

INK SLINGS.

The "Watchman" is doing its bit by producing seed potatoes at cost for those who have been unable to get any for themselves.

The "Watchman" ventures to remark that many a family could raise a dozen or more chickens on the table scraps that are now being thrown to a perfectly worthless dog. If we are going to try to conserve let us stop all the leaks.

If President Wilson feels like he looks on a bill that is being displayed around here to encourage enlistment surely he must be the most miserable of men. The Scranton "Republican" printing office owns up to having reproduced such a ridiculous likeness of the President.

The new war loan of seven billion dollars means \$350,000 as Bellefonte's share and \$3,500,000 for Centre county. Of course those stupendous sums won't be levied directly against us, but as all taxes are paid ultimately by the individual and as each individual's share of the new loan is \$70, whether it be adult, youth or baby, the amounts given above are our proportionate share of it. Surely war does shoot up the public pocketbook.

Owners of dogs can do their bit by keeping their pets penned up until their neighbor's gardens get a chance to grow. What's the use laboring to help the country by getting our gardens to produce when any old mangy cur can bound over the back fence and do a hind foot exercise that uproots yards of hopefully cultured vegetables. Of course you think your dog wouldn't do such things, but he will. All dogs are alike. They are usually sired by "Prince Royal" in their owner's estimation and they are just as usually damned by the entire neighborhood.

Right now, when every effort is being made to encourage back-yard gardening the Poor Overseers of their respective communities should make a survey of their dependents. Every person who received aid from poor departments last year should be visited and if it is found that they have neglected gardens and anybody in the family physically able to cultivate them they should be admonished that the poor funds will only be available for help for those who show a disposition to help themselves. The next year will be no time to encourage or put premiums on laziness and the sooner a lot of loafers are told that it will not be done the better off we will all be.

How foolishly extravagant the most of us are. Wednesday evening a friend was berating the local butchers for being contributory causes to the high cost of living. He was balancing a half pound of round steak that he had paid fourteen cents for in the palm of one hand, swearing that he remembered the time when he could buy a whole pound for fourteen cents, and all the while chewing up a perfectly good cigar that scarcely weighed two ounces and for which he never kicked a bit when he laid down a dime. High as its cost was the fourteen cent's worth of round steak had forty times as much usefulness in it as the ten cent cigar. And, furthermore, the fellow who imagines himself so hard hit by the high cost of living that he can buy only half a pound of round steak at a time ought to be smoking stogies if he is foolish enough to think that he can afford to smoke at all.

Senator Buckman's idea of compelling ward patients in state aid hospitals to pay the full per diem cost of their maintenance instead of the customary rate of one dollar per day must surely be based on the presumption that many patients who could afford private rooms are imposing on the local communities and the aid of the State by going into wards. So far as the Bellefonte hospital is concerned very little if any of this has ever been detected. The primary purpose of the hospital is to give medical and surgical aid to those who could not procure it satisfactorily elsewhere. In other words it is a charitable institution and all ward treatment is presumed to be free for those who cannot pay and the nominal charge of a dollar is made to those who can and desire to pay something, but who are unable to pay for a private room. In fact, no one, except persons in affluent circumstances, can afford a private room in any hospital, so high have their rates become. And we are inclined to believe that no other person can afford to pay the per diem cost of a ward bed. If hospitals are to be made self-supporting it can only be done by charging private room patients more than they are paying for and thus robbing the State and the local community of an opportunity to extend charity where charity is really needed.

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Marshall Joffre Probably Mistaken.

General Joffre, the hero of the French army, may be as capable a military leader as his admirers imagine. But it is not improbable that he has an exaggerated idea of the importance of an American contingent in the French trenches. It would be important to Roosevelt in the event that he should be assigned to the command, for it would enable him to think he had achieved the triumph over the Kaiser which we all hope for ultimately. It is not likely, however, that it would have any other significance and in view of that fact it looks as if the grand old French soldier is being used as a cat's paw by the selfish "Colonel" in his importuning for American troops in the trenches.

It is practically agreed that the issue of the war depends upon the stopping of the operations of the German undersea craft. It is equally certain that the stopping of these operations depends upon the capacity of Great Britain and the United States combined to supply ships to take the places of those sunk. Putting United States troops in the trenches in France will not expedite the building of ships on either side of the ocean. On the contrary the tax upon our industrial life which sending troops to France would involve might materially impair our ability to build ships because if our troops are sent abroad the industrial life of the country must be appealed to to recruit the ranks.

Besides in sending funds to the allies with princely generosity the people of the United States are doing a considerable part in the sublime work of obliterating autocracy from the governing agencies of the world. Of course if it becomes necessary we shall contribute our toll of life and in that even troops will be sent wherever their services are required. But there is no use in sacrificing lives by exposing undisciplined and inexperienced men to the hazard of trench fighting and probably General Joffre knows that as well as any living man. But being as amiable as he is courageous he probably wants to oblige Roosevelt and doesn't altogether appreciate the consequences.

Roosevelt's Selfish Ambition.

Theodore Roosevelt continues to press his absurd claim to a commission of high rank and seems to be appealing from the President and Congress to the thoughtless men and women of the country who have framed him in their minds as a hero. He spoke in Chicago on Saturday both at noon and at night and damning the policy of the government with faint praise demanded the right to revoke the legislation expressing it, added: "I want to get Americans into the trenches of France at the earliest possible moment to show our allies that we are ready as they to shed our blood for the cause of Democracy." The city went wild and Roosevelt in ecstasy said "do you wonder why I love Chicago?"

Every capable student of military science in this country and abroad has declared at one time or another that to put green troops in opposition to the highly trained veterans of the German army would be equivalent to the murder of the men. "It would be driving them to suicide," said General Loenard Wood and the late General Sir Herbert Kitchener, of the British army positively refused to allow such a sacrifice. But Theodore Roosevelt, for the sole purpose of keeping himself in the lime-light, insists upon just such a sacrifice to feed his abnormal vanity and promote his preposterous ambition to get another term in the Presidency. It is not patriotism that influences him. It is sordid selfishness.

If in the judgment of military experts the presence of United States troops in France would work such salutary results a division of the regular army under the command of General Wood, General Bell or General Pershing should be sent to France or Belgium. General Joffre, the great French Marshall, thinks well of such an enterprise and his opinion is worth while. But he referred to the American soldier rather than to a scurvy politician who would sacrifice the lives of thousands in order to secure the vote of one delegate in a Presidential campaign three years hence. Roosevelt's conduct if not treasonable is at least sinister and deserves the universal reprobation of the public.

The "Watchman" has all the news

General Snyder a Rank Reactionary.

Auditor General Snyder who entered upon the duties of his important office on Tuesday is a reactionary but he will hardly be able to stop the march of progress or turn back to any great extent the forces of human development. But he is going to undertake this herculean enterprise, according to press reports from Harrisburg. That is to say he is determined that no woman shall be employed in any capacity in the department over which he exercises control. The employment of women he imagines is an infringement upon the natural rights of men. It probably does deprive some of the party ward heelers of the opportunity to draw large salaries for inefficient service, but does no other harm.

Sham economies of which this absurd action of Auditor General Snyder is a conspicuous example, are working havoc in the social and industrial life of this country. Recently Congress passed over the President's well considered veto an immigration law which has already kept thousands of healthy, industrious and honest young men and women from coming to this country which from the first has been boastfully referred to as an "asylum for the oppressed." Yet the direst sufferings are not only in this country but in all the territory of our allies in war is menacing because of the scarcity of labor and the consequent inability to harvest the full fruits of American soil. Every Congressman who voted for the measure ought to be kicked into obscurity.

This reactionary absurdity of Auditor General Snyder ranks in the same line as the immigration measure referred to. But it will not go far in this enlightened age. Women stenographers are as firmly fixed in the industrial life of this country as women school teachers. Nine times out of ten they give better service than men and always they should be encouraged to take such part in the productive affairs as they are capable of performing thus releasing to the heavier and harder employments the men who are not their superiors in skill and intelligence and sometimes not their equals. Mr. Snyder may believe that he is leading a revolution but as a matter of fact he is only stopping his own clock.

May will have to produce a great many pleasant days to atone for the abortion with which she came in.

Home Rule in Ireland Advanced.

One of the gratifying results of our joining in the war against Germany is the perceptible advance of the movement for self-government in Ireland. President Wilson recommended the fulfillment of long overdue promises in this respect the other day, to the British statesmen now in this country and it is alleged that Mr. Balfour assented to his proposition. Subsequently a petition numerously signed by members of Congress was presented to the distinguished gentlemen and it is believed that the necessary action will be taken almost immediately. The necessary legislation was enacted before the beginning of the war.

The treatment of the Irish people with respect to the matter of Home Rule is one of the disgraceful chapters in the history of the period since the opening of the war. Before the war cloud had appeared Parliament had enacted legislation giving the Irish people an autonomous government. The Province of Ulster threatened rebellion against the proposition, Sir Edward Carson, who preferred to be a British serf rather than an Irish citizen, leading the movement. The matter of greater moment got the centre of the stage and though Irishmen protested against the delay, they accepted the inevitable and gave efficient and enthusiastic support to the government in its war with Germany.

There is no reasonable excuse for postponing the fulfillment of the promise after the first confusion of the war had passed but it was postponed nevertheless and Carson, the Irish traitor was called into the cabinet, thus adding insult to injury. But the Irish soldiers in the trenches and the Irish people at home continued their allegiance to the government which had oppressed them for a hundred years and gave the last tribute of loyalty as freely as if no harm had ever been done them. But President Wilson with characteristic devotion to the principles of justice has interceded and their hopes are likely to be fulfilled.

Senator Snyder's Farewell.

State Senator Charles A. Snyder, of Schuylkill county, resigned his seat in that body last week in order that he might enter upon his duties as Auditor General this week. But upon retiring he left an echo which is likely to reverberate in the chamber for some time. What he said is largely left to conjecture as upon motion of another Senator a controversy between Senator Vare and Senator Snyder was expunged from the records and the reports published in the daily newspapers were meagre and unsatisfactory. But it must have been "hot stuff." In his farewell speech he said some pretty sharp things and as they were allowed to go the expunged remarks must have been vitriolic.

For example, the ex-Senator declared in his farewell speech, that the constitution requires that the Governor shall "submit the names of persons appointed by him to office to the Senate for confirmation," and that failure to do so not only invalidated the official actions of appointees not confirmed but violated the constitution which the Governor is bound by oath to "support, obey and defend." Mr. Snyder also cast reflections upon the Attorney General which must have been painful to the only friend of the administration who has thus far undertaken to defend it. "As to the Attorney General," he said, no one doubts that his opinions are biased, to a large extent by personal feeling, and in conclusion he declared that "the Governor is surrounded by men who keep the truth from him."

The resignation of Senator Snyder from his seat in the Senate is exceedingly comforting to Governor Brumbaugh, no doubt. He has been a "thorn in the flesh" of his excellency ever since the break with Penrose after the inauguration of Brumbaugh. But he will not be eliminated from the public affairs of the State and has not been silenced in denunciation of the administration. As Auditor General he will have a check upon the expenditures of the executive department and it is a safe bet that even if the price of the gubernatorial cigarettes are permitted to slip through the pressing of the executive pants will have to be paid out of a private fund. Snyder will be more than a sartorial model.

Congresswoman Rankin, of Montana, is not promoting the interest of the women of America by voting wrong on every question that comes before the House. The average man is likely to come to the opinion that Congresswomen don't know how to vote intelligently.

The people of Pennsylvania don't seem to care whether the Legislature adjourns finally or spends the time recessing. As a matter of fact the people take very little interest in legislation or the Legislature.

Don't undertake too much at one time. After the food problem is solved moral questions may be taken up in turn and disposed of. But feeding the troops and the public is the proposition now.

The tributes paid to the memory of Washington by the visiting foreigners were graceful and gratifying but they have added nothing to the renown of the distinguished dead.

Anyway there is no use in sending troops to Flanders until after the corn planting is complete and by that time the selected force will be available.

The U boats have inflicted a good deal of damage on British commerce but they haven't put the food supply in jeopardy as yet and are not likely to.

In joining the crusade for a better Bellefonte remember that "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" and like charity, should begin at home.

Soap and water, scrubbing brush chase the dirt out with a rush. Out with rubbish, cut the weeds. Sow a lot of garden seeds. Be a booster for Bellefonte next week.

There is a vast difference between a convict and a conscript as a very distinguished public official is likely to learn before long.

Probably Champ Clark would rather be wrong than be President and if he keeps on going wrong he will never be President.

How American Youths are to be Conscripted.

Washington, D. C., May 2.—Machinery for drafting into the service the first levy of 500,000 men is being worked out by the war department.

The local electoral systems of the townships and precincts will be utilized for the huge task of registering and sifting out the exemptions. Although the details are far from completion, the system in general will be as follows:

On a day designated by proclamation, probably before September 1, all the men in the Nation between the ages to be set in the conscription bill will be ordered to visit the polls and register themselves. Upon registration they will be given cards designating the number of the class in which they will be called for examination.

It is planned to use the local police facilities of the townships, villages and cities to seek out "slackers" who fail or refuse to register. Under the bill a heavy penalty will be imposed for failure to register. Then calls by classes will follow. As each class reports the men subject to exemption under the bill—munitions workers, men with dependents, men engaged in industries vital to the military machine and other classes, such as agricultural workers, to be fixed by the President—will first be weeded out.

After that the remainder will be again sifted by physical test and the unfit rejected. Then another class for examination will be summoned and the process repeated until all the men of the nation, physically fit and not subject to exemption, are determined. It is believed the jury wheel system to determine the first levy by lot will be used. These men chosen from the ranks subject to service will comprise the first levy. They will then await the order to go to the training camps.

A savings bank account system is to be inaugurated in the public schools of Bellefonte to teach the children the fundamental ideas of thrift and saving. Dr. J. Robert Stout, president of the Educational Thrift Service, of New York, is the man who will introduce the system and explain the details. It is the purpose to establish a regular savings bank system and one day a week the pupils will be asked to bring some money, if it is only one cent or any amount they see fit. An account will be opened in the pupil's name and kept in the school while the total amount of money will be deposited weekly in the bank. The idea is a very good one and should be encouraged by the parents of the children.

In the United States district court at Pittsburgh on Monday Judge W. H. S. Thompson assessed fines totalling \$52,000 against thirty-three Pennsylvania brewing companies which last Saturday entered pleas of nolo contendere to indictments charging misuse of money in the congressional campaign of 1914. The fines ranged from \$500 to \$4,500 and among the breweries in this section of the State against which fines were imposed were the Pennsylvania Central Brewing company, of Altoona, \$2,000, and the Phillipsburg Brewing company, \$1,000.

As the opening of Bellefonte "Clean-up" campaign will begin Monday morning, plan to put in order everything about your property. Paint the dingy old stables and buildings, repair fences, dig the weeds, clean up front and back yards, alleys and gutters, salt cracks in sidewalks to exterminate insects and all the while show your patriotism by planning for a garden to supply your need of vegetables.

Troop L will hold a camp at the fair grounds tomorrow afternoon and Sunday. They will go into camp tomorrow after dinner, hold a drill and spend the night there in their tents. Another drill will be held on Sunday morning and in the afternoon the Troop will march to town for the big patriotic rally at the Academy.

Last Friday was an unlucky day for baseball in Centre county. The Carnegie Tech nine defeated Penn State at State College 7 to 6, and the State Freshmen won from the Bellefonte Academy 4 to 0.

The sixty dollars in cash realized by the young women who had in charge the Red Cross dance has been turned over to the Needlework Guild to be held in trust for the use of Troop L.

When paring your potatoes cut out the eyes good and deep and give them to your less fortunate neighbor to plant. Someone will be only too glad for this kindness.

Corn planting time is close at hand and there is still some corn in the field up Bald Eagle valley.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

C. A. Bargerstock, of Bell township, Jefferson county, is selling his neighbors seed potatoes at \$2 a bushel. This is a form of patriotism that might well be widely imitated.

William H. McGregor, a resident of Indiana, aged 52 years, while on a visit to Lancaster and in apparent good health, committed suicide by shooting. He was probably insane, having had frequent pains in the head.

C. J. Logan, alias J. R. Crawford, of Philadelphia, has been arrested and lodged in the Clearfield county jail to await trial on the charge of attempting to poison W. J. Seabrook and Mary Seabrook, of Westover, several months ago.

An open-faced silver watch which was lost by a boy owner eight years ago in a field near Ligonier, was found the other day in very good condition and is now keeping time as formerly. The leather fob was decayed to some extent, but the watch was not materially injured.

William D. Gray, of Huntingdon, a flagman in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, gathered up five-year-old Catherine Cox, of Mapleton, and saved her from being ground to death under a rapidly approaching draft of cars. The child was playing on the tracks.

Claiming \$15,000 damage as the result of injuries he suffered when run down by a run-away team owned by the Furman & Schmidt Brewing company, of Shamokin, on September 2, 1915, John Chambers Saturday brought suit against the company in the Northumberland county courts.

Lewis Ohs, of Houtzdale, aged 65 years, who was badly burned by a powder explosion in the mines on April 3rd, in which both eyes were blown out, after suffering intense agony in the Cottage hospital, Phillipsburg, on April 22, He is survived by his wife and five grown up children.

A portable saw mill, including contents and machinery, and also 75,000 feet of sawed lumber, ready for shipment, all the property of Valentine Smith, at Wallace Run, Lycoming county, near the junction of the Salt creek with that stream, were destroyed by fire which raged for over thirty hours during Saturday and part of Sunday.

On the 12th of April Louis Lawrence, 18-year-old son of Joseph Lawrence and wife, of Hempfield township, Westmoreland county, absconded carrying with him \$1,800 belonging to his father. Twelve days later he was found living in a coke oven at Bessemer, some negroes being his companions. All the money except \$50 was found on his person.

The United Coal company, of Pittsburgh, has purchased the operations of the Merchants' Coal company, of Baltimore at Boswell, Somerset county, the consideration being about \$2,000,000. The deal includes three plants and modern equipment. Two million dollars will be expended in the opening of new mines. Possession of the property will be given July 1.

Rabbi J. Leonard Levy, pastor of the Kodesh Shalom synagogue of Pittsburgh, and one of the most prominent Jewish clergymen of the country, died last Thursday following a short illness, from pneumonia. Rabbi Levy was born in London, England, November 24th, 1865, and was a graduate of the University of London. Rabbi Levy was also known by many titles.

Brooding over domestic troubles, John Rheppard, aged fifty-five, committed suicide early Monday morning at his home in Lewisburg. He ended his life by sending a 32 bullet entirely through his head, the missile entering one temple and coming out the other. Rheppard was employed at the Milton plant of the American Car and Foundry company, being a member of the switch crew.

Recently the Tyrone Chamber of Commerce decided to push the proposition of completing the Lewisburg railroad through from Pennsylvania Furnace to Oak Hall. This is the link that will connect State College and Tyrone. It is said that the Tyrone people will strongly urge the building of the road because the bus line from State College to Tyrone has demonstrated that it would be a paying investment.

Harry Reynolds, aged 46 years, was killed and George Ellison, colored, sustained a crushed hand and broken leg at the American Car and Foundry company's plant at Milton, at three o'clock Saturday morning, when a chain on a big crane broke and allowed four tons of metal to fall. Ellison was taken to the Williamsport hospital. Reynolds is survived by his wife and seven children, all under 16 years of age.

Frank McMichael, a retired newspaper editor, died at his home near Greensburg Friday morning, aged 61 years. He was born in Butler county and spent the greater part of his life in newspaper work. He helped to establish the DuBois "Express" and the Clearfield "Public Spirit." Mr. McMichael was a member of the Reformed church. He is survived by his widow, six children, ten grand-children and a number of brothers and sisters.

At a meeting of the Jersey Shore Masonic Temple association Friday evening it was decided to reconstruct the Masonic Temple upon the site of the former one destroyed by fire on Monday, December 18th, 1916. A building committee consisting of J. F. Person, Dr. M. C. Barner and Dr. R. B. Hayes was appointed. The work of clearing away the debris on the site of the former building will be begun at once and building operations started after the site has been cleared up.

The Tyrone Brick and Tile company, with plant and yards west of Gratzville, Friday of last week received an order for 1,000,000 high grade brick, a single order that involves an expense of over \$24,000. The order is from the Susquehanna silk mills, headquarters in New York city, with mills operating at Sunbury. The company is about to erect a new mill at Huntingdon and for this structure the brick ordered from the Tyrone concern will be used. William Fuoss, of Tyrone, heads the corporation.

The Rev. J. Edwin Dunning, formerly of the Sandy Ridge Methodist church, but for two years pastor of the Louthier Memorial Methodist church of Johnstown, on Wednesday, April 25, was notified that he has been transferred to the First Methodist Episcopal church of Ford City and that he is expected to enter upon his work there the first Sunday in May. The Johnstown work, until the next session of the Pittsburgh conference, will be under the charge of the Rev. J. S. Potts, pastor of the Roxbury Methodist Episcopal church.