

INK SLINGS.

—Let us send it off with a whoop tomorrow. —Gradually the Sundays are becoming more gasless. —Serbia is on her feet again. Now for the rescue of poor Roumania. —If you pray for success help pay for it. Pay as you pray. Buy a bond. —The wets could buy a lot of bonds now and pay for them out of their savings after July 1st, 1919.

Democratic Watchman

Will You Send a County Paper to a Boy Over There.

Every citizen interested in the boys of old Centre now at the front, and in the brave women who equally are serving their country abroad, has an opportunity to show his appreciation of the sacrifice they are making. The opportunity comes as a result of the generosity and thought of Colonel William Boyce Thompson, of New York, who has conceived and put into execution what is known as the Home Paper Service.

Under the plan, every man and woman in foreign service will receive his home newspaper, and so be kept in constant touch with the places and the people they know and love. Publishers of newspapers in all parts of the country—the "Watchman" included, have grasped with pleasure the plan outlined by Colonel Thompson, and they have agreed to co-operate in every way.

Under the ruling of the War Industries Board newspaper publishers are forbidden to send their newspapers free, even to soldiers. The newspaper must be subscribed for in the regular way, the only exception being soldiers who formerly were in the employ of the newspaper and who left that service to enlist. Colonel Thompson therefore proposes that the public in each community contribute to a fund so that the home newspaper (in our case this newspaper) may reach every man and woman now in the service of his country.

Anyone may contribute to the fund, and any sum may be contributed. It is not necessary to contribute the entire amount of one subscription. It does not matter whether the rich man sends in one hundred dollars or the poor boy or little girl sends in five cents. Each gift will be a message of love and helpfulness to the home folks "Over There." The money will be lumped into one fund, out of which subscriptions will be entered as fast as the money is received.

Contributors who send in the full price of a year's subscription may, if they wish, designate to what particular person they wish the newspaper sent, but if the name given is already listed as receiving the paper, then we reserve the right to apply the subscription to some less fortunate soldier boy or noble woman who is just as lonely for news of home and home folks.

The name of every contributor to this home paper service will be published in the "Watchman," and the name of every one entered for a subscription will be published as well as the number of those remaining whose subscriptions have not been covered. If the amount of money received shall be more than is necessary to send the paper to every person from the county now in the service, then the balance will be turned over to the Red Cross.

The mothers of our boys are facing an ordeal with a bravery that commands respect and admiration. Here and there where tiny stars are turned from blue to gold, where anguish grips the heart, the nation stands in silence and honors the women who have given of their blood, the very bone of their bone, to their country. To them, home has lost its meaning—the soul of it has fled—there is no home, it is just a place, and no place is quite so lonely, unless it be within the hearts of those brave sons in far off France who long for just a word of home. There cannot be a man, there cannot be a woman, no, not even a child, who will fail to contribute just a little to make the hearts of those patriots lighter. Not one. Not in our county.

All the time our boys were on the Border we sent copies each week to every one of them and the many expressions of gratitude we received from them revealed how much they appreciated our efforts to keep them from growing homesick. From the moment the first boys went to France to this time we have been mailing copies of the paper to individuals, to Y. M. C. A. huts and other centres with the hope that all of the Centre county soldiers overseas would get an occasional glimpse of a Centre county paper. We have letters from some of the boys stating that the "Watchman" has been read and re-read until it has fallen to pieces. They have clung to it like an old, old friend.

While some few of the boys subscribed and paid for their own paper it is quite within the range of truth to say that the "Watchman" has given \$250 worth of papers to our soldiers since they started to the Border and since they have been in France. It would be only too happy to continue this contribution to them but the government has ordered us to stop and we can no longer follow the practice of the past.

Col. Thompson has undertaken to overcome this obstacle by the plan suggested above and we now call on all of the people of Centre county to rally to it.

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Perfidy Will Not Triumph.

Mitchell Palmer has twice exhausted every resource at his command to prevent the election of Arthur G. Dewalt and Henry J. Steele to Congress. As member for Pennsylvania of the Democratic National committee he was morally bound to support both of them for election after nomination. But moral obligations have no influence on his mind. These very able and efficient Democratic Congressmen had failed, or refused, to bow to his "imperial majesty" and he determined to punish them. He carried his fight against them into the recent primaries and was again badly defeated. Therefore he determined to strike down the party citadel in the expectation that they will suffer with the rest.

Mr. Palmer's venomous attack upon Judge Bonniwell, the Democratic nominee for Governor, was inspired by his desire to defeat Dewalt and Steele. The conditions were propitious for injecting Bolshevick methods into the politics of Pennsylvania. The Republican candidate for Governor is Palmer's personal friend and college chum. His election will enthrone Palmer in the kitchen cabinet as a back-door force. Having publicly pledged himself to prohibition and secretly promised to aid the liquor interests, Sproul was distressed by both and plainly "riding for a fall." In these circumstances he gains the aid of Palmer who at the expense of his own party interests and by the sacrifice of honor tries to destroy every Democratic chance of victory.

But Judas Palmer's expectations will be disappointed in the main. That is to say Judge Bonniwell will be elected Governor of Pennsylvania and Congressmen Dewalt and Steele will be triumphantly returned to the seats they have adorned. Democratic hopes in some of the other Congressional districts may be disappointed as the result of Palmer's perfidy and the defeat of a few Democrats for Congress in Pennsylvania may give the Republicans control of the next Congress and inspire the Kaiser with new hope. But it will not accomplish Palmer's expectation of electing Senator Sproul as Governor of Pennsylvania and defeating Arthur G. Dewalt and Henry J. Steele for Congress.

—The bone dry bill is getting nearer and nearer to the President. The House and the Senate are in agreement on most of the amendments and it is expected that only a few days will elapse before the bill reaches the President for his signature. When it is affixed the country will go bone dry on July 1st next and a lot of "tanks" will commence making goo-goo eyes at the town pump.

The Passing of the C. R. R. of Pa.

At twelve o'clock tomorrow night the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania will cease to operate. The fires will be drawn in all the locomotives and it will cease to exist as a common carrier so far as the present company is concerned. The movement that was started six weeks ago to interest this people of Nittany valley in an effort to keep the road in operation almost died a born-in when the financial obligation was thoroughly discussed, and so far neither the P. R. R. nor the N. Y. C. has made any move that would indicate they are earnestly interested in keeping the road open.

Just what will eventually happen to the material part of the road is not known. The charter has been surrendered by due process of law but that does not get the bondholders anything on their investment. Naturally the matter is up to Drexel & Co., of Philadelphia, who are the main parties in interest, and what they will do with the property remains to be seen. They may dispose of it at private sale and may elect to get rid of it at a public auction. Whatever course is taken, however, if a sale is made it will likely be duly advertised.

As to the employees, it will probably take a month to clear up all the business and get rid of the stuff at the various stations along the line, so that they will not be thrown out of work immediately. Most of them have other jobs in view, and considering the demand for help of all kinds at the present time, not one of them should have any difficulty in securing work, though it will probably require most of them changing their location.

All persons who have been listed as speakers in the big Liberty loan drive which will begin tomorrow should bear in mind the fact that if for any reason they are unable to fill in one or more of the appointments assigned them it is up to them to secure a man in their place, and also notify the motorist for that night whom they have secured so that the right man can be picked up.

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

German Collapse Impending.

While preparations are in progress in all sections "over here" to enlist a vast army for service "over there" the news from the various battle lines indicate the early collapse of the Hun forces. In Palestine the Turks are running before the allied forces, in Bulgaria the Serbs and Greeks are driving the Bulgars mercilessly and on the western front the enemy is being pressed backward all along the line. General Pershing hasn't been doing much within a week but he is making preparations for advancing on the forts at Metz in a way that proves his determination to raze that stronghold of autocratic power unless it yields to the inevitable before he gets the proper range.

Every day brings cheering reports from Marshal Haig and General Petain and the other French commanders who are supporting his movements. The Hindenburg line is giving way at various points and promises to become only a bitter memory to the Kaiser as he contemplates the destruction of his great armies all along the line. The campaign of misrepresentation has "overlept the mark." Even the stupid and stolid German peasantry can no longer be fooled by the false promises of future victories with which they have been fed during the past three years. The truth is percolating through their thick skulls and promises to cause a revolution when fully realized.

Even in Italy the enemy seems to be in full retreat before the forces of King Emanuel. Austria is in disarray and Germany has no troops to save it from impending disaster. In fact the whole line is showing signs of a complete collapse just as we are preparing to send a greater army than has heretofore been dreamed of to move in mighty force against the enemy. But there should be no cessation of the work. We must make a complete job of this destruction of autocracy. We must make it impossible for another war of the kind we have had for the past four years to be organized and the only way to achieve that result is to lick the Kaiser to his knees.

—Spanish influenza is playing serious havoc among the boys in the army camps on this side the Atlantic. Thirty thousand cases are now reported and when we realize that that is only seven thousand less than have been put out of action from all causes on the other side we can readily see why the government is so particular about the health of soldiers when calling them to service and after they are inducted into it.

The Fourth Liberty Loan Campaign Will Open Tomorrow.

Six billion dollars, rate 4 1/2 per cent., payable in twenty years. Can you beat that as a stable investment? That is what the government is offering you in the fourth Liberty loan.

Germany must be beaten to her knees; there must be no inconclusive peace, but a peace made on our terms, and on German soil. She can only be subdued by the argument of FORCE; the argument which she best understands and for which she has been chief champion. For more than a generation her people have been taught to believe that with this weapon they could conquer the earth. They have waited until the time seemed ripe for its use, making, meanwhile, such mighty preparations that success seemed assured. They struck when the world was unprepared, but the spirit of liberty cannot be subdued, and they are now confronting a tide of opinion, backed by their own argument of force, that will overwhelm them.

How is force applied? Through one agency, MONEY! Money will call men to arms, train and equip them, feed them. It is the essential requisite; all else waits on it. Through its use victory is assured. We have the money; our resources have scarcely been touched. Neither have we been called on for any real sacrifice. Compare the little inconvenience we suffer with what our soldiers undergo, even under the best conditions.

The fourth Liberty loan will show what we are. It will be large, requiring the help of every one. No one can escape this direct responsibility. Give it your wholehearted support. CHAS. M. MCCURDY, Chairman.

—On Wednesday evening engineer Edward Nolan picked a sprig of dewberry vine near the Krumrine station on the Bellefonte Central railroad that contained fifteen large, fully developed ripe dewberries and two red ones. It is not unusual to find during the fall season a second blossoming and even fruit development but the dewberries brought to this office by engineer Nolan were so much nicer than the original crop of the fruit during the hot summer months that they certainly constitute a freak of nature worthy of exhibit in the "Watchman" office window.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM OVER THE SEA.

James B. Stein Jr. Eulogizes Bellefonte and Tells of Life in France

Many Bellefonters remember "Jimmy" Stein, son of Rev. and Mrs. James B. Stein, of Altoona, but who lived in Bellefonte not very many years ago when Rev. Stein was pastor of the Methodist church here, and it seems hard to associate the boy with the young man who is now serving his country in France. He was a student at Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, when war was declared and he at once left school and joined Company F, 1st engineers, and was among the first Americans sent abroad. He was gassed by the Germans in June but has practically recovered therefrom and the very interesting letter published below was written to a friend in Bellefonte while yet at a base hospital:

Nantes, France, Aug. 27, 1918.

Several days ago I received a letter from mother dated July 8th, in which she stated that you would be much pleased to receive some word from me. I assure you that it gives me as much pleasure to know that my old friends in Bellefonte have not forgotten me, as I hope you will derive when you receive this letter.

I always look back upon the days I lived in Bellefonte as among the happiest in my life. The town, during the summer having a wonderful climate, with the rows upon rows of shade trees in full leaf, leaving upon me many pleasant memories. And then the sports in winter, especially the good coasting made possible by the hills among which the town nestles. And then, the big spring. Well do I remember how, with the first roll of film, when I received a camera for a birthday present, I took a picture of the spring from the window of the little bicycle shop just across the street.

I still have that negative at home. I have looked at it many times and thought of what it stood for; from the purity of its depths it gave rise to a busy commonwealth at the center of a central State of the original thirteen sparsely populated States. How history has progressed from the time our forefathers gave their life's blood to erect a form of government that recognized the equality of man.

How that country they founded was torn by internal strife and saved through the efforts of that great and good man, Abraham Lincoln. Bellefonte is proud to remember that it gave freely in those times. A great Governor and good aid to the President, not to mention the hundreds of men who left their wives and mothers, sweethearts and sisters and gave their all to the support of the government their fathers had fought to establish, was what Bellefonte offered.

The town has grown and prospered and I know they now are giving just as freely of their young manhood. That they are opening the pocketbook so that their boys may be the best equipped, best taken care of soldiers in the world. Many men, better fitted to present facts, have written articles and made speeches upon the necessity for but one result. To achieve that result every effort and every sacrifice is being made. Nothing that one can do will be overlooked. The more that is done at present, so much the sooner will the young men of our country finish this contender for militarism as against the principles of the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Our cause is just and God will help us crush the Hun. Let us all do our best, and God will help us do our bit.

You have read much of what America is doing in France to support their soldiers on the front and I cannot add to that. You have read stories by many authors, American, British, Canadian and French, of real action. You have imagined horrors which in the imagination are worse by far than the reality. Perhaps I could add to those stories, were I allowed to write. I may say, that as yet, I have never read a story that gives the impression of war that I have received. Every one sees it differently, and a writer can picture a thing only as it appears to him. True enough, the mud is there, the irresistible humor of our boys is there; so are the Huns and the shells and the gas and the guns, but, like everything else; you must be there in person to get all of its sensations. The power is not given to me to describe it successfully. Enough, that our people at home know that an American can fight and will, every time he gets a chance.

And, oh, how good a letter makes one feel, especially if one has not heard for some time. You drop everything else to open it. And then you re-read it ever so often till the next one comes.

You ought to hear them learning French and trying to translate for someone who doesn't understand quite so much.

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mrs. J. B. Kelly, of Crosby, 70 years old, a member of one of the pioneer families of McKean county, fell from her veranda last week, while watering plants, and broke her neck. The distance was four feet. She was dead when picked up by her husband. —Edgar S. Richardson, a Reading attorney, who has three brothers in the American armies in France, saw in a local picture theatre a film depicting a row of tanks captured from the Huns. On one of the tanks was written the name of his brother, Charles Richardson. —Wolf & Punchios, lumbermen, of Curwensville, Clearfield county, who are cutting the tract of virgin pine on the Joseph Magill farm in Clover township, Jefferson county, cut a tree recently that had a diameter, breast high, of thirteen and one-half feet and scaled 9127 feet, board measure. Eight trees on the tract scaled 50-, 231 feet, board measure. —To provide power for the Milton Manufacturing company at Milton, the War Department has authorized the construction of a 4000-kilowatt electric plant, with all necessary equipment to cost \$350,000. The company eventually will take over the new plant, paying for it by deducting a part of the price on each shell. —Creditors of the Wellsboro Glass company, of Wellsboro, filed a petition in the United States court at Scranton on Monday, asking that the company be declared bankrupt. It is alleged the company owes the petitioning creditors over \$10,000 and that it permitted other creditors to secure judgments upon which the sheriff of Tioga county sold all the assets on August 2 last. —Unable to erect new buildings because of wartime conditions, the Hazleton school board is being forced to reopen long abandoned structures to accommodate the constantly growing army of children. The High school staff is short three instructors. Rev. J. H. Kindt, pastor of the Salem Evangelical church, in his younger days a High school teacher in the west, has been pressed into the service. —Several more persons have been quarantined for infantile paralysis in Franklin county recently in the epidemic by which that county was hit more than a month ago. An unusual incident was reported when it was found that four children in the home of Douglass Alleman, near Chambersburg, were stricken with the disease. One case that has been reported is that of a Waynesboro boy who is 17 years of age. —More than 1,800 acres of coal land and limestone land in Big Beaver township, Lawrence county, valued at approximately \$175,000, is included in a purchase made by the Crescent Portland Cement company of Wampum. The properties include the holdings of the Beaver Coal and Coke company, Wampum Coal company, Mehard-Dinsmore interests and that of Matthew Tanton. The new owners plan to increase the production and employ many additional men. —Michael Patrick, aged 28, of Uniontown, was shot and wounded probably fatally, at a carnival near Edinboro Saturday night. He received a bullet in the abdomen and one in the stomach, and was removed to the Uniontown hospital. Patrick told hospital physicians that two male employees of the carnival had quarreled over a woman member of the company. One of the men fired when the other drew a revolver. Two shots were fired into a crowd of persons standing nearby and Patrick fell wounded. —Mrs. Sarah K. Fry, of Harrisburg, widow of Edwin H. Fry, who was killed July 18 when he was thrown from a wagon as he was driving in Middletown, has brought suit against the Harrisburg Railways company for \$25,000 damages. Fry was in the wagon at the time of the accident and it is alleged it was struck by a car of the railways company which was loaded with rails to be used in relaying a section of the track. Mrs. Fry claims that as a result of the death of her husband there are five children and herself without support. —John Bodner, convicted wife slayer, of Erie, who was awaiting definite announcement as to the date he was to be executed, died in Hamot hospital at Erie on Saturday as a result of self-inflicted injuries in jail. He jumped from the fourth tier of cells to the concrete floor below, sustaining internal injuries, a broken arm and a deep scalp wound. Bodner first overpowered an aged guard lodged him in the cell and then started to climb over the steel tiers. However, he encountered a second guard and jumped to the concrete floor 35 feet below. Bodner is the man who was brought to the death house as soon as sentenced but had to be taken back to Erie by the sheriff of that county. —Forty-four men who live in the vicinity of Hyde City, Clearfield county, gathered on Sunday afternoon at the little farm of Emanuel Schonevalder and without asking permission of anybody walked into a five-acre field of corn and cut and shocked the crop in about three hours. They did a good job of it. Mr. Schonevalder's only son is with the American expeditionary forces in France and the old gentleman has been laid up for the last two months with blood poisoning in his hand. A short time ago other neighbors cut his oats and placed it in the barn. The movement was headed by Milo Lawhead and Sawyer Carr, and there were about a dozen citizens of Clearfield town in the action. —The activities of the Law and Order League of DuBois, headed by the Rev. John Calvin Allen Borland, pastor of the DuBois First Methodist Episcopal church, have resulted in suits and countersuits before DuBois aldermen until the prospects are bright that things will terminate in the Clearfield county courts. Leaders of the league have brought suits against a number of men supposed to have been implicated in the attempt to duck the Rev. Mr. Borland in the Sandy township watering trough, and four of them have been held in bail for court. Those held are William Haley, William McDonald, George Helburn and James Alexander. The Sandy township people in turn have been watching closely the manner in which the Rev. Borland has been driving his automobile, and when the person was arrested by Constable Mike Divine (the Rev. Mr. Borland) mailed a check for \$14 to pay for fine and costs for passing a street car while taking on passengers. There are still hearings scheduled for the widow Alexander, who has been selling ice cream on Sundays, but the big show is expected to take place at Clearfield when the Sandy township men are tried for disorderly conduct for being implicated in the ducking party.