

Democratic Watchman

INK SLINGS.

A glance into the average garden these days will tell you quickly why June is called the month of roses.

—Standing for a principle has kept popularity away from many a man until it was too late to be of any use to him.

—A week from tomorrow will be the longest day of the year. Better begin to give the coal bin some thought for next winter.

—Bolshevism won't thrive where there is fair play. Remember this when you are tempted to do to the other fellow what you wouldn't want him to do to you.

—A Memorial day without a thunder shower was so unusual that it was asking too much of the weather man to give Penn State a bacalaureate Sunday without one.

—Today Germany will be handed our answer to her counter proposals and she will be allowed only five days more in which to sign or reject the peace covenant.

—Wisconsin and Michigan have joined Illinois in ratifying the Suffrage amendment to the federal constitution. Governor Smith, of New York has called that Legislature of that State in extraordinary session for the sole purpose of acting on the amendment.

—In the eyes of the average Republican Penrose becomes an able leader and a great statesman just as soon as he proves that he is still in the saddle. When he shows signs of losing the reins many of them believe what Ellhu Reed said of him not so very long ago.

—Gradually our pleasant relations with England are being strained by the ulterior motives of pin-headed statesmen and the yellow press of this country. It is to be regretted for just such steps lead on to the serious situations from which we are now trying to extricate ourselves.

—The Williamsport Sun raises the question as to whether the returned soldier will be contented on the farm, after having seen Paris. All of our intercourse with the returned soldier leads us to believe that he has never had so much respect and love for the farm as has sprung up in his heart since seeing Paris.

—In other words the American Federation of Labor is insisting that the government take over the railroads by mortgaging other people's property and giving to it wages higher, almost, than any other class of men earn and, in addition, a pro-rata distribution of the net earnings of the roads. Wouldn't that be the soft proposition.

—The latest tip that the "old tank" is passing around is to the effect that the saloons will close on July 1st, but open again by authority of Congress on Labor day. This is based on a supposed poll of Congress which shows it favorably to rescinding the war-time regulation on Labor day, at which time the army will be entirely demobilized.

—What's the use? A man who has gone dry all of July and August might as well stay dry as have to go through all the throes again in January.

—The very evident interest which the foreigners in our midst are taking in the local movement to Americanize them is proof of what the "Watchman" said long ago to the effect that if these new comers are left isolated, with no opportunity to intermingle and fraternize with the native born there can be little hope of their ever being anything else than foreigners.

—Be a part of the great melting pot. Greet and treat your non-English speaking neighbor like you do the one who speaks your own tongue and you will make a wonderful friend and help make a good American citizen before you know it.

—Ex-President Taft spoke at Lewistown Monday night and his argument for the League of Nations was as forceful as all of his speeches on the subject have been. When he answered critics of the League who insist that it will keep us embroiled in foreign warfare by comparing its international powers with our local police force he brought home to the least comprehensive mind the fullest realization of how it will have force to compel respect for its mandates, but will not have to use it any more than the police of a town have to use their billies to preserve order. It is their uniform that commands respect for the laws they are commissioned to enforce and they rarely have to club heads and shoot down people.

—If Borah, Lodge and a lot of others in the Senate would get down to constructive legislation it would be more to the point than spending all their time in criticism and investigation of matters of which the public cares little. Here they have started a laborious and expensive investigation of how the full text of the peace treaty fell into the hands of some unnamed New Yorker before any Member of Congress got a glimpse of it. What difference is it going to make to anyone? The digest of the treaty, as cabled here upon its presentation to the Germans, is admitted by these obstructive Senators to be a true resume of the covenant in every respect except in some unessential details. The Germans had the complete text and could very easily have sent copies of it to this country to fall into the hands of bankers, bakers or candlestick makers. It seems to us that all this ado about nothing might more appropriately emanate from some old ladies home than from the Senate of the United States.

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STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Prohibition Fixed Finally.

In their contention that the Prohibition amendment to the Federal constitution was not legally ratified, the liquor interests are plainly "trusting in the staff of a broken reed."

Article V of the Federal constitution declares that "the Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode may be proposed by Congress."

From the beginning of the government under the constitution, no amendment to the constitution, after being ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures, has been repealed or revoked. With the present number of States a resolution to repeal the Prohibition amendment would require a two-thirds majority in each House of Congress and ratification by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States. The impossibility of that must be apparent to even the most sanguine advocate of the liquor traffic.

It cost the public treasury \$500.00 to get the spurious copy of the covenant of the League of Nations printed in the Congressional Record but as Senator Borah doesn't have to pay much of the amount he doesn't care for the expense.

Governor of Texas Sounds Alarm.

Conditions on the Texas border may not be as tranquil as they might but the Secretary of War was wise in asking for corroborative evidence of the alarming state indicated by the Governor of Texas in asking that a couple of brigades of Texas cavalry be called into the Federal service to protect the people of Texas from Mexican banditti.

Texas are emotional and ready fighters but they are also prudent folk and in the matter of self preservation "look long before they leap." Possibly, therefore, the Governor of Texas is simply taking a long view of industrial conditions and has in mind the providing of employment of a considerable number of Texans who might otherwise be idle during the period of passing from war to peace conditions.

On the other hand things do look a trifle menacing on the Texas border and on the principle that "a stitch in time saves nine," it might be well to provide against possible danger by making it more difficult. But whatever steps are taken with respect to our relations with Mexico it should be kept in mind that Carranza is one of the most despicable creatures masquerading in human form.

The Democrats in Congress should see to it that the investigation of the war service is vigorous and thorough. The people of this country have no objection to expenses if the money is honestly spent for a righteous purpose.

Confusing Features in Legislation.

The record of those Philadelphia reform bills in the Pennsylvania Legislature is confusing. In the beginning the reformers asked for a charter providing for a single council of twenty-one members. The Vares declared that they would consent to only a single council with a membership of twenty-seven.

Early last week the measure was taken up for consideration in the House committee and at the instance of the reformers amended to provide for a councilmatic body of twenty-seven members, the number originally demanded by the Vares and endorsed by the Governor.

Last Monday a vast force of reformers went to Harrisburg but on the way compromised with the Attorney General on a council of the proportions originally demanded by the reformers. It appears that in the smaller body the Vares have a better vote to get up time so that the final vote on the measure might be postponed until after the close of the session.

Governor Sproul has promised the suffragists of this State that he will urge the ratification of the Suffrage amendment at this session and we will soon find out who is boss of the General Assembly.

Disreputable Trio in New Party.

We avail ourselves of the earliest opportunity to congratulate or commiserate the public upon the fact that Senator Reed, of Missouri; Senator Borah, of Idaho, and William Randolph Hearst are about to start, or organize, or launch, a new party. The event is contingent upon the ratification of the peace treaty.

A new party is the invariable refuge of a political grouch who for any reason has lost the confidence of the party to which he had previously been attached. Senator Reed, for example, has been repudiated by his party in Washington and at home.

With respect to Hearst it is hardly worth-while to speak. During the recent war he was at heart a traitor but maintained a false pretense of loyalty in the hope that it would bring profits to his several yellow newspapers.

We can hardly believe that Reed, Borah, and Hearst will organize a new party without inviting Lodge and Jeremiah O'Leary to come in as charter members.

Senator Lodge's Mare's Nest.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, whose partisan malice has made him mad, revealed another mare's nest the other day. He visited New York to attend a funeral and upon his return solemnly declared that he had been shown a copy of the covenant of the League of Nations.

If Senator Lodge had said frankly that one of his rich New York friends had shown him the convention and given the name of the person, his announcement would hardly have created a ripple either in the Senate or throughout the country.

As we have previously stated the covenant of the League of Nations is a part of the peace conditions which are yet in process of preparation. It was the intention of the Peace Conference to make no part of the work public officially until all parts were complete.

There have been a good many strong reasons advanced in favor of prohibition but the strongest of all is that it will put an end to after dinner speeches.

The Pennsylvania State Grange is working hard to have the State Senate pass House bill 285 which provides for the protection and improvement of the forests of Pennsylvania, and among the reasons given are the facts that there are six million acres of land in the State that are either too rough and mountainous, or in other ways unsuitable for cultivation.

Illinois has had the honor of being the first State to ratify the federal suffrage amendment. The vote was unanimous in the House and had but one dissenter in the Senate.

The Sunday Dispatch, of Philadelphia, recently contained a very good picture of select councilman Ira D. Garman, of the Forty-sixth ward, that city, who is favorably mentioned as one of the members of councils under the new city charter that is now being pushed through the Legislature.

For high class job work come to the "Watchman" office.

A REFORMED PHILOSOPHER.

By James J. Montague.

We used to consider it smart to belong to the calm, philosophical school. We stoutly contended that nothing was wrong:

"Why worry?" was always our rule. We hadn't the money to purchase a house. So we rented a trim little flat. "We'll be just as happy," we said to our spouse:

"And add to our savings at that." When liquor went up to a dollar a drink it garnered our goat for a while. But after a long, philosophical think we awaited July with a smile.

"Perhaps we've been taking a trifle too much." We murmured, stout-hearted and brave; "Hereafter we'll tiddle on sodas and such. And think of the money we'll save!"

The violent jump in quotations on meat We viewed with no inward disquiet. We calmly determined we only should eat an all-vegetarian diet.

So we're off the philosophy stuff!

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FLAG.

Glorious Record From January 18, 1776, to Its Proud Position in the World in 1919.

The Stars and Stripes were raised on the heights near Boston on January 13, 1776, and the British troops believed it to be evidence of submission to the king.

When Kentucky and Vermont came into the Union in 1794 two additional stars were placed on the field, but they were discarded after much debate in Congress and the original thirteen were restored in 1818.

THE FINDING OF OLD GLORY.

When the day came that our revolutionary fathers needed to design a flag for the new nation of their heroic founding, they had but to lift their eyes to the heavens to find the banner of their faith and pride.

WHAT THE FLAG SYMBOLIZES.

In 1777, within a few days of one year after the declaration of independence, the congress of the colonies in the confederate States assembled and ordained this glorious national flag and advanced it full high before God.

General Pershing protests that he didn't ask permission to cross the sea in a flying machine. The luxurious liners are good enough for the General.

The German Chancellor is doing his best for the Fatherland but Senator Borah has him distanced a mile in efficiency at the work.

Now that he has done his best to serve them it is to be hoped that the Vares will cancel their mortgage on the Governor.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The annual reunion of the Fifth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteer infantry, Spanish-American war veterans, will be held at Clearfield this year, and arrangements are being made to make it the biggest in the history of the organization.

Permits for over 400 camp sites on the State's forestry reserves have been issued by the State Department of Forestry to people who wish to use the public lands for summer camps and for fishing.

Over 2,500 foreign born residents of Northumberland county, principally from Shamokin, Mt. Carmel and other coal region cities, have filed applications for naturalization papers in the office of the notary of that county.

Over in Saxton, living peacefully along the shores of the Raystown branch, and in love with Bedford county's hills, resides David B. Weaver, the last surviving member of the party which first discovered the placer mines of Montana.

Last week was one for fractures for the A. B. Ellis family, of Blossburg. His son broke an arm cranking a motor car. Next day his daughter fell down the river bank and broke an arm.

Private Cyril McCarthy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McCarthy, of St. Marys, is said to be the youngest soldier in Elk or adjoining counties. He enlisted in the aviation service in December, 1917, being then just three months past sixteen years of age.

The Bureau of Statistics Department of Agriculture, reports that the prospect for a full crop of fruit in Pennsylvania is as follows: Apples, 51 per cent.; peaches, 68 per cent.; cherries, 66 per cent.; plums, 65 per cent.; and grapes 62 per cent. As this information was gathered on or about May first, only a few days after the freeze of April 24-26, the next report may show condition and outlook much above or below these figures.

While working along the Pennsylvania railroad track near Juniata bridge, east of Altoona, last Saturday, W. F. Dehaven was struck on the head by a whiskey bottle thrown from a passenger train, sustaining a painful injury.

With potato warts in the ground, 17-year locusts on the surface and starlings appearing in the air to chase off insectivorous birds, farmers in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania were further discouraged this week to learn that the clover weevil has put in an appearance to menace the hay crop.

Ruth, the two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claire Neff, of Conaitop, was ground to pieces Thursday, the 10th, when she tumbled in front of a train on the Cambria and Clearfield division.

The Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Johnstown was attended by 1200 delegates, with about 400 representatives to the annual meeting of the Daughters of Rebekah.

Much excitement has been created in the vicinity of Lyndell, Chester county, by the discovery of oil on the McClure farm by John J. Lewis, a storekeeper, who noticed it floating on the surface of the Brandywine and gathered samples.

Cash was the only thing Jonas Wiest, a wealthy resident of Herndon, would accept from Sheriff Jeremiah, of Northumberland county, in settlement of a \$5000 judgment the Sheriff had collected for him.

Strangely, a bolt of lightning that struck a steel flagstaff towering above the Pennsylvania railroad yards at Northumberland, shattered the metal, splitting it in twain, but failed to damage a single rivet.

When she was seized with cramps while in bathing in the Susquehanna river at Sunbury, Miss Minnie Lufar, eighteen years of age, had gone down twice in twelve feet of water, when rescued from the national army, overseas her life in desperate efforts.

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