

INK SLINGS.

—Many are fished for but few are caught.

—Are you getting ready for Chau-tauqua?

—This is the hay-day of the farmer's life.

—Bellefonte ought to be pretty nearly a dustless town now.

—What has become of the annual discussion as to whether the earth is gradually cooling off.

—When some girls go to choose a husband it isn't so much a matter of who he is as what he's got.

—No one can question the safety of Bellefonte's Fourth of July observance and few will challenge its sanity.

—This is the middle of July. Next month will be August and following it will be the first fall month. So soon!

—Great Britain produces one-fourth of the world's lead supply and just now she is engaged in dispatching about all of it to the Germans.

—Lying around the camp and lying about the fish seem to be the principal occupations of those who elect to spend their vacation along some favorite mountain stream.

—The Atlantic coast isn't the only place where sharks get after men's legs. We have them right here in Bellefonte, but ours are the kind that pull the leg instead of biting it clean off.

—It is estimated that there are 21,000,000 men of military age in the United States; that is, between the ages of 18 and 45. Based on the rate of rejection recently at Mt. Gretna, for physical defects this total would probably be cut down to about 14,000,000 which would be some army, if it were all mustered for service.

—While scores of swashbuckling men are berating President Wilson for not having forced us to fight with Mexico the mothers of all the boys of military age in the United States are on their knees thanking God that we have a man in the White House who has the courage to exhaust every other means of settling our troubles before resorting to bloodshed.

—Any way, the world must take its hat off to German ingenuity and initiative. When a German submarine merchant ship can run from Bremen to Baltimore without being detected by the Allies' blockading and patrol fleets there is one more evidence that necessity is the mother of invention and one more vista of future wonders presented for the imagination to conjure with.

—The failure of Governor Brumbaugh to transfer Hon. Chas. Patton from the head of the Department of Agriculture to that of the Highway Commission will make little difference to Pennsylvania. While Mr. Patton would probably have done better as a road maker than it is possible for him to do in his present position, he is not a man of proved ability in either line and the Governor was probably wise in letting well enough alone.

—Col. H. C. Trexler, of Allentown, Quartermaster General of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, is being groomed for the Republican nomination for Governor to succeed Brumbaugh. The Colonel is now engaged in the very dangerous work of supplying food and clothes for our boys on the border and it is presumed that by the time he gets back from Texas he will have a "war record," so illumined by mess pork, hard tack and khaki clothing, as to make him the one sure thing for Governor.

—The action of the County Commissioners in making an appropriation of \$200 a month for the use of the Soldiers' Relief Association is a matter that should meet with the hearty approval of every tax payer in the county. While the men from Centre are giving their time to their country at the paltry sum of \$15.00 per month it is very apparent that some agency will have to provide for those who have left families behind or other dependents. For this purpose the Relief Association has already perfected a splendid organization and has begun the distribution of funds in its hands from private subscription. It is estimated that it will require \$500 per month to provide for the families who are left without adequate support and while it would have been entirely proper for the Commissioners to have provided all of this sum individuals have elected to personally contribute the greater part of it so that the county is doing only a portion of what is really wholly its duty.

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Wilson Has Proved Himself.

If, as now seems certain, the war with Mexico is averted, Mr. President Wilson will again have "plucked the flower victory from the nettle of danger." A short time ago the war appeared to be inevitable. The President felt constrained to call for the mobilization of the National Guard of the several States and the signs abundantly and unmistakably pointed to the "clash of arms." But with characteristic force and promptness the President addressed himself to the herculean task of evading such a calamity, and unless the indications are misleading, he has succeeded. There will be no war with Mexico or anybody else, but there will be a better understanding in every direction and a brighter future.

This passing of the danger of war deprives the Republican party of its only campaign issue. It will be absurd to set up a claim, in view of recent events, that the administration has done nothing in the direction of preparedness. The expedition shown in the mobilization is conclusive proof that the law recently enacted at the instance of the President is an excellent beginning and that we are in no immediate danger. Preparation for war is not an over-night job. As England and Russia have shown it requires time to assemble, equip and discipline a great army. But the enterprise, enthusiasm and patriotism of the American people may be depended upon to protect our shores and defend our interests in every emergency.

But the most important result of the avoidance of war is in the fact that it has completely vindicated the policy of the President, alike with respect to Mexico and Europe. If a less capable man had been in commission at the White House we would now be involved in war with all the belligerents on both sides of the ocean. Could Justice Hughes, if he had been President, have steered our ship of state as safely through the troubled waters? Certainly not if he had adopted any other course than that pursued by Wilson and if he intends to pursue the same course what advantage is there in making a change? Wilson has proved himself, while another man would be an experiment at best.

Roosevelt Justly Rebuked.

In repudiating Justice Hughes, Matthew Hale, of Boston, acting Chairman of the Progressive National Committee, administers a just and severe rebuke to the perennial grafter and political huckster, Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Hale, in what he calls a report to the delegates of the recent convention of his party, declares that as a convention "they were not in favor of surrendering to the Republican party or abandoning the Progressive party." He adds that the delegates in convention did not intend to give the National Committee "the right to deliver the Progressive party to the Republican candidate," and that neither the delegates to the convention nor the State organizations were consulted before the sale and delivery were made.

The action of the Progressive National committee in betraying the Progressive party and people to the Republican machine was the work of a few professional political hucksters. Theodore Roosevelt who never entertained a principle in his life; George W. Perkins, William Flinn and a few other selfish office seekers and patronage brokers perpetrated this crime. They will be taken care of in the improbable event of the election of Justice Hughes and the rank and file of the party, as well as the principles they have professed, will be abandoned. Roosevelt used the Progressive party for selfish purposes as long as it was able to render service to him and Perkins and Flinn followed Roosevelt out of gratitude for favors bestowed upon them when he was President.

But the corrupt agreement will not be fulfilled. The vast majority of the Progressive voters will not consent to the bargain. They will vote for the candidate who most nearly represents their highest purposes in leaving the Republican party four years ago. In his letter recommending the betrayal of the Progressive party Roosevelt admits that many, if that party contended have been written into the laws or adopted into the policies of the Democratic party with the help of the Wilson administration. And for that reason he asks his former associates in the movement for such reforms to vote against the Democratic party and restore to power the party and policies against which they had rebelled.

The Submarine Achievement.

The successful landing at Baltimore of a German submarine merchant ship, carrying a cargo of considerable weight and great value, may forecast the loss to Great Britain of control of the seas, as has been confidently claimed by the skipper who accomplished the hazardous undertaking, and it may not. It was a great maritime achievement, beyond question, and having been accomplished once may be repeated indefinitely. If as Captain Koening states, other ships of the type of the Deutschland, are being constructed in Germany and a corporation has been formed and financed to operate them, we may expect the speedy resumption of commerce between the central allies and all neutral countries.

But subsequent ventures of the sort are likely to meet with greater difficulties than were encountered by the Deutschland. The British admiralty had been informed of the existence of that ship and of its plans and purposes. The information was not taken seriously, however. Both in London and Washington the enterprise was estimated as chimerical and little effort was made to embarrass the operation. Now it will be regarded from a different angle and British intellect will be taxed to the full limit to devise methods of preventing future successes. Great Britain's most valuable war asset is the control of the seas and she will not yield it until ever available remedy is exhausted.

Of course the sympathies of the American people will be with Germany in this new aspect of the war. Even with open doors to commerce we would probably have had very little business with Germany and her allies in munitions and other war material. But there would have been a ready and an eager market for food stuffs in that part of Europe and if submarine commerce proves feasible our foreign trade will be vastly expanded during the remaining period of the war. It will hardly affect the ultimate result of the war, for in the nature of things that will be determined by the endurance of the belligerents and the resources, in men and money, of the British alliance are vastly in excess of their enemies.

Roosevelt and the Army.

Colonel Roosevelt announces that he is perfectly willing to enlist as a Major General. Of course he wants to have it distinctly understood that in the event he enlists as a Major General he shall have full power to name his subordinate officers, determine what kind of service his "division" shall perform, and where it shall go. Obviously he intends to fix his four sons and two sons-in-law in comfortable military births and "pull down" for family use as much money as possible. His own salary would be \$8000.00 a year and as there are four brigades in a division he could make Brigadier Generals of his sons. One of his sons-in-law is a doctor and he could easily give him that rank also.

Nick Longworth, the Colonel's other son-in-law, is a member of Congress with sufficient familiarity with "pork-barrel" methods to recommend him for a high position in the Commissary Department. Under the circumstances, therefore, if the Colonel is accepted upon his own terms, the family will be able to extract from the public treasury salaries to the aggregate of \$44,000.00 annually, that being the total recompense of one Major General at \$8000.00 and six Brigadier Generals at \$6000.00 each. They could have a "bully" time at that price and as the Colonel would be his own war correspondent he could vastly augment his revenues by thrilling accounts of his achievements syndicated at a dollar a word.

But "the best laid plans of mice and men gang aft a'gley." Unhappily the law limits the number of Major Generals and in order to commission Roosevelt in that rank it would be necessary to kill or discharge one of those now in service. Besides the methods of selecting subordinate officers of the army are regulated by law and in order to let the Colonel have undisputed sway in the matter an entirely new code would have to be enacted. No doubt his services would be worth all this expense and would necessarily be present in order to justify the call for troops, there wouldn't be time to enact the necessary legislation. This is the sad aspect of the matter.

Republicans Oppose Revenue Legislation.

The bill to provide revenues to meet the extraordinary expenses of preparing for defenses of the country passed the House of Representatives in Washington on Monday by the substantial majority of 240 to 140. But all the leading Republicans in the body voted in the negative. For months those scurvy politicians have been straining their lungs and throats with hypocritical howls for preparedness. But when the essential feature of the preparation was brought before them they vote with practical unanimity against it and thus expose the insincerity of their pretensions. Without revenue to pay for equipment there can be no preparedness.

The new measure which is now certain to become a law will provide ample means for the increase and better equipment of the army and navy. It doesn't mean a departure from the traditional peace policy of the government. It simply indicates an intention upon the part of the administration to get ready for an emergency that may arise. We have narrowly escaped an altercation with Mexico and are likely to have need in the immediate future for such a defensive equipment as will prevent the recurrence of such incidents. But the Republican leaders in Congress would prevent such preparation by refusing to provide the revenues necessary to procure them. The history of the country reveals no such lack of patriotism in the past.

The Republican leaders will try to justify their votes on the measure in question by protesting that the taxation was not levied on the right objects. The policy of that party has always been and is now to put the burdens of government upon the poor. The revenue bill just enacted by the House of Representatives, as previous revenue bills passed by the Democratic party, reverses this rule and puts the burdens equally upon all the people. The poor are always willing to pay as far as they are able and the rich are equally certain to dodge payment if they can. Because the bill in question expressed the spirit of fairness the Republicans in Congress opposed it.

An esteemed contemporary head-lines a Washington dispatch: "Congressmen in doubt about U-boat's Status." Manifestly that is a mistake. Congressmen can't possibly be in doubt about anything so long as "Hammy" Moore is in the flesh and in his seat. "Hammy" knows everything, and then some.

We cannot believe that Senator Penrose's frequent visits to New York have any relation to the impending campaign. The Vares having nominated Hughes and eliminated Penrose "in one fell swoop" it is not possible for the big Senator to be consulted in the conduct of the campaign.

The "undiluted Americanism" that Mr. Hughes refers to must be the kind that former Representative Spangler, of York county, had in mind when he wanted American flags made from the wool of sheep raised in Pennsylvania and flung from hickory poles cut from the forests of the Keystone State.

The challenge which the Democratic managers have issued to Justice Hughes is fine but the author of it is liable to be arrested for "cruelty to animals." It simply puts the Republican candidate into a skillet from which there is no escape except by jumping into the fire.

After the sports section, the summer resort comment, the automobile exploitations and the funny pages are taken out of the ponderous Sunday editions of our Metropolitan papers there are as much as two or three pages of real news left.

It is said that Germany and France are killing off dogs as "useless consumers." Next thing a Bologna ration may be served to soldiers.

Roosevelt is the only man in the United States really prepared. He has already appointed a military secretary.

Nobody will complain much about the activities of submarines which carry needed merchandise and no guns.

PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH.

BY M. MURRAY BALSAM.

They're strong on telling other folks, Just what they ought to do; They'll intersperse their talk with jokes, To illustrate their view. You'll hear them spout "SUCCESS I say, Is NOT out of your reach" I often wonder just why they, Don't PRACTISE WHAT THEY PREACH. They say "When'er you're feeling blue, And things seem dark and drear; When clouds won't let the sun shine through, Brace up! Be of good cheer! Oh yes, they tell you this—and MORE In studied terms of speech— Why don't they, (GEE, it makes me sore) Just PRACTISE WHAT THEY PREACH. They tell you they'd no chance for play, But labored like a Turk; They ne'er had time, back in their day For anything 'cept work. "Just grit your teeth, and pitch right in" You'll hear these wise men screech; And yet not one, success to win, Will PRACTISE WHAT THEY PREACH.

Is Carranza Playing Fast and Loose?

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

Carranza's sudden change of tone and policy in his brief and friendly note to our government and his information and advice concerning Villista bandits, who he fears will again raid our border, are properly accepted at their face value by our Department of State while our War Department, quite as properly, takes them with a great deal of caution. Whether Carranza's change of tone toward us is merely in accordance with his predetermined policy as outlined several weeks ago by a former Mexican senator, whose statement we printed, or whether it has been caused by defeats inflicted upon his forces by the Villistas; whether it is, from another view of the very indefinite information, the result or the cause of alleged discontent of his own military chiefs and his troops and of the rumored going over of many of them to the Villistas, are conundrums that can only be answered by developments.

The substantial facts are that the Carranza side admits several defeats by Villa followers, one of them "the virtual destruction of a government force at the Corral Ranch in Chihuahua; also that Carranza has again frankly admitted that his forces may be unable to prevent more bandit raids across our border and he asks us to prevent them by guarding the border. This, it has been demonstrated, cannot be effectively done without more efficient co-operation from the Mexican side. Therefore our troops must pursue the raiders into Mexico. Therefore Carranza must either abandon his contention that we cannot do that or he must again change his tone and policy and fight us. He cannot continually invite us to fight his bandits for him and then, when we have chased them to their holes, try to hector and bully us off the trail with his orders that our troops shall move only to the northward.

There are many reports of Carranza officers and commands threatening to go over to the Villistas and it is said that all thought of defiance of the Americans has given place to anxiety over this new-found Villista strength.

Carranza Sees Handwriting.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent.

The battle of words in which the United States government and the de facto government of Mexico have been engaging has resulted in what may for the present be considered a victory for the United States. Carranza has deliberately changed his tone. He is no longer discourteous, but rather conciliatory. He has heard the call for mobilization and has learned of the wave of patriotism that has swept over the States in response to that call. In his mind's eye he can see the columns of troops advancing through Texas. He has acted accordingly.

There is as yet no reason to suspect that Carranza is acting in anything but good faith, in calling for friendly settlement of present difficulties. He points to the release of the Carranza prisoners as evidence of a desire to settle this question amicably, and intimates that future actions of his government will be consistent with that one. He will probably be taken at his word at Washington. If his sincerity is then proved, there will be one more bloodless settlement of international difficulties added to the relatively small total now recorded in the world's history.

There is no sound reason why this trouble with Mexico cannot be amicably settled. The attitude of the United States government has for years been one of willingness to be at peace rather than of eagerness to fight. Now the Carranza government has taken its stand with us on this New World principle. These are not jealous, arrogant, militant Old World Powers. These are American republics. Let them shake hands across the Texas border, now that the way is open for such a manifestation of neighborly forbearance. The example is urgently needed by all nations.

For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN OFFICE.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The physicians of Johnstown have pledged \$25,000 toward the building fund of the Memorial hospital of that city.

—Rev. Samuel Wilson, of Indiana, who had been directing work among the Armenians in Persia, died recently in Tabriz, according to word just received. Typhoid fever was the cause of death.

—Lock Haven and vicinity will have a new cavalry troop which will respond to call of the President, if its services are needed. The Rev. Homer C. Boblitt is the captain and the troop numbers 82 members.

—Charles G. Crist, assistant postmaster at Windber, charged with falsifying the records of the office whereby he increased the compensation of himself and two other employees, has been arrested and held for trial.

—The district attorney of Westmoreland county summoned the proprietors of pool rooms in Greensburg and vicinity before him last Monday and lectured them for permitting gambling within their places of business.

—The effort to secure \$125,000 for the Johnstown Memorial hospital has been very successful thus far, subscriptions aggregating \$38,000 having been received already. J. Leon Replogle, steel magnate, has given \$5,000.

—A reunion of old boatmen who navigated the canal in years gone by between Lock Haven and Nanticoke and other points in the coal regions, was held in the woods near Lock Haven one day last week. It was a very informal affair.

—Children threw lighted firecrackers on the roof of the porch of C. H. Smull's house, near Millheim, one day last week and as a result the dwelling and all the out-buildings excepting a pig pen were destroyed. Nothing was gotten out of the house.

—When the family of James A. Watson, of Bradford township, Clearfield county, went to arouse him last Sunday morning they were shocked to discover that he had died some time during the night, probably from apoplexy or heart trouble. He was about 73 years old.

—A Clearfield girl established a unique record for other American girls to try at on Saturday morning when she kissed 961 of the soldiers of the Sixth Infantry. Only sixty of the entire regiment escaped her lips and the train carrying them pulled out before she reached them.

—The Fourth of July was celebrated at the park of Colonel Henry W. Shoemaker in Wayne township, Clinton county, by a very enjoyable dinner provided for the old veterans and their wives, together with the widows of veterans. After dinner a season of speechmaking followed.

—Some light-footed and light-fingered individual entered the residence of M. Katzen, of Sykesville, Jefferson county, one night last week and carried away a large quantity of silverware as well as his parlor containing \$180 in cash. No inmate of the house heard the prowler.

—George Morris Schell, aged 21, a resident of the Newberry section of Williamsport, committed suicide by hanging some time Wednesday night. It is believed he was temporarily insane through worry over the illness of his wife, to whom he had been married less than two months.

—Governor Brumbaugh's appointment of Frank B. Black, of Garrett, Somerset county, to be State highway commissioner was announced at the Capitol on Saturday, July 1. Mr. Black is a member of the State Agricultural Commission and is a personal friend of Governor Brumbaugh.

—Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Wolf, of Williamsport, have been lodged in jail charged with threatening to do bodily harm to District Attorney Charles F. Greevy, of Lycoming county, because he sounded his automobile horn too frequently. It is suspected that the woman is unbalanced mentally.

—Attorney Thomas J. Heall, of Johnstown, who disappeared three years ago after having pleaded guilty to the charge of embezzlement preferred by the officers of the Gallitzin Building and Loan association, was arrested in Rileyville, Va., last Monday, and is now an inmate of the Cambria county jail.

—While A. W. Gearhart, of Philipsburg, was returning in his auto with his wife and two children, from a visit to Curwensville, the machine skidded and overturned, pinning its occupants under it. Mr. Gearhart managed to get out and succeeded in releasing the rest of the family, no one having been badly hurt.

—The home of Mrs. Parks, widow of Dr. Parks, at Westover, Clearfield county, caught fire from a sky rocket on the night of the Fourth and was burned to the ground with the greater part of its contents. Mrs. Parks and a young lady visitor made a narrow escape from cremation and escaped in their night garments.

—While asleep in their beds at South Fork, Frank Salvitti, an assistant foreman on the South Fork branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, was instantly killed and his brother Asperino was badly hurt when a box car shoved by a freight train that ran into an open ditch, jumped the stopping block, pushed in the wall of the house in which the men slept, and crushed them.

—Morrisdale, Clearfield county, had a fatal Fourth of July accident. Two boys were using a rifle that one of them had purchased recently. One lad was throwing up objects for the other to shoot, when suddenly a 12-year-old boy named Beverage, who stood about 150 yards distant, fell to the ground. A ball had entered his body directly under the right arm. A main artery was severed and the boy died in a short time.

—Two men arrested for robbery at Woodland last week, plead guilty before Judge Bell on Monday and declared they had used the money to purchase several gallons of whiskey. Thereupon the court directed the prothonotary to instruct the seller, a resident of Centre county, that he was selling the liquor in too large quantities and increasing the criminal business of this county, and that if it was not stopped the court would use all its powers to end the traffic.

—The contract for automobile license plates for 1917 was awarded on Monday to the Prison Labor Commission by Commissioner Black, of the State Highway Department. The Prison Labor Commission was the low bidder on these tags when bids were opened on June 28. The award of the contract to the commission was held up because no certified check accompanied the bid as required by the specifications of the State Highway Department, but the Attorney General's Department has advised Commissioner Black that the Prison Labor Commission did not have to file a check, in consequence of which the award was made. The commission bid 15 cents a set for the license tags. The work of making the tags will be done at the Huntingdon Reformatory.