

INK SLINGS.

—Only twenty-six days until Christmas. Do your shopping now.

—Maybe next Thanksgiving turkey will come down to the point where a modest income can do business with it.

—About all the Kaiser had to be thankful for yesterday was that none of the allies have gotten their clutches on him yet.

—The flu is abating in nearly all parts of the county. Bellefonte is beginning to recover from its second visitation of the epidemic.

—Better gasoline is promised soon and lots of worn out old motors will be robbed of an over worked excuse for not performing better.

—President Wilson will have the dinner in Paris that both Hindenburg and the Kaiser so bombastically declared they were going to have.

—Contractor Taylor has been a long time at it, but the opinion of men who know is to the effect that he is making a splendid job of paving Water street.

—Don't advertise the fact that you feasted on turkey yesterday. The price of the bird might excite the income tax man to imagining that you are richer than you are.

—After reading the list of goodies that were found in the Kaiser's pantry after he fled Germany we do not wonder that his offerings were always referred to as the Kaiser's six fat sons.

—Centre county is over the top in the United War Work campaign and its good record must not be marred by failure in our W. S. S. purchases. Let us wind up our war subscriptions with a boom in war savings stamps.

—Secretary McAdoo certainly started something when he resigned because he couldn't live in Washington on his salary. Every place holder in the Capitol is using it as a jimmy for an increase but few of them are resigning.

—This time last year we were all worrying about whether the steam heat company was going to get an expected car of coal in order to keep us warm over Sunday; so you see we really are one worry better off this year than we were last.

—If national baseball wants to go onto a one man basis merely because it can't otherwise control Ban Johnson why not select Roosevelt instead of Taft. Roosevelt can bully anybody, besides he hasn't the dignity of a Taft to be traduced.

—23,000 men are to be sent home from Camp Dix at once and as practically all of our soldiers who have been training in England are to be home before Christmas there will be many happy reunions in this country before and during the holidays.

—William Howard Taft would give character to the national game if he were to accept the offer of membership as the one man on a new national baseball commission, but what would such an act do to the traditional dignity of the occupations of our ex-Presidents.

—Madame Roseka Schwimmer is to represent the new Hungarian government in Switzerland. Madame Schwimmer having been the dame who made most of the trouble on Henry Ford's peace ship we are forced to the conclusion that Hungary isn't exactly ready to settle down and be good.

—In the last analysis history will proclaim Mr. McAdoo's greatest service to his country as being the revision of our banking system through the inauguration of the Federal Reserve. His management of the Liberty bond issues and of the federated railroads have been more spectacular, more gigantic but it is doubtful if they could have been the notable successes they have been had not the Federal Reserve been established to absorb the shocks they otherwise would have been to our financial system.

—President Wilson and his party are to sail for France on the George Washington on December 3rd. It will be escorted by the battleship Pennsylvania and two new destroyers. It will be a history making trip, since it will be the first time an American President has ever crossed the Atlantic while in office and the entire country will join in the hope that it will be made in safety and fraught with great pleasure for the man who has borne the greatest burden of the war. We trust that there will be no militant stowaways to bob up out of the hold and start picketing the gangways when the boat gets fairly out to sea.

—Mr. Gates, the dean of the "Watchman's" reportorial staff, has won a three dollar prize offered by the DuBois Daily Express for the best answer to its question: "What would you do with the Kaiser?" We made this discovery only by chance on Wednesday evening, because Mr. Gates' modesty is one of his greatest virtues, and after congratulating him on his very splendid answer to "What would you do with the Kaiser?" we asked him what he would do with the three dollars. It was a very ill-timed question, for the first prize winner, being also an honest man, was compelled to admit that the DuBois mazzama is overdue about two weeks and even if it does come now it will mean nothing net to him as he has worn out its equivalent in shoe soles running to the postoffice to meet it ever since the announcement of his success was made.

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Germany Must Not Starve.

The question of supplying food to Germany is one of the unpleasant incidents of our victory. German greed for wealth and lust for power brought on the war and cost the world more than will be earned in a century. German cruelty and brutality caused more anguish in four years than the barbarism of all time. But information comes from Germany that there is "pressing danger of famine" there and we learn from other sources that unless food is supplied there is danger of the entire empire degenerating into a state of anarchy. It isn't possible for a christian people to stand out against such representations of fact and unwilling as we are there is no escape from the demand for food.

It is conservatively estimated that there are 220,000,000 of our allies mainly if not entirely dependent upon this country for food. It is added that Serbia, Albania, Macedonia, Roumania, Poland, Armenia, Syria and Arabia are face to face "with famine conditions." These are people who either actively or passively helped us in the war and as an esteemed contemporary puts it "before we can feed our foes we must feed the victims of our foes." France and Belgium are not yet able to stand alone either and more than two millions of our own people are in foreign camps and cantonments to be taken care of as becomes the bravest and best. Then there is Russia as helpless as a babe.

Hunger immersed Russia in Bolshevism. Hunger drives the wisest into madness. If we don't feed Germany now we may have to first rescue her from that greater evil and feed her afterward. This is one of the problems of the war that remains to be solved. Possibly the wise men who will soon assemble in the peace conference will give the answer but in any event the great burden will come upon the people of the United States who must now set themselves to bear it. To this end conservation is the first essential and greater production a good second. It is up to us to meet both of these requirements of the times and if we set ourselves to it Germany and the rest of the world may be fed.

—When Jack Pershing makes a review of the work of the Republican leaders during the war he is not likely to offer himself as a catspaw to draw chestnuts out of the fire for them after the war is over.

Taft as a Baseball Magnate.

The lovers of baseball, and their name is legion, will be gratified if not inspired to learn that former President William H. Taft is likely to become a "magnate." Some years ago when internal dissensions threatened to wreck the baseball organization former Governor Tener, of Pennsylvania, was induced to become president of one of the major leagues and his eminence in the political and business world so impressed the other magnates that the differences disappeared or were forgotten and the game was preserved as it deserved to be. But a Governor wasn't big enough to keep Ban Johnson in subjection for long. He soon got "chesty" and jumped the traces.

The war was hard on baseball and as the stars of the diamond were taken by the government to adorn the trenches popular interest in the performances of the "has beens" waned and Governor Tener wearied of Ban's bullying and retired from the field. This was really "the blow that killed father" and the funeral was only delayed by the energetic work of Generals Pershing and Foch who urged their hard hitters to move against the enemy in France and Flanders when hope of revival dawned on the diamond. But even these promising signs of future prosperity failed to suppress Ban and the other magnates called upon Mr. Taft to shed the sunshine of his perpetual smile across the field.

We are not in the habit of rejoicing at the misfortunes of others and since the experience and snug salary of Mr. Tener at the head of one of the Leagues can hardly be said that the offer of head of one of the principal organizations is a misfortune. Moreover, since Mr. Taft has debased himself into the character of an echo for Theodore Roosevelt it is not certain that electing him to the head of a reputable baseball organization is in any sense a degradation. Taft is no longer entitled to the consideration usually belonging to former Presidents.

—The present location of the late Kaiser may be involved in doubt but his ultimate destination is fixed and he won't need an overcoat.

—Only the Republicans are worrying for fear the Democrats will be without a leader when the term of President Wilson expires.

—And it may be remarked that William Hohenzollern never had a job before that so completely fitted his capacities.

Brumbaugh the Historian.

The selection of Governor Brumbaugh as the Pennsylvania historian of the war, indicates a complete reconciliation among the Republican factions of the State. It also explains the tardiness of the Governor in filling several important vacancies in the public service that have been long expected. In other words it implies that the factionists have arrived at an understanding under which Mr. Brumbaugh gets a ten thousand dollar job for an indefinite period, as long as the money lasts, and Mr. Sproul will fill the vacancies, including a successor on the Superior court bench caused by the promotion of Judge Kephart to the Supreme bench.

These distinguished gentlemen have been saying some hard things about each other during the last three years. It was Governor Sproul who introduced the resolution during the session of 1915 to investigate Governor Brumbaugh which developed the fact that he had made a false return of his campaign expenses and paid for pressing his pants out of public funds. On the other hand during the primary campaign this year Mr. Brumbaugh said some impolite things about Sproul. But the cohesive force of public patronage is potent and the yarnings for soft snaps intense so that it is not surprising that so eligible an opportunity to deal brought these patriots together.

Of course such an understanding if carried to its logical conclusion will be rather tough on the Vares for it may be safely presumed that the patronage transferred by Brumbaugh to Sproul will be converted into party currency for the use of Penrose, whereas the Vares felt that they had a first mortgage on it. Among the appointments to be made under the agreement is a municipal court judge in Philadelphia and other places equally attractive and if these morsels of patronage are taken from the Vares and the government of the city rescued from their control they will be left helpless indeed. But these are the chances of politics.

—And he gave it as his opinion, that whoever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of politicians put together.—Jonathan Swift.

Mr. McAdoo's Resignation.

The surprise in the case of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo is not that he has resigned at the close of the war but that he continued in office after the expiration of President Wilson's first term of office. When he entered upon the duties of the office in 1913 there was urgent need for just such a man. Our financial system was archaic and the currency system mischievous. Mr. McAdoo brought both out of confusion and leaves us with the best the world has ever known. He served from the beginning at great personal sacrifice. If he had withdrawn at the end of his first term, these great reforms having been then achieved, there would have been no just cause of complaint.

When he entered upon his second term at the invitation of the President our entrance into the war was inevitable and impending. No doubt a sense of patriotic duty influenced him to accept the responsibility and continue his sacrifice. Vast sums of money were required to finance our military operations and probably no man in the country was as fit for the service. He managed the four campaigns for loans, an Herculean task, and outlined the necessary legislation to provide the additional revenues needed. Having fulfilled these obligations to the country he now looks to his personal interests and the necessities of his family as he has a right to do and should do.

We have no sympathy with the speculations which are being freely indulged as to reasons for his action other than those expressed in his letter to the President. He has a vast earning capacity and the compensation provided by law for the services he has performed is utterly inadequate. In the beginning of this service the honor it bestowed was compensatory in a measure so long as his resources permitted him to indulge ambition. After our entrance into the war patriotism kept him at his tasks notwithstanding the sacrifices. But now that the great victory has been achieved and his great work is completed he has a right to ask for release to turn his attention to more lucrative work.

—There is likely to be an animated dispute as to the political predictions of General Pershing in the near future but it won't go far. Pershing is too good a soldier to be made the sport of politicians.

—Those who achieved so much over there will soon be accomplishing things over here and whether here or there they are and will be for all time the heroes of the American heart, bless them.

Republican Love for Soldiers.

The esteem in which the soldiers of the country are held by the average Republican politician is revealed in a recent action of the Republican thronatory of Luzerne county. The soldier vote gave a majority to John J. Casey, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Luzerne county district against his Republican opponent and the prothonotary of the county refuses to accept the return. The vote of the soldiers of the State, taken at great expense, made no difference in the result in other districts. But in Luzerne county it reversed the result of the home vote and gives Casey a majority of eighty-eight votes. Without it his opponent has a majority of twelve votes.

The law authorizing the taking of the soldiers' votes in camp was enacted in 1863 for the purpose of influencing the Presidential election of the following year. It wasn't needed then for President Lincoln's re-election was secured on the home vote. But it was put in operation again during the Spanish-American war for the reason that it afforded a bit of graft to some lame duck politicians. Two years ago when the National Guard was mobilized on the Mexican border the vote was taken and manipulated so that it was returned almost unanimously for Republican candidates. This year the soldiers exercised their right more independently and intelligently and in the case of Luzerne county it changed the result and gave Mr. Casey a majority.

But the Republican machine would not stand for that. The law never was intended to elect Democrats. For more than half a century it was held as a tribute of Republican affection for soldiers in the field because it didn't impair Republican interests while it did to some extent flatter soldiers into the belief that their privileges were preserved and their rights protected. But on the very first occasion that the camp vote disappointed the Republican machine a Republican official turns up to deny the right of the soldiers to vote and the candidate whose success was the result of the exercise of the soldier franchise will be compelled to go into court to prove their right to vote.

—If those Ohio opportunists persist in pressing Pershing they will get themselves disliked at Oyster Bay.

Only One Christmas Package for Each Soldier.

Only one package will be allowed to each American soldier now in service overseas. Each soldier is being provided with a coupon containing his name and address which he will mail direct to the relative or friend he selects as forwarder of his Christmas package. No other person can ship a Christmas package.

The relative or friend receiving this label must present it at the nearest chapter, branch or auxiliary headquarters of the Red Cross, where a pasteboard box, 3 by 4 by 9 inches in size will be supplied. This box must be used for shipping the Christmas articles, which should not weigh complete more than two pounds, fifteen ounces.

When the box is packed, it should be taken unwrapped and unsealed to the nearest collection center indicated by the Red Cross, together with the addressed label forwarded by the soldier, and sufficient stamps to carry it by parcel post to Hoboken, N. J. It is there inspected, wrapped in the label and stamps attached. The complete package must not weigh more than three pounds.

No Christmas package will be accepted for shipment after December 1st.

Do not try to send intoxicating liquors, inflammable materials—including matches or cigarette lighters, or liquids. And do not attempt to enclose a written message. Remember, all packages will be inspected before being wrapped, and prohibited articles will not be passed. Dried fruits, hard candy, fruit cake and other edibles which will keep should be packed in small tin or wooden boxes before being placed in the Christmas package. Do not enclose any articles packed in glass. Gifts should be wrapped in khaki colored handkerchiefs, 27 inches square. Should several relatives or friends of the same soldier desire to ship Christmas articles, they must pool their gifts and forward them in the one box, as only one package will be allowed, as above specified.

—The trout spawning season is about over and the dozens of big trout that utilized the sand bottom of Spring creek, opposite the "Watchman" office, as spawning beds during the past month have mostly gone down stream into deeper water. Of course, there are still many trout to be seen between the bridge and the falls, especially the deep water just below the falls, but the biggest attractions have gone down to the lime-kiln dam.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

The Ishmaels of the Sea.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The tragedy of the German Navy is this—not that it has met with defeat, but that it has been marked for all time with dishonor. Seamen, chivalrous by nature, are always generous to a fallen enemy. In the early days of the war, before the submarine murders had made German seamen Ishmaels among their fellows, an action like that between the Sydney and the Emden left the one-time foes on the best of terms. The British did everything possible for the comfort of their German prisoners, and Captain Glosop and Captain von Mueller plotted out together the plan of the famous surrender. Now, when the German fleet surrenders to the Allies, the traditional good feeling has gone. Admiral Beatty warns his men that their relations with the Germans must be "strictly of a formal character." No international compliments, no conversation that does not pertain to the business in hand, "courtesy is obligatory," but "the methods by which they waged war must not be forgotten." If it is necessary to provide food, they must be served apart; "entertainment" of the customary kind is forbidden. Justice they shall have, but no more—the justice pirates deserve.

This rebuke to a service fallen to such low estate is the more scathing by reason of its restraint. "Courtesy is obligatory." That is the fine tradition of the naval man. The Germans are not to be hooted and jeered; they are not to be made to suffer physical discomfort or hardship. Whatever has to be done for them will be done. But if they have any remnant of decent feeling left the cold contempt visited upon them will hurt far more than a marked demonstration of hostility. They have surrendered in a sullen mood, we are told, a little apprehensive in some cases of the treatment they are to receive. It is said that Admiral Beatty sent a note to Admiral Meurer asking that his men be not ill-treated, and that Admiral Beatty tore up the note with the remark, "They are in England." The rebuke to a navy that has shown no compunction even to women and children could not have been neater or more crushing. England does not make war in that way. But Englishmen, and all the others who have suffered from German brutality, will not forgive.

Capable and Efficient.

From the Williamsport Sun.

Official Washington loses one of its most capable and efficient citizens in the resignation of William G. McAdoo from the President's cabinet. The country came to know McAdoo, possibly best as the director general of railroads in which capacity he was compelled at times to do things which made the public gasp. For the most part this feeling soon turned to wonder and eventually into a spirit of commendation. McAdoo was compelled to do many things contrary to custom. He stepped on the toes of a number of people but he acted, wisely or otherwise, as he thought best to secure what he had in mind and that was to accomplish things. It is true that he started upheavals, but it is not likely that many men in the United States could have reached many more destinations by cutting across lots with less disturbance than McAdoo did. He exhibited unusual efficiency and capability in taking a multitude of separate railroad lines and molding them into one smoothly running organization. But if we look upon him as a genius, his successor must be no less skilled and proficient as it will likely devolve upon the man who follows McAdoo to untangle the single railroad organization, to separate the whole skein and hand back to their former owners each individual strand. The man who succeeds him, therefore, will face no less a task of magnitude than did the director general at the time the government took over the country's railroads.

The Troops That Stay.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Semi-official estimates at Washington fix the number of American troops who will remain abroad as the army of occupation in the Rhine provinces at 1,200,000. This means that about one out of every three of our boys can come home.

Even these cannot be moved immediately. The problem of transporting them overseas is a stupendous one, as British ships will not be available for that purpose in the same numbers as before, if they are available at all. Yet another problem is that of land transport. France will need every mile of railroad track and every unit of rolling stock she can muster not only for the work of reconstruction which is to be begun immediately, but for the ordinary distribution of fuel and supplies against the coming winter. Railroad facilities for the American home-going troops are therefore certain to be greatly curtailed. Many months are to pass before large numbers of our boys come home. The homecoming of the troops in stations and cantonments on this side of the Atlantic is, however, certain to take place soon.

The troops remaining in Europe will stay for an indefinite time. The peace conference must determine the necessity for keeping them there as well as the hour of their return. And it is not likely that they will be moved until a general peace has been signed. In the meantime they will have the advantage of convenient quarters, light duties and every comfort which an indulgent and paternal government can afford them.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—When the undertaker assumed charge of the body of Frank Marturkevitch, a West Hazleton saloon-keeper, who died of influenza after one day's illness, he found \$1300 in a money belt around Marturkevitch, who had little faith in banks.

—Rebecca Smedley, 80 years old, a minister in the Orthodox Society of Friends, died in Media, after a short illness. She was widely known among Friends throughout Pennsylvania, and had appeared for more than a half century as a minister at Friends' meetings.

—Governor Brumbaugh has fixed the week of December 9 as the time for election of Lazar Zec, Beaver, and Luther Knox, Armstrong. The State Board of Pardons refused to recommend clemency for Zec. The week of December 22 was fixed for the executions of William McMiller and Samuel Garner, Lancaster.

—The Pennsylvania railroad company has purchased the Commercial hotel property at Oil City. The hotel was built in the early '90's by Andrew Christie, and was used for hotel purposes until Venango county went dry a few years ago. The first floor of the hotel will be devoted to offices and a reading room, while the remainder of the structure will be for the use of the trainmen.

—Judge Thomas J. Baldrige, of Blair county, revoked the license to sell liquor issued to Edward Winwood for the Bell House, Bellwood. At a recent term of court Winwood and his bartender, Jerry Sullivan, were convicted on the charge of selling liquor to persons of known intemperate habits. Winwood was fined \$200 and Sullivan \$100. Sullivan at one time was a mixologist in Bellefonte.

—The Eastern State hospital for the insane which was authorized by the last session of the State Legislature, has been located at Selingsgrove, Snyder county, by the State Board of Charities. Dr. Charles T. Alkens, president of Susquehanna University, is chairman of the committee to select the site. \$1,000,000 was appropriated for the site and the construction of the buildings may be consummated within the next ten years.

—Slowly strangling to death as the result of a piece of meat lodging in his throat while partaking of his noon-day meal, Harry Killinger, of Palmyra, Pa., was rushed by automobile a distance of nine miles to the Lebanon hospital, where the meat was dislodged and Killinger's life saved by the narrowest margin. It was disclosed that Killinger, having no teeth, had sought to swallow the piece of meat in an unassisted condition.

—Among "conscientious objectors" to staying in the army, few have anything on Lewis Holiday, of Wellsboro. He was inducted into the service and sent to camp in April. He deserted in August and was found working at Painted Post. He was lodged in the Wellsboro jail, from which he made his escape by digging through the wall with a knife. His wife is alleged to have given him, thence, tying his bed clothes together, he slid down twenty feet to the ground. He was recaptured and returned to Camp Meade, from which the Wellsboro draft board has received notice that he disappeared November 8. Likely Lewis is just home for Thanksgiving.

—Edward A. Moore, a Parkersburg general who was taken to the Lancaster general hospital in an insane condition after he counted his wealth in a humble home in Parkersburg, died in that institution Sunday night. After Moore was taken away, some friends searched his abode and found so much specie and currency that it was carried to the bank in a clothes basket. The money was estimated at \$35,000, although it has not been counted yet. Charles Her, of Philadelphia, a nephew, and relatives from Morton, Delaware county, were at Moore's bedside when he expired. The nephew will likely receive letters of administration and receive the money and considerable real estate.

—Twice pronounced dead and wrapped up in a blanket to be carried out for burial, in France, Lieutenant John E. Wright came through alive and is now on his road to recovery. At present he is visiting friends in the vicinity of his home near Pennsville, Pa. Lieutenant Wright was shot through the lungs by a machine gun bullet and was left alone, lying in mud and water, for fourteen hours where he fell as he started over the top. Although despairing of his life, surgeons removed the bullet, which had lodged in his right shoulder blade, and the officer soon began to improve. He was invalided home, arriving on November 12. He is still very weak as the result of his experience.

—James W. Walbridge, of Towanda, wealthy and eccentric, who some months ago achieved national-wide prominence by a \$200 funeral given a pet dog, is again springing into local prominence through a victory in a long-fought case against the W. J. Bailey estate. Two years ago Walbridge started a suit against the estate, when the executor refused payment on a \$10,000 note left to "Jim" by the deceased man. The case was argued last week after a two weeks' session, when the jury awarded the plaintiff a verdict of \$9,095.95. The money was given Walbridge on his record of having cared for the deceased man for a period of twenty-five years. The money is to be expended for a long-needed local hospital, according to Walbridge's statement.

—Haggard and unkempt, Ira S. Bassett, "millionaire evangelist," was arraigned before Magistrate J. J. Sweeney, in Pittsburgh, on Monday afternoon to answer to a charge of feloniously concealing his assets. At the conclusion of the hearing Bassett was held in default of \$15,000 bail. On a second charge of conspiracy to defraud, Bassett was held in \$20,000 more, and three alleged partners and agents, A. Frazier Beggate, Fred Watkinson and Samuel H. Davis, were held under \$10,000 bonds. For a time after he was arrested the alleged "blind pool operator" who is said to have juggled millions of other people's money in loans on carload freight shipments, for which he promised and often paid unusual profits to the investors, was confined in the lunacy ward of a hospital.

—The block station on the Pennsylvania railroad recently emptied, was the scene Saturday night of a terrific struggle between Mrs. Ivadell Zwald, the telephone block operator, and an unknown negro assailant, who was finally beaten off by the terrified woman and escaped. While Mrs. Zwald was out alongside the track front of the block station engaged in gathering up train order books, she was suddenly attacked by the negro. In the struggle that ensued, Mrs. Zwald was cut over one eye and her face and neck were badly scratched. Her injuries were not serious, but she was in a very nervous condition, and after being attended by Dr. Bush, of Emporium, the company surgeon, was sent to her home at Howard. The police were notified, but so far, the negro has not been apprehended.