Democratic Watchman.

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

INK SLINGS.

—Swat the spy.

—Fourth of July in Bellefonte surely was both safe and sane.

—The grain harvest in Centre county will be at least two weeks late.

—The boy Emperor of China has about decided to join the grand exalted order of the abdicators.

—New York city is advertising for women to become city employees. Gradually the Tammany tiger is becoming extinct in Gotham.

—When all the flags are raised in Centre county Col. Taylor and Burgess Blanchard will have to put other records on their talking machines.

—Anyway the fellow who took the "Watchman's" advice and planted his own potatoes can soon thumb his nose at the speculators who are holding the prices up.

—If they finally do succeed in stopping the distillation and sale of whiskey during the war empty bait bottles will not be so numerous along the banks of our fishing streams.

—Mexico is in a bad way financially. She is going in debt at the rate of $1,250,000 every week and unless she can make a loan somewhere Carranza and his government will have to quit.

—The real skill is not in actually hooking the trout. It is in knowing that he is most frequently found in the tiny eddy or riffle that the average fisherman passes without casting into it.

—A year at hard labor was the sentence each one of one hundred and seventeen "slackers" got at Rockford, Ill., last week. Uncle Sam is taking care of his enemies behind the lines first.

—Rain has seriously impaired the market value of much hay in Centre county this week. Hundreds of tons that were mown late last week are lying bleaching and moulding in the fields because of the intermittent rains.

—War works wonderful things. How many people in this broad land of ours do you suppose would have ever known that such a man as Herbert Hoover lived had not war given the opportunity for him to become world famous?

——Those Democratic Senators who are afraid to trust a Democratic President with power essential to the safety of the country are carrying the strict construction principle to the limit and promoting the interests of the opposite party.

—This thing of selling stocks and other securities of corporations that the government has announced its intention of taxing isn't going to get the seller anywhere. What he realizes in his sales will be taxed in some way or another just the same.

—Germany's troubles at home are gradually assuming a serious aspect. The gravity of her internal situation is most apparent when we consider that now she is trying to suppress with promises what a year or more ago would have been put down with the sword.

—The government crop report predicting record-breaking crops in this country during the fall should cause no slacking in the effort to conserve. Because we will have plenty this year is no assurance that our land will yield bountiful crops next and we must look to the future.

—When you are talking about how this coal baron, or that meat packer or the other fellow is robbing you by demanding outrageous prices for his product remember that common little cherries, that are not effected by anything but the weather and the robins, are up one hundred per cent. in price.

—A new cure for militancy in suffrage ranks has accidentally been found in Washington. The Sufs who were serving jail terms down there for causing disturbances on the streets refused to be anything but militant until rats found their way into their cells. Then they became real women instanter and plead for the protection of their jailers. The incident gives rise to the thought that trained rats might be used as policemen around the White House grounds. There would be few pickets standing around the entrance to annoy the President if a few big gray rats had a beat in that neighborhood.

—Soon Troop L will be leaving for the intensive drilling that will be necessary before the boys embark for France. The sweaters are being knit rapidly by the ladies and soon every member of troop L, as well as all the other boys who have enlisted from Centre county will have one of the comfortable, natty little garments that the women are knitting. Mr. J. T. Merryman, of Tyrone, has presented the ninetieth sweater; Miss Verna Smith, of Bellefonte, has given eighty-nine; Mrs. John F. Beck, of Nittany, is number eighty-eight; Mr. John Rich, of Tyrone, is number eighty-seven and Mrs. George T. Brew and her daughter Janet, of Ronceverte, W. Va., are eighty-six and eighty-five, respectively. Mrs. Brew and Janet gave their sweaters in memory of the late Lieut. Geo. L. and Harry Jackson, her brothers who were associated with old Company B, and the former of whom died in the service in the Philippines. Are you going to be No. 84? If so send the price of a sweater to the "Watchman" at once.

THE Democratic Watchman.

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Helping the Kaiser's Cause.

General VonHindenburg and Admiral VonTirpitz have performed no more efficient service for the government of the German Kaiser, during the past month, than has been rendered by Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, falsely claiming to be a Democrat, and Senator Cummins, of Iowa, masquerading as a Republican. These bigoted blatherskites have been delaying legislation essential to the safety of the country and necessary to a victory of democracy against autocracy in order that they might ride hobbies into the laws of the land. It is not because they favor prohibition that they hold up the food bill by insisting upon amendments prohibiting the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors. Their sinister purpose is to embarrass the administration in its efforts to put a successful army in the field to fight German autocracy.

Setting aside the moral issue involved in the liquor problem the commanding present obligation of Congress is to enact the pending legislation to conserve food for the army abroad and the people at home. No Senator or Representative in Congress has a right to interfere with the fulfillment of this duty upon any pretense. Those who favor prohibition have the right and ample opportunity to introduce legislation prohibiting the manufacture or sale of alcoholic beverages through the regular channels and if public sentiment favors it it will be enacted. But taking advantage of an emergency such as exists at present to force such legislation upon an unwilling Congress and people is simply acting the role of a highwayman. "Stand and deliver" is no more clearly expressed in one of these actions than in the other.

Besides the amendments to the food bill proposed by Senators Gore and Cummins will deprive the treasury of revenues to the amount of nearly a billion dollars at a time when every dollar that can be obtained is necessary. The present revenue on alcoholic spirits is estimated at $250,000,000 and the revenue bill agred upon by the Senate Finance committee adds a dollar a gallon to the tax, thus vastly increasing the receipts from that source. But the proposed amendments go further toward disturbing the financial resources of the government. It commands the President to seize all the liquor now in bond, of the value of more than $300,000,000 and pay for it out of the treasury. It is small wonder that Senator Simmons, chairman of the Senate Finance committees withdrew the pending revenue bill to rewrite it in order to provide additional taxes.

——There was neither morality nor temperance in the opposition to the food bill in Congress. It was purely cussedness.

Governor Brumbaugh's Usurpation.

It is not to be expected that a public official who has sworn to a false statement of his campaign expenses and pays for pressing his trousers out of the contingent fund appropriated to meet extraordinary expenses in the performance of his official duties, would have great respect for the constitution, though he had sworn to "support, obey and defend" it. But few people imagined that Governor Brumbaugh would flout the fundamental law by reappointing a lot of officials whom the Senate had refused to confirm only a few days before. That is certainly going the limit in the expression of contempt, alike for the constitution and the Senate.

The constitution of Pennsylvania, in section eight of article four, declares that the Governor shall "nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of all the members of the Senate, appoint" certain officers. The implication is plain that if two-thirds of all the members of the Senate refuse to advise and consent, the nominations are void and the nominees become ineligible. But Brumbaugh usurps authority to overrule the objections of the Senate and reinstate the rejected officials in the offices from which they have been removed by constitutional process. In other words he deliberately denies to the Senate a prerogative conveyed in unequivocal terms by the constitution.

The esteemed Philadelphia "Record" welcomes the incident because it "points to a continuance of the split in the G. O. P. of Pennsylvania." This is a gratifying sign, of course, for the reason that there is a tradition that "when rogues fall out honest men come by their own." But there is a graver side to this question. When men high in authority publicly reveal utter contempt for moral obligations other men, those of the rank and file, consciously or unconsciously, form a contempt for both law and authority and degenerate into outlaws. It is said that this usurpation on the part of the Governor will be rebuked and we hope this promise will not be disappointed.

Brumbaugh Plays Politics.

That Governor Brumbaugh has been employing the conscription machinery to promote his personal and political interests seems evident. In a speech in Philadelphia, last week, Hon. A. Mitchell Palmer brought this fact into public view and the Governor vehemently denied it. In an authorized interview he declared that a uniform and just rule had been followed in the selection of exemption boards. Those in cities of the first and second classes, he said, were named by the Mayors of those cities, in cities of the third class by the Controllers and in rural communities by the Sheriffs of the counties. An investigation by Mr. Palmer proves that in many instances such was not the case.

Governor Brumbaugh has committed a good many offenses against morality, against decency and against justice but a perversion of the instrumentalities of recruiting an army for service in war would be the most dastardly of all the outrages he has perpetrated. That he has done this is shown in the personnel of these boards all over the State. Previous to the appointments he summoned the Mayors of third class cities and the Sheriffs of counties to explain to them how the members of the boards should be selected. Then in nearly every case in which Democrats were recommended by those officials he turned them down and appointed machine Republican politicians.

Possibly the exposure made by Mr. Palmer may prevent the evil which was clearly contemplated in this perfidious abuse of power by the Governor. The eyes of the authorities at Washington will be focussed upon the operations of the exemption boards in this State and any attempt to work party advantage to the Republican machine will be properly punished. But the shame of it is that a Governor of Pennsylvania could so prostitute the office to such a base purpose in the hope that the party advantage thus acquired would reconcile Penrose to his iniquities and restore him to the favor which resulted in his nomination for Governor three years ago. He could have had no other incentive.

——It may have been only coincidental but it is nevertheless a fact that while food speculators were kiting prices to the top notch the government reports of crop conditions were most discouraging and now that the harvest is almost due favorable crop reports are the order.

Aircraft the Ultimate Instrument.

The opinion that air crafts will be the ultimate instruments with which to end the war is increasing in volume and expanding in area. Many troops will be sent across the sea and the land forces of the allies will do good service in all the sections in which the hostile operations are staged. But however valorous the troops and however capable the officers directing their activities may be, slow progress is made and the Germans hold tenaciously to the trenches they have occupied for nearly three years. The presence of the "Sammies" will hearten those who have struggled so bravely and persistently and discourage the enemies. But at best it will take a long time to win by land forces.

The Germans themselves have demonstrated the efficiency of air craft as fighting elements. Their raids upon London and other sections along the English coast have had a terrifying effect on the public mind that is almost indescribable. That being the case much energy should be invested in the work of constructing such craft, not for the purpose of killing children or terrorizing women, but to attack the seats in which munitions are manufactured for the German army and the forts and other army rendezvous and industrial centres. A group of them dropping explosives on the German ships in their safe retreat in the Keil canal, for example, would have a wonderful effect on affairs.

Obviously German hopes are centred on the work of the submarines and it must be admitted that they have justified the expectations of those who favor their operation. But they are not doing as much damage now as they were a month ago and if the flotilla of destroyers is greatly increased and the number of air craft multiplied the undersea terror will be diminished. The allies might give more attention to the building of flying machines and it is reasonably certain that such policy would have an instant and gratifying effect upon the war operations. The United States and Great Britain have vast manufacturing resources and they should be invoked to the limit in this work.

——Miss Rankin, the Congresswoman, might learn something on the labor problem if she would consult those she pretends to favor. Men and women who are paid liberally for extra time don't object seriously to working extra hours.

Two Important Proclamations.

The embargo proclamation and that calling the entire National Guard of the several States into the service of the general government for transport to the seat of war reveals the purpose as well as the energy of the administration in the fulfillment of our obligations with respect to the war. The embargo will prevent the supply of food products to reach our enemies through trade with neutrals who have been engaged in that sort of contraband commerce. The call of the National Guard will so augment the fighting forces of the allies as to make it impossible for Germany to hold them in check on all fronts. It means that within a brief period of time half a million of fresh troops will be available for trench or other service.

If Congress should act as wisely and as vigorously as the President has done and is doing the end of the war might easily be predicted within a year. But Congress for some reason has chosen to pursue the opposite course and seems to be serving the Kaiser instead of the people of the United States. So long as the war lasts the burden of the support of nearly half the civilized world will be upon this country. There is no other supply depot to appeal to. That being true the utmost vigor in the prosecution of the war should be adopted. But partisan prejudice and factional jealousies have joined hands in Washington to retard the progress in the right direction. The stalwart Republicans and Populist Democrats have made common cause to destroy Woodrow Wilson.

The conspiracies of this unnatural alliance will fail of its purpose, however. The embargo on one hand and the increase of the army on the other, authorized before the malign influence had asserted itself in Congress, will guarantee victory and release us from the burden now setting so heavy on the country. Germany must have food products from the United States in order to maintain her armies in fighting form. The forces of the allies must be depleted in order to give the Kaiser's forces a chance to hold their lines in the semblance of order. Within a week by issue of these two proclamations the President has prevented both of these results and consequently in spite of Congress victory for our troops is assured.

——While there was no public demonstration in Bellefonte on July 4th, there was enough noise to disturb the nerves of the timid and more money burned in fireworks than has been wastefully used in Bellefonte in some years. In fact, there was no pretense toward keeping what might be literally termed a safe and sane Fourth. On the other hand there was no disposition toward rowdyism and due care was exercised so that there were no accidents of any kind to mar the day and leave a tinge of regret. Quite a number of fireworks were put off during the evening by private parties throughout the town, but there was no public display of any kind.

——One night last week some unknown individual entered the garden of William Hamilton, on north Ridge St., and deliberately and maliciously cut off about a dozen and a half of his early cabbage plants; plants that were already in head large as a man's fist. Several nights later a large quantity of radishes, turnips and beets were pulled up and let lay on the ground. A watch has been kept over the garden since but so far the individual has not been caught although the authorities have a strong suspicion as to whom it is.

——At the State Bar Association meeting at Bedford Springs week before last W. Harrison Walker Esq., of this place was reappointed a member of the executive committee of fifteen lawyers throughout Pennsylvania, an appointment of honor and responsibility coveted by the majority of the members in the Association. Mr. Walker got his appointment without solicitation but because of the interest he has always taken in the Association.

——It is hardly worth while for German statesmen to quarrel among themselves about the terms of peace to be offered. The peace terms which will count will not be "made in Germany," this year anyway.

——It is worth while to keep in mind that East St. Louis is in Illinois and not in Missouri. By the same token Illinois is a Northern as well as a Republican State.

——It looks as if Austria is running a close race with Turkey for the title of "the sick man of Europe."

——Build airships and teach the Kaiser that he is not the only bird in the forest.

——Meantime Woodrow Wilson is all right in the superlative degree.

NATIONAL GUARD ORDERED OUT.

Will Mobilize Sunday and be Drafted Into Federal Service August 5th.

Washington, D. C., July 11.—The last step necessary to make the entire National Guard available for duty in France was taken on Monday by President Wilson with the issuance of a proclamation drafting the State troops into the army of the United States on August 5.

To make certain that the purpose of the national defense act is carried out, the proclamation also specifically declares the men drafted are to be discharged from the old militia status on that date. In that way the constitutional restraint upon use of militia outside the country is avoided, and the way paved for sending the regiments to the European front.

KEYSTONE TROOPS LEAVE JULY 15.

Prior to the application of the draft, regiments in the northern and eastern sections of the country are called into the federal service as national guardsmen in two increments, to be mobilized on July 15 and 25. Many units already are federalized and presumably they will be mobilized with the other troops from their States. The guard from the other States will be mobilized on the day of the draft. The arrangement was necessary to provide for movement of the regiments south to their concentration camps without congestion, and to the same end the division of States into these increments was revised from the original schedule.

The operative date of the draft was delayed until August 5 so that all regiments can be taken into the army simultaneously.

Fourteen camp sites for the sixteen tactical divisions into which the guard will be organized for war purposes have already been selected and the militia bureau is preparing the railway routing of the troops to the camps. Seven of the sites selected are in the southeastern department, five in the southern and two in the western. The two others will be in the southeastern department and until they are approved assignment of regiments to camps and divisions cannot be fully worked out. The only two divisions positively assigned, the Nineteenth, including the California guards, which will go to Linda Vista, Cal., and the Twentieth, including Oregon, Washington, and other States in the northwest, which will go to Palo Alto, Cal.

New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska are called July 15th.

On July 25, 1917, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Illinois, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington and Oergon are called.

The members of the national guard of the various States affected by this call will be concentrated at such places as may be designated by the War Department.

All persons drafted shall on and from the fifth day of August, 1917, stand discharged from the militia, and, under the terms of section two of the act of May 18, 1917, be subject to the laws and regulations governing the regular army, except as to promotions, so far as such laws and regulations are applicable to persons whose permanent retention in the military service on the active or retired list is not contemplated by law.

OFFICERS TO HOLD COMMISSIONS.

The members of each company, battalion, regiment, brigade, division or other organizations of the national guard drafted into the military service of the United States shall be embodied in organizations corresponding to those of the regular army. The officers not above the rank of colonel of said organizations of the national guard who are drafted and whose officers are provided for in like organizations of the regular army, are hereby appointed officers in the army of the United States in the arm, staff, corps or department, and in the grades in which they now hold commissions as officers of the national guard, such appointments to be effective subject to acceptance, on and from the fifth day of August, 1917, and each of them, subject to such acceptance, is assigned as of said date to the organization in the army of the United States composed of those who were members of the organization of the national guard in which at the time of draft he held a commission.

NO CHANGE IN "NON-COMS."

The non-commissioned officers of the organizations of the national guard, the members of which are hereby drafted, are appointed non-commissioned officers in their present grades in the organizations of the army composed of said members and shall in each case have the same relative rank as heretofore; and all other enlisted men are hereby confirmed in the army of the United States in the grades and ratings held by them in the national guard in all cases where such grades and ratings correspond to grades and ratings provided for in like organizations of the regular army, all such appointments of non-commissioned officers and confirmations of other enlisted men in their grades to be without prejudice to the authority of subordinate commanders in respect of promotions, reductions and changes in enlisted personnel.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Governor Brumbaugh has approved the Stern bill fixing the date of the September primary for the third Wednesday instead of the third Tuesday. This change affects only the primary in odd-numbered years, and was made because of a Jewish holiday falling on the third Tuesday of September.

—The electric power line now being erected by the Harwood Electric company over the Susquehanna below Danville has a span of over 1,700 feet. The wires, half an inch in diameter and made of nineteen strands, are being stretched from two large towers, each seventy-five feet high. One tower stands 426 feet higher than the other.

—Elsie Grace, the interesting young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Watkins, of Osceola, who was badly burned on the evening of July 4th while playing with fireworks, after suffering very much, died on Monday morning at 12:30 o'clock. The sad affair was a great shock to the parents, who will have the sympathy of their many friends.

—For the first time in its history the Pennsylvania Railroad company is employing women in its mechanical department. Seven young women are working in the Conemaugh round-house. The employment of female labor is part of the war policy of the railroad and is necessitated by the large number of men enlisting in the army and navy.

—Cornelius F. O'Dea, veteran fireman, and for seventeen years captain of No. 3 Engine company of the Williamsport fire department, died at the Williamsport hospital Sunday morning at three o'clock, from injuries sustained when he was thrown from a chemical truck at the intersection of First and Park avenue, Saturday night, at about 9:45 o'clock.

—John George Cuprez, of Blue Ball, while engaged in digging fire clay in the mines between Blue Ball and Wallaceton, was killed on Saturday morning by a fall of rock. The unfortunate man, who was aged about 29 years, leaves a wife and one child, besides other near relatives. He had lived in Blue Ball for several years, and also leaves many friends who will very greatly mourn his sad demise.

—The Columbia county court has granted the petition of District Attorney Sharpless for a rule to show cause why the Conyngham township school directors, William J. Fennessy, Richard Kane, Hiram Watson, Martin Monahan and Anthony Mohan, should not be ousted from office. The petition alleges they let a contract for two stoves for the Wilburton school, costing $436, without publication or competition.

—Because of the inadequate hotel facilities cancellation of the grand encampment and department council of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania to have been held at Oil City in October, was announced on Monday after a conference between George B. McDowell, of Pittsburgh, Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment, and members of the local committee. It was not decided where the convention will be held.

—Among the changes effective July 1st made by the Pennsylvania railroad was the transfer of W. Vernon Betts, supervisor on the Lewisburg & Tyrone R. R., to the Shamokin division, and he will be succeeded by R. A. Kleim, who goes to Lewisburg from Vernoa, near Pittsburgh. Mr. Betts has been in charge of the branch system for the past two or more years and was quite well known in Bellefonte from his frequent business visits here.

—A $75,000 coal deal was closed at Indiana, Pa., last Tuesday when Vernon F. Taylor, of Indiana, bought the operation of the Caldwell Smokeless Coal Co., near Dilltown. The plant was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Peeler, of Johnstown, and includes 171 acres of coal land, tipple, etc. Mr. Taylor assumed charge of the plant that day. The Caldwell Smokeless Coal Co. was chartered last March and began active operations a short time later.

—W. E. Groner, of Sunbury, was severely burned about the face, arms and feet on Monday morning when he came in contact with a high tension wire carrying about 16,000 volts at the power plant of the Northumberland County Gas & Electric company. Groner was helping put in a switch when he came in contact with the wire. One of the men who was working near pulled the unfortunate man loose and applied first aid. The injured man was taken to the Mary Packer hospital at Sunbury and it is thought he will recover. The accident occurred about nine o'clock in the morning.

—While a Pennsylvania train was passing between Cresson and Sankertown Saturday about midnight, a brakeman discovered a man running from the stable on the property of David Pfiester, in Sankertown. A few moments later he saw flames shooting from the roof of the building and before the spread of the flames was halted, Pfiester's general seore, residence, warehouse and stables were in ruins, a horse and other animals being cremated, while the hotel of George Horten and several nearby buildings were damaged. The loss is in the neighborhood of $25,000 partly covered by insurance.

—Residents of the town of Jenner, Somerset county, were awakened early Saturday morning to witness what is considered to be the largest and most destructive fire in the history of the town, the fire, the origin of which is unknown, is said to have started in the motion picture theatre owned by Joe Polimena, and thence spread to the stores owned by Polimena and Dominick Direnzo, all three buildings burning to the ground. The Direnzo family, who occupy a flat above the store were asleep when the fire broke out and for a time were in danger of suffocation, but were later rescued by the members of the volunteers fire department. The loss, it is estimated, will reach between ten and fifteen thousand dollars.

—The Latrobe Coal company, with operations near Hillside and which is controlled by the Messrs. Graff, of Blairsville, has added to its extensive holdings by the purchase of 900 acres of mineral and 390 acres of surface land, including the property of the Inland Coal Co., owned by Greensburg people. The consideration is said to have been in the neighborhood of $800,000. The company has started a new opening on the Brenizer farm, the construction of 150 houses for the families of employees and is making other improvements that are intended to double the capacity of the plant. Persons acquainted with the plans of the corporation say the new coal town will be one of the most important along the Pittsburgh division of the Pennsylvania railroad within the next few years.