

INK SLINGS.

The great drouth is only thirty-one days off. Some people are too modest to tell the naked truth. Anyway the Democrats in Congress can't be held responsible for what happens.

Germans declare their opposition to giving up the Kaiser and others for trial. The Allies should worry about that.

The Legislature may not adjourn in June but what's the odds. Nobody pays any attention to the Legislature.

With Senator Penrose and Gen. Muir as attractions for commencement The Pennsylvania State College will be able to treat its guests to the last thing in politics and war.

The Legislature seems to be able to do nothing unless Penrose is in Harrisburg cracking the whip. Then, after he leaves, it undoes all that had been done under his menacing presence.

And Penrose becomes chairman of the Senate committee on Finance while Borah, Gif. Pinchot and all the rest of the progressives who were threatening to bolt in such an eventuality trail along.

Since failure to sign practically means starvation for Germany we still adhere to our original belief that the German plenipotentiaries will sign the peace terms, all of their counter proposals to the contrary notwithstanding.

The world is growing smaller every day. It took the N C-4 only twenty-seven hours to fly to Europe. This thing of making the Atlantic ocean four days narrower ranks almost with Columbus' discovery that it had another side.

Looking back over the weather record of the past winter and making comparison with the early days of this month we had about reached the conclusion that December can be as pleasant as May, but this week has dispelled the notion.

Roger Dolan says that the "tight wads" invariably live longer than the liberal spenders for the reason that they don't eat as much. We believe that Roger Dolan has struck the keynote of longevity, for we are firm in the conviction that more persons die because of over-eating than because of being underfed.

There are so few signs of falling prices that soon we'll get so accustomed to them that we'll forget they ever were any lower and then everything will move on as happily and as prosperously as it did before the war. No one will be any better off however, for, in the last analysis it will be a mere matter of inflation.

Now Germany wants a little damage from the Allies. It is a mere matter of twelve or thirteen billion marks. We suggest that all those people who didn't buy Liberty bonds, war savings stamps, give to the Red Cross or do anything helpful in our time of trouble, chip in and make up this claim for the Huns. They'll never get it unless it is forthcoming from some such source.

Secretary of the Navy, Josephus Daniels, was the most ridiculed man in the cabinet several years ago. Today he is acclaimed as one of the greatest credits to the administration. Why? Mr. Daniels has not changed a particle. Public opinion has changed because those great machine newspapers that set out early in the war to "get" Daniels soon backtracked on their propaganda of ridicule and calumny and the public saw, for itself, the motive. Secretary Daniels has done great things as a servant of the people and, to our mind, a little thing he did only a few days ago was one of the greatest. When the N C-4, the really crippled flyer of the trans-Atlantic fleet, turned out to be the only one that reached the Azores, the Secretary refused to permit flight Commander Towers, whose ship failed of its destination, to go aboard the N C-4 to continue the flight to Lisbon. The work of these daring men was an epochal one and it would have been neither good sportsmanship nor justice to Commandant Read to have given any of the glory of his achievement to another.

Many of the greatest advances in science have been made at the expense of martyrs who have sacrificed themselves and their lives in order that theories could be proven facts. Most of the new serums and bacilli are tried out on the lower animals first but ultimately some human must offer him or herself before experiments can be accepted as safe panaceas. We honor, appreciate and think too little of those who have ventured over the unblazed trail for our welfare. It is ours to pay tribute now to those daring students of the University of Pennsylvania who, for the sake of establishing a principle affecting the welfare of all the peoples of this great country of ours, permitted themselves to be loaded clear full of lager beer in order that the courts could be convinced that they could walk a chalk line while carrying the load, and, therefore, not intoxicated. Their sacrifice, heroic as it was, will find its reward in many homes. The old man may roll in home any old hour now, loaded to the guards, but he can never be accused of being intoxicated. He might be full of 23 per cent. beer, but the altruistic demonstration of these young studs has forever sealed his wife's lips against the charge of intoxication.

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German Plea a False Pretense.

The false pretense that the peace treaty violates either of President Wilson's "Fourteen Points," is easily exposed. In their order the fourteen points are: Open covenants, openly arrived at; freedom of the seas in peace and war; equality of trade conditions; reduction of armaments; adjustment of colonial claims with reference to the wishes of the governed population; evacuation and restoration of Belgium; evacuation of French territory; restoration of Alsace-Lorraine; readjustment of Italy's frontiers along lines of nationality; autonomous development for the peoples of Austria-Hungary; independence of Roumania, Servia and Montenegro; relinquishment of Turkish control over non-Turkish populations; erection of an independent Polish State with free access to the sea and a League of Nations.

Strictly interpreted the treaty agreed upon by the Versailles conference is simply a complete schedule for the enforcement of these conditions. It is an "open covenant" openly arrived at. It guarantees the freedom of the seas and equality of trade conditions to all fair traders. It provides for a reduction of armaments and the adjustment of colonial claims as expressed in the fifth point and for the evacuation of Russia as well as the complete restoration of Belgium. It provides for the restoration to France of Alsace-Lorraine and the readjustment of Italy's frontier in accordance with the provision of point thirteen—the erection of a Polish state with "access to the sea." In fact from beginning to end it is a substantial repetition of the points so elaborated as to make them effective.

In view of the facts the protests of the German delegates in the Peace Conference are puerile. The brutal methods employed by Germany during the progress of the war and the wanton destruction of property on land and sea after the promulgation of the fourteen points made the fulfillment of the conditions expressed more burdensome but the President of the United States is not responsible for that fact. The restoration of the coal and iron properties is physically impossible for a number of years and the reparation imposed is only just. There was no necessity for the destruction and no advantage in it to Germany. It was simply an expression of the vandalism of brutish nature and the penalty prescribed in the treaty of peace is exactly just. For these reasons there should be no recession from the terms as promulgated.

If we were seeing the things that Senator Reed, of Missouri, thinks he sees in the League of Nations we'd swear off.

Progressive Fight Collapsed.

"The mountain labored and brought forth a mouse." For several weeks the country has been disturbed, more or less, by the vociferous protests of what are known as the progressive Republican Senators against the elevation of Senator Penrose to the chairmanship of the Senate committee on Finance and of Senator Warren, of Wyoming, as chairman of the committee on Appropriations. Borah, of Idaho; Johnson, of California; Cummins, of Iowa, and a few other political pignies who imagine they are giant statesmen, vehemently protested that if Penrose and Warren were thus honored, there would be a revolt. Thereupon the caucus assembled and selected Penrose and Warren and "the cat came home."

The so-called Republican progressives in Congress are simply disgruntled and disappointed aspirants for the favors of the machine. Every one of them would kow-tow to Penrose and eat humble pie out of the hand of Warren if such servility would promote their ambitions to gain power. In the case in point Borah was particularly vehement in denunciation of Penrose and emphatic in declaring that "under no circumstances would he consent to placing him at the head of the Finance committee." But the caucus proceeded to elect Penrose to the place and Borah issued a statement "that the Progressives would co-operate to prevent Democratic control of the Senate." That is exactly what is expected.

There is about as much civic virtue in the group of progressives in the Senate as there was religion on board a pirate ship in Captain Kidd's time. They are selfish, sordid incompetents who hoped to scare the Republican leaders by threatening revolt. But the leaders had accurate measures of each of them and quietly moved on regardless of their false pretenses. It was the only course to adopt. The leaders are bad enough and their triumph is both shameful and dangerous. But a hypocrite is worse than a highwayman and it is gratifying that the false pretenders have been disappointed even at so great an expense to the country as a victory for the Penrose Senatorial gang.

Partisan Conspiracy Failed.

It is gratifying to learn, through the press dispatches from Washington, that Congress has just passed a bill to relieve the distress of hundreds of families in the United States who didn't get from the government this month the money allowed them in behalf of their kinsmen in the army and navy, to quote from the news dispatches in one of our esteemed metropolitan contemporaries. The bill in question appropriates money to pay the allotments and insurance which soldiers and sailors made for the support of their dependents at the time of their induction into the service of the country. Seven hundred thousand checks to cover these payments have been ready for issue for some time.

During the closing days of the last Congress a filibuster was organized by the Republican leaders for the purpose of preventing the passage of a number of pending measures of great importance. Their purpose was to prevent the President from completing his work at the Peace Conference in France. They reasoned that the failure to pass the measures then would compel him to remain at home and call an extra session immediately in order to keep the machinery of the government in operation. Among the bills thus sacrificed to partisan malice was the appropriation to the families of soldiers. It was a dastardly conspiracy but failed of its purpose, though it entailed some suffering on soldiers' families.

Among the bills held up by the same unpatriotic conspiracy was that providing funds to operate the railroads. The failure of that bill also cost much suffering. Thousands of the reason that there were no funds to pay them wages. The railroad administration did the best it could under the circumstances but was unable to avert distress. Funds to pay the expenses of bringing the troops home from France were held up also but the faith and generosity of patriotic capitalists came to the relief of the government and the scheme was defeated. But the evil intention was there as it was in the case of the allowance fund and the public has a right to mete out punishment.

Director General Hines is out of patience with the steel rail makers on account of the outrageously high prices they ask for rails. But General Hines should remember that when the people elected a Republican Congress last year they gave the steel rail makers license to loot the government to their hearts' content.

Rural Members Still Promising.

The rural members of the Legislature have determined to force proceedings, according to Harrisburg press dispatches, from now on to the close of the session. This is interesting information but of doubtful accuracy. That is to say it is the usual "promise to the ear" to be "broken to the hope." Every now and then an announcement is made that the rural members intend to do something startling to expedite legislation. Early in the present session an organization was formed to compel action on measures of importance. Later a dinner was given at which all kinds of threats were made unless the foolishness was stopped and the real work of the body begun. But all these actions petered out.

It is safe to say that the rural members of the Legislature will do something this time but it will be precisely what they have done before this session and during previous sessions. They will take orders from the bosses and obey them with the usual measure of servility. The average rural member is a valiant fellow when by himself or among his personal friends but when he is brought up before the party bosses he cringes and squirms and agrees to anything that is demanded. The lure of patronage is irresistible and he grabs at anything in the shape of spoils that is handed out to him, however grudging the offer. Threats of the rural members are no longer terrifying.

But there is more substantial promise of speeding up in the legislation in the late news from Harrisburg. It is in the statement that Senator Penrose will be at the capital next week to personally direct the proceedings of the Legislature. The Senator has been having troubles of his own recently but they seem to have been disposed of in a way satisfactory to himself and now he proposes to move on Harrisburg and crush his enemies there. If this promise is fulfilled there may be something done during the coming week toward reform legislation for Philadelphia and that out of the way any legislation rural members want may be considered if they have behaved well on the main question.

If it be true as the New Englanders say, that "a cold and wet May makes the barns full of hay," we ought to have abundant crops in the meadows at the approaching harvest.

Woman Suffrage in Sight.

The passage of the Woman Suffrage amendment to the constitution by the House of Representatives at Washington last week by an overwhelming majority, makes it practically certain that the equal civic rights of the womanhood of the country is within sight. The vote of 304 for the resolution was precisely the same as that cast for it something over a year ago when it was considered in the last Congress. Near the close of the last Congress it was defeated in the Senate by a vote of two but changes in the personnel of that body and conversions to the cause which have since occurred makes it certain that the two-thirds majority required will be forthcoming when the vote is taken this year.

Why this right of the women of the United States has been withheld for half a century or more during which it has been agitated is left to conjecture. The women have always enjoyed full privilege to pay taxes and to the full measure of their inclinations to bear all the other burdens of citizenship. During the Civil war their services as nurses were invaluable and during the recent world war they accepted every hazard as well as all the privations of soldiers. They have been for many years the main instrument in conducting and maintaining our educational institutions and it is not invidious to add that the support of the churches has devolved upon them largely. But they have not been allowed to vote.

Before the Civil war the question of suffrage was by common consent left to the determination of the several States and in their wise discretion a good many States have extended the suffrage to women. But the adoption of the negro suffrage amendment to the constitution in 1865 altered the rule of action and since that time the women have been appealing, unsuccessfully until now, for this measure of justice. Bad men, ignorant men and good men have enjoyed it alike, sometimes without appreciation of its value. But the best of women have been refused it in many of the States though there are abundant reasons to believe they would make the best use of the privilege. Let us hope their desire will be fulfilled.

We still believe that Germany will sign the peace treaty. Germans may be brutal, and they are selfish and stubborn and mulish but they are not crazy. To refuse to sign would be a certain sign of insanity.

Sheriff Yarnell was called to Ferguson township last Saturday night to arrest three boys who ran away last week from Girard College, Philadelphia. One of the boys originally hailed from Altoona, one from Philadelphia, and one from Nicetown, Philadelphia, and they were 13 and 14 years of age. The sheriff got them in a barn, curled up in a horse blanket, fast asleep. The boys left the college at about one o'clock on Wednesday afternoon of last week, and walked out of Philadelphia a few miles and were given an automobile trip to Harrisburg. Walking by turns and bumming auto rides they finally arrived at Reedsville Saturday morning then walked over the Seven mountains and up the back road to Pine Grove Mills. They were returned to the college this week.

Thus far we have not heard that Senator Vore has congratulated Senator Penrose on his brilliant victory over his enemies in Washington. Probably that dramatic incident escaped our notice.

Aviator G. G. Budwig came into Bellefonte last Friday evening through a hard rain storm and made his landing on the aviation field as easily as if it hadn't rained for a month. It was his intention to go through to Cleveland on Saturday morning and bring back a Curtiss plane that afternoon, but on account of the hard rain on Saturday he did not make the trip. He left for Cleveland on Sunday morning and veered just enough to the north to pass over Philadelphia, probably out of courtesy to the kind treatment he received there a few weeks ago when he got out of his course and was compelled to land on account of motor trouble, and his appearance over that town on Sunday caused considerable excitement and speculation as to the meaning thereof.

Electing Senators Costs Money.

It cost Senator Newberry \$176,000 to secure his election from Michigan, and then he had only a few thousand more votes than Henry Ford in a State that is normally Republican by about 100,000. Is it permissible to wonder what the result would have been if Chairman Hays' new \$1000 limit on contributions had been in effect? Perhaps, however, that only applies to Presidential elections. Senatorships will be put up for sale, as usual.

Put your ad. in the "Watchman."

The Transocean Flight.

It is in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that the country which witnessed the first successful flight of heavier-than-air machines should also be first to achieve the great feat of crossing the Atlantic in airplanes. For this reason the performance of the three planes that flew from Newfoundland to the Azores is a subject for national congratulation. It shows that the spirit that actuated the Wright brothers in their first memorable flight nearly 20 years ago still animates Americans, and that the conquest of the air will be added to man's partial dominion over the forces of the land and sea.

There is a wide field for speculation as to the consequences that may be expected to follow naturally upon the remarkable showing made by the navigators in their seaplanes. Obviously it will tend to bring all parts of the world closer together than ever before. If the 1200 miles separating Newfoundland and the Azores can be negotiated so easily and rapidly, it can be only a short time before the flight from Newfoundland to Ireland and the continent of Europe will be made. Possibly even as this is being written the British aviators, so long weather-bound, are winging their way across the ocean to their home base. In any event, that performance is not likely to be delayed much longer. These brilliant achievements may naturally be expected to give a great stimulus to aviation in all parts of the globe. Henceforth there can be no quarter of the world, whether at the North or the South Pole, or in tropical lands still unexplored, that will be free from the visits of inquisitive man.

The flight of the American seaplanes has been made in the interest of science and commerce, and points the way to striking developments in the near future. In the meantime, thanks are due to the Navy Department, which has added new lustre to its glorious records, and to the flyers who have blazed out this new path across the waters. In peace as well as in war they have deserved well of their country, which will enroll them in the ranks of its heroic pioneers.

Is Bolshevism Waning?

Bolshevism in Europe seems to have passed the peak of its popularity or possibly a better expression would be its strength. The conditions in Hungary where the Soviets failed to get the extreme hold upon the government and people like they had in Russia is indicative of an awakening on the part of the latter. A European correspondent takes the following optimistic view of the Bolshevist situation:

"The imminent collapse of the Red government of Hungary may be taken as a happy augury of the future of the Bolshevist government of Russia. Such a government is bound to collapse because it arrogates all authority to itself without having had the necessary experience in the management of the State. This is illustrated by a statement issued by Lenin, the leader of the Russian Bolshevists. In this statement the Red leader par excellence almost bemoaned the necessity for having been forced to call in the hated 'bourgeoisie' to get business going and to manage financial questions, since these same 'bourgeoisie' were the only ones who could do it. From Munich to Germany, which has been under Red rule, there comes a report also that the troops of the duly elected Ebert government have entered the city and that the Red rule there has collapsed. Perhaps there are the signs that we have long been waiting for: namely of the beginning of the end of Bolshevism in Europe and the world."

America and Armenia.

The Armenians are urging that America accept a mandate for their country as an adviser, steady the popular make provision for her 300,000 orphans and help her through technical commissions to lay the foundations of an industrial life.

Here we have at last, in the flesh and blood, the boggy, which caused Senators to shake their locks against the League of Nations and sent editorial quills into saucers of vitriol. Now, whether America should accept such a mandate is not a thing to be lightly decided. Nevertheless, The Post feels sure that the succoring of this country, distant as it is, would seem quite the natural thing to a large number of Americans.

It has in mind the 25,000,000 or 30,000,000 people belonging to the federated churches of America who have long sent money and food and clothes and teachers and doctors to this unhappy country. It has in mind the members of secular societies engaged in the same philanthropic work. There may be reasons why America should not officially undertake the rehabilitation of Armenia, but certainly, to a large section of our population, there would be nothing quixotic about it. There would be nothing absurd or ridiculous in a country whose coins bear the legend "In God We Trust" playing the part of the good Samaritan.

Hawker, the daring English aviator failed to fly across the ocean and the American aviators have succeeded in their attempt though in a less daring manner. But the success of one no more than the failure of the other establishes even a probability of that means of crossing the sea as a commercial enterprise.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

A. W. Lee Sr., of Clearfield, has presented Trinity Methodist Episcopal church with \$25,000 to be used for a parish home to be built at that place.

Governor Sproull's office has announced approval of warrants for the electrocution of Peter Smallock, of Northumberland county, and William Brown, of Clearfield county, in the week of June 16th.

Four thousand dollars of the \$6000 necessary to complete Millin county's quota of the Salvation Army campaign has already been subscribed and the balance will be covered by the sale of doughnuts.

Carl B. Smithers, who on April 1, 1917, escaped from the Kansas State prison, where he was undergoing a life sentence after being convicted of murdering his sweetheart, is in the Montour county jail awaiting extradition papers.

A hall storm two and a half miles in width which swept across Sugar Valley in the vicinity of Logan last Friday evening, covered the ground until it looked as if snow had fallen and in places the hail stones were piled by surface water to a depth of eighteen to twenty inches, doing great damage to crops.

Claiming damages to the amount of \$10,000 because he was "greatly bruised, wounded, became sick and sore and sustained a broken nose," Samuel Heller, of Allentown, has begun suit against his partner in the glazing business, Max Noche, as the result of a fight in which the two men indulged last Tuesday.

Michael McKnight, an acetylene gas burner, of Johnstown, was killed in an unusual manner the other day. He was burning holes in a piece of steel plate which he rested on an oxygen tank carrying 1,500 pounds pressure. The flame of the burner melted its way through the plate but also pierced the tank. The intense pressure blew the plate into the man's face, causing instant death.

Damages to the amount of \$1,456 were awarded Joseph G. Stine, of Greenfield township, Blair county, by a Blair county jury against the W. H. Herr estate for injuries resulting from an attack by a bull at the public sale of Herr's effects near Claysburg. Stine was three times knocked against the stable by the bull and then tossed over its head thirty feet to a manure pile. His left leg was fractured.

Joseph Wolfe, son of Councilman George Wolfe, of St. Clair, Pa., had one of the most unique experiences of the war, according to his comrades. Wolfe is an expert horsehoer, and while putting a shoe on a horse in France he was astonished to find the animal collapse upon him. Looking to see what was the matter, Wolfe saw a shell had taken the horse's head off, cutting it as clean as if done by a knife.

The Girard Water company, owned by the estate of Stephen Girard, has let a contract to the Central Construction company of Harrisburg, for the construction of an additional reservoir near Ringtown, not far from Shenandoah. The dam, which will cost approximately \$200,000, will be completed in about eight months and when it is put into service will go far toward obviating summer water famines which have hampered collieries and communities in the Mahanoy valley.

The new state bounty law will become effective next Monday. Under its provisions the bounties will be paid directly by the State Game Commission which will draw the funds from the State Game Warden's licenses set aside for that purpose and account to the Auditor General. At present the bounties are paid by first passing through the Auditor General's department and owing to pressure of business are often delayed. The bounties for wild cats are reduced to 85¢ and for weasels to 82¢.

To have your hat forced off of your head by your hair standing on end was the thrilling experience of David Jones, of McKean county, the other day. Jones and James Seiger were returning home from their day's work in the oil fields near Dahoga when a large bear jumped up in front of them. When Bruin growled at the two men, Jones became so badly frightened his hair standing on end forced his hat off. While Seiger was also badly frightened, it was not to the same extent as Jones.

Whether Harrisburg is to pay Dauphin county \$150,000 if a joint court house and city hall is erected on the site of the present court house, in Harrisburg, is the cause of the first controversy to arise over the proposed building. A movement has been started to abandon the site and purchase a number of lots on Walnut street facing the Capitol Park extension. A committee consisting of County Commissioners Gross and W. Burnett and City Commissioner Cumber, has been appointed to have an architect make preliminary estimates for the joint office building, which probably will cost \$1,000,000.

Adle Mogie, of Alfarrata, Huntingdon county, while visiting one of the foreigner's shanties at that place about 7:30 on Saturday night got into a controversy with two young foreigners and after some words started out to go home. While outside two of the foreigners attacked Mr. Mogie and stabbed him three times, in the back, two cuts being close to vital organs. The wounds are not of a dangerous nature but are very painful and will cause him to be laid up for several weeks. The state constabulary was called and went to the scene and arrested Joe Valia, the other man escaping on a motorcycle. Dr. Beck was summoned and rendered aid to Mr. Mogie.

Following a lovers' quarrel, Palmer Lilly, aged 18, of Northampton, on Monday shot and killed his sweetheart, Mava Newhard, of Kredsersville, while they were seated in a field near Northampton. Lilly then shot and killed himself. The gun with which the young man killed the girl was held so close to her body that her clothing became ignited and when the bodies of the young pair were found shortly before the supper hour by some children who were out picking flowers, the body of the girl had been almost completely destroyed by fire. A note written before the deed was committed and left in the young man's hat, gave jealousy as the motive for the crime.

Imagining that a murderer was following him and escaping from a Reading, Pa., hospital at two o'clock Tuesday morning, George W. Wise, fifty years of age, an insane patient, threw a pursuing nurse down a high embankment in the city park, opposite the hospital, and then smashed in the plate glass window of the home of S. S. Schwenner, a merchant, facing the park. Entering the Schwenner's bedroom, Wise nearly frightened the merchant and his wife out of their senses and fought like a fiend with policemen summoned by the wounded nurse. The latter was Miss Nellie Coll, night attendant in Wise's ward. Three officers and a physician were cut, scratched and bitten in getting the man back into the hospital.