

INK SLINGS.

—It looks as if China might become the Ireland of the East.

—Truly the righteous are finding it very hard to stand in the slippery places about Bellefonte.

—"Marse" Henry Watterson is gone and no one is left who can stir up the animals with the finesse that he did.

—Ever since having seen the police raid in Bellefonte last week we are wondering who is bossing our minions of the law these days.

—The new Y will fill a wonderful need in this community if our people just lay it on their pocket-books a little bit more and on their hearts and minds a bit less.

—Let's start 1922 with the determination to get back to the basis of 1913 living before 1923 dawns. If we do that we will all be happier then than we are now.

—Does anybody know where Vance McCormick is hiding? We want to lend him to the Republican party of Pennsylvania during the inter-regnum.

—The two Philipsburgers who held up the bank at Karhouse are already in the penitentiary where they will have at least seven years in which to discover that there is no royal road to riches.

—At last it has been discovered what makes the hole in the Swiss cheese. Gas makes the hole and the lactobacillus makes the gas. What a flatulent or garrulous little animal this lactobacillus must be.

—The death of Senator Penrose means more to Lodge than any of the other of his colleagues. Penrose was a stalwart of stalwarts and his power was always supporting the Massachusetts Senator.

—It remains to be seen how well a lot of little fellows will do the work of the one big boss of Pennsylvania Republicans. Penrose will never have a successor and his party machinery will be in low gear often in the future.

—A friend of ours chuckled too soon over having met the New Year by seeing the new moon over his right shoulder. On his way home he fell and smashed a pint that was sandwiched in between the ice and the portion of his anatomy that lit on it.

—That \$2300 balance in the State Treasury at the close of the old year was the lowest amount of record, but now that the State is beginning to realize what an orgy of profligacy there has been at Harrisburg almost it will be willing to count the saving of even \$2300 as magnificent achievement.

—State's football card for next season may turn out to be better than it looks at first glance. Three major games seem to be too few for a ten game schedule, especially when the minor games are so minor. But who can tell? Penn may come through with a real team next fall and then there would be four majors.

—There is much speculation and concern as to what will be the condition of the wheat under the veneer of ice that nature has laid on the low spots in all fields. Certain it is that if it should freeze up again before the ice is perforated enough to give the wheat air much of the grain will be smothered out by spring and the fall promise of a fine crop will not be realized.

—Governor Sproul's declination to resign and have himself catapulted into the United States Senate has elevated him considerably in public esteem. Had he secured the seat by giving way to Lieutenant Governor Beidleman there would always have been the charge that he hadn't the courage to stick to his post when his administration came under the fire of those who are charging it with profligacy.

—When President Wilson was imperturbed to extend executive clemency to Eugene V. Debs he replied: "Were I to consent to it, I should never be able to look into the faces of the mothers of this country who sent their boys to the other side. While the flower of American youth was pouring out its blood to vindicate the cause of civilization this man, Debs, stood behind the lines sniping, attacking and denouncing them." On Christmas President Harding did what President Wilson had declined to do before him and the mothers of this country may think what they will.

—You probably recall that in several of the last issues in the old year we stated that we intended soon to present the name of a man whom we think could unite the Democracy of Pennsylvania for the next gubernatorial campaign and give hope of success. One of our readers in DuBois has written us to the effect that one of our own townsmen ought to be the man we intend naming, not merely because of local pride but because he believes he could get the votes. He has named W. Harrison Walker and says he knows "of six or eight votes he'd get right on our street." We know Mr. Walker is a vote getter in Bellefonte and probably would make just as capable a Governor of Pennsylvania as lots who have occupied that exalted position but we are not going to launch a boom for him. At least not until we learn how long "our street" in DuBois is and what percentage of its total vote the "six or eight" assured is.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 67. BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 6, 1922. NO. 1.

Death of Senator Penrose.

The announcement of the death of Senator Penrose, about midnight of Saturday, came as a shock to the people of the country. He had been a sick man for many months and a year ago the statement of his death would have caused no surprise. But during the year which closed almost simultaneously with the ending of his life he had been so active in public affairs and his intimates have been so persistent in declaring that his health was being restored, that nobody was prepared for the announcement of his death. It came upon him, however, and found him literally "in the harness." His last hours on earth were spent in the fulfillment of his duties as a Senator in Congress.

The public estimate of Senator Penrose's services in official life will vary widely. Friend and foe will alike agree that he was a man of fine ability and most people will agree that his impulses were good. He began his political career as a reformer. Soon after his admission to the practice of law, admirably equipped in legal as well as classical education, he was elected as Representative in the Legislature for the declared purpose of promoting reform legislation and his work fulfilled the highest expectations. His ability soon challenged the attention of the managing politicians and as he passed from one stage to another, always upward, he was drawn into the coils of political chicanery.

It is not our purpose to either condemn or condone his faults. No evil should be spoken of the dead and undeserved praise has a dangerous influence on the public mind. Boies Penrose was made a party leader by the sinister elements in his party and for many years he served those who gave him the opportunity out of gratitude. But during recent years the sentiments which inspired his early service revealed themselves anew and on several occasions he manifested a desire to serve the public rather than the party machine. But he was a very bitter partisan and party exigencies appealed to him more than conscience. It may be said, however, that he was personally honest and that is something altogether worth while and not always found in modern politicians.

—If an English speaking alliance should compel us to join Japan in a quarrel with France who would undertake to say at the tomb of America's great benefactor: "Lafayette, we are here?"

Not Likely to Bring in the Bacon.

The Washington Post, believed to draw inspiration from the White House, suggests Under Secretary of State Henry P. Fletcher as the successor of Boies Penrose in the Senate. Mr. Fletcher is a native of Franklin county and has been a Republican all his life. That is about the only argument which can be set up in favor of the proposition without blushing. He accepted an important office, that of Ambassador to Mexico, at the hands of President Wilson and subsequently used the influence thus acquired to injure his benefactor. That may serve as a recommendation to Senator Lodge and President Harding but is not likely to commend him to the favor of any considerable number of Pennsylvanians.

But the fact calls to mind one of the points most persistently urged against President Wilson during the entire period of his second term. Influences from Germany and through German sympathizers in this country were active in efforts to involve the United States in a war with Mexico for obvious reasons. The representatives of our government in Mexico, heritages from the previous Republican administration, were contributing liberally to this purpose. President Wilson removed the perfidious Ambassador and appointed Fletcher, who appeared to be in full sympathy with the Wilson policy. But before he had been long at his post of duty he adopted the opposite view and in the Presidential campaign became one of the principal speakers against the Democratic candidate.

The incident also calls to mind that though the Wilson Mexican policy was condemned as imbecile and contemptible by the entire battery of Republican orators and newspapers, it has been adopted by the Harding administration and has resulted in the establishment of a peaceful, prosperous and stable government in Mexico. The adoption of the opposite policy, that of provoking war with Mexico, freely advocated by the leading Republicans of the country, might have prolonged the world war a considerable period of time and Mexico would have continued in a condition of banditry for years to come. Mr. Fletcher's part in this conspiracy will hardly merit the reward of a seat in the Senate.

Limitation Conference a Failure.

Signs indicate the final adjournment of the Limitations Conference in Washington within a couple of weeks. Some of the important foreign delegates have already gone home and others are preparing to depart. Yet we are unable to discover any practical results of the labors of the conferees. A month or so ago announcement was made that the foreign representatives had agreed "in principle" to a naval scrapping operation by England, Japan and the United States. Later it was said that an agreement had been reached upon questions of difference between China and Japan. But the President himself has since declared that he doesn't understand the provisions of this agreement.

It may be said, therefore, that if the conference adjourns finally without accomplishing more than has been claimed for it, it will have been simply a waste of time and money. The scrapping of a certain proportion of battleships while the building of airships and submersible craft is continuing with increasing energy works neither the saving of money nor the promotion of peace. The signing of a four power treaty, of the provisions of which nobody has an intelligent understanding, is equally futile. But the conference has served one purpose. It has enabled President Harding and Senator Lodge to strut around as if they were world figures.

The other day the President gave out a suggestion that it might be necessary to assemble another conference to be composed of delegates from all the civilized countries of the world. That would prove more expensive and quite as useless. The League of Nations is now successfully discharging all the duties which such a conference could possibly invent, and the only rational thing for the government of the United States to do is quit fooling the world, stop kidding herself and join the League. Every intelligent person knows that such an international organization is necessary to restore prosperity and secure permanent peace, and that only the absence of this country from membership prevents its completion.

—State Treasurer Charles A. Snyder has announced that he will soon begin paying out the public school appropriations, but owing to the depleted condition of the treasury it may be several months before every school district in the State receives its allotment. Centre county is credited with having 313 teachers, 9,482 school children and its apportionment is \$36,410 under the Woodruff salary act and \$27,952.50 on the general appropriation, a total of \$64,362.50.

—Auditor General Lewis has appointed Roy Chambers, of Clarence, son of former Republican county chairman David Chambers, as mercantile appraiser of Centre county for the year 1922. The list of appointments for the State was announced on Saturday. Last year the fees of the mercantile appraiser in Centre county amounted to \$396.00, and he was also allowed actual expenses incurred.

—The Curtin station on the Bald Eagle Valley railroad has been made a flag station, effective January first. Time was when this was considered among the important stops on the Bald Eagle road but the passing of the furnace and rolling mill at that place has put it in the has-been class.

—That Senatorial scandal started by Senator Watson, of Georgia, will never be settled right until Senator Watson is kicked out of the chamber in which he introduced the absurd charge.

—The death of Senator Penrose has destroyed a good many partisan plans and pulled up the anchorage to which prohibition officer McConnell's commission was attached.

—The substitution of air ships and submersible craft for battleships will not diminish the chances of future wars but it will vastly increase the atrocities of war.

—If the Limitations Conference develops a war between France and England it will have the right to claim that it accomplished something.

—Happily the League of Nations maintains an "open door" and after all other expedients to prevent war have failed we can join the League.

—Washington society will be unanimously in favor of annual international conferences. They add much to the social life of the capital.

—A little extra effort in various ways will help amazingly to make happiness and prosperity during the year just beginning.

The Re-opening of the Y.

The re-opening of the remodeled Y. M. C. A. building on January 2nd, attracted many who were interested in the improvements that have been made and anxious to lend their support in making the Association a militant organization in this community.

From three o'clock in the afternoon until ten at night the spacious rooms were thronged with people. Those of the visitors who had not seen them in course of repairs were surprised and delighted at the changes that have been wrought. Throughout the afternoon and evening there was vocal, instrumental and orchestral music by the best talent of the town and the ladies of the auxiliary served light refreshments continuously. Some indication of how well these were received is had from the statement that they made fifteen gallons of chocolate in addition to the great boilers of coffee that were working all the time in the conveniently equipped little Y kitchen.

As announced last week everything was informal. No programs, no set speeches, no hard boiled plan of procedure for any one. It was just a splendidly enjoyable gathering with the real Y spirit pervading.

Just before the hour of ten the great crowd in the lobby reluctant to go insisted on a word, at least, from the president of the Association, the Hon. A. G. Morris. Mr. Morris had steadfastly refused to make a speech unless he could go after the people for money with which to pay the relatively small indebtedness and enough to run the Y a year. It had been decided that nothing would be said about money on the opening day, but the president's practical business training would assert itself and he insisted that it should be given expression. That's the reason he would not talk until just at the close, the day had been so full of pleasure and there seemed so much to reassure for the future, that he responded to the appeal, for just a word, with a "good night" talk that sent every one home feeling just right.

The Y building is closed to the public and will probably remain so until the new secretary comes. It had been hoped to have a temporary field man from the State organization to keep the building open until the permanent secretary comes but shortage of funds has cut the State's force from fifteen to six men so that at the last moment it was found that none of them could be spared.

Bellefonte is after a combination man, the very best obtainable and for that reason it may be necessary to try out several before the one is found who can carry on the work successfully here.

Slot Machines Confiscated.

On Wednesday night of last week sheriff Harry Dukeman, policeman Elmer Yerger and Edward Hughes, a member of the state constabulary, raided three business places in Bellefonte and confiscated slot machines. The first place visited was Clyde Blackford's restaurant, but that gentleman evidently had been tipped off to the fact that a raid was to be made and got his machine off the premises, but he surrendered the same the next day. Machines were found and confiscated at the Moerschbacher pool room and at the pool room in the Brant house conducted by W. W. Bickett. Finkelstine's cigar store and pool room was also visited but no machine found there. In addition to confiscating the machines the various proprietors were placed under arrest and held in five hundred dollars bail for their appearance at the next term of court.

—Those who have paid for their subscription since December 1st, last need not be concerned if they discover that the label on this paper does not correspond with their payment. We have not had time to change the list this week. It will be changed, however, before the next issue and if your label is not changed next week to the date it should carry, please advise us.

—W. Harrison Walker, assistant director of the eastern savings division, has sent out appeals to start the new year right by investing in government securities—treasury savings certificates, which can be purchased now in denominations of \$20, \$80 or \$800, with a maturity value of \$25, \$100 and \$1,000.

—Every page of the "Watchman" this week contains something of interest to the general public.

—An alliance of English speaking peoples without Japan would have been an anomalous affair.

—If Mr. Debs achieves the results he promises he will earn the liberty he is now enjoying.

Death of Henry Watterson.

Colonel Henry Watterson, one of the country's best-known journalists, and former owner and publisher of the Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal, died at Jacksonville, Fla., on the morning of December 23rd.

Colonel Watterson's death was unexpected, though it had been known for some days that he was ill. The end came peacefully at 6:15 o'clock. He was a native of Washington, D. C., and was almost 82 years old. The body was placed in a receiving vault in Jacksonville and later will be taken to Louisville, Ky., for burial.

Henry Watterson was one of the last of the old-time personal journalists. More than half a century his editorials, with their brilliant, original and phrase-making composition, attracted wide attention. They were commented on and copied by the press of the nation. Besides his power in molding public opinion through his editorials, Watterson's influence is credited with having shaped the platform of the Democratic party in more than one Presidential campaign.

Of his personal career he recently said:

"I came out of the war like many of the young fellows of the south, a very picked bird, indeed. In order to escape the humiliation of borrowing from a northern uncle, whose politics I did not approve, I went with my watch to an 'uncle' who had no politics at all and got \$50 on it. Along with two blanket-mates, who were as poor as myself, I started, or rather revived, publication of an old suspended newspaper at Nashville. Nothing could withstand the energy and ardor which we three threw into the enterprise. We were working for bread, and had to have it. When we began there were nine daily papers struggling for a footing in the little Tennessee capital. At the end of the year there were but two, and of these ours had two-thirds of the business. After two years I was called to Louisville to take an editorial position on the old Louisville Journal, the paper of George D. Prentice. Six months later Walter N. Haldeman, who owned the Courier, joined with me in combining the Journal and Courier. Incidentally this led to the purchase of the old Louisville Democrat, this publication losing its identity entirely. That is about all."

In an editorial commenting upon his death the New York World said:

Henry Watterson was the last of the second generation of great American journalists.

The first generation included Horace Greeley, the elder James Gordon Bennett, Samuel Bowles, James Watson Webb and George D. Prentice, mighty men who were the founders of the modern American newspaper. In the generation that came after, either in time or the attainment of full maturity, were Henry Raymond, Charles A. Dana, Joseph Medill, Wilbur F. Storey, Whitelaw Reid, Murat Halstead, Lawrence Godkin, the younger James Gordon Bennett and Joseph Pulitzer, all contemporaries of Henry Watterson and most of them his warm personal friends.

It was not by accident that Col. Watterson, a "ragged Rebel," as he used whimsically to describe himself, built up a newspaper of national reputation in Louisville. Any paper edited by Henry Watterson, even in the most obscure hamlet, would have managed somehow to make its impress on the public mind, for he was destined by fate for journalism and politics. He was born with printer's ink on his fingers. He was brought up in the atmosphere of Washington, where his father was a member of Congress and the boon companion of Presidents. The White House was young Henry's playground, and the physical disability that wrecked what was intended to be a musical career caused him few regrets. His artistic impulses battled for a time against his political inheritance and then surrendered gracefully.

Journalism was a profession to him which he treated with distinguished respect, but politics was a game to be played for the zest of playing it. One must not take it too seriously and he must be a good loser as well as a good winner. Above all, he must not depend on it for his bread and butter, otherwise one became merely a gambler in government.

And so he went his way for sixty years, fighting his battles bravely and joyously, a holiday soldier singing as he plunged into the thick of the fight, bearing no malice and thinking as little evil as it is given to men to think. When the end came life owed nothing. He had squeezed out the last drop of experience and could face the Angel of Death calmly and fearlessly as one who, like Abou-ben-Adhem, had loved his fellow-men.

To the World the news of Col. Watterson's death brings a sense of deep personal loss. For forty years he was the intimate friend and associate of the late Joseph Pulitzer, and after Mr. Pulitzer died he continued this friendship with the men who carried on the work of The World. He was interested in the last in "the Dome" World office. He quarreled frequently with the policies of the paper, wrote most deliciously vituperative letters in regard to the matters with which he disagreed, and remained to the end a sincere critic and a generous, helpful friend.

—The "Watchman" gives all the news while it is news.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Announcement was made by the Haws Refractory company that its plant at Hawstone, employing about 300 men, will be run at least 50 per cent. of the time, beginning this week. This plant has been virtually closed down for the last six months.

—One of the oldest woodcutters in the South Mountain this winter is Andrew Kuntz, of Idaville. He is more than 80 years of age. Probably no man in Adams county has cut more wood from the hills and mountains in that section during the past sixty-five years than he has.

—Appointment of a student pastor for Pennsylvania State College was decided upon last Friday at a conference in Harrisburg of the Presbyterian synodical home mission committee, representing the State. A resolution to increase the home mission fund for work in the State from \$40,000 to \$100,000 was referred to a committee.

—More than two hundred property owners have appealed from the increase of assessments for taxation purposes made by the Northumberland county commissioners. The increase in Sunbury alone totals \$1,000,000. The commissioners propose to reduce the county taxation 1 1/2 mills from 6 mills, which they aver will make the taxes about the same.

—One of Judge Cummings' last official acts in the Northumberland county court last Friday was to parole Palmer Wheeland, 28 years old, an actor, who had served three of an eighteen months' sentence for theft. Wheeland's mother, Mrs. Carrie Wheeland, died while eating dinner that day, and the court felt that it was the spirit of the New Year to grant the parole.

—John G. Sell, of Hughesville, former president of the North Branch Fire Insurance company, was sentenced last Thursday by Judge Johnson, of Union county, to a year in the Northumberland county jail. Sell was convicted of embezzling more than \$36,000 belonging to ten directors of the insurance company. He appealed for a new trial but was denied by Judge Johnson.

—An order for twenty-five all-steel passenger cars for the Hudson and Manhattan Railroad line has been announced by the American Car and Foundry company at Berwick. This is the first passenger car order in months, and will furnish work for nearly four months. The announcement declares the company's belief that the order makes the long-delayed entry of railroads into the market for cars.

—Police of many cities have been asked to search for H. E. Marshall, a Sunbury merchant, who suddenly disappeared last week. He started for a bank with a large amount of money and has not been seen since. The bank officials say he had all the checks cashed at Harrisburg and an automobile he owned and left in a garage there has not been touched. It is feared by his family that he has been murdered.

—John Durner, 82 years old, a retired farmer living near Martinsburg, Blair county, has worn the same pair of boots in winter for more than thirty years. They never have been half-soled. The boots were made for the Rev. Dr. F. A. Ruple, a Reformed minister, by Daniel Ott, a Martinsburg bootmaker, but were too tight for him and were sold to Durner, who wore them when engaged in work about the farm.

—Robert A. Henderson, whose petition to institute a contest against the election of Judge Thomas J. Baldrige as president judge of the Blair county courts was turned down by Attorney General Alter, has received a copy of the decree of the Attorney General. After studying it, he will determine whether to begin mandamus proceedings in the Dauphin county court to compel certification of his petition to the Governor.

—Convict A-11235, in the western penitentiary, Rockview, has written Fred Russmussen, Secretary of Agriculture, asking for the last eleven agriculture bulletins issued by the department. The prisoner says he wants to engage in farming when he leaves prison, and believes that by a study of the agriculture bulletins during the nine months he has to serve, he can learn most of the details. The bulletins will be forwarded him.

—State Treasurer Charles A. Snyder will continue to be a double office-holder. He has been re-elected county solicitor by the Schuylkill county commissioners at a salary of \$1,800 annually, a position he has held for a number of years. When he is out of the county former Judge A. L. Shay does the work for him. In addition to being county solicitor, Snyder also is counsel for the Schuylkill Electric Railway and several other local corporations.

—Louis Kopko, of Nanticoke, spent \$417 on a trousseau for Miss Alberta Lules after she had promised to become his wife. He spent some time shopping with her and had to pay a heavy taxicab bill. When she had bought everything she wanted, he set out to make his own arrangements for the wedding. While he was engaged thus, she changed her mind and became the wife of John Tushesky. Kopko caused her arrest, charging her with receiving money under false pretense. She and her husband agreed to return the goods. Now Kopko has the trousseau, but no bride.

—No "toddle" dances or other suggestive steps will be permitted in the new dance hall of the Shamokin lodge of the Moose, and cigarettes and cigars also will be taboo. Devotees of the light fantastic in that extraordinary place of dancing also are urging that chewing gum be barred, that skirts be "four inches below the knees" and waists not more than "six inches below the ears." The new order is being received with much satisfaction by the opponents of jazz and the habit of smoking at dances. It will give a new perspective to the much opposed public dances in that borough.

—For shooting Fish Warden Shoemaker in Bradford county, last August, who afterward died in a hospital, Peter Walters was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter after an eight day trial at Towanda. His attorneys have moved for a new trial, saying they will be satisfied with nothing short of an acquittal. Shoemaker was making an arrest of Walters' spearing companion and Walters grabbed a revolver from the game warden's holster and shot him, it is said. Walters has been released on \$5000 bail pending proceedings. It is assumed that the jury which heard the evidence rendered justice according to the testimony, but it is certain that the position of game warden will not be sought in Bradford county by a man who sets much store on existence.