

INK SLINGS.

—Anyway there will be no excuse for a shortage of natural ice next summer.

—There will be a few oases, of course, but after today the desert of Sahara won't have much on these good old United States.

—The folly of sending politicians to the work of statesmen should be credited with the failure to ratify the peace treaty and the league covenant.

—Consternation is evident in many quarters as it becomes known that the States can't repeal their ratification of the Prohibition amendment. Eggs once scrambled can't be unscrambled.

—The appointment of Charles E. Dorworth as a member of the State Water Commission carries a double advantage to him. In addition to a handsome salary it affords him opportunity to fish in every stream in the Commonwealth.

—Surely this will be a great day in the history of the United States. No matter how it's anniversary may be observed in the future; in the years yet to come it can never mean to any one just what it means to the parents of the boys and girls of today.

—Half of January is gone and Congress has done nothing in the way of railroad legislation. Will March find the roads being turned back to private control without any governmental guarantee of support during their period of reconstruction.

—Farmers have good cause to worry lest the coat of ice that is now covering most of the grain fields of the county smother the wheat as it did a few years ago when what had been a most promising looking crop in the fall turned out nearly a fifty per cent. loss in the spring.

—The aviator who made the forced landing in the trees on top of the mountain near Cherry Run has at least partially exploded the theory that it is extra hazardous to fly over mountainous country. He got down with scarcely a scratch for himself but a badly wrecked plane and the latter result very frequently happens on less difficult landing ground.

—On Friday afternoon last a copy of the "Watchman" was carried to the postoffice in this place where it was mailed for delivery to a resident of Linn street. At noon on Tuesday the paper was delivered at its destination. Four days to go four squares is some speed in mail distribution and probably that is one of the reasons that the "Watchman" that is mailed here on Thursday night does not reach Chicago until the following Wednesday at noon.

—My what a lot of talk there is about state rights these days. A lot of fellows who, for convenience, were willing to let this fundamental principle of democracy gradually disappear in the discard are now holding their hands up in holy horror because it is violated by the Prohibition amendment. For years the "Watchman" has inveighed against centralization of government, but it has come and if it has hit some where it hurts most it is their fault and, so far as it applies to prohibition, we're mighty glad of it.

—All this agitation in the Pennsylvania Farmers' Alliance over the effect that air planes have on cattle and horses, when skimming over their farms, seems to us the veriest piffle. Many years ago it was the steam locomotive, then the steam-threshing outfit and then the automobile. Horses and cattle took fright for awhile but naturally became so accustomed to the innovations that now they are more indifferent to their passing than most humans. In fact the gentle cow looks with such indifference on the approaching motor that nine out of every ten drivers breaks the third commandment every time he meets one on the highway.

—Let us hope that the constitutional revision committee will finally come around to the adoption of some plan for the distribution of state aid to public and semi-public institutions that will remove them from the biennial machinations of legislative logrolling. Many country members find themselves completely at the mercy of those from the larger cities because of their responsibility for appropriations to public institutions that may be located in their home counties. For fear that their local institutions will not be properly cared for they "go along" on special legislation that often times would never get through without such support. And the institutions, themselves, are continually at the disadvantage of not having a known income on which their development can be planned.

—We note that Governor Sproul has appointed Judge Westcott as a member of the Philadelphia board of registration assessors. Governor Sproul is a college chum and friend of A. Mitchell Palmer. Judge Westcott is the friend and political associate of Charles P. Donnelly who put him forward for the appointment and Charles P. Donnelly is the political partner of A. Mitchell Palmer in Philadelphia and he is the same Charles P. Donnelly of whom Mr. Palmer said a few years ago that the party had to be purged before it could be reorganized. A lot of Democrats who were caught by that stuff must just naturally be wondering whether the party ever has been reorganized or whether it really didn't just turn out one set of leaders in order to take on another set more selfish and less astute.

Democratic Watchman

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Treaty Likely to be Ratified.

The friends of the Peace Treaty in Washington are now hopeful that it will be ratified by the Senate and that the vote will be taken in time for the United States to participate in the first session of the League of Nations to be held in Paris today.

The Lodge reservation with respect to Article 10 of the covenant is admitted to be impossible. It would practically annul the covenant for the reason that it absolves the United States from any obligations under the treaty. The purpose of the treaty is to prevent war in the future by a pledge of united action upon the part of signatories, to punish deliberate and wanton acts of war.

The friends of the Treaty in the Senate have about reached the conclusion that most of the other reservations are innocuous and not worth fighting. They are simply the product of party prejudice and personal malice. Every interest of the people of the United States was carefully guarded in the original text of the covenant. But the vanity of small minds was aroused by the thought that President Wilson and the Democratic party might score a triumph if the treaty were adopted as written.

—A crowd of about eight hundred men stormed the hotel in Georgetown, Delaware, at which a special officer of the State Board of Health was stopping preparatory to enforcing vaccination of the school children of that place and ran him out of town. Almost we are persuaded to believe that our friend Burd Butler must have been visiting in Georgetown at the time.

Bryan's Base Surrender.

When Mr. Bryan, in his Jackson day speech, proposed to surrender to the Senatorial conspirators on the subject of the peace treaty, he flatly contradicted all his professions of faith made within the period since he was nominated for President twenty years ago. His voice has always been for the people and against the oligarchy of office.

In his Jackson day speech Mr. Bryan said: "The Republicans have a majority in the Senate and, therefore, can by right dictate the Senate's course. Being in the minority, we cannot demand the right to decide the terms upon which the Senate will consent to ratification. Our nation has spent 100,000 precious lives and more than twenty billions of dollars to make the world safe for democracy and the one fundamental principle of democracy is the right of the majority to rule."

The right of the majority to rule is and always will be a fundamental principle of democracy. But there is no tenet in the faith which requires a majority of the people to yield without resistance to the malice of a few men who have set themselves up to rule or ruin. If the majority in a Legislative body is to rule absolutely there would be no reason for a minority to attend the sessions and if a minority consented to such a sacrifice of right it would be unworthy a constituency. The rule of the majority means the rule of the majority of the people and not of the Senate.

Liberty Not Hopelessly Outraged.

Congressman Mann, of Chicago, is unduly exercised over the treatment of Mr. Berger, of Milwaukee. He imagines that the principle of personal liberty has been outraged beyond recovery because Mr. Berger has been refused a seat in Congress the second time. The people of Milwaukee are entitled to representation in the House of Representatives, he contends vehemently, and the right to select their own representative is incidental and inherent.

The people of the Congressional district in Milwaukee in which Mr. Victor Berger lives have a right to representation in Congress only if they elect a Representative eligible to the office. They have no right to claim the seat for an alien, even though every other voter in the district favored such a perversion of the franchise. They have no right to elect a boy of twenty years of age and if they choose to elect a criminal the House has a constitutional right to refuse him a seat.

It affords us pleasure to assure Mr. Mann that neither the Goddess nor the spirit of Liberty is outraged by the refusal of Congress to allow Mr. Berger to participate in the enactment of legislation for the government of the people of the United States. The people of the district that elected him are deprived of representation by the incident, but if they persist in flouting decency by electing a man of Berger's type while he is under sentence of imprisonment, they deserve the punishment implied. An act disfranchising the whole populace would about fit their offence and it is certainly the duty of Congress to refuse a seat to Berger every time he is elected.

—In order to stimulate greater interest for the modern health crusade, the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis is announcing that four banners will be awarded to counties making the best records in the crusade during the latter half of the school year 1919-1920. Full particulars will be found on the inside page of this issue. All pupils from the fourth to eighth grades in the Bellefonte public schools are enrolled in this second tourney and we hope other schools in the county will help us make ours a banner county.

Governor Sproul an Easy Boss.

Governor Sproul has made up his mind that there shall be no scrap in the Republican party over the selection of candidates for State offices this year. Some time ago the indications were strong for a vigorous fight. There is a candidate for Justice of the Supreme court to nominate and candidates will be named for Auditor General, State Treasurer and United States Senator, and there were signs of a disagreement upon the selection of a chairman of the State committee.

But aspirants for the other nominations were not so easy to suppress. For the office of Justice of the Supreme court there is a widespread sentiment in favor of Judge Kunkel, of Harrisburg, who carried three-fourths of the counties when he ran for the office three or four years ago. Kunkel is widely known and highly esteemed as the jurist who tried the capitol graft cases and sent some of the party leaders to the penitentiary. Philadelphia and Pittsburgh defeated him then but the margin against him was so meagre that the bosses are a trifle afraid of him this time.

Of course Charlie Snyder will be taken care of in the deal and the plan is to transfer him across the corridor to the office of State Treasurer. When Charlie "got his feet wet" in the capitol building a few years ago it meant permanence for he never lets go of an office until there is another in view. Colonel Martin, of Green county, is to be the candidate for Auditor General by the same decree, though Samuel T. Lewis, of York, hitherto in high favor, wants that far badly. The new Governor is certainly developing high qualities as a boss and as he gets along without protest he appears to be an easy boss at that. No other leader succeeded so completely.

Democratic Work of Six Years.

There were a good many speeches made at the "double-header" Jackson day celebration in Washington last week but the really appropriate and actually compelling address was delivered by Champ Clark, of Missouri. Others spoke eloquently of ideals but Mr. Clark addressed himself to achievements.

"For instance," Mr. Clark continued, "we put upon the statute books the income tax law for which some of us had been struggling for a quarter of a century." The election of United States Senators by the people, the admission to Statehood of Arizona and New Mexico, bills for the prevention of the corrupt use of money at elections, establishing the Trade Commission, the War Risk insurance, the ship purchase, the Clayton anti-trust law, a better Philippine bill, the Underwood tariff bill, a conservation bill, a land bank bill and the Federal Reserve Bank law. Under the operation of these beneficent measures prosperity, such as had never been seen before, was established and maintained.

"Judge a tree by its fruits," and upon this record the Democratic party has a just right to ask for popular endorsement. For years the Republican party in full power and authority had been promising such legislation but failed to fulfill the promises. But within the brief period of six years the Democratic party accomplished these things and more. It created and transported across the sea an army of more than two million men, put under training an equal force at home and armed and equipped all without scandal and free of corruption. Any citizen may be proud of membership in such a party and the leaders of the Democratic party may demand a renewal of the lease thus honored.

—It does look funny that Russians can keep up a war so long when they have no money to buy food. There is an old tradition that war is expensive and we all know what the "sineews of war" are.

Capt. Dick Taylor Called to a Place in Washington.

Capt. E. R. (Dick) Taylor has been tendered and has accepted a post in Washington. He will be connected with the Department of Justice and starts in a position carrying a salary of \$2500.00 a year.

The announcement of Capt. Taylor's appointment was made yesterday by Col. J. L. Spangler upon receipt of a telegram from Attorney General Palmer announcing that the position was open for the distinguished young Centre county soldier.

If this appointment is to be credited to the interest of Mr. Palmer we congratulate the gentleman on having done something that will receive the heartiest endorsement of the Democrats of the county. Capt. Taylor's war record alone merits the recognition he has received but aside from that he has many other qualities that recommend him as a man who will give the country faithful and capable service in the position to which he has been called.

—If it were a matter worth while probably a lot of people would be inquiring which side of the peace treaty question former President Taft is on this week.

—The Attorney General doesn't seem to be the right man to force prices down. Every time he tackles a particular case the prices go up.

—Attending the Democratic National convention this year will be an expensive luxury. San Francisco is almost as far away as Tipperary.

—If Mr. Bryan ever was "knocked into a cocked hat" he may have been slightly disfigured but it can't be said that he is not still in the ring.

—Probably Mr. Bryan would like to have the Commoner's name changed to the "Government Bulletin" but was too modest to say so.

—Maybe that naval officer who thinks that he kept Spain from joining Germany in the late war thinks of running for President.

—The lawyers are getting more out of John Barleycorn dead than they ever hoped for while he was alive andavoring.

—Nobody knows where the ship carrying Emma Goldman sailed for and nobody seems to care whether it got there or not.

HUNTING AS IT USED TO BE.

"Watchman" readers down Nittany valley will read with interest the following article from Will Truckenmiller, a former resident of Hubbersburg and at one time a regular contributor to this paper. Years ago he went west and now is located at Blackfalds, Alberta, Canada.

Dear "Watchman" Editor: In reading my last week's "Watchman" I saw the account of the McMullen party's hunt in Little Sugar valley and it made me think of a deer hunt I once took part in at the old Hines orchard.

I went into the orchard one cold morning and discovered that deer were feeding on some little sweet apples. Thinking that if I waited I might get a shot I hid by the fence and strained my eyes and ears for at least two hours, but no deer came. The only living thing in sight was a squirrel that kept running up and down a hickory tree a few hundred yards away.

At last, cold and disgusted, I left my hiding place and went over to the hickory tree and shot the squirrel, and then, with the crack of my gun, I saw not one hundred yards distant a white flag flutter and a nice deer went leaping into the bushes.

Oh, many a hunt have I taken since then, successful and unsuccessful! Deer and antelope, geese and brant, ducks and cranes and prairie chickens have been included in my trophies. When I was first in northern Montana it would have been possible to kill twenty to thirty antelope in a day, had I so desired. When homesteading in North Dakota I could take my gun any evening and get a half dozen quacks or prairie chickens.

And spring and fall, when the vast flocks of geese and brant were migrating, I went out with a trained hunting dog and gathered them in by the dozen; or digging a pit and putting out decoys I let them come to me instead of going after them. But the cranes, the sand hill and the great white, whooping cranes, the man who got one of those earned his game. They were most difficult of approach and hard to shoot.

The numbers of these birds, especially brant, that fed on the Dakota grain fields every fall were so vast as to be almost beyond belief. There were millions of them. But along about the years 1894 and 1895 they began to grow fewer in number until today only a few scattering thousands feed where the millions fed in years gone by.

And the herds of antelope that roamed in Montana and southern Alberta are all gone, victims of the peeping rifle and the game hog.

Even here in central Alberta the game has almost vanished. Scarcely a deer is left. In fact I did not see a deer track the past year, and I, who used to go out on hunting trips of a week's duration, contented myself last fall with a dozen pheasants, eight ducks and one rabbit.

WILL TRUCKENMILLER.

Editor Dorworth Appointed a State Water Commissioner.

Governor Sproul last Thursday appointed Charles E. Dorworth, of Bellefonte, editor of the Bellefonte Republican, a member of the state board of water supply commissioners to take the place of R. A. Zentmyer, of Tyrone, whose term had expired. Very few people in Bellefonte knew that Mr. Dorworth was an applicant for the appointment until they saw the announcement in Friday morning's papers that he had been named for the place.

The position pays \$3,000 a year and expenses. The work connected with it is of such a character that it will not take much of his time from his duties of conducting his paper. We congratulate our fellow journalist on his good fortune especially because we believe the appointment comes more as recognition of faithful service to his party while he was doing political work on Pittsburgh and Philadelphia papers, before he assumed control of the Republican, than through interest of local leaders. While we would not minimize the help Mr. Dorworth most certainly must have had from the local organization we view his appointment more as a personal recognition than anything else for the men who are in the saddle in the Republican party in Pennsylvania today are the men among whom he began his metropolitan newspaper work and they knew him then to be what he is today a man who will make a very capable official and be a credit to the administration that has honored him with this appointment.

Clemenceau is pleading for big families in France. Wonder if he imagines that our failure to join the League of Nations will encourage Germany to try it again.

—They are all good enough, but the "Watchman" is always the best.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—The old Edgewood Park hotel near the Shamokin recreation park, in which fortunes have been made and lost in the last twenty years, was sold last week for \$2,000 to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Rakosky, who will convert the hostelry into a dwelling house.

—One of the most important gatherings of Elks in Central Pennsylvania will be that at Williamsport, February 23rd, when Grand Exalted Ruler Rain and his staff will assist in the initiation of a class of 50 into that lodge. A banquet in honor of the visitors will be held in the evening.

—Samuel Hurd, former tax collector of Lamar township, Clinton county, who left for parts unknown early in 1919, leaving a shortage in his accounts, has been taken into custody at Miami, Florida, and is being held awaiting extradition to face charges in Clinton county.

—Mrs. Edward Falk, of Williamsport, died to death one day last week after having several teeth extracted. She was a patient in the Williamsport Private hospital following an operation, when that institution was destroyed by fire two years ago. It was feared that the excitement of the fire would cause her death, but she recovered from that illness.

—Jacques Davies, who gained an enviable record for bravery and daring as a flier in the United States air service during the war, shot and killed himself on the main street of Mahanoy City, on Sunday afternoon, when he discovered his sweetheart, Miss Violet Stahler, a telephone operator, with another man. Davies resided with his mother in Reading.

—D. C. LaRoss, 60 years old, is dead at Lewisport after suffering for more than a year from a carbuncle on his jaw which later caused cancer. Deceased was a native of Hummelstown, and went to Lewisport forty years ago to work for the Standard Steel Works company. Thirty-three years of this time he spent as foreman at the "Hub" hammer in the forge shop.

—When Anthony Orasky, arrived at Mahanoy City from Scranton on Monday, he was arrested by detective Samuel C. Samuels for the murder of John Cherba, of Mahanoy City, almost five years ago. George Homanyek, a fellow country-man, gave the information leading to the arrest. Orasky has made a partial confession, and is in the county jail at Pottsville. Cherba was shot to death and robbed of his pay as he was homeward bound from the mines, April 28th, 1915, leaving a widow and eight children.

—As Mrs. Matilda Briceland, cashier of the Briceland furniture store in Federal street, Pittsburgh, stepped from a street car in St. Luke's square Saturday, at midnight, William Hurley got off, too, and just as the car moved away Mrs. Briceland's purse, containing \$500, was snatched from her hand. Responding to the woman's screams, several persons, including policeman William Dougherty, chased Hurley. The fugitive had a good start and would have escaped if his trousers hadn't caught on an iron picket fence in an alley. Dougherty got him and recovered the money.

—Five hundred and fifty-two gallons of whiskey, in twelve barrels, were stolen from the McHenry distillery at Benton, Columbia county, last Wednesday night. The liquor, which had been in bond eight months, was valued at \$10,000. As the distillery was under the care of a number of government men, the theft constitutes an offense against the government and secret service men are making a search for the guilty parties. Heavy iron bars on the doors were cut during the night and the twelve barrels selected were rolled out and loaded in automobile trucks. There were about two hundred barrels of whiskey in the warehouse.

—As Gerald Moore and Leonard Eck, each about twelve years of age, of Limestone township, Clinton county, were coming down the Millport hill on their way from school last Friday, they heard a peculiar noise in the woods along the road, and upon investigation were confronted by a wildcat, which showed every evidence of being ready to fight. The boys, thoroughly frightened, made a short pause and then started to run for a neighbor's about an eighth of a mile away. As the wildcat followed them all the way. As the boys reached the house in safety the animal abandoned the chase and went up a nearby mountain.

—Dr. J. George Becht, deputy state superintendent of public instruction, has been slated to succeed Dr. John P. Garber, superintendent of schools in Philadelphia, according to reports from the Quaker city. John Wanamaker, a member of the school board announced that Dr. Garber had agreed to resign at the end of his term. It is understood that four members of the board have interviewed the Harrisburg official concerning the position, but no announcement will be made of the identity of the new head until Dr. Garber resigns. This will take place within the next few months, as the school head is almost eligible for the retirement list.

—The profits of last year's Allentown fair, according to the report of the auditors, were \$21,556.95, the largest in the history of the society. The receipts of the fair also reached a record mark, aggregating \$108,537.40. Among the big items of expense were \$18,000 in premiums for speed, \$6000 were for poultry, and \$10,000 for the restoration of the grounds after the abandonment of the ambulance camp, which did not nearly pay for necessary repairs and improvements. When the society was formed 67 years ago the par value of the shares was fixed at \$25, with the proviso that no dividends should ever be paid, but that all profits go into improvements and expenditures for the betterment of agriculture. The 884 shares outstanding now have a book value exceeding \$400 each.

—Mrs. Marietta Fuedale, of Mt. Carmel, was awarded a verdict of \$25,500 by a Northumberland county jury last week, in her case against the United States Railroad administration. The verdict was one of the largest ever handed down in a similar case and it is expected that the defendant will carry the case to a higher court. Mrs. Fuedale's husband, Frank Fuedale, was killed on February 15th, 1919, when his automobile stalled on a crossing. Fuedale and his nephew, who was with him, made a frantic effort to flag an engine drawing one car and a cab. The train was going but six miles an hour and could have been stopped, but none of the crew was watching the crossing and the crash was the first intimation they had that the car was stalled in the path of the engine. Negligence in the operation of the train was claimed by the plaintiff.