

INK SLINGS.

Cheer up. As the days lengthen the cold strengthens.

Any way the Bolsheviks 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.

Bellefonters once grew wroth when others referred to the town as the place that the trains backed into.

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.

Victory quartets and Yankee Doodle glee clubs are great antidotes for sedition. Let us have a great revival of patriotic songs in old Centre.

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.

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Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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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.

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.

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.

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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.

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 Bolsheviks 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.

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.

Touchin' on and appertainin' 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.

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.

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.

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."

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

"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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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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 Insalaco, 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.