

INK SLINGS.

Cheer up. As the days lengthen the cold strengthens. Anyway the Bolsheviki seems to be foxy enough to keep out of the German trap.

Does anybody know that all the fire hydrants in Bellefonte are open and ready for use.

Let us plan for our summer planting now. We will need more of it next summer than we raised during the last.

Better pack all the ice you can get now. The quality is fine and the quantity without limit. Next summer ammonia will probably be scarce and artificial ice plants will not be able to supply all of our needs.

Bellefonters once grew wroth when others referred to the town as the place that the trains backed into. Sore as the old spot was and is we would all welcome the sight of a few cars of hard coal backing in.

Milesburg, Coburn, State College, Pennsylvania Furnace and all the other real towns in Centre county are getting all the anthracite they need and Bellefonte—well Bellefonte seems to have dropped off the map entirely.

President Wilson has enunciated a new doctrine. He has taken a long look into the future and seen the people of the earth at peace after they have all been given equality of opportunity. That is what we are fighting for and that alone. May God hasten its coming.

Victory quartets and Yankee Doodle glee clubs are great antidotes for sedition. Let us have a great revival of patriotic songs in old Centre. Of course the school children can sing "America" and "The Star Spangled Banner" clear through, but how many verses do you know of either?

It seemed almost like mid-summer on Saturday when the back-bone of the cold wave broke. It was still real winter weather, but the change from number of degrees below zero to twenty above was so welcome that we celebrated it by forgetting overcoats and mittens and arctics.

It is the patriotic duty of every person to cut out pleasure trips on the railroads until the freight congestion is relieved. With people positively suffering in nearly every community for want of necessities that the railroads are too overtaxed to carry to them it is high time that selfishness be crushed if there is not a voluntary effort on the part of the public to relieve the situation by confining passenger traffic to only necessary travel.

On Tuesday five Fayette county taxi drivers were sentenced to terms of from three to five years in the penitentiary for pandering. More power to the court that gave such drastic treatment to men convicted of this growing and vicious offense to society. The commercial and the private automobile afford a very attractive lure to young girls which unscrupulous men have been quick to take advantage of, but a few doses of the Fayette county medicine would have the effect of curbing it in every community.

The "Watchman" has sent broadcast over the county copies of "Centre County's Honor Roll" with the hope that the public will interest itself in making it complete and reliable. The name of every man who has offered his services to his country should be enrolled on it and we expect to have it there before publishing the Roll in a form that will be appropriate for preservation. If you know any one whose name is not on it now, or if you know of any names that are on it that should not be there, that are misspelled or improperly designated please communicate with us at once. In this work the "Watchman" has initiated something that is going to be of incalculable value to all in the future and we feel that all should help us with whatever information is at hand. Think of how interesting and valuable such a Roll would be if we had one now of the men who went out from Centre county to the Civil war or to the Spanish-American war.

It should be noted that the fuel famine came on just about the time regulation was got into good working order," says the Johnstown Democrat. How insidious our contemporary is in its efforts to foment trouble, and how unfair such a statement. The Democrat knows full well that the coal famine would have come whether there had been regulation or not. It ought to know, if it does not, that there were more than five thousand cars loaded with coal standing on sidings between Altoona and Pittsburgh for weeks prior to last Saturday, that a thousand more are on Huntingdon and Broad Top sidings now and thousands scattered along the rail arteries of the country merely because it has been a physical impossibility to move them. The crux of the famine lies away back of present conditions and war excesses. It had its origin in the activities of meddling Congressmen and two by four Commerce Commissioners who made laws and executed them in ways that reduced the efficiency of our railway systems. There is where the trouble began and the Democrat and the public will appreciate the accuracy of our diagnosis when it discovers Director McAdoo clearing up the congestion through his power to sweep aside all this mis-legislation.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 63. BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 11, 1918. NO. 2.

Evil Results Will be Minimized.

If Congress adheres strictly to the plans of the President the evils of government control of the transportation business of the country will be minimized. He contemplates only such changes in the processes of operation as are absolutely necessary and the return of control to the owners of the property as soon as the exigencies which compelled the action have passed. "We are serving the public interest and safeguarding the public safety," he said in his address to Congress, "but we are also regarding the interests of those by whom these great properties are owned and glad to avail ourselves of the experience and trained ability of those who have been managing them."

Persons who have less reason to be careful even of their thoughts have imagined that for some sinister purposes the railroad managers were not trying to fulfill their obligations to the public. Reports were published and statements circulated that vast quantities of coal and foodstuffs were purposely left in railroad storage yards and that the rapidly ascending cost of living was ascribable in large measure to thus holding products out of the markets. But the President didn't share that suspicion. He said the railroad managers had "performed their duties with patriotic zeal and marked ability," and that the control of the business was taken out of their hands "not because of any dereliction or failure on their part but only because there were some things which the government can do and private management cannot."

For example, among the first orders issued by Director McAdoo was one which eliminated the costly luxuries from the passenger traffic, saving vastly in expenses and releasing immense power to the work of transporting necessities. Under private ownership that would have been impossible because wealthy travelers are willing to pay for luxuries whatever the result is to others. Opening terminals to all companies and forwarding by the most direct route are other improvements which would have been impossible under private management and all these things will work to the advantage of the public. We may not discern the advantages immediately but they will come and the whole people will get the benefit.

Good News from Russia.

German intrigue has failed in Russia as it has failed elsewhere. In this country many murders were committed under its sanction of high officials and considerable property was destroyed and in Mexico, South America and Japan some harm was done by lying diplomats and vicious agents of the Kaiser. For a time it looked as if the inexperienced men at the head of the Russian government had been completely hypnotized and the force of the nation entirely paralyzed by German intrigue. But the latest information from that section of war ridden Europe indicates that the conspirators have finally failed and that Russia may yet perform a part in the war for the extinction of autocracy.

In other words information from Brest-Litovsk, where the peace conference was held indicates that the negotiations are ended. Germany, intoxicated with the apparent success of her plans, set up conditions of peace so humiliating that the Bolsheviki revolted and even Trotsky, believed to be in the secret service of Germany, has declared against the propositions and is setting forces together in order to resume the fighting so inopportunistly interrupted a few weeks ago. With the German force depleted on the Russian line as it has been to support the drives in France, Flanders and Italy, the most important results may be expected. The Eastern front cannot be built up without sacrificing the Western lines.

Of course there is great confusion on all the battle-fronts in view of these incidents and only meagre information gets out for public use. But it is certain that the negotiations for separate peace between Germany and Russia have been broken off temporarily and in the face of that fact anything is possible. The hearts of the Russian people have been right from the beginning but the selfish ambitions of adventurers and traitors have intervened and prevented the operations of justice and patriotism. The new aspect presented by the break at Brest-Litovsk may work marvelous results, however, and before another week the fighting for liberty may be as vigorous and effective as in the beginning.

"Touchin' on and appartainin' to" the weather, we had troubles enough this year without this perverted legislation.

Lloyd George's Significant Speech.

In an address before the "delegates of the trades unions" of Great Britain Saturday evening Premier Lloyd George restated the war aims of that country in language that cannot be misunderstood. His speech is taken to be a reply to a recent peace proposition put forth by the Premier of Austria and serves as an answer to misrepresentations made to the German people and the Bolsheviki of Russia. It so closely follows the lines laid down by President Wilson in his annual address to Congress as to create the impression that they had been in personal consultation with each other. The only difference is that President Wilson spoke for the United States and Mr. George for all European allies.

Probably the feature of the address was the statement that in the settlement of terms of peace Alsace-Lorraine, taken from France after the war of 1870, must be restored to France. Thoughtful people all over the world had this in mind but outside of France it was not previously expressed. Of course the restoration of Belgium and Serbia to their condition before the war follows and reasonable indemnities to Rumania and Greece is a natural consequence of the other conditions. These demands will put a heavy burden on Germany but that is hardly to be regretted. A less penalty would not serve the purpose of teaching that autocracy that war must not be made an industry for profit.

The statement by Mr. George in authoritative language that it is not the purpose of the European allies to either force Germany off the map or destroy its autonomy is likewise significant, coming from that source. President Wilson has made clear to the world that the United States had no such purpose in mind either. Notwithstanding such assurances, however, Germany has been holding that bugaboo before the German people to make them fight more desperately and handing it out to Russia to stimulate the desire for separate peace there. It can hardly serve that sinister purpose any longer now that both England and America have spoken on the subject so directly.

General Scott after a thorough personal investigation asserts that the health of Camp Dix, in New Jersey, is fine. But General Scott is nothing but an accomplished soldier and experienced military expert and can't see as far into that kind of a millstone as the ordinary politician.

Taft Helping a Wrong Movement.

Former President Taft, usually so just in his measurements of public affairs, is hardly fair to himself when he says "the selection of some experienced and able Republicans for particular tasks would greatly strengthen the administration in its work." That statement implies that the President has not recognized "experienced and able Republicans" in appointments for war services and nothing could be further from the facts. In every case appointments have been made without regard to the political affiliations of the men chosen. Efficiency has been the only standard held in view in the selection of men for such service and party lines have been practically eliminated.

There has been created by some process a mean partisan demand that the President reconstruct his Cabinet in order to make places at the official council table for some Republicans. This is as unjust as it is mischievous. The Cabinet was created before the beginning of the war and from the date of the appointment of each member to his place he has performed his duties well. To remove a man who is doing well for no other reason than to put another in his place who might not be so fortunate would be an unwarranted assault upon the principles of the civil service regulations as well as an unjust aspersion upon the person so sacrificed. It would be vicious partisanship.

It would be unfortunate if former President Taft should yield to the obvious but masked movement of the Republicans in Congress and out to organize a partisan opposition to the President in his conduct of the war. The next Presidential campaign is beginning to cast shadows over the country and partisanship is spurring the less patriotic of the citizenship into preparations for a partisan fight. All that is needed is leadership and while Taft was never a political tactician, his approval of the movement would contribute to its success. There is no objection to a Republican effort to elect the next President but it should be organized without imperiling the life of the country.

The 2000 members of the National Retail Shoe Dealers' Association needn't bother their heads hunting an excuse for the high prices. We all know that things have "gone up" and that includes profits.

Senator Sproul and the Governorship.

Senator William G. Sproul, of Delaware county, has not formally announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for Governor but he revealed strong symptoms of willingness. He has had himself elected president of the Union League and is allowing his friends to distribute buttons decorated with his portrait and the name of the office, at his expense ultimately if not at present. Friendly newspapers are also sounding his praises and neighbors are urging others to support his ambition. In fact it has been said by men in his confidence that official announcement will be made within a brief period and that it will be attended with all the trimmings that mean business.

This is somewhat surprising to persons who have known the Senator only as a somewhat cautious and conservative business man. That he has entertained the ambition to be Governor of Pennsylvania is widely and well known. But that he should put his inclination to the test at this time is inexplicable. Even if the Republican party were harmonious and enthusiastic its success in Pennsylvania would be doubtful this year. The flood of patriotism has practically eliminated party lines and the popularity of President Wilson has drawn support like a powerful magnet. The disgraceful record of Brumbaugh and the irreconcilable quarrel among Republican factionists are equally potent elements against his success.

At the organization of councils in Philadelphia on Monday the bitterest factional feeling was revealed. The Penrose force has increased in that city though still far from control. But it is active and desperate and resisted every cherished purpose of the Vares. Of course the resentment will be quite as earnest and bitter and Sproul will be the first victim of its malice. For these reasons thoughtful friends of the Senator are surprised at his willingness to go to the sacrifice. Defeat at this time will be fatal and final. It will be utterly impossible to rescue him out of the wreck. But it is his own affair and Penrose's. They accept the responsibility and take the consequences.

What's this talk we hear about a probable change of house-keepers at the Pruner orphanage? Certainly a management that has been as conscientious, that has given to the waifs there the loving mother care of a christian woman and about which a just criticism has not been made since the orphanage was founded, should not be disturbed on any pretext. We fear that many experiments would have to be tried before so admirable a couple as the Clevelandines could be secured to take their places.

Burgess Walker's Intentions.

After a lapse of twelve years W. Harrison Walker on Monday again assumed the duties of Burgess of Bellefonte. Mr. Walker, having served in the same capacity from 1903 to 1906 inclusive will be no novice on the job. At the present time, however, he has no very drastic reform measures in view though he has several ideas in mind which he contemplates putting into effect.

One thing will be the enactment of new ordinances corresponding with the borough code passed by the Legislature of 1915, which will enable him to strictly enforce the traffic ordinance. No fast or reckless driving will be tolerated, and streets adjacent to all schools will be properly posted with certain notices for the proper protection of the school children.

Another thing he has in view is the compilation of a black-list for use of the various hotels and he will co-operate with the District Attorney in an impartial prosecution of any man guilty of procuring liquor for any man thus posted, or any man of known intemperate habits. He further announces that he will conduct in person all hearings, and any person for any infraction of the peace or violation of a borough ordinance will be brought before him. No hearings, however, will be arrested on Sunday and any person arrested and committed to the borough lock-up on Saturday evening will have to remain there until Monday morning.

As stated before borough council on Monday evening, Burgess Walker does not propose being judge advocate and all such matters will have to be brought to the proper head. He will, however, welcome all complaints of gross and wilful violations of the law and ordinances.

There will be plenty of professions of patriotism during the present session of Congress but in the hearts of most of the Republican members the predominant element is partisanship.

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

A PRAYER FOR THE KAISER.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. Oh, may that brute, the Kaiser, float On open sea, in open boat In Arctic seas without a coat— Glory Hallelujah!

Without a compass, sail or oar, A million miles away from shore, Where mighty waves like mountains roar— Glory Hallelujah!

May sharks devour him, stem and stern, A whale engulf him down in turn, And the Devil get the whole concern— Glory Hallelujah!

Oh, may this cursed Kaiser dwell In darkest pits of deepest Hell, And gnash his teeth and groan and yell— Glory Hallelujah!

Oh, 'mid his roars and frantic cries, Oh, may eternal ashes rise, And blow forever in his eyes— Glory Hallelujah!

In burning brimstone may he be, While little devils dance in glee, And lock the door and lose the key— Glory Hallelujah!

Waste is Criminal.

From the Johnstown Leader. "To waste now is nothing short of criminal."—Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo.

The duty of the American people to economize in consumption of food and all other materials as well as save money, cannot be too often or too strongly urged upon them. The duty is so imperative, its observance so vital to our country's success, that it should be kept constantly before them. The proposition is plain and understandable. We have lessened the productive powers of the country; instead of producers of one kind or another, the soldiers are consumers of the products of our farms, factories, and mines, and when the munitions they expend and will expend against the enemy is considered they are tremendous consumers of the manufactured products of the country.

A tremendous amount of the manufacturing energy of the country has been withdrawn from manufacturing the things we use in peace and put to manufacturing the things we use in war. The total loss to the country of the productive energy of our soldiers and sailors and the diversion of a great portion of the other productive energy of the country to war purposes lessen to a great extent the amount of material and supplies produced by the country.

To this condition of lessened production and increased consumption of and by our own men must be added the extraordinary demand made upon this country to supply the armies of our allies and to a great extent their population with food and other material.

We must meet the condition that confronts us in two ways—by the strictest economy in consumption, for every pound we refrain from using adds a pound to be devoted to the uses of our Army and Navy and the military forces of our production to the limit. The American people are going to do all that they know to be necessary to win this war—to shorten this war. They have only to realize the imperative duty of economy in saving and they will economize and save.

The Russian Crisis.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch. While the suspicion that Lenin and Trotsky have all along been playing Germany's game, treacherously or unconsciously, still persists, the possibility must be admitted, if they are honest, although fanatical, that they may yet see the folly of their methods and strive, though unable to undo the harm they have done, to revive Russia as a factor in the war.

The reports from Petrograd, if they can be trusted, assert that some such revision of feeling is already in progress. Trotsky and the Council of Workmen and Soldiers, are now said to be aware of the actual worthlessness of the German proposals at the Brest-Litovsk conference. Acceptance of the Russian formula of no annexations has been found to exclude those portions of Russia occupied by the German troops. The Kaiser wants to hold on to Courland, Livonia, Lithuania and Poland, either directly or under the guise of a protectorate. Naturally, the Bolsheviki cannot afford to tolerate any such terms. Russians may be anxious for peace, but it is inconceivable that even the most pacifist among them could welcome a peace at the cost of conquest of Russian territory. Having got rid of the Czar, they cannot be expected ready to do the yoke of the Kaiser. If Germany has been using the Bolsheviki for its own purposes its usefulness is ended if it shows any signs of accepting such conditions. Either way, Lenin and Trotsky must repudiate them if they mean to retain control of Petrograd. And if they are not working for Germany, that repudiation must take the form of organizing armed resistance for the defense of the menaced provinces.

Whether they can, as reported, return an army of 3,000,000 to the front, must depend upon the demonstration. If they can, or if Germany fears they can, there will have to be some hasty retransferring of German troops taken from the east, with lessening probabilities of that advertised German drive in the west.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

George E. Rabb, proprietor of a wall paper store in Johnstown, was killed recently in a fall down the cellar stairs at his home.

Investigation into the assertion that more Mifflin county boys are being drafted than the county quota calls for, has been started in Lewistown.

Mrs. George Fillman, of Mifflin township, Mifflin county, was severely burned about the head and left side as the result of a bottle of stove polish exploding while she was blackening the stove on Saturday morning.

The school house at Belsano, Cambria county, was completely destroyed by fire Friday night. The blaze is supposed to have started from the second floor near the flue. School will be continued in the I. O. O. F. hall at Belsano.

Losing his balance and falling from the bumpers of a moving freight car, last Friday, Lawrence S. Riddell was instantly killed, when the wheels of the car passed over his body in the yards of the Railway Steel Spring company, Latrobe.

Hazard A. Murray, son of the late Thomas H. Murray, of Clearfield, has entered suit against James P. O'Loughlin, his former law partner, asking damages in the sum of \$60,000 as recompense for the alleged illegal acts of Mr. O'Loughlin.

While George W. Haley was smoking at his home in Hoboken, Pa., on Monday morning, a spark from his cigar flew into the eye of his little son, who was playing in the same room. Physicians did everything possible, but it is feared he may lose the sight of his eye.

The State Health Department was notified on Saturday of the discovery of a case of smallpox in the Westinghouse plant at Pittsburgh. A representative of the Department will go to Pittsburgh to make an inspection and assist in guarding against the spread of the disease.

William Haller, of Mauch Chunk, Pa., who is a fearless snake catcher, but is deaf, owes his safety to a peculiar condition of the calves of his legs, which always set up tremors when snakes are about. His legs are especially valuable to him when a rattler gives warning, as he cannot hear.

Miss Ina Walters, a teacher in Armstrong county, was held under \$300 bail to answer a charge of committing an assault upon a pupil. It was testified at the hearing that the teacher whipped George McNabb, 11 years of age, with a section of rubber hose until the boy's back was black and blue, necessitating the services of a physician.

By retaining his presence of mind, Carson Deltz, of Lock Haven, escaped being killed or seriously injured at the Liberty street crossing of the Pennsylvania railroad at Lock Haven. When he was almost on the track he beheld the fast milk train rounding the curve, and he quickly turned his car down along the track until he could bring it to a stop.

Smallpox cases now prevail in twelve counties of the State, but the increase has not been as great since January first as in the same period of time in the latter part of December. The bulk of the outbreaks occurred during December and a number of the cases were traced to Ohio and Michigan, three instances occurring where the disease prevailed among laborers moved from place to place.

To make flying safer for naval aviators, George R. Green, an expert wood technologist and associate professor of forestry at The Pennsylvania State College, has been engaged as chief inspector of airplane materials at the Philadelphia navy yard. He will head a corps of trained foresters who know how to find defects in lumber which might be overlooked by men with less scientific knowledge.

By the transfer of thirty-one tracts of land in South Mahoning and Washington townships, in Indiana county, to the Consolidated Coal & Coke company, and the building of a siding from the proposed opening on the A. H. Miller's heirs' farm in the former township, the Buffalo & Susquehanna railroad will have a new coal operation that bids fair to become one of the largest feeders of the road in that section.

Joe Carlos, a young Italian living in the Lewistown Narrows, burned up ten \$20 goldbacks the day before Christmas, because, he said, "A man is better off without money if he can't spend it having a good time." To show his friends that he meant business he held them off with a brace of guns in real wild west style while he applied the match to the yellow backs. He is now lodged in the Mifflin county jail.

Postmaster James R. Mowry, of Derry, has tendered his resignation because of the vast increase in the work of his office and inability to secure competent help. The office pays a salary of \$1,800 and an allowance of \$66 per month for clerk hire. Mr. Mowry has found it necessary to hire three clerks to take care of the volume of work, paying for the extra ones out of his salary. As a result, he says, there's little or nothing left for him at the end of the year.

The Rossiter public schools resumed on Monday after being closed since November 28, on account of an epidemic of scarlet fever. During the epidemic fourteen cases of scarlet fever in all were reported. There are still eight cases under quarantine, but the situation is sufficiently well in hand to permit the reopening of the schools. It is probable that an extra month will be added to the school term in Rossiter, to make up for the lost time.

Giordano Raell, an Italian of Broad Top township, Bedford, was arrested on Sunday afternoon at Robertsdale, Huntingdon county, by private Robert Schnell, of the state police, on the charge of having shot and killed Guy Inasack, a fellow countryman, at Woodvale, Huntingdon county, on the night of January 2nd. Coroner J. G. Hanks, of Everett, was notified of the shooting affray and following his inquest held last Thursday notified District Attorney H. C. James that death was caused by two bullet wounds.

Clarence Hibbler, track foreman at Ritchie, Lycoming county, shot a wild duck last October during the hunting season, and found a metal band on the leg of the duck, enclosing a note, stating that a man at Kingsville, Ont., Canada, had captured the duck in the early summer months of 1917 and had released it after attaching the ring. A verse of scripture was also enclosed, "The way of the Lord is perfect," and requesting any hunter in the southland who might capture or kill the feathery messenger, to communicate with the Ontario party, which Mr. Hibbler did, later receiving a letter of thanks for his trouble.