

INK SLINGS.

—Today is groundhog day. Did you have sausage for breakfast?

—Are you reading "K." It is really worth while, if you enjoy good fiction.

—Barney Baruch may not have known of the "leak" but he managed to get a lot of lamb fleece.

—A thunderstorm the last night in January is very unusual. It meant colder weather and we have it.

—Here's hoping that he won't see his shadow. We like cold weather, but we simply can't stand the coal bills.

—The leak investigators will have given very general satisfaction if they succeed in landing Tom Lawson in prison.

—Roosevelt started at Armageddon and has now arrived at or near Meroz. Roosevelt — Armageddon — Meroz — all are matters of ancient history.

—It appears as though the fact that there was a "leak" has been established, but it will be a more difficult matter to find out who leaked.

—The hens have started in toward doing their share of reducing the high cost of living. They are beginning to visit their nests with greater regularity.

—We have just discovered that there is a town named Jambouree in Kentucky. Spirit of moonshine and bourbon, how appropriate the name of Jambouree.

—Talking about the freedom of the seas. We note that a local agitation has already started that doesn't augur well for the freedom of Spring creek from the falls to the High St. bridge.

—Public sales have started in the county and the fellows who are looking for someone to accompany them on the tail of a slow note are getting as polite as a candidate around election time.

—A larger percentage of people of the United States are going to school than of any other country on the globe. Does this prove that we are the smartest lot or that we need education more than the others do?

—Germany's notice to the United States that she intends to resume ruthless submarine warfare knocked the bottom out of the stock market yesterday. Stocks fell from ten to twenty points and everything was panicky.

—The organization of a Farm Bureau for Centre county has been effected. Surely the richest agricultural county, naturally, in the State, should be most progressive in developing the resources nature has endowed it with.

—The new Legislature is considering a plan to meet for two weeks and then rest one. That would be fine, only it ought to be turned the other way round. They ought to meet one week and rest two. There would be less harm done.

—Brumbaugh has taken the bull by the horns and demands the fullest kind of an investigation. Surely he would have nothing to fear for we couldn't conceive of anything more discreditable being discovered than has already been revealed concerning him.

—Of course the Mexicans will refuse to bathe before being permitted to cross the international bridge into El Paso. Do our health officers imagine for a moment that the Greasers will do something they have never done before just because we tell them they must?

—That Johns Hopkins bacteriologist who examined hundreds of books that had been handled by hundreds of diphtheritic children, without finding a single bug, might be all right in Baltimore, but we wouldn't like to guess at what Dr. Dixon would do to him should he come exploding culture theories in Pennsylvania.

—My, what a holler a lot of people are making because the government threatens to build its own ships and manufacture its own armor plate and ammunition. The printers of the land look on with unfeigned glee. They would think the millennium had dawned if the government were to announce that hereafter it intends to supply and print only its own envelopes. In principle what difference is there between a battle ship and a box of envelopes?

—The President has done well to again veto the immigration bill because of the literacy test in it. A test of the "character, of quality or personal fitness" of an alien applicant for admission to our shores would be quite proper but to exclude those who cannot read nor write, especially when they may not have had an opportunity to learn either, seems contrary to our ideals of a Democracy. In fact some of the most brilliant men of our country would not be here today if such a literacy test had been applied to their forbears.

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An Armistice Has Been Called.

When the shower of billingsgate was most furious we predicted that neither Penrose nor Brumbaugh would permit it to go so far as to get beyond control.

On Monday Governor Brumbaugh protested with a fine exhibition of outraged dignity that the proposed investigation was an expression of factional frenzy.

We shall not be surprised at the turn of affairs in either event. Neither Penrose nor Vares can afford to carry a war very far into the lines of the other.

Brumbaugh's Absurd Message.

Governor Brumbaugh's official notice to the Senate that any resolution to investigate his administration will be vetoed, will hardly divert Senator Penrose from his purpose to force the Sproul resolution to passage.

The adoption of the Sarig resolution would have been the better way of proceeding. Having been prepared by impartial observers of a rotten factional row it would have treated all offenders against law and decency alike and Penrose as well as Brumbaugh would have been summoned to the bar of justice to answer malfeasances and misfeasances in office and out of office.

Of course the Governor's statement that he invites the widest and fullest investigation is a bluff. Without official or even organized inquiry enough has been revealed to stamp Brumbaugh in a most unenviable light.

—If you find it in the "Watchman" it's true.

Attend to Work of Present Importance.

The country will hardly be deceived by the efforts of Senator Cummins, of Iowa, to discuss the President's recent address on peace.

Senator Cummins is a good deal like Roosevelt. His ambitions have been disappointed so frequently within recent years that he has become a political misanthrope.

The Senate which is part of the treaty-making power of the government ought to express its sympathy with the purposes of the President and its confidence in the integrity of his professions.

—After all Deborah didn't cut much of a figure in history and Roosevelt has not added to her reputation for amiability.

Roosevelt's Impotent Rage.

Colonel Roosevelt has proved equal to the occasion. He has dug out of ancient history the "curse of Meroz," and poured it upon the head of the President.

Roosevelt is a falsifier by nature and delights in bearing false witness. He declares that the President represents now what the "copperheads" represented during the war of the rebellion.

Of course what Roosevelt says or does is of little consequence now. Most people have come to understand him and only those who shared in his grafting operations in the past and hope for opportunity to loot in his company again, pay any attention to him.

Work in the Legislature.

One month has elapsed since the General Assembly began its present session and nothing has been accomplished. Several bills have been introduced and referred to committees and the Sproul resolution to investigate the Governor has passed the Senate on second reading.

Some mathematical sharp figured out that the prayer of the Chaplain of the House at the opening session this year cost the treasury three or four hundred dollars.

Moreover the legislative juggling and waste is not ended according to reports from Harrisburg. Upon re-assembling next week a couple of days will be spent in factional maneuvering which will be followed by another recess of nearly a week.

—Winter weather is always variable, and we have had about as many kinds of it this winter as ever, but nobody could complain about the balmy temperature of Sunday.

—Those who have seen the sturdy troopers who have returned from the Mexican border do not share in the opinion that the expedition was of no value.

—The Democrats in the Legislature are disappointed, of course, because they are not permitted to conduct a real investigation.

—Possibly "a guilty conscience needs no accuser" but a threatened investigation sort of hurries up the payment of gasoline bills of officials who "inadvertently" took gas from the State garage.

—The Steel trust acknowledges its most prosperous period but insists on higher tariff taxation.

—If the expectation of peace and order in Mexico is fulfilled Roosevelt will have a fit. But froth is about as useful as anything else that comes from his mouth.

—Senator Cummins may be favorable to the President's peace program but the faint praise with which he commends it raises a suspicion of insincerity.

—It looks as if the Governor is opposed to any kind of an investigation but even a factional inquiry is better than none under existing circumstances.

—There will be opposition to anything President Wilson does so long as Roosevelt and Jim Beck live but it will not be serious.

—For high class Job Work come to the "Watchman" Office.

Money for Good Roads.

The Government of the United States kindly appropriated \$10,000,000 for the improvement of public roads, that are rural post roads, in the United States.

The State will of course accept and utilize the Federal money, but it would be nothing less than a crime if it allowed the liberality of Congress to abate by one dime the regular State appropriation for highway construction, improvement and maintenance in Pennsylvania.

The automobile license fees for the year past exceed \$2,000,000. They are in part from motor trucks, which are hard on the highways, and the whole amount should be devoted to the work of putting and keeping our highways in first-class condition.

Equal Rights for the Jew.

The question as to whether or not the Jew will ever return to Palestine is not such a burning issue as that the Jew shall have equal rights with other men wherever he may live.

—The Democrats in the Legislature are disappointed, of course, because they are not permitted to conduct a real investigation.

Teddy's Helpless Rage.

How Roosevelt must gnash his teeth over the fact that in the advancement of Dr. Grayson President Wilson has performed one official act which even he lacks the unblushing effrontery to denounce!

Treachery Most Foul.

The Governor had better look out, or Senator Penrose will catch him some time when he has sent his trowsers around the corner to be pressed.

Bible Reading in Vogue.

A St. Louis paper says that St. Louis women are making a profound study of the Bible. That's one way to get the Bible read; make it fashionable.

A Deep-Dyed Plot.

Then, again, there is supposed to be malice back of the desire of some that T. E. run in 1920. He can't get too many lickings for them.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Thomas S. Crowmover, of Huntingdon, has been appointed manager of the Huntingdon reformatory.

—A change of directors and the donation of \$7,000, deficiency on up-keep, are counted on to keep Greensburg's \$150,000 Y. M. C. A. going.

—While watching a shooting match at Centralia, Allen Oppenhouse was shot by one of the shooters, who slipped on ice, discharging his gun.

—John H. Shook, of Greencastle, who died December 13, left his entire estate to his wife for life, then to the Home for the Aged in Chambersburg.

—Rev. S. E. Vance, pastor of the Church of God at Wormleysburg, is in a critical condition following the drawing of a tooth, an artery having been severed.

—Four engineers, sent out by the State Highway department, are making a preliminary survey of the State road between Reno and North Bend, and which is stated on good authority will be completed this year.

—One of St. Marys best known young men mysteriously disappeared on Friday night. He has been acting strangely for several days and his friends are much concerned for fear he may have met with an accident or foul play.

—The greatest excitement that has stirred the people of Luthersburg for years prevails there because of the activities of representatives of the T. W. Phillips Gas & Oil Co., of Butler, in taking up options upon thousands of acres of land to the immediate south, southeast and southwest of the town.

—The Pennsylvania Railroad company will build at the Altoona shops, 92 all-steel passenger cars, 225 locomotives and 2,100 freight cars for use on the lines east of Pittsburgh and Erie.

—As an outcome of the death by a bullet through the head of Charles H. Woodworth, of Meadville, while in the office of Dr. H. L. Lewis, of Erie, last Tuesday evening, the mother of the dead man, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Woodworth, has sworn out a warrant charging Lewis with the murder of her son. Lewis is now in the county jail.

—Rev. J. M. McJunkin, aged 69, secretary and treasurer of the Synodical Home Missions of the Presbyterian church of Pennsylvania, died at his home on Monday in Oakdale, near Pittsburgh.

—H. M. Rowe, an engineer on the Middle division of the Pennsylvania railroad, was struck by a freight train a short distance west of Tyrone last Friday and instantly killed.

—Imputing prejudice to Federal Judge Charles B. Witmer of middle district of Pennsylvania in depositing Samuel Winters Wilkes-Barre attorney, as a bankrupt trustee, Wintner on Monday asked the Supreme court for leave to transfer the proceedings.

—Somerset for some unknown reason seems to have been lately placed in the danger zone by the Wells Fargo Express company, judging by the large and formidable looking revolvers that made their appearance strapped to the waists of the several express drivers last Friday morning.

—Instead of remaining in the mountains, the herd of thirteen elk liberated in Blair county a year ago, has been making its headquarters on the farms of F. S. Snobberger, John Baker, John Wyant and S. T. Shaw, at Catfish, near Hollidaysburg.

—When Lloyd Kessler, aged 45, returned home in Johnstown about midnight Thursday night and started a row with his son and wife, Elmer Kessler, aged 19, in bed upstairs, became alarmed, grabbed a revolver and hastened down stairs in time to see his father strike at the mother.

—The jury at Uniontown in the case in which Harry Sheppard, of Dawson, sued the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for \$15,000 damages for injuries he suffered when he was run off the train, returned a verdict of \$1,000 for the plaintiff.

—Judge Thomas J. Baldrige, in an opinion handed down in Blair county, decided that a constable is not an employee of the county. The case was an appeal from the decision of the workmen's compensation board, taken by Mrs. Charles R. Shippe, of Juniata, whose husband, a constable, was murdered in Grant. Shippe was a former resident of Shamokin and was buried there. The court held that a "constable elected by the citizens of a certain ward of the municipality cannot be said to be an employee of Blair county. The county has nothing to do with his election, nor can it remove him. At most, if he performs any services they are casual in character."