

INK SLINGS.

—Tomorrow will be Pennsylvania day at State College.

—Only forty-six days until Christmas will be here. Think of it! Are you half ready for the event?

—If the Allies could gain ground in Flanders as fast as they are losing it in Italy we would be in Germany in a short time.

—Pity the poor American soldiers who have been taken prisoners by the Germans. Theirs will be an extraordinarily hard lot.

—If the coming winter would only prove to be as short as the past summer seems to have been it wouldn't be such a fearful thing after all.

—Philadelphia did the best she could, but she is evidently too thoroughly wedded to her idols to repudiate even government by murder.

—They say "its bad luck to win the first pot" so we look with more cheerfulness on the capture of all our defenders in the first line trench in France.

—Don't waste anything. This time next year you might find many uses for the seemingly worn out article you are thinking of consigning to the rubbish heap now.

—William Henry Harrison Walker is some runner—when he gets in the West ward "Kinnie" Johnston seems to have Bellefonte laid out in a regular Marathon path for himself.

—Tammany has captured New York city after a long campaign. The starving tiger will make up for many a lost meal now and, incidentally, give Gotham about as good government as it ever has had.

—The total of the second Liberty Loan subscriptions was \$4,617,532,300. It was not quite up to the five billion mark but far beyond the three billions that were needed. As a consequence of the over-subscription all subscribers for amounts in excess of fifty thousand dollars will have to be paid down some. It is needless to say that this decision doesn't effect us.

—Governor Brumbaugh might well consider the advisability of calling an extra session of the Legislature for the sole purpose of enacting into a law a measure, something after the Maryland code, that will compel men to work. We have plenty of able bodied men all over Pennsylvania who don't have to and won't work, while the farms, the mines and the mills are crying for help. Of course such fellows couldn't do bone labor but they could be made to take other places during the war and release men who can do hard work.

—Many farmers declare that Bellefonte is being made an impossible market for them because of the improved state highways. They insist that owing to the smoothness of the new roads their horses are constantly endangered and, besides, it is impossible for them to draw the same load over the smooth surfaced roads that they can over the old clay and macadam ones. The latter contention is interesting because of the fact that the primary motive underlying the good roads agitation was to improve them to the extent that they would prove more economical for farmers and others moving loads over them.

—True to custom the "Watchman" refrained from taking any part in the local elections held in Centre county on Tuesday. While in nearly every precinct the contest was almost colorless there were a few in which the fire of old political feuds broke out and started things. In Bellefonte especially was this the case. Here we had the spectacle of the Republican organization backing the Democratic nominee for burgess and the Democratic organization—that was backing the Republican nominee for burgess. The Hon. "Deacon" Harris, Republican county chairman, traveled up from Harrisburg to see to it that Edmund Blanchard got his. Some will have it that the Hon. "Deacon," who rather prides himself on his recently cratic organization—that was backing acquired party eminence in Centre county, merely did it to discipline burgess Blanchard because he wasn't "regular" when we were having a non-partisan judicial contest two years ago. The "Watchman" is inclined to believe, however, that it wasn't so much that as it was fear that Mr. Blanchard's frequent and untiring flag-raising oratorical might have established him a little too well in the minds of the country Republicans and that he might get notions into his head before their next county chairman is to be elected unless some of the wind was taken out of his sails. On the other hand Mr. Walker, the Democratic candidate, was attacked behind a barrage of almost identical nature. Under the questionable charge that he was not where he was expected to be when certain thumbs were put down on him in the recent judicial contest, he was openly fought by Democrats who gave that as their excuse, but who were really clubbing him because he had the temerity to be against them in the old reorganization fight in our county some six years ago. This is the real dope on the most glaringly anomalous contest we have had in many years in Bellefonte and while Mr. Walker won and Mr. Blanchard lost the "Hon. Deacon" merely rolled a cigarette, looked wise and camouflaged himself.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Result of the Election.

"Corrupt and contented," Philadelphia has given the wealthy garbage man a new lease to loot. The Frog Hollow gunmen have been endorsed by the voters of that city and their methods and murders are approved. There were symptoms of a revolt against the iniquities of a "criminal combination" but they were disappointing. In the final analysis the vicious predominated and the metropolis of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania registered herself as infamous. It doesn't matter much, of course. The people themselves will have to pay the price. The grafters will revel in the spoils and the servile slaves of prejudice and bigotry will find recompense in the smiles of the party bosses.

In Pittsburgh the lines were laid in a different direction, though the issue was practically the same. Brumbaugh's absurd ambition to party leadership was the main question in both contests. Fortunately the Pittsburgh end of the enterprise was not attended by murder though every other expedient was invoked in his behalf. But Pittsburgh is not quite as completely submerged in vice as Philadelphia and the Governor's "straw man" was knocked down and out. Possibly the people haven't gained much by the victory of the Penrose candidate, the rich and reckless lumberman, Babcock. But there is some consolation in the reflection that Brumbaugh is rebuked by the vote of that city against Magee.

Elsewhere throughout the State the election results were without significance. In some sections the spirit of true Democracy asserted itself and public interests were promoted as in the election of Hon. John C. Harman to the bench in the Columbia-Monroecourt judicial district. But the Democratic party has been so weakened by selfish and inefficient leadership that it hardly deserves consideration. In Harrisburg, for example, there was no candidate for Mayor and the council chosen is unanimously Republican. This condition is ascribable entirely to the imbecility of the party management and at this time there is no prospect of improvement.

—Of course it is only what might be expected but we call your attention, nevertheless, that the "Watchman" is the only paper that gives you the complete election returns of the county this week.

Dangerous Step Toward Centralization.

The government at Washington has been given vast powers with the free assent and cordial approval of the people for the period of the war. Such a policy was essential to successful preparation for the great part the United States will be compelled to take in the world tragedy. But there is likely to be strong protest against the proposition now being agitated to put all "motive power" and other necessary equipment, as well as the railroad man power, under the control of the Federal government. President Wilson might be safely invested with this extraordinary power, but he will not always be President and once ordained it will probably be impossible to withdraw the power in the future.

The reason given for this proposition is that the full measure of service is not being given by the transportation companies to meet the requirements of the government during the war period. It is reported that a famine in cars and motive power exists in one section of the country and a plethora in another. On the Atlantic seaboard, the complaint is, the industrial life is impaired, because there are not cars and locomotives enough to carry the coal and other essential commodities to the points at which they are needed while in the West and Southwest thousands of fine locomotives and excellent cars are lying idle in storage yards. If that be true there ought to be a change. But it is not necessary to invoke revolution to work a reform.

The railroad managers and men as well as the operators and miners in the coal fields can be drafted into service without confiscation just as men were enlisted for the army and navy and money conscripted to pay the expenses of the war. If the Southern Pacific railroad has thousands of idle cars there is no necessity for a menacing scarcity on the Pennsylvania railroad. An interchange of cars may be accomplished without resorting to the extreme of absolute government control of corporate property and franchises or resorting to any other innovation that might cause irreparable trouble in time to come. Whatever is necessary to win the war the public will stand for but there is no use going further.

—The theatre managers who show so much lip sympathy for the taxed patrons of the play houses might mitigate the evil by paying the taxes themselves.

Evil Effects of False Reports.

Within a couple of weeks, according to market reports, there has been a slump in prices of listed stocks to a total of a billion dollars. If that represented an actual depreciation of values it would be a serious matter. In that event it would mean a net loss to the country of that amount of money. But as a matter of fact no such calamity has happened. The slump in prices was caused almost entirely by false reports upon matters which might be expected to have an influence on values. And strangely enough the most absurd rumors will start a movement upward or downward in quotations of stock prices. Stories that wouldn't fool an intelligent school boy will drive stock dealers wild.

For example, according to an esteemed contemporary which gives special attention to such things, a man entered a Wall Street office one day last week and announced that "Sweden and Holland had declared war on England," whereupon "there was a panic in stocks." Anybody who has the slightest understanding of conditions in that part of Europe would know that no such incident had occurred. It is true that Sweden and Holland are having a hard time of it owing to their geographical situation and commercial condition. But there is no more likelihood of their declaring war on England than there is of France declaring war on Spain. Nevertheless Wall Street was ready to accept the statement as true.

A man who will start a false report for the purpose of increasing or diminishing the value of corporate property, at a time when such a result might greatly impair the interests of the country, is no better than a traitor. Among reputable traders such methods of influencing prices have always been condemned and now that every thing of that sort has a tendency to retard the financial operations of the government, they are more than commonly repugnant. Of course brokers ought to know better than to believe such absurd lies as that quoted above but after all men are a good deal like sheep in that respect. Where the bell-weather leads they are all likely to follow.

—The Italian army continues its retreat before the forces of Germany and Austria and things look bad for King Emanuel at this writing. But there will be a change in the near future for before long German troops on that front will be wanted to defend German territory.

Controller Williams Butts In.

Possibly an increase in freight rates is necessary to the future prosperity of the railroads of the country. They have been earning a great deal more lately than before the war and it may easily be shown that efficient management would greatly increase their earning capacity. But labor is scarce and high and neither the railroads nor the country can afford to cut wages to a point below the living standard. Americans must be well fed and amply clothed to make them contented and working men who are not contented are not efficient. In view of this fact it would be vastly better to raise freight rates than reduce wages of railroad employees.

But there was no occasion for John Skelton Williams to butt into the controversy. He is Controller of the Currency and in that capacity has a good deal to do with regulating the banks and supervising their methods. But the financing and operation of railroads is out of his "jurisdiction" and he would better let the settlement of such questions to the railroad financiers and operatives. Public officials are altogether too prone to mix into the affairs of the people. If they have been in office a considerable period of time they grow arrogant and more or less meddlesome and such things from such sources are offensive to very sensitive minds.

The question of increasing the freight rates is now before the Interstate Commerce Commission and while it is pending these comments or arguments by outsiders is quite as objectionable as similar interference with the deliberation of a jury would be. The Commissioners may command the evidence of experts and invite the opinions of others. But nobody has a right to intrude his opinions upon them as Controller of the Currency Williams has done. His views on that or other questions may seem important to himself but they don't stand so high in the estimation of the general public that people are anxious to hear them. Mr. Williams is a butter-in.

—Dr. Muck, director of that swell Boston orchestra resigned because he was compelled to include the "Star Spangled Banner" in his program. Now his name is Mud.

—As usual the election results have convinced a great many men that most, if not all, men are liars.

German Criminals Operating.

The disastrous fire at the Baltimore and Ohio railroad piers, in Baltimore, last week, strengthens the suspicion expressed in these columns some time ago, that agents of the German government are systematically destroying property in this country, as a war measure. In the case in point the evidence is almost conclusive. There were six distinct explosions within ten minutes after the fire started although there were no explosives on the pier. Obviously bombs had been planted, therefore, for the purpose of making the destruction certain and as disastrous as possible. Most of the property destroyed was war material and the aggregate value amounted to about \$4,000,000.

The Department of Justice promptly began an investigation and arrests have been made though considerable time will be required to thoroughly probe the matter. When that result is accomplished, however, no mercy should be shown to the miscreants responsible for the outrage. It is a barbarous system of warfare which was abandoned years ago by all civilized powers but has been revived by the assent if not under the direction of German authorities who seem to be influenced entirely by brutal instincts. The guilty wretches should be made an example of when they are apprehended to the end that even beastliness will be restrained in the future when such crimes are suggested.

The incident, moreover, is an admonition to the authorities at Washington and elsewhere, to exercise greater care in guarding against such crimes. We have no doubt that there are plenty of German-Americans who are as loyal to the country as natives could possibly be. But there are a good many who are not and some willing and anxious to serve the Kaiser's cause by the perpetration of any crime. Such men should be followed and punished to the full measure of avenging justice, and ample care taken to prevent them from personating their more worthy countrymen. It would hardly be fair to suggest that "none but Americans be put on guard," but it is important that only loyal men be chosen.

—The Secretary of the Treasury manifested abiding faith in the future of Russia the other day by lending that distressed country some \$31,000,000 in good American money.

Men and Money Alike Free.

The second Liberty Bond sale was quite as great a success as the first. Of the first issue only two billion dollars were offered and three billions were subscribed. That was certainly an emphatic vote of confidence in the government and faith in the cause she has espoused. The second offer was for five billion dollars and the entire amount was subscribed within the period of a month. In other words the country has contributed seven billion dollars of capital within a period of six months and history shows no better expression of substantial patriotism. The lives and treasure of the country are laid upon the altar of duty with equal freedom and liberality.

There will be other tests of our patriotism within a year and more men and more money will be called in order that the ideals for which our government was created may be maintained. We are only at the beginning of the great struggle of democracy against autocracy and both combatants are equally in earnest. If we win autocracy will be eliminated from the world as a governing agency and for all time. If we lose autocracy will be enthroned and for a period longer than the mind can conceive the people of the world will be enslaved to a heartless and cruel mastery of the type of the German Kaiser. No consideration of humanity or justice shall stand in the way of his imperial will.

And the principal sufferers in this event will be the people of the United States. Her fertile lands and rich mineral deposits have been the envy of Kaiser William for many years and almost from the beginning of his reign he has been conspiring to get control of them. In the present emergency he hopes to compass that result and how will he exercise the power if he gets it? Happily there is no great danger of such a calamity. Only the folly of our own people could bring it about. If we should fail to support the government by supplying money and men the disaster would be inevitable. But the successes in enlistments and contributions are guarantees against that.

—That rotten campaign in Philadelphia eliminated Bill Vore as a candidate for Mayor for all time and fixed Shunk Brown's gubernatorial ambition for the same period.

—Red heads have always been an abomination to Germans but in the form of gunners they are simply intolerable.

TUESDAY'S ELECTION RATHER QUIET.

W. Harrison Walker Elected Burgess of Bellefonte While Democrats Get Full Share of Offices in Townships.

Taken in general Tuesday's election was about as quiet a one as ever held in Bellefonte, the only contests that seemed to excite much interest being those for burgess between W. Harrison Walker and Edmund Blanchard, and tax collector between J. Kennedy Johnston and Harry Badger. Mr. Walker nosed out by the narrow margin of twenty-five votes while Mr. Johnston won by a good, safe majority of 108 votes. In the South ward J. D. Seibert was re-elected to council over William Doll and the candidates split even in the West ward, Wm. H. Brouse, Republican, and J. M. Cunningham, Democrat, being elected.

One thing was very noticeable when it came to a count of the ballots in the evening, and that was the unusual amount of cutting that had been done. In the entire borough only 129 straight ballots were cast, 61 Republican and 68 Democrat. From this it would seem that party lines were stretched almost to the breaking point and the winners at the polls were evidently the people's choice. Following is a summary of the vote on the borough ticket:

Table with columns: Burgess, Tax Collector, Auditor, School Director. Lists candidates and their respective vote counts.

G. W. Rees was elected justice of the peace in the South and West wards without opposition and following is the result of the various ward tickets:

Table with columns: BELLEFONTE-N W, BELLEFONTE-S W, BELLEFONTE-W W. Lists candidates and their respective vote counts for various wards.

Following is the complete vote polled throughout the county for all officers except that of Jury Commissioner, and as both the candidates had to be elected the question of the size of their vote is immaterial:

Table with columns: Office, Republican, Democrat. Lists candidates and their respective vote counts for various offices.

—Northumberland county's strong box is full to overflowing, according to the records in the office of John H. Glass, county treasurer. The total on hand at the close of business Saturday night was \$228,200.91. Of this \$188,397.40 was county funds; \$44,100.15 bond sinking funds; \$5,000 funders' license; \$483.88 dog tax money, and the balance mercantile tax funds, this latter being state tax money, as well as that of the hunters' license.

—George C. Tompkins Jr., alleged murderer of the Humphries family of Philadelphia, on the State highway between Ephesusburg and Carrolltown in July, will be tried before a Cambria county jury next month. The defendant will be represented by the law firms of Evans & Evans and John H. McCann, who it is said will fight the case on the grounds of insanity. The case will likely be put on record during the second week of December.

The tripod and boiler house at the Red Board mine of the Portage Coal Mining company, Portage, owned by Peale, Peacock & Kerr, and the trestle from the mine opening to the railroad, were destroyed by fire, which broke out between 6 and 7 o'clock Monday evening. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin. The total loss is estimated at about \$50,000. The mine is one of the largest in that vicinity and has been furnishing government coal orders. It has a daily capacity of about 1,000 tons and employs about 400 men. The fire started in the blacksmith shop, which had not been in use since noon.

—Although pursued relentlessly by misfortune for the last fifteen years, John G. Walbeck, a well known farmer of Westfield township, Indiana, county, smiles and digs in. Within fifteen years he has lost his wife and ten children by death. One of his horses died recently, making the fourth one lost during the last four years, and within that period his barn was destroyed by fire. While at Indiana last week settling for his Liberty Loan bonds for which he had subscribed, Mr. Walbeck said that he would not complain if Uncle Sam continued making touchdowns in order to prove effective in the present war.

—John Salvinsky, a Poland, was arrested at ten o'clock Monday night while prowling around the Logan Valley power house in Altoona and acting in a suspicious manner. When landed in the jail at Hollidaysburg he proved equally as suspicious because of the clothing he wore, papers he had on his person and because of the conflicting stories. Salvinsky appeared about the house about 9:30 and Special Officer Anthony Murphy noting his suspicious actions watched him for a time and then took him into custody. He said he was looking for a place to sleep. He was taken to jail and there he was searched. He wore three suits of clothes, the outer one being pretty well worn but the other two were good. He also carried a bank book on a Clearfield bank that showed \$800 on deposit. He also had \$32 and a new watch in his possession. He was held for further investigation.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The West Branch Knitting company, of Milton, received an order from the United States navy department for 250,000 light undershirts last week.

—An army balloon that came from Akron, Ohio, landed near Clearfield early this week. It had as passengers five young men who were non-committal as to their mission.

—Mrs. Mary Getty, of Indiana, who is 94 years of age and the oldest woman of that place, is knitting for the soldiers. Mrs. Getty has knitted five pairs of socks and a pair of wristlets within five weeks.

—Fifteen locomotives built at Dunkirk, N. Y., passed through Milton at 6:15 o'clock Saturday evening, enroute to France, where they will be used to haul munitions to the United States soldiers.

—The Williamsport Chapter of the American Red Cross will request the firemen of that place to knit socks for the soldiers, following the patriotic movement that has been inaugurated in larger metropolitan cities.

—A hydroplane designed and built by Henry N. Atwood, formerly of Williamsport, has lifted 1,000 pounds and developed a speed of from two to fifty miles an hour on water and from forty-five to eighty miles in the air.

—The National Furniture company, of Williamsport, after being in the manufacturing business for thirty-seven years will soon suspend. The firm has been noted for the manufacture of dining tables, office desks and safe tables.

—The home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Poole, of near old Stanton, was dynamited recently by some unknown persons, the charge being placed under the front porch. No one was injured, although the house was lifted from the foundations.

—A range exploded on Tuesday in the apartments of Mrs. William Hogarth, Williamsport, as she was preparing dinner on it. She had made a wood fire when the explosion came, demolishing the range. Mrs. Hogarth was not injured seriously.

—A brakeman on a Pennsy freight train running west suddenly lost his reason on duty and left the train as it stopped in Lock Haven for a short time on Sunday. His absence was not discovered until the train was on its way to Renovo.

—It is said the farmers of Lycoming county have failed to take advantage of the labor offered to work on Sunday to harvest their crops. At the employment agency it was announced that 300 men had applied for work on Sunday and only seventy-five were engaged.

—A. L. Storm, representing the Storm Silk company, owners of mills at Forty-Fork and Lehigh, is in Patton, negotiating for the silk mill there. Should he buy it, the plant will be dismantled and the machinery taken to one of the other plants, which doesn't please Patton people.

—Wilbur LeRoy Metz, by William Metz, his father and next friend, on Friday entered a suit in trespass in the Blair county court, through his attorney, John F. Sullivan, against the Pennsylvania railroad company, to recover damages in the sum of \$10,000 in payment for alleged injury at the hands of the defendant company.

—The Business Men's Association of Lock Haven and the New York & Pennsylvania Power company filed separate complaints with the Public Service Commission against the rates for bituminous coal charged by the New York Central and the Pennsylvania railroad. The complaint is a sequel of former proceedings of the same character.

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