

INK SLINGS.

Talking about reversion to type; in six months the town pump will come into its own again.

Europe will starve while Congress debates the question as to whether it should be fed and who should feed it.

If Governor Sproul's administration proves as perfect as was his inaugural day Pennsylvania will be the best governed State in the Union.

If every fog we have had thus far in January is to bring a frost in May we may well then sing with feeling that "December's as pleasant as May."

It's lovely weather we've been having, of course, but what a howl will go up about it should be found that it is forcing buds ahead to be killed by later freezing weather.

Governor Sproul advocated some splendid reforms in his inaugural and we look forward with hope to the day when the Legislature will provide the enabling legislation to put them into practice.

In less than a month the spring farm sales will begin in the county. And the high cost of buying isn't going to worry any of the bidders who expect to do the paying with a slow note.

Think it over hard; this thing of making the local "Y" what it ought to be or closing it entirely. The drive will be on in ten days and it needs the co-operation of every man, woman and child in Bellefonte.

If feeding the world will pacify it and since we have the food to spare, would it not be better to do it this way at once than to later have to sacrifice thousands more precious lives in doing it with the bayonet.

Even the Governor of such a Gibraltar of Republicanism as Pennsylvania sees some good in the taxing of incomes. In fact he has suggested that the new Legislature look to this method as a means to raising necessary revenues for the Commonwealth.

All honor and more power to the judges of the courts of this country who are imposing severe penalties on those who ridicule our soldiers and sailors and public officials. It is Bolshevism ready to break out at the first opportunity and our courts do well to place it where it can't break out.

Probably it can be viewed as a hopeful sign that there was general fighting throughout Germany on the first election day. She seems quick to adapt the methods of the country she baited into the war and may be paying a delicate compliment to Philadelphia by the manner in which she pulls off elections.

Which man has done most for humanity? Senator Penrose or Herbert Hoover? Their works will find them out and it is probably quite within the realm of truth to say that today thousands of persons can name the name of Hoover blessed to everyone who recalls a benefaction at the hands of the carping Pennsylvania politician.

Let it be forgotten let us remind you that of all the eminent men of his time William Jennings Bryan was foremost in his advocacy of Prohibition. It has come, but Mr. Bryan is credited with none of the glory of the victory. Many men start things they cannot finish. He was first among the country's great men to advocate an income tax. His was the first public proposal to elect United States Senators by popular vote and did he not suggest the idea of a League of Nations when he proposed an international police force with which to keep recalcitrant peoples from going to war. Thus we see "Bryan's heresies" of earlier days become the panaceas of today and the man, himself, almost forgotten.

With a dry United States growing daily nearer a reality the temperance folks are beginning to consider many phases of the situation that have not heretofore impressed themselves seriously on them. The barroom and the cheap cafe have long been the poor man's club and it is generally admitted that some substitute must be found for it, but will any substitute without the opportunity to serve a stimulating drink prove satisfactory. To this end there is already begun a hunt for a beverage that will be exhilarating without being intoxicating. If this should be concocted probably social centres for the poor man of the city tenements can still have something that will lure him and cater to his longing for the companionship of his fellows without sending him back to his family in a state of intoxication.

Governor Sproul's suggestion that we have "a better and more up-to-date school organization" can only be realized when Pennsylvania does what many of her western sisters have already done; that is, organize all of the State's agencies for public education into one system made up of The Pennsylvania State College, the Normal schools and the common schools and provide funds for their proper maintenance and development without making it necessary for them to biennially appear at Harrisburg as beggars for the wherewithal to keep their work going. If the Legislature of Pennsylvania wants to keep the schools out of politics it should, once and for all, withdraw its support from private and semi-private institutions and set aside an ample fund for the uninterrupted support and growth of the public institutions and organize them so they operate from primary to collegiate work as one system.

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Governor Sproul's Inaugural.

Governor Sproul's first public expression of purposes and policies will make a favorable impression upon popular opinion. At the outset of his inaugural address he admonishes against the menace of Bolshevism. He recognizes the urgent need of a new constitution but recommends a postponement of action and he reveals a settled purpose to take care of the soldiers returning from the war. He is fully alive to the financial problems which will be encountered in the near future and wisely commends the principle expressed in the income tax. He regards education as a "great and pressing problem" and justly estimates generous recompense of teachers as important in the solution of it.

It is to be regretted that there is an undercurrent of prejudice against the federal government running through this otherwise admirable paper from start to finish. Possibly it is the federal administration rather than the government against which his insinuations are directed, however. "The government at Washington must be alert," he says, "in protecting us against an invasion through our ports of those who would seek to destroy this nation." The government at Washington has not been remiss on that point in recent years, so far as the records show. In another paragraph he adds: "It was never intended that the political power of the executive should be used to control legislation." * * * the exercise of such power in the State or nation is dangerous," which sounds like an extract from a Penrose speech in the Senate.

In reference to financial problems he reproaches the federal government for "encroaching so deeply into fields hitherto reserved for State revenues" and adds that "last year this State contributed in federal taxes almost six hundred million dollars." * * * But with our share so large in national undertakings, we may be pardoned in having a care that our funds contributed without stint to the federal purse should not be wasted in incompetent administration nor scattered over the world in chimerical enterprises without practical purposes. Obviously this is a thrust at the philanthropic operations in which the federal government has recently indulged or held in contemplation. Benevolence is all right in its way but it makes a vast difference "whose ox is gored." Like the Republicans in Washington those in Harrisburg want a hand in dispensing charities.

But the Governor ascends to his own proper level in reference to the prohibition amendment and female suffrage. He stood pledged to the dry amendment and his "hope that prompt affirmative action may be taken by the Legislature that Pennsylvania may not be out of line with the practically unanimous sentiment of the State in the greatest and most far reaching self-disciplinary measure ever taken by any nation in all history," is an honorable fulfillment of a moral obligation. He rings equally true on the suffrage question. "The wonderful devotion, super efficiency and noble patriotism of the women of Pennsylvania should bring them prompt recognition of their claim for and inherent right to full citizenship." So say we, all of us.

Last year at this time we were eating victory bread and biscuit made out of breakfast food. Sugar was measured out in stated quantities and no one knew one week where they would get the coal to keep them warm the next. We had two feet of snow with zero weather almost every day and on top of it all in the deepest throes of the world war. But how different things are today.

Many a man was against suffrage because he was fearful that it would bring total prohibition in its wake. We are of the opinion, therefore, that suffrage is stronger today than it was before the amendment was ratified. In other words a lot of tipplers who fought the proposal before will say: I don't care what becomes of it now.

Really we can see no reason to worry because some parts of the peace conference proceedings will be withheld from the public. When the work is completed the public will have a chance to find out all.

They call him "lucky" Sproul. But according to the information of common report there is something more than luck in his prosperity. There is a good deal of merit in his make-up.

As a matter of fact it makes no difference whether General Pershing is a Democrat or a Republican so long as he remains a soldier and he shows no inclination to relinquish his job.

So long as the Hun agitators keep on killing each other there can be little cause of complaint. They are not much use to the world alive. It's when they are killing others that the kick is coming.

Brumbaugh's Administration.

The administration of Governor Brumbaugh which ended at noon on Tuesday was in some respects eventful. It was more than usually full in political enterprise and activity and somewhat unfortunate from its beginning. The claim of ownership set up by the Vares immediately after his election was supported by the appointment of Francis Shunk Brown to the office of Attorney General and created a friction in the party which was never removed. The Olivers, of Pittsburgh, aligning themselves with Brumbaugh declared war and inaugurated a barrage of scandal that has never entirely subsided. The Governor's absurd ambition to become the party candidate for President augmented the trouble.

Notwithstanding these drawbacks the four years of Governor Brumbaugh's tenure of the office was a period of considerable achievement. During the two sessions of the Legislature 870 laws were placed on the statute books, exclusive of appropriations and a considerable number of bills passed were vetoed. The appropriations made during the period amounted to the vast total of \$149,757,304.65, and the disbursement of this sum in conformity with law was an herculean task. Being a school man legislation along educational lines predominated and the creation of an efficient system of vocational schools was probably the crowning service of his term. In that work he was really in earnest.

As this was his crowning achievement his attempt to build up a personal party leadership was his principal blunder. This folly led to the most preposterous abuse of the appointing power and the blunder of Shunk Brown was supplemented by many others equally disastrous to his purpose of organizing a political dynasty. Men were chosen and commissioned to service for which they were entirely unfit and others were dismissed not for the good of the service but for the advantage of selfishness. It could hardly be expected that such practices would be popular and the surprise is that in his retirement to private life Martin G. Brumbaugh has as many devoted friends as he has.

The proverbial "man on horseback" has been identified. He is James R. Mann, Chicago Congressman and candidate for Speaker of the House, and the horse was presented to him by the Meat trust for valuable services rendered.

The Peace Congress in Session.

The Peace Conference is now in progress and the signs point to a harmonious session and comparatively speedy conclusion. The Vienna Congress held a trifle more than a hundred years ago, the only analogous body which history records, was set for nine months. But it was composed mostly of Emperors and Kings and its problems were to satisfy the lust for land and power of each participant. The aim of the present conference is entirely unselfish. There may be some desire to acquire territory and promote selfish purposes. But that will be the exception rather than the rule. The principal participants in this convention will strive for the common good not only of the people they represent but of the world.

There has been a persistent effort on the part of trouble breeders to create factional differences but they have fallen flat. It has been alleged that President Wilson and Premier Clemenceau, of France entertain widely separated ideas upon one of the most important questions to be considered. But this falsehood has already been refuted. President Wilson named the French Premier as permanent president of the conference in a speech as complimentary as it was eloquent and in periods which radiated perfect harmony between them. In seconding the nomination Lloyd George was equally forceful in the expressions of complete agreement upon the principal points to be considered.

The conference has a vast work to perform and it will require considerable time to fulfill all its obligations. But it will not consume time as the Vienna Congress did and a conclusion within three or four months will not be surprising. The work is momentous and the participants are deep thinkers and cautious operators. But they will have only the highest ideals to guide them and the loftiest aims to achieve. Men thus constituted and influenced are not likely to be diverted from their tasks by trifles and for that reason we look for speedy though fully matured results. It is certain that Woodrow Wilson will be the dominant figure in the deliberations and that is a sign of safety.

It is certain that the Kaiser will have to stand trial but it remains to be seen how he will stand punishment.

It can't be said that the Governor is "a cheap skate." It cost \$50,000.00 to inaugurate him.

Republican Senators Endorse Treason.

The vote of the Senate on the question of the disloyalty of Senator LaFollette, of Wisconsin, revealed the exact sentiment of that body with respect to the support of the government in the war. Only one Republican Senator voted for censure, Mr. Smith, of Michigan, whose term of office is drawing to a close. Every other Republican Senator who voted at all declared him free from blame though he was openly in opposition to every measure which made preparation for war first and for prosecution afterward. In a public speech he declared that the United States had entered into the conflict, not for humanity or democracy, but to protect the Morgan interests.

With the instinct of the demagogue LaFollette imagined that such a statement would dampen enthusiasm and discourage enlistments in the army and he expressed the sentiment with that hope in his heart. He even did more than that. He said that the "United States went to war and sacrificed our children in order that rich Americans might ride on munition boats." This had reference to the sinking of the Lusitania and implied that because Germany had entered upon its crusade of atrocity by the employment of U-boats, American citizens had no right to the freedom of the seas in pursuance of commerce or pleasure. That was precisely the attitude of the Kaiser and encouraging him in his cruelty.

The Republican Senators who voted to exculpate him from blame for expressing such sentiments openly thus gave their approval to his action. They virtually gave their endorsements to his efforts to discourage enlistments and create prejudice against the policies of the government. Each of them would have taken the same course if he had had the courage to do so. But they knew it was treason against the country and refrained because of fear of the consequences. They entertained the same views but were less reckless in expression and now that the war is over they come to his aid in dodging the penalty. His dominating influence in the next Congress was only a contributory cause.

Manifestly a False Alarm.

Mr. Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, appears to be "worked up" over an imaginary danger. In urging legislation to restrict immigration he told the House committee on Immigration in Washington, the other day, that "there will be bread lines in every industrial centre of the country, before May 1." In support of his lugubrious tale of woe he read reports from thirty cities showing vast armies of unemployed. Obviously this is the result of a propaganda. In any event it may be assumed that idleness in many instances is voluntary, or at least the result of local causes. The labor conditions which have prevailed for several years are not entirely reversed.

It was expected that the restoration of the millions of men who had enlisted in the army and navy to their former places in the industrial life of the country would relieve the labor famine which during the last three or four years had driven farmers to despair. But the return movement has not been sufficiently extensive thus far to create a well founded impression of an over-supplied labor market in the near future. Labor disputes might create idleness on an extensive scale and bread lines are a possible consequence of such a condition. But there can be no over supply of labor as long as there is an abundance of employment at a fair rate of wages.

Much of the wealth that has been created and diffused by labor in this country is ascribable to the industry and intelligent effort of immigrants who have come to us with the purpose of accepting our conditions, becoming citizens and adopting our ideals. Restrictive legislation which would prevent or seriously impair agencies of helpfulness is to be discouraged rather than promoted and needless alarms issued for the purpose of securing such legislation are to be deprecated. Criminals and paupers ought to be kept out but industrious men who come with the view of increasing our resources are assets which deserve encouragement of every proper kind.

State Senator S. J. Miller, of the Centre-Clearfield district, has been made chairman of the Senate committee on public health and sanitation.

The friends of ex-President Taft have been indulging in hopes since the death of Roosevelt but they won't stand close scrutiny.

Clemenceau has been a poet and playwright but he also seems to have some understanding of politics and statecraft.

With the country gone dry the capacity of many a municipal water plant will have to be increased.

WHO WON THE WAR?

By Woodbury Pulsifer
Who won the war?
'Twas little Germany stemmed the tide
Of ruthless hordes who thought to ride
Her borders through, and prostrate France
Ere yet she'd time to raise her lance.
Plucky Belgium!

Who won the war?
Italia broke the galling chain
Which bound her to the gully twin;
Then fought 'gainst odds till one of these
Lay prone and shattered at her knees.
Gallant Italy!

Who won the war?
Old England's watchdogs of the main
Their vigil kept, and not in vain;
For scarce a ship her wrath dared brave
Save these which skulked beneath the wave.
Mighty England!

Who won the war?
'Twas France who wrote, in noble rage,
The grandest words on history's page;
'They shall not pass!' The driven Hun
Surged on to death, but not Verdun.
Brave, sturdy France!

Who won the war?
In darkest hour there rose a cry:
'Sweet Liberty, thou shalt not die!
We come! we come! across the sea,
Thy stalwart sons and victory'
America!

Who won the war?
No one of these; no one, but all
Who answer Freedom's clarion call.
Each humble man who did his bit
In God's own book of fame is writ.
These won the war.
—Washington Evening Star.

Praise from Foch.

From the Philadelphia Press.

There is probably no man in the world whose praise could be more gratifying to our Expeditionary forces than the praise of Marshal Foch. His unstinted approval of the work of our troops, his tribute to their bravery and his frank acknowledgment of the important part they played in winning the war cannot fail to please the A. E. F. as it has pleased the nation at large.

The Generalissimo of all the Allied and American armies has placed the official seal upon the common belief that the Germans surrendered just in time to avert a colossal disaster. He tells how General Pershing desired to have his forces as far as possible concentrated in a single sector, and so the Argonne and the Meuse Heights sector was assigned to him. "It was a sector to tackle," commented Marshal Foch, "there were considerable obstacles there." The Americans attacked and broke through, thus administering the crushing disaster to the enemy which led to his surrender. And if this defeat had not sufficed to make the Germans surrender, Marshal Foch had in preparation still another drive in the Lorraine sector, a drive that was being begun on November 14, and in which six American divisions and twenty French were to take part. This was to have been the finishing blow, but before it could be administered the enemy capitulated. The prospects of a quick and easy conquest of foreign markets are not likely to be realized. The present scale of values is far too high and must be lowered. Such readjustments will, of course, bring about a condition of disturbance and may involve some suffering. They are, however, a necessary part of the process of returning to normal conditions. No one wants to see any sudden changes in outlook, but it must be recognized that the sooner the transition is over the more solid will be our prosperity under the new peace conditions.

Legislative Civilities.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

When the Prince of Monaco writes his cousin, the ex-Kaiser, accusing him of every crime and proving them on him, but continues to address him as "Sir," it suggests that traditional ceremonial passage in American legislative debate—"The Honorable Gentleman who has just resumed his stolen seat is an infamous and shameless liar."

To Be Read by Title.

From the San Francisco Chronicle.

Having received King George's history of Windsor Castle, President Wilson is almost sure to read it as a matter of duty, but official histories are dull and tedious affairs, and the President will be readily forgiven if he skips many pages.

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

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Private Blair C. McFeaters, who was called home to Alexandria, Pa., to attend the funeral of his mother, died at the home of his father a few days ago. He was taken ill a few days after reaching home.

The death of Howard Frazier makes the fifth fatality from influenza in one Walnut Grove, Cambria county, family within two weeks. Mr. and Mrs. John Frazier, his parents, died the same day and two sisters succumbed to the dread disease the following day.

William F. Foust, a rural mail carrier, who for the last eighteen years has been connected with the Milton postoffice, has resigned to go into business. During his service, Foust traveled 140,000 miles by buggy. In that distance he could have circled the globe six times.

At Portland Mills, Elk county, Peter Martin, aged 64 years, and employed at the tannery, accidentally stepped into a large vat of hot liquor, and was so badly scalded that death followed shortly afterward. The temperature of the liquor was 210 degrees when he stepped into it.

Stated meetings of the executive committee of the Juniata valley Red Cross have been called off for the present. Twenty thousand dollars remains in the treasury of the Chapter and this money will be invested for the best interest of the Chapter and the community that subscribed it.

John F. Bennett, caretaker of Hunter's Lake, Muncy valley, trapped eighteen foxes this fall, and last week he sold the pelts, receiving fifteen dollars a piece for them. He also received two dollars each as bounty, and this added to one dollar each on seven weasels, amounted to over \$300.

A position as High school teacher, with only five pupils and paying \$70 a month, is going a begging in Beaver township, Columbia county. Miss Beasle Ash was secured to fill the vacancy some time ago, and now she has changed her name to Mrs. Albert Nunn and announces her resignation.

Dr. Horace Lincoln Jacobs, district superintendent of the Central Pennsylvania conference, has named the Rev. G. H. Ketterer, a member of the Newark conference, as pastor of the Market Street Methodist church, Williamsport. Ketterer has just returned to the pastorate after being discharged as a chaplain in the United States army.

Charging that his wife chose to remain with her mother, saying that she only had one mother but could get a new husband any time, Reuben L. Kelbach, appearing in court at Reading, was granted a divorce Saturday. Kelbach said that he was good to his wife, taking her out Saturday evenings and "buying her peanuts and other things."

J. Clyde Fosnot, a Watsontown chicken fander, recently sent to Pittsburgh a pair of the fine-bred birds which he expected to carry off the prizes at a poultry show. When he reached the Smoky city he found that the crate containing his valuable poultry had been placed too near to steam pipes in the baggage car and the birds were killed by the heat.

The Howard munition plant, which had been located at Emporium, Cameron county, for four years, closed last week, and the 2000 employees were discharged. During these four years this plant employed an average of 2000 men and several hundred skilled and professional packers. The work of dismantling the big plant will begin at once.

Mining operations that will ruin the palatial home and grounds of John Markle, Jeddo coal magnate, in Luzerne county, eventually, have been started to recover the anthracite that is imbedded under the Markle mansion. Shafts and adways are being sunk and all the mineral that can be recovered will be removed this year. Mr. Markle has a home on Fifth Avenue, New York.

One of the largest damage verdicts by a Berks county jury in years was returned last week when Richard F. Fenstermaker, aged nineteen years, was awarded \$10,570.48 for the loss of his left arm, and other bodily injuries suffered through alleged negligence and violation of railroad rules of a shifting crew on the P. & R. Railway. His father, Jacob Fenstermaker, was awarded \$347.50 for the loss of the son's service.

When Dr. William W. Serrill, a well known Kelleysville, Forest county, physician, did not return from a trip to patients in nearby rural sections a search was started, and he was found pinned under his overturned machine on a lonely road. He had been held helpless for twenty-four hours and was in a serious condition from exposure and injury. His leg was broken, and he had suffered burns from escaping gasoline, the fumes of which he had breathed.

For sixty years O. E. Fleck, retired farmer, living in Hollidaysburg, has been attending church and Sunday school, and in all that time he has missed only six services. He was in his place as usual on Sunday. Mr. Fleck began attending Sunday school at ten years of age and became a member of the Lutheran church at fourteen. The weather, blizzard or sizzard, never provided him with an excuse to stay home. For a period of sixteen consecutive years he never missed a single service of the church or Bible school.

With two convictions of murder in the first degree hanging over him, what should George Tompkins, of Philadelphia, now be prisoner in the jail at Ebersburg, care for a little civil suit instituted against him to get hold of some of the property which eventually will figure in "the estate of George Tompkins, deceased?" The action is brought by the Thornton-Fuller company, of Philadelphia, former employer of Tompkins, which holds a claim against the man convicted of murdering Harry Humphries, wife and son. The action was started in Philadelphia, but transferred to Cambria county on account of the fact that Tompkins had property interests at Carrolltown. Briefs will be submitted within ten days.

Lieutenant M. R. Yarrison, of Logan ton, who has recently been discharged from the United States army, did not waste much time in getting a position after leaving his camp. Yarrison was passing through Williamsport one day last week en route to his home, when he learned of a vacancy in the teaching staff of the South Williamsport borough schools. The vacancy was caused by the death of Donald C. Ungard, principal of a grammar school. Upon inquiry, the army officer discovered that the borough school board was scheduled to meet that evening to consider applications for the position. He decided to wait until the following day to continue his journey home and attended the school meeting, at which he was elected to the empty principalship.