

INK SLINGS.

Farmers are plowing; at least those who didn't get it all done during the fall and winter.

In losing its daily contact with Dr. Ezra H. Yocum a benediction will have gone out of the life of Bellefonte.

The buds and vegetation are so far advanced that a good, hard freeze would put a crimp in the prospects for a good fruit crop.

The lovely spring rain of yesterday was all that the farmer and early gardener could have desired, and more.

The reason that spring hasn't done any lingering in the lap of winter is probably because poor old winter was too frail to have a lap.

No, Mabel, all Italians are not cobblers, though it must be admitted that a look around Bellefonte business places would encourage such an idea.

Strange as it may seem the price of horses and cattle will drop with the close of the last farm sale in Centre county. Nobody has been able to explain it, but it is the fact that purchasers will pay from twenty-five to fifty per cent. more for articles at a public auction than they can be persuaded to give for one of equal value when it is offered privately.

The adaptability of a man for certain kinds of work is always measured by the ease and facility with which he falls into its long established routine. This being so it must be admitted that the new councilman from the South ward was born for the place. Bellefonte would have the finest streets and alleys of any municipality in the country if it would only be possible to change all of the councilmen every year.

The great army of Centre county boys who went to the front will be home ere long and we ought to begin now preparing a reception sufficiently elaborate to offset any of the great demonstrations we had when they were going away. Certainly we don't want them to think that we were happier to see them go than we are to have them back, yet what other conclusion can they come to if we don't have a far more rousing welcome than any farewell we give.

Isn't it funny! Always some one is looking for an ulterior motive in everything some one else does. Now they say the temperance folks are cultivating a taste for dandelion; not that they need it especially as a spring stomachic or cholagogue, but they are going to dig it all up and eat it so that there will be no plants left to blossom and furnish the dandelion wine that appeared as the one ray of hope on the dry horizon that the old tanks will look out upon on July 1st.

It is just such governmental asininity as is displayed in the proposed law to compel everyone who cares to spend a day, or a part of one, fishing in Pennsylvania streams to take out a license, that has brought about the lawless Red army that is now menacing the entire social fabric of the world. The quicker Harrisburg comes to realize that the people are already chafing under too much petty legislation and that they are in no temper to be incited with more of the happier the future will be for all of us.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania should pass the Bolard bill. Legal notices should not be published in foreign language newspapers. In truth foreign language newspapers should not be published at all in this country. They retard the Americanization of the foreigner on our soil and are an ever present menace to our customs and institutions. If we cater to a tongue other than our own how can we hope to make intelligent citizens out of people who will never know our language and can only read our ideals through the minds of editors of their own tongue.

The collapse of the Hungarian government and the giving over of that country to Bolshevik exploitation is, to say the least, alarming. The civilized world seems to be on the crater of a volcano that only the soberest and most unselfish treatment will keep from erupting. America wants nothing but peace out of the seething caldron, but being almost alone in this we will not be able to secure it unless the attempt to discredit the President abroad by a few self-willed men at home is suppressed. The sooner Lodge and Reed and a few others realize that they are playing with a fire that is likely to consume us all the quicker peace will be secure and the world's unrest composed.

The fact that there were applications for nearly \$80,000 in farm loans, when the Federal farm loan bureau was organized in this county Wednesday, is probably explained by the large number of young men who have bought and contemplate buying farms on small cash resources. While there is plenty of local money to supply such needs the government's offers are slightly more attractive in the interest rate and the indefinite time for which such loans can be negotiated may also be an object to borrowers. We see another salutary condition in such loans that might not be generally thought of. The government is an impersonal creditor and the promptness with which it will require its interest payments will have a tendency to keep its debtors jacked up all the time and stimulate that essential element of success in all business—prompt meeting of obligations.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 64.

BELLEFONTE, PA., MARCH 28, 1919.

NO. 13.

Rare Record of a Congress.

The achievements of the Sixty-fifth Congress are justly praised in a review published in the monthly "Compendium" of the House of Representatives issued the other day. The wind-up of the session marked a rather discredit exhibition of partisanship, but on the whole the Sixty-fifth Congress achieved much and probably for all time will stand in the history of the country as the epoch maker. How it came to be misled by Lodge, Knox and Borah at the close to cast patriotism to the winds and foster partisanship will probably never be known. But it may safely be predicted that time will take an accurate measure of the men responsible alike for the good and the bad work of the Congress.

The Sixty-fifth Congress assembled in special session in April, 1917, and though the world was then in the turmoil of war this country was in the enjoyment of peace. "In the interim," the review states, "a war had been declared, a war had been won and a war had been ended. So this issue carries legislative history of a character that perhaps never again will be duplicated." Let us hope that is true. Meantime it is worth while to say that within the two years comprising the life of the Congress \$57,000,000,000 was appropriated; 346 public laws and 48 private laws were enacted and 48 resolutions were adopted while a total of 22,594 bills and resolutions were introduced in both Houses.

There were some curious incidents in the Sixty-fifth Congress, according to the Compendium, and many precedents established. For the first time in the history of the government laws were signed in a foreign country, the important revenue bill was signed on a railroad train, the President addressed the Senate in favor of a pending measure, the woman suffrage amendment to the constitution, and about one-fourth of all the bills passed during the three sessions of the Congress were signed during the last nine days of the closing session, while fifteen Representatives and ten Senators died during the period from the beginning of the first session to the close of the final session.

It would be wise as well as expedient for the Germans to accept Foch's amendments to the armistice as soon as they are submitted. They have to accept in the end and promptness saves humiliation.

Fish License a Needless Nuisance.

There are a good many measures of legislation pending in the General Assembly at Harrisburg that deserve prompt slaughter. Conspicuous among these is the bill entitled "An Act for the better protection of fish, requiring citizens of the United States residing within and without this Commonwealth to procure a license to fish or angle in the waters of this Commonwealth. The ostensible purpose of the measure is to acquire funds to be used for the propagation of fish. The real purpose is to put an onerous tax upon a healthful and rational diversion and vest in some parasites at Harrisburg control of the streams of the State and direction of the pleasures of the citizens.

Some years ago the Legislature was persuaded or dragged into enacting a law imposing a license upon the resident hunters of the Commonwealth. It was said that the money thus obtained would be used for the propagation of game on so extensive a scale that within a brief period the woods would be full of all sorts of game birds and mammals and Pennsylvania would be converted into a paradise for sportsmen. But though additional legislation cut out all hunting in most of the counties in the State game has become as scarce as the proverbial hen's teeth. There is something like three-quarters of a million dollars in the treasury allotted to the fund but so far as observation goes it is of no use.

If the State authorities would proceed along lines of reason there would be no necessity for artificial propagation of fish beyond the capacity of the hatcheries now in existence. Nature is prolific in fish life and if the slaughter of fish at power plants and the destruction of fish life by poisonous chemicals is discontinued there will be plenty of fish for food and abundance of sport for fishermen without imposing a needless tax upon those who enjoy the recreation or need the fish for food. There is entirely too much government in this country and too many people who want to manage the affairs of others. This fish license bill is an expression of that form of nuisance.

President Wilson oughtn't to be asked to tackle the Irish problem until the other troubles in which he is involved, and there are plenty of them and they are perplexing, are disposed of.

Nobody knows what the Russians want but most of us could tell what they ought to get.

Hasten the Peace Conference.

There are very many reasons why the work of the Peace Conference should be expedited rather than retarded. President Wilson is committed to remaining away until his work is finished and there are a lot of things to do in Washington that require his presence here. But this is not the gravest reason why the work of the Conference should be hastened. A peace protocol and the covenant of the League of Nations are necessary to check the progress of Bolshevism and other disorders in Europe. Nothing else can achieve that result and it must be done. The evil is spreading in Europe and menacing even this country. The proposed League of Nations would supply the medium of stifling it at once.

American soil is not adapted to the growth of anarchy. The doctrine of disorder is repellant to the American mind. But Republican politicians have been cultivating discontent for several months and bad influences work surprising results. By withholding the necessary funds from the railroad administration the vast army of transportation employees has been demoralized and disappointed hopes easily lead to violence and that is a step in the direction of worse disorders. A vicious propaganda industriously employed in such circumstances might produce the evil consequences which are devastating Russia and menacing all Central Europe. It is a sad subject for contemplation by thoughtful Americans.

The completion of the work of the Peace Conference is the remedy in sight. Through the medium of the League of Nations it will create a force that will compel obedience to law and the fulfillment of the just obligations of citizenship. And when President Wilson is released from his arduous labors in France he will return and the scurvy politicians and cheap demagogues who have been nagging at his heels will be forced to cover. Before the logic of Woodrow Wilson the sophistry of Lodge and Knox will melt away and anarchism, Bolshevism and other disorders will disappear from the United States. We are a freedom loving people but ours is a Freedom regulated by law.

The liquor interests have little right to complain because there was no referendum. When the question was put in the form of local option legislation, the referendum plain and simple, they opposed it.

Chance for Valuable Experiment.

Senator Reed, of Missouri, has a fine opportunity to test the sentiment of his constituents upon the question of the League of Nations. Some days ago he addressed the Legislature of that State and vehemently denounced the League. Thereupon the Democratic members of the body adopted a resolution asking him to resign, offer himself for re-election and take the consequences. He suggested that they resign to test the matter and fitly they declared that if he resigns his office they will resign theirs, thus putting the elements on an equality. Several days have elapsed since the last offer was made and Senator Reed has not accepted the challenge.

Senator Reed knows that the people of Missouri are overwhelmingly in favor of the covenant of the League of Nations and that the Democrats of that State are practically unanimous in that opinion. But he has joined the opposition because of a personal quarrel with the President. It is not a matter of either politics or principle with him. It is purely a question of spite. A second rate quarter sessions lawyer he got into the Senate by accident and was disappointed at his reception in Washington. He thought the proper way to show resentment was to oppose the party that sent him to Washington and he began to fight the President at once.

Aside from the character of fitness for the office he holds, however, the proposition made to Senator Reed would be worth considering by other Senators who have joined him in an unpatriotic attitude. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, imagines that he is strong with the people and the distinguished president of Harvard said the other day that he is more than a public official, "he is an institution." Lodge might try the sentiment of the people of Massachusetts and Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, could strengthen his hopes for the Presidency if he would undertake the experiment and win. But the chances are none of them will do so. "A bird in the hand" is safer for them.

Now that Mr. Bryan has influenza we may be able to find out the relative value of grape juice and red liquor as a curative of that malady.

Germany is now getting all the "blood and iron" she wants and the indications are that a little goes a long way.

Obviously Lenin is crazy. He expects to borrow \$2,000,000 from the United States.

Absurd False Pretense.

The anxiety of the Republican leaders for the safety of the Monroe Doctrine is pathetic. We are unable to discover where or how the Monroe Doctrine is in danger or the reason for the anxiety on the part of the Republican leaders. But it is clear that they are greatly worried over it. Probably they apprehend that Great Britain or France or some other power contemplates the seizure and appropriation of it for its own use. That would be a terrible thing. The Monroe Doctrine is a policy which forbids monarchical powers from intervening in affairs on this hemisphere. It is a sort of mind your own business manibody to the wide world. But nobody ever imagined that it was patented.

The principal objection to the covenant of the League of Nations advocated by President Wilson at Paris is that it might work a revocation of the Monroe Doctrine. The covenant provides for the protection of small or weak governments from the avarice of the more powerful. When it was promulgated by a Democratic President the infant Spanish-American Republics were threatened by the "Holy Alliance" and it was a sort of warning to "keep off the grass." But for nearly a hundred years the politicians opposed to the Democratic party took no interest in it. Now they are going into "connoction fits" because of an apprehension that another Democratic President is trying to destroy the work of his illustrious predecessors in office.

Like the glory of destroying the Spanish fleet during the recent scrimmage with that country, the Monroe Doctrine is big enough to go around and if it may be used to protect Belgium, Serbia, Poland and the several other small countries who aspire to "self-determination" no harm will be done to it. It certainly will not be impaired in force for the purpose it was created, namely, the protection of the weak South and Central American republics. Moreover the anxiety of the Republican politicians on the subject is absurd and hypocritical. The only fear they have is that the adoption of the covenant of the League of Nations will benefit the Democratic party the head of which is Woodrow Wilson.

At the same time the Southern planters will not gain anything by leaving their lands idle because the price of their product is not as high as they would like to have it.

Dr. Yocum to Leave Bellefonte.

At the recent Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist church in session at Sunbury Dr. Ezra H. Yocum, for eight years pastor of the Bellefonte charge, voluntarily requested the Bishop to make a change in his pastoral relations here. As to the reason we have nothing to say. As to the result which takes this lovely, brilliant clergyman from Bellefonte and places him in the little, country charge of Woolrich we can only conclude that truly God does work in a mysterious way his wonders to perform.

We feel that we speak for the people of Bellefonte collectively when we say that the departure of Dr. Yocum will be a matter of profound regret. We know of no other man who holds the peculiar esteem in the minds and the affection in the hearts of all classes of our people as he does. Of giant intellectuality, brilliant oratorical powers and seventy-five years young in spirit and energy he was a great asset to this community, aside from the daily lessons of what the real christian man is that his mere presence on our streets taught.

The groundhog weather prophets will have to hunt up some other kind of an animal to base their prognostications on, as the little woodchuck fooled them this year. In fact the groundhog's time limit passed so easily and unconsciously that few people realized it until it was over. To be exact it is almost two weeks now since the groundhog's six week's snooze came to an end but during the time he was supposed to be holed up there wasn't a day that he couldn't have come out without getting frost-bitten. So henceforth and forevermore it's good-bye, groundhog. You've lost caste as a weather prognosticator and no further reliance can be placed in you.

No doubt those Republican Senators are just as bitterly opposed to the League of Nations as they say they are but it is equally certain they will vote for ratification. They know what the people want.

The Steel trust sets a good example in reducing prices. A similar scaling all along the line would greatly help the restoration of industrial and commercial prosperity.

The victory three cent postage stamp was placed on sale at the Bellefonte postoffice on Wednesday morning.

The Soldier Asset.

In some quarters there seems to be a great misunderstanding of what the American soldier represents. There is the expressed fear that the return of the man in khaki will seriously disturb the labor market or will swell the ranks of the Bolshevik. There is no ground for being an alarmist of this sort. The soldier will be neither a burden on the nation nor a drug on the market. He is a producer, and no producer can be anything but an asset to the nation. The man who can do things is vitally needed at this time. And the returned soldier is essentially a worker, and not an agitator.

The man who has been under fire on the battlefield can be fully trusted. He has no idea of training with the enemies of his country. He has met the enemies of America face to face, and has conquered them abroad. He will be in no mood to deal lightly with those at home. He knows well what would have been the result had the nation listened to the advice of its pacifists, and to the agitators of various types who did all in their power to keep the nation from taking up arms. His mighty service has given him a clear, sane, healthy mind. In it there is no fertile ground for the sowing of the seed of Socialism or any other ism that conflicts with the national good. His experience has taught him the exact opposite of what agitators would now have him believe.

There is room in the industrial field of the United States for every producer. The soldier is not looking for leisure, nor to make trouble if impossible wishes are not satisfied. He is looking for honest, productive work, and every man of that type is needed in the reconstruction work of this nation. He has the ambition to be effective. He has been trained to discipline and hard work. He has come out of a life where idle leisure was a thing unknown. He seeks nothing in the way of charity or gift, merely a square deal and an opportunity to become a real part of the nation's work. In his return to his own country, there is cause for congratulation to America, not for alarm.

Democratic Renegades.

It is distinctly encouraging to note that the Democrats of Missouri want Senator Reed to resign because of his betrayal of his party by his attitude toward the League of Nations and other important questions on which he has been consistently wrong. Too much credit has been given to this wretched blatherskite and the two or three other Democratic Senators who, for purely personal reasons, have placed themselves in opposition to President Wilson and his administration. No one takes seriously Reed's contention that he is actuated by patriotic motives and profound constitutional reasons in taking his present stand with Republican Senators. At home he is known as a police court lawyer who, by some strange freak of Missouri politics, has been elevated to a post of high honor. There he has been a great detriment to his party and the war began by reason of his obstructive tactics. There is not a measure of any constructive value to his credit. His record is one of purely factious opposition, apparently designed to give aid and comfort to the Republicans.

There is no way in which the Reeds, Chamberlains and Gores can be forced to resign, but indignant Democrats misrepresented by these party renegades ought to take concerted action to impress upon them that their course is disapproved of and that continuance in it means political suicide. Possibly such action as that taken by the Missouri Democratic Legislators may bring Reed to his senses. Mentally he is a feather-weight and without influence outside of his own State. If that State repudiates him he may conclude that treachery to the party which has honored him beyond his deserts is by no means a paying proposition.

Hungarian Revolution.

The imps of improper government are dancing in glee in Moscow today as they read reports of the Hungarian revolution which means the association of that misguided land with the Bolshevik of Russia through the formation of soviet government and the overthrow of everything which tends to order and cleanliness in the administration of a nation's affairs. A fine show of gratitude this is to the entente which did more than any other power, to break the back of a military autocracy which was rapidly grinding out the national spirit and the national life of Hungary. The mixture of the Hungarian proletariat with the Bolshevik of Russia in itself is hardly serious, but taken in consideration with the possibility of the spread of this governmental wildfire to other countries of the former central powers and particularly to Germany, it strikes another harsh discord in the Paris peace conference. It is too early at this time to predict that Hungary will go the way of Russia. It will not if the allies can find a means to strike and strike quickly. That means is closer at hand in the new revolution than it was in the case of Russia, which was permitted to conduct its own upheaval without interference until too late to successfully squelch it. In the face of Hungary's threats the only instrument to be used is quick and decisive military action.

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Pennsylvania woolen manufacturers used the second largest amount of wool in the United States during 1918.

Former Congressman J. D. Hicks, of Altoona, Department Commander of the State of Pennsylvania, G. A. R., will deliver the address on Memorial day for John W. Geary Post, No. 90, of Phillipsburg.

Lancaster is the wealthiest agricultural county in the United States, and ranks first in Pennsylvania in the yield of wheat and tobacco and in the number of horses. That county contains nearly eleven thousand farms.

Mrs. S. R. Peale, of Lock Haven, 85 years old, entertained her three sons, Rembrandt, John and Frank, of New York, on the anniversary of her birth. Mrs. Peale is the widow of the late Senator S. R. Peale, who was prominently identified with the Democratic party in this State for many years.

The farmers who have sheep are preparing for the shearing, which will begin before long. They are all a good deal interested in the wool market, and hope to realize fully as much as last year, when it sold for 60 cents. In the last two years, the wool proceeds have been quite an item for there are more sheep raised than formerly.

A southbound Pennsylvania Railroad local freight train crew while passing Magee siding, north of Tidouste, saw a herd of five deer 200 yards from the tracks. One of the deer trotted off to a clump of bushes, but the others stood watching the approach and crossing of the train without showing the least sign of fright, although the engineer turned loose the whistle.

Over four hundred camp sites have been granted by the State Forestry Commission for summer outing, fishing and hunting camps for clubs, associations, schools and individuals on State lands. The number has increased rapidly in the last few years. The use of the sites is given for ten years subject to certain regulations as to use of fire and firearms.

Curt North, of Panic, Jefferson county, has a pig-producing record which he thinks will stand unequalled by other swine raisers in any part of the State. May 6, brood sow, half O. I. B. and half Berkshire, mothered nineteen pigs; October 27, thirteen, and on Monday, 14, forty-six pigs for one sow in ten months is a record that looks like a hard one to beat.

Taking the position that churches have as much right to advertise as any business concern, Coatesville pastors have launched a newspaper advertising campaign with a view to attracting large audiences. They are placing large and attractive display advertisements in daily newspapers in which they announce sermon subjects and other matters of interest.

The Wellsboro Realty company was formed last year, with \$100,000 capital, to build houses to accommodate employees of the Corning glass works, if the capacity of the factory was doubled. It hasn't been yet, but the demand for houses in Wellsboro is so insistent that a committee was authorized to build twenty-five or more, according to their discretion, at a recent meeting of the company.

Sunday, as a freight train on the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad was slowly pulling through the yards at Punxsutawney, Jefferson county, the fireman, from the cab of the engine, noticed a package on a loaded coal car. He reached out of the cab of the engine and grabbed it as he was going past. It was a box, and when he opened it he found the remains of a baby boy apparently only a few hours old. The Punxsutawney authorities are investigating.

Leaping from his seat on his crane, thirty-five feet in the air, Peter Williams, a crane runner at the plant of the Pennsylvania Steel corporation, at Chester, dived through a sheet of flame and landed in a barrel of sand below. He escaped with slight injuries. A gas main exploded, sending a solid sheet of flame to the roof of the No. 2 foundry, and for a time the plant was threatened with destruction. The roof was burned off the building, entailing a loss of about \$5000.

Kindness shown Mrs. Kate A. Kalbach, widow of Nathaniel Kalbach, a Richland grain merchant, brought his return to Miss Florence Wenrich, a trained nurse at the Grand View sanatorium, Wernersville, and Harvey Reber, a bellhop at the institution, in the form of a bequest. In disposing of a \$15,800 estate, Mrs. Kalbach gives Miss Wenrich \$2,500 and considerable of the contents of the Kalbach homestead at Richland, while Reber receives \$200. Bethany orphanage at Womelsdorf, is given \$200.

Carl Shenk, a young farmer of Mechanics Grove, Drumore township, Lancaster county, has a flock of 400 Plymouth Rock chickens, which is one of the finest flocks in that part of the county, as well as one of the most profitable, as they have been producing on an average 200 eggs a day, and they even do not take Sunday off. This they have kept up during the whole winter. Mr. Shenk is very proud of his poultry and takes the very best care of them, having them properly housed and carefully and regularly fed.

There has just been removed from the plant of the Titusville Iron company, at Titusville, a whistle that was in use for more than 60 years, according to a statement made by Robert Butler, who has been an employee of the works since March 29, 1855. The whistle was used to announce Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, and in November last it announced the armistice in the world war. The whistle, now replaced by a new marine whistle, will be preserved for its historical associations.

A half hour after they had eaten roots which they thought were artichokes, George Derr, aged 5 years, and James Derr, aged 4 years, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Derr, of Plum Creek, near Sunbury, died early last Friday. James Thomas, aged 6 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas, is critically ill, and is not expected to recover. The children were playing along Shamokin creek, near their home, and it is not known just what they found. The supposition is that they pulled some wild parsnips and ate them in mistake for artichokes.

J. Wallace Strunk met death on Thursday afternoon last near his home at McAlevy's Fort when he was struck on the head by the limb of a falling tree. Strunk was a teamster working on the lumber operations of E. B. Alexander, of Belleville. He was driving past a tree that was being cut down by David Keller and Frank Rudy. Just as he was passing the tree they called to him but apparently he did not hear them. The limb of the tree struck him on the back of the head in falling, crushing his skull. Death resulted in less than an hour afterwards.