

INK SLINGS.

—Always we have to have one real, first-class storm during Chautauqua week.

—Do it now! Look at the label on this paper and discover whether or not you ought to send a check.

—How are you enjoying Lieut. O'Brien's story "Outwitting the Hun." It's getting interesting, isn't it?

—The Germans have discovered that there are some nuts that their famous "nut-cracker" strategy can't crack.

—So far as Spring creek's present condition indicates the trout fishing season in and about Bellefonte ended Wednesday afternoon.

—The rain Tuesday afternoon broke a long dry season in Centre county and proved wonderfully beneficial to the potatoes and corn.

—There are plenty of diversions that might have been dispensed with easier than base ball and "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

—It seems almost a paradox but it is a fact never the less that the more soldiers we send away from Bellefonte the more people there are in the town.

—It is said that Haiti is the twenty-second nation to declare war against Germany but it is better late than never. Haiti has simply shown that its heart is in the right place.

—If the Central R. R. of Pa. goes out of business Sears-Roebuck & Co. might buy the franchise for there will be no other means of shipping car load lots down that valley after the Central is scrapped.

—We have made wonderful drives for the Liberty loans, the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A. and war savings stamps on this side of the water, but, oh joy! think of the drive the boys are making on the other side.

—Talking about having "a finger in the pie" how many flags have been raised in Centre county without a few oratorical pyrotechnics from Col. J. L. Spangler, Col. H. S. Taylor, Edmund Blanchard or W. Harrison Walker.

—Whenever another story gets afloat to the effect that the Crown Prince of Germany has been captured thumb your nose at the purveyor of the news. The Kaiser's boys are always where they can get back to Berlin while the gettin's good.

—Germany is reported as seeking the good offices of Spain in presenting peace proposals to the allies. Streaks of yellow come out quickest in adversity. The hammering they have been getting during the past two weeks is evidently throwing a scare among them.

—The call for a larger wheat acreage in Centre county will be responded to, of course, but unfortunately it will be impossible for our farmers to seed much more ground than their regular rotation plans call for. There are, however, some uncultivated farms in the county that could be turned to wheat this fall if anybody could find the time and equipment to do it.

—Five million men will be called to the colors in this country and more if they are necessary. We are fighting for nothing but a principle but as that is the most justifiable motive any country could have the Kaiser and Hindenburg might as well look the fact square in the face and reconcile themselves and their people to the good lickin' they are bound to get.

—Nearly every day some person calls at the "Watchman" office for a copy of the paper and expresses his or her estimation of its value in very flattering terms. Of course it is all music to our ears, but we own a certain measure of surprise that some of the visitors have been so long in making a discovery that some of the people of Centre county have known for years.

—The United States committee on Public Information, division of advertising, has just announced that the newspapers and magazines of the country have donated \$1,500,000.00 worth of advertising space for use during 1918. While we have been engaged in such helpful and patriotic endeavor Congress and the Postoffice Department have been reciprocating by making the mailing facilities of every newspaper in the country as burdensome as possible.

—Next week the "Watchman" will be printed on the new paper we have been talking so much about. We want you to notice it. To realize that it is probably the best paper used by any newspaper in the United States. It has cost us nearly twice as much per pound as the paper that this edition is printed on, and we haven't paid the bill either, because we are waiting until we get some remittances from subscribers who we hope are going to remit just as soon as they read this paragraph.

—The Germans are beginning to find out what a Spanish officer discovered at Santiago in 1898. When some one asked him if the American soldiers were brave he replied: "Brave, my God, they even tried to catch us with their hands." While not for a moment have we a thought of underestimating the valor, or minimizing the efficiency of the soldiers of any of our allies we still cling to the oft expressed opinion that the men of the U. S. A. will set a new standard for the military machines of the world before they have completed their role in this war.

Democratic Watchman

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Juggling the Democratic Party.

The Palmer-Donnelly-McCormick conspiracy in control of the Democratic organization of Pennsylvania, appears to be preparing for another juggling operation. Two years ago these enterprising opportunists hand-picked and elected a nice young fellow who had neither claim nor experience, of the name of McLean, and a resident of Wilkes-Barre, as chairman of the State committee. Immediately afterward Mr. McLean went into service in the army and a gentleman whose name would have been howled out of the reckoning was appointed acting chairman. This year, in the face of the protest of the candidate for Governor, they hand-picked and elected another Mr. McLean, brother of the one previously chosen, to be chairman of the committee and he has already given up the job to go into the army, thus creating a vacancy to be filled in the same way.

This McLean family is all right, no doubt, but apparently either too aspiring or too obliging. In other words it looks as if these brothers have been using the Democratic party as stepping stones to their own preferment or are permitting the Palmer-Donnelly-McCormick conspiracy to use them in order to pull off scurvy political trades at the expense of the Democratic party. The chairmanship of the Pennsylvania Democratic State committee is a considerable vantage point from which to launch a claim for office and seems to have fulfilled every expectation of the McLean family. Both William and George have passed from one to the other with surprising expedition for in less than sixty days from assuming the chairmanship they have become Majors in the army. And in each instance they opened an opportunity for juggling the party by the Palmer-Donnelly-McCormick opportunists.

But we have grave doubts of the success of the present attempt to "chloroform" the Democratic party by this juggling method. That it was the intention of the conspirators to perpetrate the fraud scarcely admits of a question. Mr. George McLean had applied for a commission in the army before he was elected chairman by the bossed vote of the servile committee. It was a betrayal of the party, an act of perfidy to the President and a crime against decency. But it will be carried out to the letter unless the Democrats of the State unite in a mighty protest. If this is done and the fraud prevented the Democratic nominee for Governor will be elected.

—Hindenburg may not be dead but he has certainly "gone before."

Peace Terms as They Will Come.

A news dispatch conveys the information that an Austrian emissary recently applied at various entente legations at Berne, Switzerland, offering terms of peace. Of course he was not received. He may have been a self-constituted agent or he may have been an emissary of Emperor Karl operating under the sanction of the German Kaiser. But whoever or whatever he was his advances were properly rejected. This is no time to talk peace or even suggest conditions for the ending of the war. There is no thought worth while at this time except such as have in view a more vigorous prosecution of the war.

No rational man or woman in the United States wanted war and the government at Washington kept out of the war as long as it could without the sacrifice of honor. But we got into the war anyway because a crazy German military autocracy put upon us such outrages as could not be endured. Now that we are in, however, there is only one way to get out and that is to extinguish the principles of autocracy as a governing agency throughout the world and spread the principles of democracy. We don't want to extend territory or dominion. We don't want indemnity or reparation. But we want peace that will endure upon a basis of justice and be made the only possible peace because the only possible peace will be made in Washington.

No peace emissary representing the German Kaiser or the Austrian Emperor or the Turkish Sultan will be received no matter what terms he may have to propose. After they are all "licked to a frazzle" they will be told what is coming to them in the future and will get it in full force. Possibly those mischief-makers and order-disturbers will be allowed the freedom of some safe retreat and possibly they will be obliged to earn a decent living by some honest labor with their hands. But whatever happens to be their fate it can be set down as certain that they will never again be in position to declare war on any other people or levy tribute upon the labor of any other hands.

Taft's Admonition to Patriotic Voters.

Even former President Taft has been dragged into the service of a party machine which is striving for a Republican majority of Congress at any cost. In a speech delivered in Saratoga the other day while admitting the necessity of a Congress in sympathy with the President at present he asserts that next year we will need an adverse Congress. With a Republican Congress in 1917 he said "the declaration of war, proper preparation for it and the passage of the conscription act would have been very doubtful." In that statement he expressed his honest convictions and spoke the truth. "But now the situation is different," he added. "Now we need a Republican Congress to call for and insist upon adequate preparation and formulate legislation to this end."

What a pity the power of the machine is so potent! Former President Taft knows better and in making such a statement he prostitutes his patriotism and belies his own intelligence. A Republican majority in the present Congress would have defeated every effective measure of legislation in support of the war policies of the administration. Mr. Taft admits this in his statement that "the declaration of war, proper preparation for it and the passage of the conscription act would have been very doubtful." It is equally certain that a Republican Congress next year will nullify every feature of the war policies which he reluctantly confesses were essential. What has occurred within a recent period to justify this reversal of opinion? Absolutely nothing.

But the paralysis of sinister partisanship has descended upon Mr. William Howard Taft and forced him to play "the dog in the manger." Nobody knows better than he that which he recommends offers the only hope of escape for the German Kaiser and the only chance for success of the German army. Nobody knows better than he that the policy he recommends will cost millions of lives and billions of treasure and ultimately extend the autocracy of Germany over the entire face of civilization. Yet he prostitutes himself to the service of a traitorous party machine. His lamentable attitude should admonish every patriotic voter in the country to support only true and tried Democrats for Congress at the coming election.

—Secretary Daniels says our army in France is only a vanguard. It must be admitted that a million men make a healthy and robust vanguard but the force will be multiplied if necessary.

Patriotism of the Farmers.

The government has made a new appeal to the patriotism of farmers. It asks for an increase of the winter wheat acreage to a total of 47,500,000 acres. With a yield of 15.7 bushels to the acre this would guarantee a crop of 667,000,000 bushels of winter wheat of the value at the price fixed by Congress of \$1,467,400,000, an unprecedented source of wealth. Not a great many years ago a farm product value of a billion dollars was regarded as enormous. But now a yield nearly fifty per cent. in excess of that is expected from a single element of the farm product. The yield of other cereals, animal products, vegetables and minerals will carry the total to unbelievable figures.

As a matter of fact we are just approaching a realization of the vast resources of this country. And singularly enough some great calamity like the present world war was necessary to develop the facts. If it had not come we would have gone on indefinitely, increasing crops of course, but increasing our profligacies in equal ratio and living from hand to mouth, as it were. But that frame of mind will never return. The intensive methods of farming which have been forced upon us by the necessities of others as well as ourselves will endure and the altered systems of expenditures will be equally permanent. Jay Cooke said "a national debt is a national blessing" and we may now add that a national calamity is a source of national wealth.

In this increased wheat production Pennsylvania is expected to contribute a fair proportion. Last year the State winter wheat acreage of the State was 1,530,000 acres and we are asked to expand it to 1,683,000 acres. We are not accustomed to speak of Pennsylvania as a winter wheat producing State but when we contemplate the possibilities and realize the expectations there is something more than a thrill in the figures. But it may be set down as certain that the Keystone State will meet its obligations in full and we confidently believe that Centre county will be among the foremost in the work. She has not faltered in any patriotic obligation and this is one of the foremost.

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

One Discordant Voice.

In his speech at the Saratoga convention of his party a week ago, Colonel Roosevelt expressed his malignant hatred of President Wilson in his statement that "we have played a poor part in the early stages of the world war." That is not the consensus of opinion among men of high standing in this country or abroad. Lloyd George, the British Premier, has been generous in his praise of our achievements in war work. Bonar Law, the British Chancellor, has been equally liberal in commendation. The Kings of Belgium and Italy and the President of France have lost no opportunity to voice appreciation and leading citizens of the United States have been enthusiastic in approbation.

But Theodore Roosevelt adopts the other course and taking advantage of an incident which centered the sympathy of the whole world upon him he undertakes to coin his bereavement and public compassion into campaign currency for service in partisan politics. He wants a Republican Congress, not as he says, "to support the administration at every point where it acts vigorously in prosecuting the war," but for the same reason that Penrose and Lodge want a Republican Congress, that it may reverse the war policies of the government and embarrass the President in his vast and successful efforts to win the war for democracy. This is the meaning of his sedition.

John Wanamaker, foremost American merchant; Thomas A. Edison, leading American inventor; Charles M. Schwab, most successful American manufacturer; Charles E. Hughes, eminent American lawyer; William R. Wiley, until recently chairman of the Republican National committee, and scores of other Republican statesmen, frequently and freely commend the administration and praise its achievements. But this chorus of appreciation is disturbed by one discordant voice which comes from the throat of a disappointed grouch whose varied and somewhat obstreperous political career has not shown even one achievement worthy of a place in history.

—Now if the Democratic candidate for Governor is permitted to name the campaign manager the chance of Democratic victory in Pennsylvania this year will be converted into a certainty.

Centre Countians Have Reason to be Proud of Their Patriotism.

Citizens of Centre county have always prided themselves on their patriotism on any and all occasions and times like the present are what try men's souls and show what is in them. And in this we do not mean men alone, but the women of the county, too. In fact it is the women of the county that suggested this article.

One day last week when word was received of what the American soldiers were doing in France a resident in Bellefonte said: "My but don't it thrill you and make you feel like going out in the middle of the street and yelling your head off." And on Sunday afternoon, when the thermometer stood 96 degrees in the shade, and we stood on Allegheny street and saw that long line of women, the Red Cross of Bellefonte and surrounding towns, the State College Chapter and members of its auxiliaries, or 391 women all told, it was a sight so thrilling as to make one's heart ache. The men are doing their part in this war most nobly, but the women are carrying along their part just as nobly, just as willingly and just as uncompromisingly and with the cohesion of two such irresistible forces how can we help but win.

And another comparison: Sunday's parade was rather compact but at that it seemed interminably long. And yet that is just the length the parade would be if all of the young men of Centre county who have enlisted for the war could be assembled in Bellefonte for one grand review. Is it any wonder then that Centre countians are proud of their patriotism and justly so? They have given unstintingly the best of their young manhood; they have contributed to the support of the war by taking over three million and a quarter of Liberty loan bonds; they have contributed over twenty-five thousand dollars to the Red Cross and have purchased over a half million dollars' worth of war savings stamps, and with all this carrying along the work on the farm and in the factory on a one hundred per cent. basis. Is it any wonder that Centre countians are proud of their patriotism.

—Of course helping Russia is a compelling moral obligation but care should be taken to eliminate the Bolsheviks before either money or sympathy is lavished in that direction.

—The Crown Prince will have to get a new job but he can do so well at anything else as in "marshalling squadrons in the field."

The Strategic Lies of General Stein.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. That German spread-eagle speech of the Prussian war minister, wherein he so absurdly announced, "The greater part of the French army has been beaten. The so-called Foch reserve army no longer exists," is now reported in greater length, but proves worthy of no more serious consideration. It was quite plainly an utterly unscrupulous effort to brace up the shaken confidence of the Reichstag, troubled by the manifest failure of the successive German offensives to attain any decisive objective, notwithstanding the great gains they have made.

Although the appalling cost of these offensives has not been made public in Germany, the members of the Reichstag must have realized it and must have understood, also, that no decisive objective had yet been either attained or brought within certain reach. Therefore, General Stein, the Prussian Minister of War, attempted in this speech to so magnify the German armies have actually achieved as to satisfy that body and placate, as far as possible, the anxiety and distress of the public. The phrases quoted appear to have followed an extravagant statement of achievement in Germany, the members of the Reichstag must have realized it and must have understood, also, that no decisive objective had yet been either attained or brought within certain reach. Therefore, General Stein, the Prussian Minister of War, attempted in this speech to so magnify the German armies have actually achieved as to satisfy that body and placate, as far as possible, the anxiety and distress of the public. 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