

INK SLINGS.

—Bezdek will not leave State College. We guessed his spirit right two weeks ago.

—If you feel that you are not getting your share of gratuitous advice get laid up for a week or so and you'll get all you want.

—It isn't any wonder that the Turkish delegates won't give in at Lausanne. If they do they are to be hanged when they get home.

—One more week of torment for the deer. It is not likely to be so disastrous to them as the past one has been, for most of the best shots have gotten theirs and come home.

—If the Ku Klux Klan keeps on spreading the two major parties are in for a lot of trouble in the fall of 1924. Neither one of them will dare adopt it, yet both will be glad enough to get the votes of the night-shirt hordes.

—For the fourth year in succession Ty Cobb, of the Detroit baseball team, has batted over four hundred. Clean living and determination have enabled Ty to keep his eye on the ball and they will do the same for the rest of us, no matter what the profession.

—Ireland is at last a Free State. Starting off with all the prerequisites for a prosperous and useful government, without debt, hers ought to be a happy future. But will it? It's up to the Irish themselves. For seven hundred years they have laid their troubles at other doors so the world awaits with interest and hopefulness, now that the problem is all their own.

—It is only natural that the fellows who have never had much of a show should be doing most of the talking in favor of a new deal in the organization of the House and Senate at Harrisburg. Them that think Pinchot is going to turn everything upside down have another think. It's our guess that Harry Baker knows more now about the organization of the next Legislature than Pinchot will know in December, 1926.

—Unless appearances are very deceptive a seat on the sliding board is being prepared for the Rev. John T. Davis, federal prohibition enforcement officer for Pennsylvania. It is very significant that no sooner had Senators Pepper and Reed divided the State, so far as distribution of federal patronage is concerned, than they began to explain that Rev. Davis would not be removed unless "a better substitute can be found." There's just one of two things wrong with the Davis regime: Either it has been too busy or not busy enough and if the preacher is bounced you can bet it will be because he has been too busy.

—The Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce is apparently laying its plans to steal some thunder from our newly elected Senator William I. Betts. One of Senator Betts' campaign pledges was to undertake the passage of a law that would protect Pennsylvanians from peddlers of "wild-cat" stocks. Our State has been the dumping ground for fake promoters for some years. Not so much because there is a belief that there is more than one born every minute in Pennsylvania as because we have never had legislation tending to curb the exploitation of our "sucker lists." The State Chamber of Commerce, if it fathers a bill giving protection to the credulous investor here, may steal the glory that we hoped would be for Senator Betts, but it will find him an ardent supporter of the measure, nevertheless.

—The newly elected Members and Senators of Pennsylvania will meet in Harrisburg on December 15th, to consider plans of procedure when the Legislature convenes in January. Our party will have a representation of forty-one in the House and seven in the Senate. It will be a great gain over that in the last session and while our total is still relatively small there will be opportunity for it to render great service to the State. Should Governor Pinchot cut up the capers some expect him to there will be varying alignments among the Republican Members. Some will be with the Governor and some against him so that the forty-one Democrats may find themselves in position to accomplish more than now appears probable. All they need to do is watch and wait and keep from fighting among themselves.

—Next week Clemenceau will sail for home. "The Tiger" has had the courage of his convictions. He believes that America can save his beloved France and by inference has told us that in saving France we will be saving ourselves. Many will regard the warning of this courageous old man lightly. We don't, for tranquility in Europe means tranquility in America. Right now the Kemalists are denying the rights of Christians to leave Turkey and there isn't a single power or a combination of powers in a position to interfere because of involvements and the uncertainty of the future of all of them. Suppose some of those Christians, whom the Turks are threatening to deport to the interior, should prove to be citizens of the United States? We must protect them even if it means going to war with the Kemalists. Such an unhappy eventuality is possible, whereas if we were taking an active part in composing the disturbances in Europe there would be other and less direful means of bringing the Turks to time.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 67. BELLEFONTE, PA., DECEMBER 8, 1922. NO. 48.

Great Victory for Democrats.

The successful "filibuster" of the Democrats of the United States Senate on the Dyer anti-lynching bill not only revealed a splendidly efficient leadership of the minority party but clearly established the intellectual poverty of the Republican majority in that body. There are sixty Republican Senators to thirty-six Democrats, the Republican majority being nearly two-thirds. Yet on a party question, which had been made paramount by the party caucus, the minority controlled the proceedings for nearly a week and finally compelled the majority to relinquish the fight. A more signal triumph has never been recorded. The nearest approach to it was in the fight against the Force bill years ago.

The anti-lynching bill is a most iniquitous measure. Its purpose is to create race prejudice and inflame partisan passions among the negroes of the South. Its plan is to remove the adjudication of such crimes from State to federal courts. In the fight against it, therefore, the Democratic Senators had justice as well as reason in their favor. But justice and reason have little influence on the minds of the bigoted Republican Senators who exhausted their resources to force it through the Senate. They would cheerfully destroy every principle of right in order to gain party advantage. They failed in this instance because malice is impotent in a contest against mental strength.

A Washington correspondent of one of the leading metropolitan newspapers says it "is generally conceded to have been one of the most efficiently conducted filibusters in the history of the Senate." It has differed from others, the correspondent writes, "in that it involved no long speeches." But it completely stalled the legislative machinery and prevented the confirmation of more than a thousand appointments made by the President during the interval since the adjournment of Congress a year ago. The lust for spoils brought the Republicans to their knees and they not only agreed to abandon the fight during the special session but that it will not be renewed during the regular session.

—Monday night's rain was surely a blessing. Let's pray for a lot more of them before winter sets in. If it were to freeze up now, with springs, wells and cisterns in the depleted condition they are in at present we would have both hardship and suffering in Centre county. Along the main streams there is yet plenty of water, but in many of the highlands of the county both springs and wells that have never before been known to fail have gone dry.

Get-Together Dinner.

State Chairman McCollough has taken the first step toward a more effective and efficient organization of the Democratic forces of Pennsylvania. He has invited all the late State candidates, and the Senators-elect and the Representatives-elect to the General Assembly to a dinner at Harrisburg on the 15th of December, a week from today. The purpose is to counsel together with the view to "carry out as far as possible the pledges made in the Democratic platform," and to discuss plans for improving the party organization for future campaigns. A recent incident in Washington shows what a minority may do.

It is not invidious to say that the Democratic organization of Pennsylvania had almost reached the vanishing point when chairman McCollough entered upon his duties last summer. It is only just to add that he accomplished much in the direction of resurrecting it. The party had an excellent ticket to encourage him and the voters to the efforts they made and the very substantial vote polled is proof of his achievement. But there is much to do yet and it can't be accomplished in a brief period of time. Organization is a slow process and requires constant and vigorous work to guarantee success.

The proposed meeting will afford opportunity to lay the lines for a real organization. Those participating in it will be free from selfish interests or ambitions. But it might also be perverted into an instrument of danger. Twelve years ago a similar meeting was called and the bosses set out to instruct the Legislators-elect as to their official action. Democrats will not stand for such bossism, and instead of good the meeting did harm. We have faith, however, that the coming dinner will not have such a result. Chairman McCollough will not permit such action as might lead to trouble for the party.

—The Supreme court job seems to have pursued Mr. W. Harry Baker so sedulously that it has at last got him into a hole.

Passing the Buck to Harding.

When Herbert Hoover, who is in California, declared the other day that Warren Gamaliel "is obviously the logical candidate" of his party in 1924 he simply "passed the buck" to the President. It is up to him to say whether he wants the nomination or not. It he wants it there can be no opposing candidate. In 1916 the late Champ Clark correctly diagnosed a precisely similar case. Upon being urged to contest with President Wilson for the nomination he said "if Woodrow Wilson has made a good President in the opinion of the Democratic party he deserves to be re-nominated, and if he has made a poor record then the nomination isn't worth having."

Of course Mr. Harding has a right to decline the nomination and in the event that he adopts that course the opportunity for sacrifice will be open to any Republican whose ambition is stronger than his discretion. It is suspected that Secretary of State Hughes still cherishes an ambition, if not exactly a hope, to be President, and the bee is buzzing in the ears of Secretary of War Weeks, who has been fairly well forward among "those who also ran" on one or two occasions in the past. Then Secretary Hoover, himself, who has faith almost equal to his self-confidence, might be willing to undertake a reversal of adverse public sentiment by chucking his beaver into the ring.

But it is hardly probable that President Harding will choose this discreet expedient. It is probably true that he is the most unpopular and inefficient President who has occupied the office since the late Mr. Rutherford B. Hayes. He has signally failed in every undertaking except that of "tourist," since his induction into the Presidency. But through it all his self-complacency has not been disturbed. In the least, and he probably imagines that the popular dissatisfaction is with others rather than himself. To decline a re-nomination would be an acknowledgment of delinquency, and it can hardly be imagined that Warren Gamaliel is suffering from that form of weakness.

—Probably Senator Lodge imagines that the anti-lynching bill has already served its purpose. But he can't fool all the negroes all the time either.

Flirting with Futility.

The proposed impeachment of Attorney General Daugherty, authorized by the House Judiciary committee on Monday, may contribute a trifle to the "gayety of nations" but beyond that it is likely to be futile. Representative Keller, of Minnesota, is probably in dead earnest in his purpose to rebuke the chief of the "Kitchen Cabinet" and he has abundant causes of complaint. But he will make slow progress against the forces that will be assembled against him. Daugherty is the fountain of spoils and every Senator and Representative in Congress who has even hopes of patronage will be summoned to his defense and the "lame ducks" will vote as a unit for his vindication.

Still the impeachment proceedings may be worth while. Chief Justice Taft, of the Supreme court, will be one of the witnesses and it is unusual for a former President of the United States to appear in that capacity. Besides it may be that answering some of the questions relative and consequential will be embarrassing to a man under suspicion and trying to be "good." What is expected from the testimony of Justice Taft is left to conjecture, but it may be assumed that it will relate to the interpretation of law. Mr. Daugherty appears to differ with most lawyers frequently, and the Chief Justice will probably assume the role of an expert witness.

That Attorney General Daugherty ought to be impeached will hardly be denied even by his friends. From the beginning of his term he has prostituted the office to the service of special interests and his perversion of power in the railroad shop men's case was not only outrageous but dangerous. In his advice to candidates for Senator in Congress to ignore the corrupt practices legislation of Congress and the State Legislatures he sowed the seeds of anarchy and in most of his official acts he has been harmful rather than helpful to the cause of good government. But he will not be impeached for the reason that Senators lusting for spoils will save him.

—The manifest of the Lusitania has been made public just in time to prove Bill Hohenzollern a liar while he is in the enjoyment of his honeymoon.

—The new government of Greece seems to be trying to justify the action of the Turks at Smyrna.

Simple Process of Taxation.

It has been figured out that the tax on anthracite coal will average twelve and a half cents a ton. It has also been announced that in order to reimburse themselves for the payment of that tax the coal producers will increase the price one dollar a ton. The difference between the added cost and the increased price is said to be to meet the expense of collecting and paying the tax. At first sight that seems unreasonable. But it is about the rule in all taxation that comes indirectly on the people. A tariff tax of say twenty-five cents on a pair of stockings increases the cost of the stockings to the consumer something like a dollar. The tax of a cent a gallon on gasoline adds five cents to the cost.

The Fordney-McCumber tariff law will yield to the government about \$3,000,000 a year, according to the estimates of experts. To get this amount of revenue the people of the country will pay between \$4,000,000 and \$6,000,000,000. The difference will go into the pockets of domestic producers of the commodities taxed. It is collected by increasing the price to the consumer. From ten to thirty dollars will be added to the price of a suit of clothes and from one to two dollars on a pair of shoes. But the consumer doesn't see the tax collector and in nine cases out of ten he doesn't know he was taxed. He realizes that he pays more, of course, but ascribes it to the war that ended six years ago.

The late Mr. Barnum had the right dope. He said the American people like to be fooled. If there were a tax collector at the tailor shop when a man buys his suit and would ask for the money that represents the increase in price there would be a scene. Nobody would hand the money over cheerfully. But he hands it to the tailor without question and feels that he is supporting the government. As a matter of fact the tailor had previously handed most of the amount to the cloth manufacturer who in turn pays a small portion of it to the Republican campaign collector. It is a great scheme of legalized larceny but it keeps the political machine oiled and enables it to run smoothly right along.

—Many towns in the State are busy now casting up accounts to ascertain who has been their most useful citizen during the year that is rapidly drawing to its close. Bellefonte has many useful citizens. In fact it would be a very difficult task to differentiate among them. To our way of thinking it is not an unusual attribute to be useful. It is a duty we owe to each other, to the community and to our country. Public esteem increases, of course, in proportion to one's usefulness and for that reason we are wondering how some people who live wholly to and for themselves must feel when they stop to consider, if they ever do, what their fellows think of them.

—1923 will be here before we know it. How about getting the label on your paper fixed so that it will be up to date when the New Year arrives. We need money badly right now. A few hundred remittances would help us a lot and probably never be felt by those of you who are in arrears.

—The ancient and absurd fiction about the inaccuracy of a woman's aim has been finally and forever disposed of. A woman who lives near Hazleton killed a seven-pronged deer the other day.

—Mayor Moore, of Philadelphia, is greatly worried over the scarcity of coal in that city. A good many Philadelphia politicians will have no occasion to worry about coal after they die.

—Governor-elect Pinchot is keeping quiet concerning his future plans as effectively as he kept quiet about the iniquities of the Sprout administration before he became a candidate.

—Sam Gompers will give the Senate, sitting as a court of impeachment, an ear full when he tells what he knows about Attorney General Daugherty.

—There was no necessity for Senator Pepper to say that Prohibition director Davis will not resign. Every body knows that "few die and none resign."

—If the allies act in time Turkey may be satisfied with some small concessions. But delays are dangerous in front of a powerful and victorious enemy.

—Bellefonte thermometers registered twenty degrees above zero yesterday morning.

Lame-Duck Government.

From the New York World.

With a Republican majority of 167 in the House of Representatives, Mr. Harding managed to obtain a majority of 24 for his Ship Subsidy bill.

This majority was made up entirely of Representatives who had been defeated in the election of November. The Sixty-six Republican lame ducks who had been repudiated by their constituents provided the votes by which the bill was passed.

Washington has never known a more cynical manifestation of the power of Presidential patronage. The Representatives who will be out of a job on March 4th, flocked to the support of Mr. Harding because Mr. Harding can provide places at the public crib for them when their term of elective office expires. If there was any other motive back of their concerted effort to save an Administration measure which will have few friends in the next Congress, that motive is yet to be revealed.

So far as the House is concerned, Mr. Harding has his Ship Subsidy bill, but even before the lame ducks carried it through it had been so mutilated that its distinctive features had become unrecognizable. In view of the fact that 69 Republican Representatives voted against it and that it is weaker in the Senate than it was in the House, the chance that the President will ever attach his signature to it is slim indeed.

Mr. Harding has staked his leadership in Congress on this measure, and the showing is anything but flattering to him. Getting it through the House by the votes of men who had been beaten at the polls will add nothing to the prestige of the bill or of the President in the Senate. Even if the Senate should yield to the demands of Mr. Harding, which is highly improbable, he will be compelled to go to the next Congress for an appropriation, and there is very little doubt as to the attitude of the next Congress. Republican antagonism is such that it is safe to predict that not a dollar will be appropriated for ship subsidy purposes.

Mr. Harding admitted in his message to Congress that in the matter of the ship subsidy "a more resolute hostility was never manifested before," but, with the inexplicable obstinacy of a weak man trying to appear strong, the President has staked everything on a contest in which he is certain to lose. And he is certain to lose, no matter how many lame duck Representatives and Senators fly to his assistance, because he lacks all that backing of public sentiment which alone could give effect to ship subsidy and make it worth while for capital to take an act of Congress seriously.

The Pennsylvania Coal Tax.

From the New York Times.

Pennsylvania has been trying to tax anthracite ever since the Civil war tax ended. The World war tax may be permanent, and carry with it the possibility of similar taxes. Several intervening coal taxes have been annulled by the Pennsylvania courts, for reasons interesting mainly to lawyers. For the first time the Federal Supreme court has upheld the tax, for reasons important to all consumers of coal. During the argument of the case the Attorney General, of Massachusetts, representing nine States protesting against the tax, maintained that if the Pennsylvania tax were sustained the agricultural States could tax their produce, the industrial States could tax their manufactures, the southern States could tax cotton, and so on. Now the court decides that this tax on coal is not a tax on interstate commerce. Federal jurisdiction does not begin until the goods are shipped. It seems that the language of the Pennsylvania statute taxing coal assimilates coal to any other product. The fact that it is a natural monopoly alters nothing. The Federal law applies only to interstate commerce.

It is unusual for a law to pass through its final stage of litigation in the year next after its enactment. The court said that it would be "curious" to make a decision which would tend to nationalize all industries from the instant that production was complete. But the precedent opens the prospect of a possible tax war between the States. For example, Minnesota might increase her tax on iron ore to an extent which might embarrass producers of iron and steel as much as the tax on anthracite burdens consumers. Oil and natural gas are other examples. If several States producing goods used in Pennsylvania should do the same, the accumulation of retaliatory taxes might persuade Pennsylvania to take a different view. Possibly Congress might enact a law, resembling Representative McGregor's bill, forbidding entrance into interstate commerce of goods taxed like Pennsylvania's coal. It is certain that Pennsylvania cannot consume her anthracite alone.

Disarmament at a Standstill.

From the New York World.

Great Britain having stopped further naval disarmament under the provisions of the Washington treaty, the treaty is now at a standstill, with the four powers—Great Britain, Japan, Italy and America—waiting for France to act.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—William A. Godcharles, of Milton, has been awarded a contract to complete the \$50,000 stadium at Bucknell University.

—Harry Greenleaf, an inmate of the Lancaster county insane asylum, escaped for the eighteenth time in eight years Sunday night by picking the lock on his door.

—Harry P. Ottey, of Media, last Saturday picked six large Smokehouse apples from a tree in his yard. They are the second crop of this season. This is the third time in the history of this tree that it has yielded a second crop.

—Earl Hoffa, teacher in the public schools of Bechtel township, Lebanon county, was sued last week for \$10,000 damages in behalf of Ernest Wolfe, who alleges that Hoffa, in punishing him for an infraction of rules, struck him with clenched fist, choked and kicked him, inflicting permanent injuries.

—Under the terms of a will filed at Smethport last Friday for John Magner, the hermit farmer who died a week ago, Father P. J. Donahue, priest of St. Elizabeth's church, Smethport, is made principal beneficiary of the estate, which includes a 120-acre farm, buildings and livestock and about \$80,000 additional.

—The Berks county orphans' court ruled that LeRoy Raab is entitled to \$1000 with interest from the estate of George J. Raab, of Reading, who left the young man the legacy to provide for his education for the priesthood. The boy refused to enter the priesthood and the bequest was contested. The court held the legacy was not a conditional one.

—Mrs. Anna N. Hankey, who died recently at New Kensington, willed \$450 to the Home missions and \$450 for church extension of the United Lutheran church. Mrs. Hankey was the widow of a Lutheran clergyman. Checks for both amounts have been received by Rev. H. H. Weber, of York, general secretary of the Board of Church Extension and Home Missions.

—Mrs. Irene McD. Henderson, aged 24 years, postmistress at the New Derry post-office, New Derry, Pa., accused of embezzling postal funds amounting to over \$9,000, was arrested Friday by Deputy United States Marshal D. A. Goldman and taken before United States Commissioner Ray Patton Smith, at Johnstown, where she was held under \$3,000 bond for a hearing.

—One of five bandits who invaded the Esterly woolen mills at Esterly, Berks county, Sunday night, and packed up a lot of goods, shot at the watchman, Nathaniel D. Wayne, 65 years of age, when he refused to throw up his hands after coming upon the bandit while making his rounds. The bullet clipped off the tip of Wayne's nose and struck the safe. The gang fled in an auto without taking the goods.

—After 40 years as a mail carrier in Altoona, Edward O. Babcock has retired, fellow-workman in the postoffice presenting him with a gold watch and a purse filled with gold. Babcock was one of the original carriers in that city, having been appointed when free delivery was introduced. It is estimated he has walked 150,000 miles, carried 624,000 pounds of mail, handled 8,736,000 pieces and made 4,092,000 deliveries stops.

—Watch is being kept on thousands of dozens of eggs coming out of cold storage by agents of the Bureau of Foods, because this is the season when the time expires upon many of the eggs sent into storage when hens were busiest. Under the law cold storage eggs must be sold as such, and in the years gone by they have been offered as strictly fresh and have been mixed with fresh eggs and marked. Owing to the demand for the holiday trade State agents say there is danger of persons buying eggs out of storage without inquiry as to their age.

—Democratic State chairman Austin E. McCollough, of Lancaster, has invited the Democratic members-elect of the Legislature and the State Senate and the candidates for State offices at the recent election to be his guests at a dinner at Harrisburg Friday, December 15th. There are forty-one Democratic members of the lower House and seven in the State Senate. The object of the dinner, Mr. McCollough said, would be to discuss policies to be followed by the "Democratic bloc" in the next Legislature and to try as far as possible to carry out pledges made in the Democratic platform.

—John McDermott, aged 27 years, of Marstella, Cambria county, died in the Latrobe hospital Friday night of injuries received in an automobile accident Thursday. McDermott and a party of friends were en route to Pittsburgh for the Pitt-Penn State football game. Near Ligonier, the driver, Donald McKinnett, also of Marstella, lost control of the machine, which crashed into a telephone pole. McDermott was thrown from the automobile and alighted on his head. He was taken to the hospital suffering from a fracture skull and contusion of the brain. The others in the party were uninjured.

—What is considered to be the heaviest damages ever given by a jury in Delaware county for injuries sustained by a person run down by a motor vehicle were awarded on Saturday to Floyd R. Morgan, of Darby, when a jury rendered a verdict of \$10,542 against John M. Drew, owner of a public bus service between Darby and Sixty-ninth street. The evidence showed that the driver on the night of November 15th, 1920, was running a bus on Marks avenue without a light, and that it struck Morgan and R. W. Whitworth, both being badly injured. Morgan was taken to a hospital and later his left leg was amputated. Whitworth, who is colored, and who was a pitcher on the Hilldale baseball club, was paid \$1500 damages some time ago.

—Elizabeth Harley, 15 years old, was found dead and Eva Perri, of the same age, was picked up badly injured in the eastern part of Lock Haven Friday night, and Tony Capello and Leo Kitchin, both of that town, were arrested at Elmira, N. Y., in connection with the case. The police allege that the four young persons were riding in an automobile Friday night when it ran into a telephone pole. It is charged the men then placed the girls in the street, where they were found, stored the automobile in a garage, went to Williamsport in a taxicab and boarded a train for Elmira. The two men were arrested on instructions of the Lock Haven police when the train arrived at Elmira at 4 o'clock Saturday morning and were taken back to Lock Haven, where they will probably have to face the court in a trial for manslaughter.