

INK SLINGS.

Our troopers are home. This week last year was just about as cold as this week has been. The "Watchman's" unprecedented combination offer is still open. Dewey is dead. Long live Dewey in the memory of every real American. Many a girl who hadn't had a good hug since last summer got it on Tuesday night. Grand Army sandwiches are popular with our troopers now. They want mustered out. Those Philadelphia detectives should be turned loose to unravel the mystery as to who struck Billy Patterson. Only three months more and the disciples of Izaak Walton will be renewing memberships in the Ananias club. Look at the label on your paper and be sure that it records the exact time to which your subscription is paid. What was the matter with Fred Gump? Was he a gump or didn't he have the gumption to defend himself against Thaw's attacks. Thaw is in the limelight again and of course in mischief. But there is some ground for hope that his last escapade will take him out of both for many years. Penrose may find it impossible to elect a Governor of his own type next year, but he'll hardly take another chance with a reformer of the Brumbaugh brand. The high cost of living is bad enough but the high cost of white paper is giving the newspaper publishers more anxiety than all the other evils of the time. Our boys came home from the Border a far finer looking troop than they were when they left. Their experience will be something of value to them through all their life. It was so late at night that the "Watchman" couldn't get a picture of our returning troopers, but, take it from us, they all looked better on their return than they did when they departed, and that is saying a lot. Another German raider is abroad on the seas and is reported as having twenty-three victims to his credit. The Germans don't often get a boat out, but when they do it manages to give a pretty good account of itself. We would not be surprised to see Penrose jockey around until he can use the Vares as clubs to swat both Brumbaugh and Brown with. They would be entirely willing, too, if there would be more in it for them than the further support of the Governor would promise. If Tom Lawson is telling the truth there is a terrible scandal to be uncovered in Washington. If he is lying he ought to be sent to prison for the rest of his days. This thing of attacking public officials maliciously is a serious matter and should be dealt with accordingly. Everybody who has the facilities for doing it should put up all the ice possible. Who can tell but that when next summer comes the ice man will be taking everything from us that we have saved from the clutches of the coal man. This thing of raising prices has become too popular to be monkey-witted. Unless enough consumers of heat in Bellefonte have agreed to pay the new schedule by next Wednesday, all of us will be notified to provide our own heating arrangements after February 1st. With coal soaring in price and stoves hard to get that might prove a great deal harder than advancing money for the steam plant for two months. Tuesday night, January 16, 1917, was a much happier occasion about the Pennsylvania railroad station in this place, than was Sunday morning, June 25th, 1916. The safe home coming of our troopers had a vastly different effect on the spirit of their friends from that so noticeable when they went marching away to the Lord only knew what. Last fall all the opposition to Wilson was centered around the contention that the prosperity of this country is merely the result of the war. Now we detect signs of using prospective peace as a bull card on the stock market. In other words the brokers and big business are getting ready to admit that with the end of the war will come greater and more general prosperity than we have ever known. A German war prisoner in an English camp some time ago got off the following epigram: "If Germany has accomplished nothing else in this war she has taught the Russians how to be sober, the French how to pray and the English how to fight." The truth of the epigram must be admitted and in its trio of truths lies the very reasons why the Allies are determined to fight until their ends have been attained. Harry Cooke writes from Pearce, Arizona, that while many of the people whom he knew when in Bellefonte are now in the cemeteries he enjoys the "Watchman" which he regards as a very "estimable paper. Estimable even in its politics, in that its perusal serves to confirm one in his Republicanism." Harry always was a stalwart, so stalwart in fact that we are surprised that he stayed in Arizona after it went for Wilson.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 62. BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 19, 1917. NO. 3.

Lawson's Floodgate of Malice.

At the second hearing of the Congressional inquiry into an alleged "leak" of information concerning the President's recent note to European belligerents, held on Monday, Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, literally opened the floodgates of malice and mendacity. In the presence of Chairman Henry, of the House Committee on Rules, under the auspices of which the investigation was progressing, he declared that Mr. Henry is the Congressman who gave him the information upon which he predicated the charge of a "leak," and followed that statement with a blanket accusation against Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, Secretary of State Lansing, Secretary to the President Tumulty and many others. Chairman Henry promptly denounced the statement so far as it concerned him. "At no time," he declared under oath, "had he mentioned to Lawson the names of the financier had brought out on the witness stand; that he had no information then and has none now of his own knowledge;" and denied generally and completely all of Lawson's testimony relating to him. Secretary McAdoo was equally prompt and emphatic. "I wish to say that no more shameless and wanton lie could be conceived," he said, "than the rumor or suggestion that I have been interested at any time and in any manner whatever in stock speculations or purchases of stock in New York or that I have been connected in any manner with the alleged 'leak' about the peace note." Several others of the accused promptly entered denials and all will be sworn and examined by the committee. Of course the examination of these witnesses and the consequent accumulation of proof of Lawson's perjury will end the Congressional investigation and transfer the inquiry to the courts. Lawson is a vicious mountebank who for years has been making or losing money by speculating on false rumors and wicked scandals originated by himself. This recent incident is the boldest and most brazen outrage of the kind he has ever perpetrated and it should not be quieted until he has been safely landed in the penitentiary under a long sentence. Happily his scandal-mongering in this case has done little if any harm. But it might have had grave consequence and it will be safe to silence him forever. The railroads are prospering beyond any previous experience but the railroad officials are ready to send up a howl of hard times at a moment's notice and with the least provocation. Kill the Proposed Fish Bill. The Pennsylvania Republican machine is proceeding in its purpose to mace the public by imposing a license tax on fishermen, notwithstanding the protests that are coming from all sections of the Commonwealth. A bill has already been drafted to that end, under the auspices of the Department of Fisheries, under which it will "be unlawful for any person to fish at any time in any of the waters of this Commonwealth, or in the boundary waters thereof, unless said person shall have first procured a proper license therefor." The price of the license for persons not residents of the State is fixed at two dollars and those for residents of the State at fifty cents. The title of the measure is "An Act for the Better Protection of Fish in the Waters of this Commonwealth, and in the Boundary Waters Thereof." How it will achieve that purpose is left to conjecture. It provides for a certificate which "shall be constantly carried upon the person of the licensee." Possibly it is expected that the fish will be able to discern this certificate, presumably secreted in the inside pocket of the fisherman, and avoid any lure which he may offer. Clearly that is putting too much responsibility on the fish. Even when the water is clear they can hardly be expected to see through several layers of cloth and unless they see the distinguishing mark of the licensed fisherman how are they to avoid his enticing appeal to their appetites. It is universally admitted that water powers on the stream and pollution of the water are the two most destructive enemies of fish. The bill in question makes no provision for the elimination of either of these evils so far as fish life is concerned. The conviction is forced, therefore, that the real purpose of the bill is not expressed either in the title or text of the measure. It might be intended to keep country boys off the streams until the city clubmen have time to go out and take the fish or it may be that the creation of a few new offices is the purpose. It would certainly work both these results and they are alike sinister. Consequently it is a good bill to kill.

Prostitution of Public Service.

The details of Governor Brumbaugh's shameful prostitution of the public service is gradually dripping out. The Harrisburg correspondent of the Philadelphia "Public Ledger" contributes to the illumination of the subject by reciting some of the facts leading up to the resignation of Banking Commissioner Smith, who, according to the correspondent, was appointed to the office by Governor Stewart on condition that "he would keep the Banking Department out of politics." The Governor Tenor reappointed him on the same conditions and he kept the faith. When Brumbaugh reappointed him the incident was touched with the hypocritical habit of the Governor. After commending the Commissioner's record in office he reappointed him adding "God be with you. Do your duty and fear no man." That is Brumbaugh's way. The German Emperor is not half as unctious in patronizing the Deity or near as wicked in perverting power. Soon after the appointment the Governor remonstrated because the Commissioner was working too hard and after complimenting his efficiency said, "I love you as a brother, so now do as I tell you." Subsequently Public Service Commissioner Magee, of Pittsburgh, called and asked to see the list of employees of the Department for the reason that "some of the men in your bureau have not been with us and are not loyal to the Governor." Upon stating that he was sent by the Governor Mr. Smith proposed that they go to see the Governor. That closed the incident. Following in turn T. Larry Eyre, then an adherent of the Brumbaugh faction, and Insurance Commissioner J. Denny O'Neil imported him to convert his office into a political machine but without success. Finally Senator Vares, Philadelphia municipal contractor and the most potent force in the Brumbaugh office brokerage firm, appealed to the Commissioner. With characteristic assurance he demanded a complete reversal of policy and an entire change in the force. "Get rid of these bank examiners from up-State," he declared, "and put in a lot of men from Philadelphia." Some of his ash-cart drivers were out of jobs, presumably, and Vares wanted to put them on the State pay roll. But Smith was obdurate. He paid no more attention to Vares than to the other conspirators and the Banking Commissioner was asked to resign. He might have refused, put up a fight and won as Penrose won in the Speaker's contest, but he yielded, more's the pity. Logical Ending of a Farce. While the war between the Republican factions of Pennsylvania over the Speakership of the House was raging and Senator Penrose was hurling hot shot at the Governor and Attorney General we predicted that there would be no actual battle. Penrose did say that the Governor committed perjury and that the Attorney General was a shyster and a scoundrel. As a citizen and party leader it is clearly his duty to eliminate from official life men of such character. In positions of honor and responsibility they are a menace to public morals. But we felt certain that Penrose would not take the steps necessary to dispose of them. He said he would but he didn't mean it. He was insincere and untruthful. Now it transpires that our conjecture on the subject was literally accurate. Last week, after a prolonged session, the Penrose war board arrived at the conclusion that it is better to affiliate with scoundrels than expose their iniquity. Exposures can't be confined to one side. In the case in point it might have resulted in the impeachment of Brumbaugh. It might have consigned Attorney General Brown to even a worse fate. But it would, in all probability, have retired Penrose into an infamous oblivion, and upon the broad principle of "safety first," the now acknowledged party leader has determined to let well enough alone and renew his affiliation with the rogues. Of course, as we predicted, Brumbaugh and Brown will be humiliated. They will be allowed to serve their terms in office and draw the salaries to which faithful public officials are entitled. But they will be stripped of all power to interfere with the plans of the boss for all time. The Vares will be reinvested with their licenses to loot the people of Philadelphia through the medium of municipal contracts, most likely, but upon condition that they obey orders and become the servile followers of the machine that they once were. It is the logical ending of an atrocious farce in which all concerned are hypocrites. But it is a base betrayal of the people to a horde of crooks.

Guardsmen on the Mexican Border.

Major General Charles M. Clement, Commander of the Pennsylvania division, National Guard, who has just returned from service on the Texas border, has a soldier's idea of the value of the work of the men who have so freely dedicated themselves to the service of the country there for a period of eight months. "It has been successful in more ways than one," he said to a newspaper correspondent in Harrisburg, on his arrival there, the other day, to be mustered out of the Federal service. "Pennsylvania soldiers will return home healthier and better men and more prepared to fight the battles of life," he added. That is a complete and comprehensive answer to the grouches who have been knocking. That is only a small part of the benefits to the country of the expedition to the border by the Guardsmen of the several States. If they had not gone there when they did and in the spirit they showed, we would now be involved in a costly and prolonged war with that unhappy country. At the expense of thousands of lives and millions of treasure we would conquer Mexico in time. But the expense would be so great as to make even the thoughts of it appalling. Because of their service on the border it is safe to predict now that this calamity has been averted and that in the early future Mexico will be in the enjoyment of a lasting peace and a stable and just government. General Clements is himself a Republican but he shares none of the evil thoughts respecting the Mexican service which politicians are endeavoring to spread among the people. "Not only from a military training point of view have the soldiers of Pennsylvania had a successful campaign in the South," he added, but "the discipline in camp will make them more regular in their living as citizens." "It made them healthier," he continued, "and more economical as is revealed in their habits now as compared with the period of their enlistment in the Federal service." It is to be hoped that those who have been trying to spread discontent among the men will profit by General Clement's view. "The Curse of the Forest" is the title of a motion picture which has just been completed by the Vitagraph company in co-operation with the State Department of Forestry. The picture was taken during a fierce forest fire on the South Mountain, near Mont Alto, Franklin county, last spring, and is to be used to educate the people of the State in the matter of preventing forest fires as one of the first steps in the means of forest conservation. Junius Brutus Alston, the Chester county negro under sentence of death for the murder of another of his race, was granted a respite on Sunday just on the eve of going to the electric chair. He was brought to Rock View last Friday evening and on Sunday afternoon deputy warden Healy got word to postpone the electrocution. On Wednesday the Governor granted Alston a respite until the week of February 26th. Saturday night brought snow, rain and slush and a cold wave on Sunday morning covered the pavements with ice and frozen snow, leaving them in the worst condition they have been this winter. Cold weather has prevailed ever since but the weather man promises a rise in temperature the remainder of the week. Possibly "no good can come out of Nazareth," but if the recent bout between the Republican factions of Pennsylvania will permanently put Attorney General Brown on the political scrap heap some good will have been realized from that dirty enterprise. The Johnstown Leader has been forced into a receivership owing to financial difficulties occasioned by the high price of paper. The publication of the paper, however, will continue until the plant can be sold or put on a paying basis. The Progressive party has opened permanent headquarters in New York, but probably the purpose is only to provide a meeting place for Mr. Perkins and Senator Penrose when our senior Senator visits the metropolis. The presence of the Grangers in Harrisburg during the session of the Legislature may have a wholesome influence upon the work of the body, but we suggest that they will have to "watch as well as pray." Meantime what will be done with the Indiana demagogue who served as catspaw for Tom Lawson by introducing a scandalous resolution without any facts to support it?

Peace Terms of Entente Powers.

The Entente Powers have stated to President Wilson on what basis they would consider negotiations for peace. There appears to be little hope that there will soon be an end to the terrible conflict in Europe, according to the demands Germany's enemies insist shall be satisfied before the latter will consider the possibility of a cessation of hostilities. The Allies' note says that peace can come only when Prussian militarism is destroyed and full reparation and restitution made. While the demands in their entirety are drastic, there is reason to believe Germany will accede to a reasonable portion of them in efforts to terminate the war, but when the Entente Powers, in addition to the terms as made known through President Wilson, state "their objects in the war will not be made known in detail with all the equitable compensations and indemnities for damages suffered until the hour of negotiations," it is reasonable for neutrals to expect that the sword will be employed for many more months in the terrible slaughter of humanity. As to the restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro; the Teuton evacuation of invaded territories of France, Russia and Rumania; the restitution of provinces or territories (which probably includes Alsace-Lorraine) wrested in the past from the Allies by force or against the will of their populations; and the liberation of Italians, Slavs, Rumanians and Tcheo Slavaks from foreign domination, it may be possible Germany will agree. But besides this the Allies are insistent that the Central Powers make full reparation and pay all indemnities incurred through the invasion by the latter of the territories above mentioned. Can any person believe that Germany can take upon herself the liability to pay all the damages inflicted upon her enemies during the war? Will the German people ever submit to bind themselves to such an agreement when they know upon the face of it that they could not liquidate this indebtedness in a century? We rather think not. And it is believed by neutrals that on this very point the war will be long drawn out. As to liberation from Prussian militarism, domination by the sword, there is no peace between Germany and other nations that are constantly increasing their naval and military forces in time of peace to prepare for eventualities. If world-wide disarmament were invoked and peace guaranteed to all nations alike, militaristic forms of government would be abolished as a result of the present war, an achievement which has nothing in common with Turkey, excepting Germany now, of course, since the former has been a powerful ally of the latter in the conduct of the war. But if the expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire be accomplished as a result of the present war, an achievement which has been attained that has signally failed for nearly a half thousand years. A Probe for Stock Gamblers. From the Johnstown Democrat. Tom Lawson is right in at least one particular. While it is eminently proper for the Congress to probe around and endeavor to find whether State Department "secrets" are being used by stock market manipulators, it is very desirable that the stock exchange should be likewise investigated. It would appear that Wall street gamblers have been admitting quite too much. They say that some one somewhere whispered something to some one else and that straightway some men became paupers while others became millionaires. Of such things is the market composed. A breath, a whisper, a murmured word of gossip and securities tumble, values are affected and a bear raid is in full swing. Were the men who lost money because of the Wilson note men who were betting that no such note would ever appear? If so, are they entitled to any sympathy because they had the wrong end of the wager? It is charged that a few insiders had a tip as to what was going to happen at Washington and therefore were able to play safe. It is not denied that what happened would have happened when the general public learned of the Wilson note in the regular way. A different set of men, perhaps, would have been the ones who would have profited. It is all very well to locate and if possible punish all those who attempt to capitalize advance information concerning executive or judicial action. But there should likewise be a rod in pickle for the gamblers responsible for the stock exchange itself. Prayer as a Last Resort. From the Philadelphia Evening Ledger. Harrisburg is entertaining the notion that the one prayer delivered in each branch of the Legislature at its opening session, which cost the state \$294, was too expensive. The State can be exonerated from extravagance. Prayer was its last resort. Our Industrial Juggernaut. From the Harrisburg Patriot. Pennsylvania kills eight of her workmen every day. That sounds almost like a casualty list from the Somme front. A Quiet Day in Gotham. From the Philadelphia Record. New York papers remark on the fact that gold has been carried through the streets without being stolen. Where Even the Ticker Talks. From the Washington Star. Wall street has added to its reputation as a somewhat gossipy old thoroughfare. Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Harvey J. Moore, editor of the Oval "Ledger," and former postmaster, charged with discrepancies in his postal accounts, was found guilty by a jury before Judge Charles B. Witmer in United States court last week and sentenced to thirty days in jail. A week to the hour after their hold-up of the express messenger at Tarentum, Daniel King, Carl Schwartz and John Hummel were sentenced from five to ten years in the western penitentiary for the crime. All of the \$10,000 of the pay roll has been recovered. Safe-blowers entered two motion picture theaters at Uniontown early on Sunday, blew open three safes and escaped with \$1,300 in money and valuable papers. The robbery was committed during a blizzard, which it is believed prevented sound of the explosions when the safes were blown from being heard, and falling snow covered the tracks of the robbers. The Lafayette hotel at Nant-y-Glo was burned to the ground on Friday and the residence and store of James Dunwidde, formerly of Philipsburg, were damaged, though not seriously. The fire started in the hotel, and several of the occupants had narrow escapes. The building was owned by Mrs. Joseph Maxwell, and her loss will be about \$10,000. Mr. Dunwidde's loss will be slight. Commissioner of Health Dixon has detailed Assistant Engineer Drake to make an immediate investigation of the outbreak of typhoid fever in Etna, Allegheny county, where nineteen cases have appeared since Christmas. It was stated that over 1,000 vaccinations had been made in the industrial section of Allegheny county as the result of discovery of smallpox in Braddock and Turtle Creek. Major John Groome, superintendent of the State Police in his annual report submitted to the Governor on Saturday asks for at least 22 more men in order to meet the demands made upon the force. The force covers 45,000 square miles and during the year received 5,188 requests for assistance. Arrests totalled 3,027 for 82 different sorts of crime. Convictions resulted in 80 per cent. of the cases. Joseph D. Ferry, owner of a garage in Harrisburg, and Alvin M. Hornberger, of Mohnton, Berks county, were arrested and held under \$10,000 bail by United States Commissioner Wolfe on Tuesday, on the charge of making and passing counterfeit federal reserve bank notes. According to the secret service agents \$15,000 worth of bogus notes were made and \$1,200 of the notes put into circulation. The Glen Hope Coal Mining company is the name of a new operation recently opened in or near Glen Hope, on the lands of John W. Patchin and optioned by Alton Shoof, of Madera, and who sold the lease to Campbell Bros., J. E. and Patrick, for a good substantial sum. The lands acquired by the Campbells is more than 200 acres underlain with a vein of Moshannon coal a trifling four feet in thickness and increasing as they drive. At a meeting of the State Board of Education held Friday afternoon at the capitol in Harrisburg, resolutions were adopted favoring an increase of \$50 per year in all salaries of public school teachers and an appropriation of \$18,500,000 to the elementary and high schools of the State for the next two years. Secretary Becht was instructed to take up the matter of securing the State's share of the national appropriation for vocational schools. Interested to represent the Cambria Steel company are preparing to install one of the largest coal plants in Indiana county, in the Saltsburg section. About 7,000 acres of coal, of the Pittsburgh seam, are to be developed, it is said. The erection of a large number of houses, which are included in the plans of the company. The Pennsylvania Railroad company is building a line into the field. The new road will connect with the Conemaugh division at Saltsburg. Some miscreant, name unknown, is charged with creating a stink in the vicinity of Allenville, Mifflin county, last Thursday night, when he or she dug a hole under the fence and liberated 175 skunks at the farm of Frank Pecht. Mr. Pecht has been in the skunk growing business for the years for several years and had just succeeded in getting his area of land well populated with the little animals. He was looking forward to a lucrative year in pelts when some one maliciously liberated his breeders. When a horse owned by Eddie DiMarca, prosperous Acosta, Somerset county merchant, arrived home about 10 o'clock Saturday night without a driver search was made for the owner, whose dead body was found along the road a mile from Acosta, a bullet hole through the lung. DiMarca owned two stores and had spent the evening at his place of business in Bell, three miles away. In his pockets were \$107 in cash. Officers are looking for three men in an automobile seen in the vicinity during that evening. State Highway Commissioner Frank B. Black has issued a notice extending the life of the 1916 automobile license plates to February 1. The prison labor commission is running behind on deliveries of 1917 tags to the department and this new notice was necessitated by their failure to catch up on deliveries. The Commissioner also issued a notice to holders of non-paid operators' licenses warning them not to destroy or throw away the postal registration card being sent them this year instead of the card formerly sent in an envelope. Judge Charles E. Terry, of Womong county, sat at Wilkes-Barre Saturday to hear arguments on the motion to lift the non-suit order in the \$50,000 slander action of Councilman W. J. Cullen, of Hazleton, against Evangelist Henry W. Stough. He refused to set aside the non-suit. Counsel for Cullen argued that the statements made by Doctor Stough during his Hazleton revival were slanderous in that they charged Cullen was responsible for vice conditions in the city. Lawyers for Stough argued that no crime was imputed in the statements, and that the charges were, therefore, not actionable. An examination of applicants for places on the State Police force will be held at the rooms of the Police Department in the capitol at Harrisburg on February 1. There are fifteen vacancies to fill. The list of vacancies is getting larger every day, caused by the men resigning to take better positions. Their pay from the State is \$75 per month, but many of them have resigned to take places paying them from \$90 to \$100 per month, giving as the reason that the State pay is not sufficient for them, owing to the high cost of living. Since the organization of the force the pay has not increased and the cost of living has doubled. Many of the men are snapped up by the big manufacturing and munition plants as foremen and captains of the guards. Fire of unknown origin last Thursday afternoon destroyed the barn and entire contents on the farm of Fred Dennison, near Point, Bedford county. Mr. Dennison, in trying to save his stock, was terribly burned about the face and upper part of the body and the injuries may be of a very serious nature. The loss will reach \$6,000 and the only insurance was \$1,500, held by the Bedford Urban Mutual Fire Insurance company. The barn was valued at \$2,000, but the great loss is on the contents, consisting of 2,000 bushels of corn (worth \$1.25 per bushel), 600 bushels of wheat at \$2, all farm machinery and implements, a new corn husker, three horses, several cows, 120 hogs, 40 of which, weighing 200 pounds apiece, Mr. Dennison had sold to a Windber firm, to be delivered this week, and 100 tons of hay.