon with number on it not be found he is to be assessed \$2.

—The will of Arthur P. Churchill, of Erie, aged 73, who for years lived on charity in a squallid room for which the landlord, through pity, exacted no rent, was filed for probate last Thursday, showing that he possessed nearly \$10,000 in cash and securities which had been hidden away in the recesses of his room. Churchill was found seriously ill by charity workers and was removed to a local hospital. He grew gradually worse and shortly before he died, called in a notary public to whom he dictated his will in which he bequeathed all of his property to two nephews, Arthur B. and Perry J. Churchill, of Ambridge, Pa. Until the will was filed, it was believed the aged man was penniless.