

INK SLINGS.

The Germans are shooting their big wad now.

Next week we will all be getting around in the morning.

March is showing every symptom of going out like a lion.

Don't forget to turn your clock forward an hour on Sunday morning.

Better do it before church time, too, or you'll miss church.

Authorities in New York city are training nurses and policemen in first aid work so as to be ready should Hun air raids be made over our coast cities.

The new Liberty Loan will be for three billion dollars and the interest rate is to be 4 1/2 per cent.

Anyway, if we didn't capture 175,000 Germans and kill the Crown Prince, as the fake wires of Monday afternoon would have had us believe we did, we are going to do it sooner or later.

Don't be discouraged by the wonderful drive the Germans are making in France. Just be a little more patriotic and resolve to help in every way you can to defeat them before they drive onto the shores of our own beloved country.

Germany now has a gun that is shelling Paris from a distance of sixty miles. If they ever get a boat free in the Atlantic with one of those guns mounted on it they'd waken up a lot of people in this country who are acting as if there were no danger at all.

Our Republican friends in this Congressional district are going to have a lot of fun in selecting their nominee for Congress.

They have a preacher, a physician and two lawyers in the field and others are said to be coming.

Let them have all the fun they want in the primary, for at the election the voters are going to say that they want a man from this District who will really support the President and that man will be Mr. Tobias, of Clearfield county.

From someone at State College the "Watchman" has received a lengthy communication that is signed "Stude." The writer identifies himself only insofar as to say that he is a "student of literature."

You note we quote his spelling of literature, because this and most of the rest of the very interesting epistle arouses the suspicion in the single track mind of the editor of "this little country paper" that our correspondent is camouflageing his accomplishments.

It is literature that he gives evidence of being "a student of."

Among the prominent Democrats in Pennsylvania who might become aspirants for the nomination for Governor, without the suspicion that they have been put forward by any faction in the party, is Col. J. L. Spangler, of Centre county.

Col. Spangler has all the qualifications necessary to making an enthusiastic and aggressive campaign and should it terminate in victory he would bring to the executive department of the State government an administration that would reflect great credit on his party and prove a welcome change from the mediocre ability that has been governing the State in recent years.

Col. Spangler, or some man of his type, who has not been embroiled in any of our factional controversies is the kind of a standard bearer we will need if we expect to win next fall.

The sooner we people right here in Centre county realize that we are at war with the power that intends to fight to the death in its determination to do to this country just what it has already done to Belgium the sooner we will be showing signs of comprehending the danger we are in.

Whether it is apathy, indifference or a lack of patriotism we are unable to determine, but it is nevertheless a fact that many people in Centre county go on about their business as if they owed no service whatever to their country.

The government asks them for information that can't possibly injure them to give and they either flatly refuse or pay no attention to the request.

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German Drive a Failure.

For seven days the German drive on the West front has been in progress and it may be set down as a dead failure.

The British line has been pressed backward it is true and the allied forces have lost some in prisoners and considerable in equipment and munitions.

But these results have been accomplished at frightful expense in life. More than 200,000 German soldiers have been sacrificed to the vanity of the Kaiser and his heartless Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who will bet a million lives that they can break a line said to be impregnable.

That would be a great achievement no doubt in a military way and proof positive of vast power.

But the attempt has gained them nothing thus far and is not likely to.

When the army of General von Kluck was turned back at the Marne, in August, 1914, the purpose of the Kaiser to dominate the world was defeated.

The more than three years of slaughter which has elapsed since are simply sacrifices to the brutality and the vanity of the German Emperor.

When the present drive failed to break the British line into rout and confusion within three days, it was doomed.

The nature of such movements require expedition. A General who is losing three men to every one of his antagonist must complete the job quickly or he will never finish it.

He exhausts himself physically and worries himself mentally until he becomes a helpless victim of his own insane passion.

That's what has happened to the Kaiser in his enterprise which will soon be abandoned.

The failure of this effort will not end the war, however. The absurd pride of the Kaiser will influence him to a renewal of the strife and a resumption of the slaughter somewhere else.

Third Liberty Loan.

The campaign for the third Liberty Loan will begin next week and recent incidents at the battle front admonish us to invest all our energy in an effort to make it successful.

The Hun drive began last Thursday and still in progress shows that Germany is not yet exhausted. Of the ultimate result of the war there can be no doubt.

The allies will triumph and autocracy will be eliminated. But it depends upon the people of the United States to make the struggle long or short.

If all our available resources are put into the struggle promptly, the end will soon come. If we continue to hold back or hesitate to do our share, the strife may continue a long time and at sacrifices appalling.

It would be unjust to American citizenship to say that little or no progress has been made in preparation to fulfill our obligations to civilization in the great war.

We have worked wonders in organization and construction and we have contributed with princely liberality to the expense fund. We have fed the allies on all sides and provided the armies with munitions and equipments.

But we haven't done all that we might have done and until we have been delinquent and until we have been bleeding, it is said and England has given until she is weak.

But we have scarcely felt the burden of the war as yet. Foods and funds are still being hoarded in this country.

It is time to change this. Centre county has always been in the front of every civic movement. In every emergency the people of this county have done their full share.

Comparatively speaking this has been done with respect to the war expense fund. But we have not done all that is possible or nearly all. Therefore, the opening of the campaign for this third Liberty Loan affords us an opportunity to do full justice to ourselves and our country.

Let us all dig in to make a record. Let us not only get over the top but ahead of all others in a patriotic work which is at the same time a necessary defensive measure. Give as generously as possible whether the contributions be large or small.

Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of internal revenue, states that tax-slackers will be prosecuted as vigorously and relentlessly under the war revenue act as draft slackers are being prosecuted under the selective service act.

Senator Sproul's Platform.

Senator Sproul has formally declared the platform upon which he seeks the Republican nomination for Governor.

His Delaware county friends tendered him a reception at Swarthmore last Saturday evening which gave him the opportunity to take the public into his confidence.

It was a sort of Quaker affair and was naturally staged admirably. Dr. Swain, president of Swarthmore college, presided. His respectability is unquestioned but Dr. Russell H. Conwell, president of Temple University, pastor of Temple Baptist church, distinguished lecturer and illustrious publicist, was among the speakers.

Lieutenant Governor Frank McClain took care of the party machine interests and did it eloquently.

Of course Senator Sproul protested that he is not a factional candidate. They all do that and some probably with less reason.

He is not even a selfish candidate, he assured those who came to greet him as their choice. But Senator Sproul has been in the Senate a good many years and has found out in some way that "the opportunities for real service" which the office affords, "should be an inspiration for any citizen."

Anybody will admit that that is fine. But it isn't the finest. "Efficient public service shall be my whole spirit and purpose," the Senator continued and "co-operation and not coercion" shall be his attitude toward those who are working with him in the service of the people.

Naturally the Senator recognizes that "winning the war" is the paramount question of the day and feels that his election to the office of Governor would be helpful of that purpose. But he acknowledges that there are other questions and that Prohibition and Woman's Suffrage are among them.

He is a new convert to this idea to be sure, but there is the best authority in the world for the efficacy of eleventh-hour conversions and the Senator certainly "burns the bridges behind him."

It has been an issue for more than a generation, he said, and he feels that "it is in line with the spirit of sacrifice, self-denial and self discipline to which the American people have set themselves." Can you beat it?

A former resident of Bellefonte who was called back this week on account of the death of a relative, told the writer on Wednesday evening that he had never seen Bellefonte look so neat and clean as it does now.

The gentleman in question left Bellefonte thirty years ago, but of course he has been back on a visit every few years and the fact that the cleanliness of the town now has so impressed him is cause for just a little civic pride on the part of the residents of the town.

Strangers have at various times commented upon the neat and trim appearance of the town and this leads to the fact that the time of year is now here when a general cleaning up of all the back-yard accumulations of the winter should be made.

Not Sure of Their Ground.

Republicans are a bit slow in developing their line of attack on President Wilson and his administration. Perhaps no definite line will be developed at all.

The opposition may decide it the better tactics to wage a sort of guerrilla warfare, hanging on the flank of the enemy and maintaining a harassing fire from unexpected angles.

The other day Mr. Longworth, of Ohio, a son-in-law of ex-President Roosevelt made a bitter assault on the President and his administration, charging them with usurpation of power and with autocratic designs.

The language of the Ohioan was unstrained. He went at some length into the history of the last few months and undertook to show that no other executive on earth wields power equal to that already in the hands of the President and those he has called about him.

Mr. Longworth professed alarm over the situation and he sounded a vigorous warning against further yielding by Congress to the demands from the White House.

Minority leader Gillette, of Massachusetts, has followed with an assault on the President from another angle. He sharply criticizes what he characterizes as "the reigning family," the shafts of his wit being directed particularly at Mr. McAdoo, the President's son-in-law, and most trusted advisor.

The minority leader evidently hopes to discredit the occupant of the White House by fixing upon him the stigma of nepotism.

However, the Republicans are having a rather sorry time of it on the whole. They are not happy in the situation in which they find themselves.

A thousand things are going wrong which they would set right if they were given a free hand. But unfortunately for them (but we believe fortunately for the country) they do not have a free hand and there is not much prospect that the people will confer upon them the opportunity they so ardently crave.

They would like mightily to run the war. They are not much interested in making the world safe for democracy. The Presidential watchwords make no particular appeal to their traditional Toryism.

Down deep in their souls they are in revolt against the whole purpose of the administration as set forth by the President in his statement of war aims and peace terms. But they are a bit lacking in courage at this time.

They have so freely flung about the charge of disloyalty that they dread a recoil from any word of theirs which might be seized upon by placing their own loyalty under suspicion.

A nagging plan of campaign is perhaps the one they will finally adopt. They have no constructive proposals to offer. All they are really in position to do is to find fault and to brag about how much better they would handle the present delicate situation were they in control.

Perhaps the people will listen to their fault finding and their boasts. And then perhaps they will do nothing of the sort.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Stephen Barto, a former resident of Phillipsburg, but recently of Hawk Run, Clearfield county, is ill with smallpox at the home of his brother.

Mrs. S. J. Peale, of Lock Haven, entertained at a family dinner at her home on North Fairview street, on Wednesday last week, in honor of her 84th birthday anniversary.

One of the Harbison-Walker boarding houses at Woodland, Clearfield county, was quarantined for smallpox last week, three cases of the disease having been discovered among the sixteen inmates.

Overtaken by a stroke as he was walking upon the street with his wife, D. Arnel Huffman, a well known resident of Latrobe, sank to the sidewalk on Main street, Tuesday night about 9 o'clock, and died instantly.

The destroyed the large hay press at Souderton, Montgomery county, on Friday night, involving a loss of about \$30,000. The fire was discovered about 6:45 o'clock and in a short time the building was a roaring furnace.

Fire which burned out the interior of the Anchor Motor company's garage, in Indiana, Wednesday evening, seriously damaged sixteen automobiles in the building and caused a loss of property estimated at \$10,000, covered by insurance.

Because there now are three holes in the face of the Presbyterian church clock at Huntingdon, evidently caused by bullets from a high powered gun, the Burgess of the borough has offered \$100 for the arrest of the clock marksman.

Considerable alarm has been occasioned in Derry through the illness and death of Mary Crumity, a twelve-year-old colored girl, who died Thursday night from cerebro-spinal fever, otherwise known as "spotted fever," of the most malignant type.

Paul Walton is in the Punxsutawney hospital with a badly gashed throat, sustained when he secured a razor Thursday and slashed his throat. He tried to borrow a revolver but it was not given him; he then obtained a razor and cut his throat.

Gus Andrews, aged about 45 years, was killed at Keating Friday afternoon about two o'clock by being struck by a light engine. His remains were taken to Renovo to await instructions as to burial, the whereabouts of his relatives being unknown.

A youth arrested the latter part of last week in Pittsburgh on suspicion of being the thief who stole \$800 from the Adams Express company in that city, attracted attention by spending money lavishly in the form of diamonds for girls, dinner parties, \$20 tips and taxi-cab rides from Pittsburgh to Wheeling. When questioned by the police he said: "I won a thousand at a crap game and was just painting the town red." He was released.

Herman C. Meyers, a clerk in one of the Pittsburgh banks, had a sweetheart in Huntingdon. Then came the draft and Meyers was sent away to camp. By steady plugging he was advanced to corporal, but even the corporal's pay, he decided, was not sufficient with which to start married life. All seemed despair until the girl wrote that an uncle of hers had died in Philadelphia and willed her a home and \$250,000 provided she would wed before May is next. The wedding followed.

Harry Hamilton, of Grove City, coal producer with offices in Butler has been sentenced by Judge Orr, in federal court at Erie to pay a fine of \$500 and costs for coal profiteering. Hamilton's was the first of the coal investigation cases to come before the Federal court. He was indicted last Thursday and Friday morning entered a plea of guilty. At the time Hamilton sold the coal, he contracted with a local coal merchant to sell them six cars of coal at \$3.25 a ton, the government rate at that time being \$2.45.

A man who registered as E. Ward, New York city, committed suicide Saturday night in his room in the Old Corner hotel, Williamsport, by shooting himself through the head. That Ward was not his correct name and address is believed from the fact that he carefully destroyed everything which would identify him, even by pulling the name of the maker out of the case in which he carried his glasses. Clad only in his underwear, he stood in front of a mirror and fired a 32-calibre bullet into his mouth.

While Shamokin firemen were fighting for possession of a fire plug, a fire, which at its inception was of a trivial nature, was permitted to gain such headway as to burn out the tops of a row of four houses, rendering a like number of families homeless. The firemen were ordered to go to which company had reached the plug first and for the right to connect the hose. The loss to the property reached \$3,000, and to the tenants \$1,000 in furniture and personal effects. The municipal authorities are investigating.

A verdict of \$2,650 for the plaintiff was rendered in court at Ebensburg last Thursday evening in the suit of James Taylor against the city of Johnstown for damages for injuries alleged to have been suffered by a fall on Bedford street. Taylor contended the fall was caused by a defective sidewalk. His spine was permanently injured by the accident and as a result he is subject to fits. Taylor was overcome by such an attack shortly after the injured man was sworn and required medical attention in the courtroom.

The Huntingdon Monitor states that G. L. Hileman, a Mount Union merchant, on Monday instituted proceedings in the Huntingdon county court for \$30,000 damages against Lawrence N. Crum, George W. Radle, J. Donald Appleby, G. B. Oswalt, Guido Raduzzi, L. V. Wike and Alton Fields, all of Mount Union. He claims damages because of a handbill circulated, calling an unnamed merchant "a slacker, yellow dog, etc." As he was, it is said, the only man who refused to give to the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., or take Liberty Bonds, he thought the circular referred to him.

J. King McLanahan, Sr., the "Grand Old Man" of Hollidaysburg, attained his 90th birthday on Monday and in accordance with his annual custom, celebrated the day by holding open house at his hospitable residence in that town. Although the aged gentleman recently underwent a critical operation at the Presbyterian hospital in Philadelphia, he has recovered.

During the evening the faculty and students of Miss Cowles' school for girls, of which Mr. McLanahan is owner, were present. Great crowds were present both afternoon and evening. The host received many beautiful gifts from friends in Hollidaysburg and also in Philadelphia and New York.

They are all good enough, but the "Watchman" is always the best.