

INK SLINGS.

—Everywhere in Centre county goes up the cry that early potatoes are small and few in a hill.

—Just to prove to you that fall is coming faster than you think we remind you that the Granger picnic will be held next month and the schools will re-open.

—Those scientists who keep insisting that the earth is gradually cooling off have probably been trying to cool off themselves during the most of this week.

—Maybe you think it was hot on Wednesday. It was, but it wasn't a circumstance to the way the Hon. John Noll is going to make it hot for Harvey in November.

—Nothing would revive the drooping spirit of Germany like the announcement that the United States has selected a Congress not in sympathy with President Wilson.

—The daily casualty lists are drawing nearer and nearer to Centre county. Surely we have been fortunate thus far but shocks are certain to come and we might as well steel ourselves for them now.

—One of our boys of Glencoe, Pa., rendered eighteen Huns "hors du combat" within thirty-six hours. If every one of Uncle Sam's khaki clad lads were to have the same chance Germany would not have an effective fighting man.

—When the sun gets so hot right here in Bellefonte that it forces the mercury to knock the top out of the thermometers we temporarily abandon our hobby of talking about what a lovely, cool town we have in summer time.

—Have you noticed that flies are not nearly as numerous as they have been in August of past years. Can it be that swatting campaigns are beginning to show results or has the poor little musca domestica suffered some kind of a blight this year.

—Under orders from fuel administrator Keller electric signs and store window lights in Bellefonte are all out of business on certain nights in the week. While we never had many of them it is surprising how noticeable the change wrought by their absence is to the night pedestrian.

—Begin to arrange your investments now so that when the fourth Liberty Loan is offered you will be able to take your share of bonds without inconvenience and without requiring some one of the workers to spend hours arguing you into a realization of the fact that it is not only a duty, but a good investment.

—The property owners of Nittany valley are facing a loss in values, through the threatened dissolution of the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania, that we fear many of them fail to comprehend. We have heard men prominent in finance in Bellefonte declare that it will take ten dollars off the value of every acre of farm land in the valley and we are inclined to believe that such an estimate of depreciation is too low.

—General Foch is apparently an advocate of the "watchful waiting" policy. Having forced the Huns to cross the Vesle he seems in no haste to press them further through frontal attacks, apparently for the reason that it would entail needless casualties and lay his armies open to the danger of driving into a Hindenburg trap. The time has not come for the grand allied offensive and until it does our supreme commander is not going to risk the loss of any men or guns.

—Federal fuel administrator, Dr. Garfield, is going after coal operators who are offering bonuses to attract men from other mines to their own. He has the reason very clearly depicted out when he states that the operator who is offering bonuses is certainly getting more for his coal than he has any right to charge and as this is a clear violation of the law he is going after them. From what we have been able to learn about such practices Dr. Garfield will find a good field for investigation if he turns his sleuths loose in the Philipsburg and Osceola regions.

—How do you like the paper the "Watchman" is printed on today? Pretty fine, isn't it for a country or any other kind of a newspaper. In truth you can't find another newspaper in the United States that shows anything like the quality that the paper you have in your hands now shows. It cost a pile of money and we would like you, therefore, to cast your eye on the label on this same page and see if the date on it looks as good as the paper. If it doesn't, send us a check. It will make us very happy and make you feel like you owned some of this very excellent newspaper.

—We understand that some of the ladies on east High street became very much excited on Wednesday afternoon, when the fish on the court house tower turned its nose around to the north. Many and insistent were the predictions that it meant cooler weather and these right in the face of the announcement from the weather bureau to the effect that no relief from the hot wave was in sight. The cooler weather came with sunset and we are ready to join the faith of the east High street lady who apparently has reason to believe that the court house fish can see things that the weather man can't.

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President Wilson May Answer.

President Wilson may be prevailed upon to make answer to the nagging politicians who are striving to change the complexion of Congress in order to reverse the war policies which have been so eminently successful thus far. His friends are urging him to take the people into his confidence as he did on other occasions and give his side of the subject for popular consideration. So long as the nagging was limited to a few blatherskites like Roosevelt and Chairman Hays, of the Republican National committee, reply was hardly worth while. But when such men as former President Taft are dragged into the sinister service, sensible men are inclined to take notice.

One of the principal sources of complaint against the war policies of the administration was the failure to send General Leonard Wood to France. If General Pershing, the commanding officer of our forces in France had been incapable or inefficient, there might be some reason in this demand to send Wood abroad. But Wood is the ranking officer in our army and if he had been sent to France would have automatically become the commander, thus superseding Pershing. No intelligent man in this country or elsewhere believes that such a change would have improved the service or pleased our troops in the trenches. But the carping critics who are unable to see beyond the points of their noses never considered this important phase of the matter.

The other causes of complaint against the administration are equally puerile and their purposes quite as unpatriotic. No President could have accomplished more in creating an army and transporting it across the ocean. No living man could have achieved more in mobilizing the resources of the country and adapting them to military uses. Then why should there be a reversal of these policies? All our allies are satisfied with the existing conditions. All our troops on the firing line are confident and contented. Not a living soul other than the scurvy politicians at home and the "High Command" in the army of our enemies abroad are opposed to the policies of the President as expressed in the conduct of the war.

"There can be no doubt," writes the Washington correspondent of one of our esteemed metropolitan contemporaries, "that a Republican victory in the Congressional elections would puzzle and discourage the British, French, Italian and other Allied governments and would be hailed joyfully in Germany as proof that the American people, dissatisfied with the progress, were endeavoring to overthrow the government charged with the conduct of the fight." Are the patriotic people of Pennsylvania willing to contribute to this fund of comfort to our ruthless enemy? If not they will resent this partisan appeal as an insult to patriotism and an offense against justice.

What Became of the Trout?

Early last week, or only two days before the close of the trout fishing season, there were at least several hundred fine trout in Spring creek between the bridge and the falls, and they were one of the biggest attractions in the town for strangers. Two days after the season closed there were less than a dozen trout in the deep pool at the foot of the falls, and not over fifty between the bridge and the falls. The question is, what became of the trout?

It has been the general belief all summer that some person or persons were catching the fish out of this portion of Spring creek illegally, but aside from the three Philipsburgers arrested before they had even caught a fish, the local officers have failed to catch anyone in the act. And yet on at least one occasion two men were seen fishing in the creek in the early morning hours, but the man who saw them was unable to recognize them.

—Denny O'Neil declines the Roosevelt Progressive nomination for Governor thus proving that he, like Roosevelt, was using Progressivism as an instrument for personal aggrandizement.

—Our Republican friends will have a hard time convincing the horny-handed sons of toil that taxing luxuries is an unjust form of raising revenue to win the war.

—If the Kaiser were less stupid he would have discovered by this time that cruelty has no more chance to win a war than it has to enlist popular admiration.

—King Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, is missing and his present whereabouts is a royal mystery. He is probably hiding from the wrath of the weather man.

Plans of Republican Leaders.

Senator Sproul formally opened his campaign for Governor of Pennsylvania at Lancaster on Monday, according to political gossip. He made a speech the feature of which was an eulogy to Congressman Griest and a pretense of support of the war work. "We are not going to raise any partisan questions," he declared, "but we are going to prepare for the days after the war, when the bills have to be paid." In other words the present object of the Republican machine is to hold itself in shape for participation in the distribution of the spoils of war after the victory has been won. The Republican managers are experts in such work.

But Senator Beidleman, Mr. Sproul's associate on the ticket, was more candid. He "threw a harpoon into the President," to employ a current colloquialism and "denounced a one-man war," with much vehemence. "If the nation had opened war against Germany when the Lusitania was sunk," he said, "Russia would have been saved and the war would be over now." He failed to explain how or why a premature declaration of war would have achieved such results or why the vast majority of the Republican leaders advised the contrary course. But he revealed the actual purpose of the Republican machine which is to reverse the war policies of the government and prolong the war indefinitely.

Taken together these opening utterances of the Republican candidates reveal the plan of campaign of the Republican machine. Sproul is to pose as the conservative and loyal statesman while Beidleman will take care of the political end. During the primary campaign the head of the ticket played to the Prohibition gallery while the tail wiggled to the whiskey trust and now they hope to play both ends against the middle by a scheme of false pretense equally transparent. Meantime the real purpose of both candidates and their managers is to "cop" the spoils of war and fatten upon the misfortunes of the country. The plan shows scant respect for popular intelligence.

—About the time the first launching was in progress at Hog Island the heinous Huns were sinking a hospital ship carrying a precious burden of wounded soldiers to safety in England. But the Hog Island incident was the more significant. It was a mark of the beginning of the end of Hun atrocities.

"Hammy" Moore Complains.

Congressman "Hammy" Moore, of Philadelphia, still clings tenaciously and somewhat hysterically to the obsolete issue of sectionalism. He is bitterly opposed to the pending revenue bill. The revenue it proposes to provide is essential to the prosecution of the war but "Hammy" is dead against it nevertheless because New York will be obliged to pay more taxes than Alabama and Pennsylvania will bear a heavier burden than Arkansas. These big Northern centres of wealth are more able to pay the assessment which will be levied upon them than the smaller and poorer Southern communities, but that is no excuse in the opinion of "Hammy." He wants to wave the "bloody shirt" awhile.

The pending revenue measure is incomplete but the aim of those who are preparing it is to make a model piece of legislation. President Wilson has expressed the hope that a large part of the levy will be on war profits, excessive incomes and luxuries. Now there are very few war industries in Alabama and Arkansas and correspondingly meager war profits and an income of a couple of thousand dollars a year in those States puts a man in the ranks of the plutocrats. In New York, Pennsylvania and some other Northern States war profits run into hundreds of millions and necessarily a tax of such subjects hits more people in rich sections than in those less favored by fortune.

"Hammy" must have some cause of complaint, however, against anything suggested by a Democratic President and proposed by a Democratic majority in Congress. He is one of those politicians who has been "nagging" the administration ever since the beginning of the war and insisting that only Republicans of the Philadelphia type are fit to administer government. His model is Mayor Smith, no doubt, whose capacity for administration is being exhibited in the Chester county courts at this time, and is revealed more fully in the action of the Federal authorities in taking charge of the police force of Philadelphia in order to avert anarchy.

—If you really want to support the President you will vote the Democratic ticket this fall. Every vote cast for a Republican candidate is a punch at the war policies of the administration.

—Whenever a profiteer is hit some Republican statesman feels that a client has been injured.

Russia Rescued from Evil Powers.

The most important incident of the week in relation to the war is the announcement, made on Sunday, of an agreement among the Allies, for the help of Russia. The plan as announced by President Wilson is for the United States and Japan to send troops into Siberia with the purpose of helping the Czechoslovaks to rescue Russia from the elements which have combined to surrender that vast empire to Germany. It is none the less gratifying that this is the plan of President Wilson to accomplish a potential result. The Philadelphia Ledger, not too friendly toward the administration, says that the President "has stood as steady as a rock for his fair, friendly policy of the open hand of help."

The attitude of Russia has been a menace ever since the Bolshevik control. Trotsky and Lenine, plainly under the malign influence of the German government, were gradually surrendering to the autocratic power everything in Russia that was of military or strategic value. The warships and merchant marine of Russia were passing without protest into the hands and under the control of Germany to be used against the Allies and the products of the soil in so far as it was available was being shifted in the same direction. But this trend of evil will probably be diverted now that the allies have accepted President Wilson's plan, not of military intervention, but of beneficent helpfulness of stricken and prostrate Russia.

Even if Russia had been prostituted into an agency for aiding autocracy through the reactivity of the Bolshevik cause of democracy would have triumphed ultimately. But the victory would have been postponed probably for years and the costly and cruel war continued indefinitely. Now that a plan of friendly intervention, not military but moral, has been accepted by the allies and will be put into practice by the joint action of the United States and Japan, the menace of Russian hostility is practically removed and the German hope of supplies and man power from Russia dissipated. It is a great moral as well as material victory and the honor is to our great President.

—The casualty list from the French front is increasing in length but the heroes who compose it from day to day, are "paying the last tribute of devotion" in a just cause.

Roosevelt Scores at Last.

That pestiferous word-wrangler of Oyster Bay, Theodore Roosevelt, has at last framed an indictment against Woodrow Wilson which demands attention. Our government has done something to Haiti and San Domingo which must have been awful. We don't know what it was and the Colonel leaves it to conjecture. But it estops us to protest against the crimes of Germany. We can't go "into court with clean hands," the Colonel protests, on account of this atrocious thing. He admits that it is impossible for him to say "whether our action in these two cases has been right or wrong." But he knows there "was no possible excuse for such secret diplomacy in these cases."

As nearly as we can ascertain the facts the government of the United States admonished these warring Republics against some contemplated immoralities. Mr. Roosevelt had himself set the precedent for this action but in a more bombastic and furious way. He waved "the big stick" over the heads of all the weak countries in the Western hemisphere and in the Panama case secretly organized a revolution against one of the friendly and feeble Republics and supported it with warships and bayonets. But he declares that it was in the open. In fact he stated to a Congressional committee of investigation afterward that "he seized the canal zone and let Congress talk about it" after the event.

The truth is that President Wilson can't please Colonel Roosevelt, try as he may. The Colonel had set his heart on an ambition to smash the tradition set by Washington and concur in by all his successors in the Presidential office and Woodrow Wilson's election in 1912 disappointed him. That was "the unpardonable crime" which cannot be condoned and never will be forgiven. Because of it Roosevelt will continue to utter anathemas and emit seditious criticism of the administration as long as it exists. Wilson wasn't to blame, of course, for the incident. It was the people who elected him because they had better sense than to elect Roosevelt to a third term. But Roosevelt blames Wilson.

—The rain storm on Sunday night did more general damage to the roads in Centre county than any other one we have had this season. The western end of Ferguson township was practically the only section of the county to escape costly washouts.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

To "Der Tag."

A. Scott Harris in the Pittsburgh Gazette Times.

When the last gun shall have boomed; when the winding trenches that scar the devastated fields of France and Flanders are silent and deserted; when at last Germany with her law of force, her doctrine of might has been brought to her knees by a force more righteous and a might more compelling; when Belgium and France, Roumania, Serbia, England, America and Italy shall demand restitution for all the wanton destruction which they have borne; when these nations shall demand punishment of those responsible for crimes against their peoples, crimes whose enormity of brutality and lust precludes all thought of adequate punishment; when this day comes, how shall be with Germany?

When Belgium points to Louvain to Albert, to Bruges, to all her peaceful hamlets now blackened ruins, think you she will accept the answer, "Military Necessity?" These inhuman brutes may be able to justify themselves and their actions to the German people whose thoughts they direct and whose morals they dictate with such an answer, but no, it will not be accepted by the Belgian people! They will demand a very real punishment for a very real crime.

"Military necessity" will not be considered as justification by France when she asks why the pricelessness of Rheims, her beautiful cathedral, was day after day wantonly battered down, nor will she be placated by her non-combatant citizens were lined up and shot without trial and without mercy. Oh, no, "military necessity" will not be accepted as a valid excuse for the unbridled lust of the German soldiery, the scars of whose crimes not even death can heal, neither will she be content with this answer when she asks why her fields were devastated with a thoroughness so fiendish that even the wells were polluted and the fruit trees hacked down. France has a name for all these crimes. It is not the name that Germany gives them nor will any reasoning of Germany alter her determination that the real culprits shall receive real punishment.

It was "military necessity" given as the reason by Von Bissing for the murder of Edith Cavell. Taken from her cell just before daybreak, denied even the ministry of one of her fellow countrymen, she was executed in an whose only offense was that she had aided some of her refugee countrymen to escape into a neutral country, this gentle nurse, who wore on her arm the red cross of service to friend and foe alike, faced the firing squad and met death unflinchingly. Does Germany think that England can be England and allow that crime to go unpunished? Does she think that "military necessity" can again palliate this black act of murder? For the thousands of her women and children murdered by air raids in defenseless towns, for the drowning of her non-combatant seamen is she blind enough to think that England will not be avenged?

Was it "military necessity" that drew together a band of murderous plotters in a country with which Germany was at peace and influenced them to plan in cold blood the destruction of a passenger boat leaving a port of that country and carrying as passengers 110 of its citizens, many of them women and children? Was it to emphasize and glorify this deed of "supernatural" that the German Kaiser personally decorated this German murderer? Was it because they rejoiced over the murder of their fellow-countrymen that German-Americans sent this same murderer loving cups and other tokens of unbridled admiration? Was it "military necessity" that influenced and directed the mind of Zimmerman when he plotted to hand over the land and people of a white race with whom Germany was at peace to a mongrel race of Mexicans and an alien race of Japs? Can any law of necessity, military or otherwise, reconcile one to so monstrous and hellish an intention as this hatched in the German brain of Zimmerman? Is the German intellect so dulled and the mind so perverted that it can think that America will overlook so deadly a wrong as that?

When peace comes, when civilization conquers, then let Germany face the firing squad. Let those suffer individually where they are individually responsible for crime. That this shall be is the fixed, unalterable purpose of France; and France has suffered long and much. It is the determination that has been slowly but surely crystallizing in the minds of all the peoples who have suffered so much from the brutal savagery of Germany. Against this determination their sinister plea of "military necessity" will avail them not at all. At the bar before which they shall be summoned right shall be might, and Justice, stern and unyielding, shall brush aside their specious plea and bid them stand up and receive sentence.

Suggestions for a Russian Business.

From the Ohio State Journal.

We have a theory that an enterprising man who could go to Russia and establish a string of free-lunch counters could be elected Czar without opposition.

—Of course the report that Hindenburg had died was false but that is an unimportant lie.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—To notify his mother of his safe arrival at camp, Bud Naumann, of Pittsburgh, released a homing pigeon that he had carried with him. In four hours after he arrived at Fort Thomas Covington, Ky., his mother in Pittsburgh was notified.

—The Carlisle Indian school, closed for the education of American Indians, has just been permanently abandoned. The 700 students will be transferred to other Indian schools. The buildings will be turned over to the War Department for hospital purposes and for the rehabilitation and re-education of sick and wounded soldiers.

—When the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie passenger train arrived at Dickerson Run one night recently, brakeman Robert Reed heard a strange hissing noise in one of the coaches. Investigation showed it to be coming from an angry snake of unknown species which instantly offered battle. After a long struggle up and down the aisle the reptile was subdued.

—Mrs. Helen L. Bligh, of Reading, has instituted divorce proceedings against her husband, Harrison J. Bligh, on the ground of "indignities." Mrs. Bligh alleges that her husband has refused to maintain a home for her, but persisted in being in the company of other women. In her bill of complaint she says that "his eyes would glow with delight when he would tell her of his orgies with other women."

—Ground has been broken at Elwood City for the first 50 homes to be erected there for the employees of the Shelby plant of the National Tube company. They are to be completed in four months. The second 50 of the several hundred homes to be erected are to be completed in eight months. The Tube company is also to erect a three-story rooming house for single men. It will contain 50 rooms.

—At a sale of peaches for the benefit of the Reading Red Cross, Mayor Filbert, E. Y. Landis and S. Ruttenberg brought single peaches at 85 each. Others brought from 81 to 84. The sale was a side feature of an auction of old rubber tires conducted by motorists for a Red Cross fund, the 20,770 pounds of old rubber bringing \$1,080.04, or about 5-8 cents a pound, the police bureau conducting the sale in Penn square.

—Miss Irene Davies, 55 years old, a member of one of the best known families in Bradford county, was found lying in the Susquehanna river at Towanda on Monday afternoon, one hour after she had waded into the water to her death. Melancholia and a long illness are believed to have been responsible for the suicide. Miss Davies was the daughter of the late G. M. Davies, Lieutenant Governor of the State during the term of office of Governor Beaver.

—Lightning accompanying Sunday night's rain storm struck the barn on the farm of E. W. Kelly, of Clearfield county, and, besides shattering one end of the structure, blowing a mow of hay over a large area and practically exploding a concrete watering trough, killed a dog. Three horses and some other stock as well as implements and supplies that were housed in the building, were uninjured. No fire resulted and the building was saved from damage other than that inflicted by the blowing out of one end.

—Creditors of the old Hyde Park bank, at Scranton, which failed thirty years ago, have received 185 per cent, on their holdings—a most unusual occurrence. S. M. Mott, assignee of the bank, has just announced an additional 15 per cent, will be paid creditors holding proved claims on August 15 or 16. They have already been paid 150 per cent. The fact that creditors have arranged to receive such a remarkable percentage is due to the careful and shrewd manner in which certain assets of the institution were managed.

—Game warden E. W. Kelly, of DuBois, last week rounded up seven Italians who were camping in a car along the railroad near Lumber City, Clearfield county, and in searching the car found one gun, plenty of rabbit hides and the feathers of wild birds. Kelly secured Constable Joseph Linds to assist him and the officers took the seven Italians before Justice Eli Hill, at Lumber City. The Italians were glad to settle by paying a fine of \$75 and costs of the case. The officers confiscated the gun and it is now the property of the Commonwealth.

—Clyde Bowman, sixteen years old, and Clarence Hoffman, nineteen, drivers of an express company, were arrested at Huntingdon last Thursday, charged with stealing a package containing \$8,000 which had been shipped by a Philadelphia banking house to the Earlston Furnace company at Everett, Bedford county, Pa. The boys confessed, according to detectives who made the arrests. All but about \$300 of the money was found on the prisoners, the detectives said. The package disappeared after reaching Huntingdon where it was to have been transferred to another railroad.

—Numerous outbreaks of rabies have been reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture during the past few weeks from many sections of the State and the Livestock Sanitary Board is issuing a special warning to borough and township officials and to the public to guard against the danger during August. Strict enforcement of the dog law is urged in all communities and close watch on suspected animals by all owners for any symptoms. Whenever there is any indication of an animal showing traces of rabies some local veterinarian should at once be notified and a strict quarantine put in effect.

—After seriously wounding Mrs. Tillie Bower, whom he had followed to the home of her sister, on a farm near Williamsport, last Saturday morning, Elmer R. Weber ran into the woods nearby and with the same revolver which he had used on the woman, ended his life while searchers were scouring the section for him. His dead body was not found until several hours after the crime. Mrs. Bower, who is in a critical condition, formerly was employed as a housekeeper for Weber at Newark, N. J., but left him some time ago. Letters found on the man's body indicated his intention to kill both the woman and himself.

—S. S. Reighard, food administrator of Blair county, has a puzzling question to answer following the receipt of a letter from a Roaring Spring farmer. The farmer asks the administrator what he is to do with his supply of rye. In the letter it is explained that the farmer is unable to dispose of his rye and that he needs the room immediately. In addition he needs the bags, the money from the sale of the rye and the rye products food, as he keeps thirty-seven hogs. The farmer visited three mills in the Morrison Cove region and each refused to buy the rye, the mills not being in "a position to grind it into flour for consumption." The farmer was previously instructed not to feed the rye to his stock.