

INK SLINGS.

-In twelve more days spring will be here. -Don't blame it all on Bryan. He was bad enough, but there were others.

-The germ theory dates back to 1863 and every year we are getting buggier over it.

-After all the new Cabinet making was over the President just went and made the old one over again.

-Many a man who didn't vote to put him there is thanking God that Woodrow Wilson is there for the second term.

-The ground hog has one more week in which to reign. He has had some grip on the weather this year, all right enough.

-The opposition press is so busy preparing for war these days that it is forgetting to "shoot up" Joseph Daniels, as usual.

-If Stone and LaFollette and Cummins and the ten other Senators didn't commit the overt act on Sunday then it never will be committed.

-We fancy that a very large element of our population is of the opinion that this "bone-dry" business will turn out to have been the work of "boneheads."

-Ambassador Gerard has passed the danger zone on his way home and his offer to remain in Berlin for an indefinite period is now simply a line in the history of a tragic period.

-We haven't heard any of them at it but it is reported that some of the farmers who have asked and gotten \$2 for their wheat and \$3 for their potatoes are kicking like steers because "everything is so high."

-Make up your mind now to do a little something toward reducing the high cost of your own living. Plant a few potatoes and cabbages next spring. That will help some, even if you don't carry your gardening any further.

-A small industry is said to be looking for a location in Bellefonte. That's the kind we want. The little fellows that might show healthy growth and, at the same time, don't shock the business of the community if they fail.

-Three million tons of herring are used in Japan every year to fertilize the rice fields. The rice is shipped to this country and sells at from eight to ten cents a pound. Herring sell here at eighteen cents the pound. Strange, isn't it.

-Really, unless the wars are ended soon we ought to give Woodrow another term. He has been sitting on a volcano all of his first term and it looks like the same kind of a seat for him for a year or so more, so that he is entitled to know the White House for a few years when the clouds of war are not lowering over it.

-The "little group of wilful men," to whom the President referred as having "rendered the great government of the United States helpless and contemptible," represented one other than themselves. A certain ambitious but disappointed gentleman who left the cabinet some time ago moulded the bullets they fired.

-Dr. Surface, once state-economic zoologist, has been elected president of the state association of bee keepers. My, what a lot of things Dr. Surface knows about. San Jose, cabbage worms and honey bees. Now we'll expect a lot of apiaristic dope on that Martin B., that rangles about Harrisburg. The Doctor knows something of it because he felt its stinger some time ago.

-Rarely in the history of this country has the inauguration of a President been conducted with so little public interest aroused as was that of Woodrow Wilson on Monday. Yet it is doubtful if ever this country was or will be in such a grave crisis as it is today. Realizing this statement to be the truth does it not seem strange that so little excitement should have attended the ceremonies in Washington on Monday? It can be explained only through the fact that the country has implicit confidence in President Wilson and can be calm because it feels that whatever happens he will be at the helm.

-Bellefonte woke up on Monday to learn that an electric railway line to extend from Williamsport to State College had been under consideration for months in the former city, but has been abandoned. We see very little of interest in the story. Had it originated most any other place than Williamsport some importance might have attached to it, but everybody in Central Pennsylvania knows that Williamsport couldn't project a trolley line over the sixty-five mile route to State College when it can't project a state road for more than three continuous miles into any part of Lycoming county.

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President Wilson's Inaugural.

There was no necessity for a review of the record of his first term of office of President Wilson in his address inaugurating his second term. It is a record of achievement which "speaks for itself." It covered a period of vast interest and tragic events. But it served the vital purpose of qualifying the principal agent in the affairs of the time for the more important work that he is likely to encounter in the present and the future. And in his second inaugural, delivered on Monday, Woodrow Wilson shows that in every particular he measures up to the requirements of the future. He knows what the people of the United States stand for and makes others understand.

Upon the verge of war this country is for peace. But the peace which is demanded must be based upon "the actual equality of nations in all matters." It cannot rest upon "an armed balance of power." Its foundation is expressed in the Declaration of Independence in the statement that "governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed." The peace which the people of the United States will insist on, moreover, is predicated on the principle "that the seas shall be equally free and safe to all peoples under rules set up by common agreement and consent." These are the conditions under which President Wilson proposes to guide the country in the future as he has striven to shape it in the past four years.

In his second inaugural President Wilson asks for the cordial and united support of the people in his purposes thus expressed. And he should not ask in vain or be disappointed. We are entering upon a new era of national life. Without being less loyal to our own government we are now "citizens of the world" and must live up to the standard of that relationship. The President will do his part in the future, as he has in the past; it is for the people to do theirs. We may not have to fight. It may not be necessary to even go so far as at present contemplated. But it ought to be made possible to go to the limit if exigencies require such a step and it is up to the people.

Cloture in the Senate Necessary.

The freedom of speech and the license in discussion which has obtained in the United States Senate is one of the cherished traditions of the government at Washington. Since the first session of the First Congress no restraint has been put upon the right of Senators to express their views upon pending legislation. This fact has made the work of legislation increasingly difficult from session to session. In the beginning the same liberty of debate existed in the House of Representatives. But the recurring increase in the membership diminished the leaders in that body many years ago that some form of cloture was necessary to prevent the complete clogging of the machinery of legislation.

With the addition of new States the membership of the Senate has been increasing until some form of cloture has become necessary in that chamber also. For several years this necessity has been multiplying and as far back as twenty-five years it has been discussed. Several times cloture provisions have almost been enacted. But upon the crucial test in every instance the tradition has intervened and prevented the necessary legislation. The memory of the past, the devotion to the principles of free speech, the appeal of the right of discussion have overcome every impulse to change the rules in the hope that in the future abuses of privilege would be eliminated and justice prevail.

But unhappily the Senate is no longer made up of statesmen who are influenced by patriotism and guided by justice. When demagogues like LaFollette and charlatans like Vardaman were permitted to break into the chamber and debase its deliberations into selfish purposes the necessity for cloture was made compelling and it is gratifying to know that the episode, the most disgraceful in the history of the country, which attended the closing of the Fifty-fourth Congress, is likely to be followed by such amendment of the rules as will prevent such things in the future. The extra session of the body now in session could direct its energies to no better purpose.

Perfidy of a Few Senators.

In the face of positive proof that Germany has been fostering a conspiracy to organize Mexico and Japan into a war against the United States, the Senate defeated a plan to defend the country against hostile invasion. Those responsible for this perfidy are primarily William Jennings Bryan, Wm. J. Stone, James A. O'Gorman, Cummins, and Clapp, of Minnesota, Democrats, of Iowa; LaFollette, of Wisconsin, and Norris, of Nebraska, Republican Progressives. All of these except O'Gorman are influenced in all their actions by Mr. Bryan. Mr. O'Gorman imagines that he has a grievance against England upon the Irish question. Not one of the whole wretched group had a valid reason for his action.

In the history of civilization there has been no such betrayal of faith. The President asked for authority to resist a movement on the part of Germany which has paralyzed the commercial system of the United States. Hundreds of ships laden with cargoes representing legitimate commerce are held in American harbors because of the menace of German submarines. It is the bounden duty of the government of the United States to remove this restraint upon the commerce of the people. But primarily it was the duty of Congress to create conditions which would permit the government to fulfill its obligations and the failure to do so is perfidy. The Democrats and others who brought this condition about are guilty of treachery to the country.

Among the Senators classed as Democrats who participated in this betrayal of the country, are Kirby, of Arkansas; Lane, of Oregon, and Vardaman, of Mississippi, in addition to those above named. But these jumping-jacks don't count. Kirby and Vardaman probably don't know that the Civil war is ended. Stone, of Missouri, and O'Gorman, of New York, understand, however, and they were influenced in their action by alien agencies which never ought to have entered into the consideration. As it is they have humiliated the country and aided and abetted the most treacherous enemy the country has ever had. But their perfidy will not avail. In ample time the authority will be voted and their crime will be punished.

Senatorial Conspiracy Fails.

The conspiracy by which Senator LaFollette and his associates in the recent filibuster hoped to help Germany in its ruthless war against American commerce is not likely to be more successful than that which contemplated a war between Japan and Mexico against the United States. It has probably delayed the organization of armed neutrality for a few days, but will accomplish no other result. Our merchant ships will be equipped with arms to destroy the undersea craft notwithstanding the failure of the enabling legislation. In the opinion of the ablest lawyers the President has ample authority under the constitution and existing law to act in the matter.

It has been said that under an Act of Congress of 1819 our government is forbidden the right of arming merchant ships to meet this emergency. But that act will bear no such interpretation. It was enacted for the purpose of preventing privateers from attacking war ships of friendly nations. Her proclamation of January 31 of a purpose to do that which the government of the United States had forbidden under penalty of breaking friendly relations absolves the government of the United States from the obligation of the Act of 1819. The attempt to incite Japan and Mexico to war with the United States was an overt and atrocious act of hostility.

But setting all these considerations aside the United States has a right to arm ships against submarines as a measure of self-protection, the first law of nations as well as of nature. Germany never hesitates to take any step required for self-protection and in view of recent operations in Belgium, Serbia and other small States she is estopped from making even protest against such an expedient in the circumstances. We are paying too high a price for the ambitions of the German Kaiser and the sooner the President invokes the force at his command the better. Demagogues and traitors should not be allowed to sacrifice the country and that fact should be established at once.

Democrats are Willing to Help.

Senator Penrose announces that after the extra session of the Senate he will return to Philadelphia and arrange for the investigation of the Governor. This is gratifying intelligence but not convincing information. The recent attempt in that direction expressed in the Sprout resolution was not a success. The late Mark Tapley was so hopeful that he could extract sunshine out of the cucumbers but Penrose will have to beat him to a frazzle in order to achieve the purpose he announces upon the lines he usually lays for the compass of political results. And recent history doesn't inspire confidence in his political predictions. In other words he has not guessed right.

There is a way by which Mr. Penrose might investigate the Governor but it is a safe bet that he won't adopt it. The ninety-five members of the Legislature who voted for Baldwin's nomination for Speaker of the House joined with the thirty-seven Democrats in that body could pass any proposition to investigate and we have positive assurances that the thirty-seven Democrats are not only willing but anxious. The only condition that they present is that the investigation shall be fair and impartial. Everybody knows that Brumbaugh is culpable. No investigation is required to prove that he has violated the laws in various and important particulars. The people of the State would like to know all about both sides of the controversy.

Of course the thirty-seven Democratic Representatives in the Legislature are not playing favorites and are perfectly willing to help Brumbaugh to stage the investigation which he pretends to court. If we can't get a complete and comprehensive investigation, for example, that will take in Brumbaugh and Penrose, then let us have one that will take in and expose the iniquities of either of them now and later on there will be a chance to get after the other. Possibly Penrose contemplates such an investigation and that his statement of his future purpose is based upon such a plan. If that be true the Democrats will welcome him and guarantee a job that will command admiration.

Senator Snyder has introduced a bill in the Senate at Harrisburg to increase the minimum salaries of school teachers in this State as follows: For all teachers holding professional or state certificates for a 7 months' term \$600; for an 8 months' term \$650; for a nine months' term \$700; for more than 9 months, \$750. Teachers holding other certificates are rated thus: For a 7 months' term \$500; for the 8 months' term \$550; for 9 months' \$600; for more than 9 months \$620.

Last week the "Watchman" announced that "March came in like a lamb," but it didn't grow old meekly. In fact Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night gave us the deepest snowfall of the winter. By Monday morning it was a foot deep and had it not melted as it did on Sunday there would have been at least fifteen inches of snow. The snow was followed by colder weather on Monday and Monday night.

Some of our esteemed contemporaries are demanding that Congress formally adopt the "Star Spangled Banner" as the National anthem. But what's the use? It has already been adopted unanimously by the people of the country and they are the highest authority.

The Hon. A. Mitchell Palmer has arranged for certain changes in the President's cabinet to be made in a few months. It is to be hoped that he will give the President notice of his purpose in time to avoid inconveniences.

The plans of the President have been postponed but not defeated. American commerce will be resumed before long notwithstanding that "little group of wilful men" who appear to be working for the Kaiser.

Senator Penrose would have voted for the "armed neutrality" bill but declined to certify the fact in writing. The Senator is too timid to be safe.

Well it was Zimmerman's time to blunder. All his associates in the Berlin government beat him to it but he was due.

Centre County Suffragists Held Interesting Convention.

The fourth Centre county convention of the Woman's Suffrage party convened at the High school building Tuesday, March 6th, at 10 a. m. Because of snow blocked roads only a few members from neighboring towns and country side were able to attend but the interest and enthusiasm of those present amply demonstrated the earnestness of purpose behind the movement.

The convention was called to order by the county chairman, Mrs. Robt. M. Beach. Reading of the minutes by the secretary, Mrs. John S. Walker, treasurer's report, Miss Mary G. Meek and auditor's report, Mrs. Edmund Blanchard followed. Then came the reports of borough and township leaders. These were interesting, showing as they did obstacles encountered and overcome in the various communities and the steady growth in sentiment favoring suffrage throughout the county. Mrs. W. B. Johnston, of Howard, gave an entertaining account of her method of work in securing a large number of signatures of people favoring suffrage for Pennsylvania women. Her experiences proved nothing should be taken for granted. Where she had been warned to expect opposition she frequently found hearty support. In discussion it was brought out that the apathy toward the issue in certain districts was due to policy, rather than personal opinion.

Mrs. R. S. Brouse reported the State convention at Williamsport and Miss Meek, chairman of the finance committee, outlined the plan for financing the county, state and national organizations and named the apportionment to each borough and township organization in the county.

The morning session then adjourned and a box luncheon was served in the domestic science room.

The first work of the afternoon session was the nomination and election of delegates to the Congressional and State conventions. They were named as follows: Mrs. John S. Walker, Bellefonte; Mrs. Jacob Hoy, Benner township; Mrs. Frank Gardner, State College; Miss Susan Shipley, Unionville; Miss Anna Dale, Boalsburg, and Mrs. Cook Leathers, Howard. The alternates are Mrs. Frank Fisher, Penn Hall; Misses Grace Smith and Florence Rhone, Centre Hall; Miss Blanche Kunes, Blanchard, and Miss Blanche Buddinger, Snow Shoe. Mrs. Frank Gardner, of State College, explained points in the constitution and Mrs. John Lyon read plans formulated by the state board for future effective work.

The address of the afternoon was now given by Mrs. Edward E. Kiernan, of Somerset, 2nd vice president of Pennsylvania Woman's Suffrage association. Mrs. Kiernan spoke of the importance of the effective service the various organized bodies of women throughout the country can render for the government in the event of war. Service made possible through the training received in organized work, in federated clubs, united work for Red Cross, temperance and suffrage. She laid special emphasis upon the motherly instinct, exercised first of all in the home but stretching out from it to the community, the State, the nation, even to the world at large. That motherliness which gives special love and care to the weak and down trodden. She touched upon the Congress of Mothers and Parent Teachers associations upon which she would talk at length at eight o'clock, and spoke enthusiastically of the courses in home making in all its phases now being given in many of the public schools throughout the country. Mrs. Kiernan was an earnest, animated talker who held the interested attention of her audience. At the close of her address the convention stood adjourned.

From one of the "Watchman's" appreciated subscribers in Philipsburg was received last week an interesting letter regarding the farmer's institute held there on Monday and Tuesday. Unfortunately the communication was received too late for publication last week and it is too old now to have any news value. Contributions for publication in this paper should reach this office not later than Wednesday. Any time in the future that our Philipsburg subscriber contributes anything of interest we will be glad to use it.

Put your ad. in the WATCHMAN.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-Fully 400 strike-breakers, negroes and whites, from New York, were imported by the New York Central & Hudson River R. R. Co., to take the places of striking shopmen at Clearfield.

-The counties of Huntingdon and Blair and the Pennsylvania railroad have joined hands for the improvement of the William Penn highway between Union Furnace and Tyrone. The road will be shortened, and widened, and a new concrete bridge will be built. Huntingdon borough will improve the highway in that borough.

-Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh on Friday issued a proclamation setting aside Friday, April 13th, and Friday, April 27th, as Arbor days. In urging citizens of the Commonwealth to plant trees, in his proclamation Governor Brumbaugh said that "to face the task of restoring these forests is a duty both imminent and practical."

-Fifty-two prisoners are incarcerated in the Northumberland county prison just now. Of these one is a woman. She is Mrs. James Buggy, of Shamokin, who confessed to the murder of her step-daughter, Eleanor Buggy, more than a week ago. Mrs. Buggy is morose and sullen, and has little to say, according to the jail attaches. She is being closely watched.

-C. Lawrence Shepley, city editor of the Harrisburg "Telegraph" has just been elected managing secretary of the DuBois Chamber of Commerce by the directors of that organization, to succeed Paul Gendell, who recently resigned to accept the appointment of superintendent of the Philadelphia office of the State Employment Bureau and the Emergency Aid.

-All members of the Franklin fire department, including chief Frank D. Grimm, the electrician, two firemen and nine minute men, resigned on Tuesday, to take effect March 15th. Council immediately accepted the resignations and advertised for a complete new set of firemen. The firemen gave no reason for their action, but it is understood to be the result of council assuming general oversight of the department recently.

-About 500 shopmen walked out of the Avis shops, at Jersey Shore, at noon Wednesday of last week, when the New York Central Railroad company refused an increase in wages. At 11 o'clock Friday morning orders were received to abandon the shops, board up the windows and ship all machinery to other points. Work on dismantling the machinery was begun at once. It will be a serious blow to Jersey Shore if the shops are dismantled for good.

-Theodore Roosevelt's offer of himself and his four sons for service in the army in the event of war was completely overshadowed this week by the announcement of William Albright, of Clearfield county. Mr. Albright has fourteen sons and seven daughters, and he offers the services of the entire family to the government if war comes. "The girls will enter the Red Cross service," he says. Another son was killed in an automobile accident last year.

-Big Soldier, the thriving mining town two miles out of Reynoldsville, was the scene of a fire late Saturday night that totally destroyed the tipple of the Jefferson & Clearfield Coal & Iron company, together with valuable machinery, entailing a loss of \$30,000 and throwing over 400 men out of employment for several weeks. The fire also means that close to 1,000 tons of coal will be withdrawn from the market daily, as this is the output of the Soldier mines.

While workmen were engaged in tearing down an old shed at the Muth warehouse on Bainbridge street, Elizabethtown, on Monday afternoon, they found a tin box hidden under one of the logs and when opening it found it contained a lot of checks, receipts, etc., of the Pennsylvania Railroad company. Station Agent C. J. McLaughlin was notified and upon investigation it was found to be the effects that were stolen from the safe that was blown up some time ago in the Elizabethtown depot.

-Attorney John C. Forsyth, of Clearfield, has entered suit against the United Mine Workers on behalf of the Potts Run Lumber company, operating mines at Boardman and Maple Run for violation of the district agreement as to the price of coal mining. These suits grew out of strikes at the points mentioned where the men went out after demanding \$1.00 per ton instead of the 75c. price agreed upon when the scale was signed. The suits are brought against the local unions at these points and each individual member is named as defendant.

-Ray, the 14 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hartzfeldt, of Brady township, Clearfield county, was shot in the stomach and almost instantly killed on Wednesday night, February 28th. About twenty young men were serenading John Miller and bride, and following a custom too common in country districts, guns and revolvers were used to make a noise. There was much promiscuous shooting, and unfortunately young Hartzfeldt, who was also taking part in the celebration, got within range of one of the weapons and met a tragic death.

-R. J. Mattern, assignee of the Huntingdon bank, will begin on Monday next the payment of the third dividend to the creditors of that institution, which failed and closed its doors June 10th, 1911. The present distribution of 10 per cent amounts to \$50,000 and goes to about 2200 individuals and firms. The payments will be made by check. The coming distribution is the third, making a total payment of 32 1/2 per cent. to the depositors. Assignee Mattern expects to be able to pay another dividend, about 7 1/2 per cent. before the affairs are finally wound up.

-After several trips to the Isle of Que in the Susquehanna river just opposite Sellersburg, where the big elk that had formerly been holding forth in the Lewistown Narrows is at present established, Game Protector J. J. Slauterback, of Lewisburg, will attempt a recapture of the big animal. The warden expects to have a high stockade constructed in which the elk can be driven and then captured. After capture the animal will be put in a big crate and shipped back to Centre county, from the wilds of which it escaped two years ago.

-A verdict in the sum of \$685 was returned by a jury in the Clearfield county court last Thursday in favor of James E. Read, against members of the Golden Eagle Lodge, of New Millport. The verdict is against the defendants as individuals and not as Lodge members as it was held that the degree through which they were putting young Read when he was killed was not a part of the ritual of the Order. Leon Read was killed on November 2nd, during an initiation into the mysteries of the Order. Nine men tossed him up in a blanket and he fell off it and received injuries which resulted in his death.