Democratic Watchman

INK SLINGS.

-And this is 1925.

-If there wasn't, as Barnum said, "one born every minute" there would not be such general yelling about

-So far as we are concerned all that the New Year has in prospect that the old one didn't fulfill is hope, and, if the truth were told, that stands for all of you.

-When "clean-up week" comes in the spring we're going to thumb our nose at the powers that be in Bellefonte and tell them that when they remove the unsightly litter about the Phoenix pumping station we'll haul our ashes and tin cans to the dump.

-At their meeting here on Monday the road supervisors of Centre county went on record as being "unalterably opposed to centralization of pow-We always get a good laugh out of such declarations, because the most of them vote in November for the very thing they resolute against in December.

-Score one for the new Judge. He has secured a district attorney whom nobody thought he could get. Ivan Walker doesn't need to look on the who can assemble them into a single appointment as an honor. He might corral is Andy Mellon. view it as an accommodation, but we want to tell him that it's an opportunity. And opportunity knocks only once at any man's door.

-Make 1925 a great year for the Centre County hospital. Pay up your subscriptions promptly. Don't listen real big chiefs like Secretary Mellon, to the talk that it can't be done. It Senators Reed and Pepper and Conwill be if you pay. The new heating and power plant has been installed for one-third of the estimted cost of it and his political achievements and confiby spring some one will be found to put the annex up at or near the liberal estimate that was made for it and then the job will be completed.

-Advice from Washington is to the effecet that Congressman William I. Swoope is going to press his bill to formally name "The Star Spangled Banner" as the national anthem. Gee, isn't it wonderful to have a great man representing us in the halls of Congress! Billy knows more about "The Star Spangled Banner" than any other of our acquaintances. He has been wrapping it about his unctious being

desk has been piled high with them. Bill doesn't know much about such of war" is the stronger of the two. uled in the annals of the party as a Cards and letters, galore, wishing the things. Nevertheless it is strange He has the open support of W. Harry dead duck, helplessly quacking now "Watchman" as much of joy as it has brought to the writers. Almost we ing us that the note we discounted on faith that every one would respond to our plea to get into the 1925 class is due. Then we realize that Christmas cards won't pay notes at the bank.

-We've never seen Louise Closser Hale act. Maybe she's all that those who rave over "Expressing Willie" think she is. Be that as it may, she has a piker publicity agent. After using the full text of a letter the actress recently received from a prisoner at Rockview, who asked her for a second-hand saxophone to draw half fully answered the declarations of Minister made no reference to the a column in the Philadelphia Public President Coolidge and others that money due to the United States. Ledger, Miss Hale was made to say that she would gladly show the letter cident." "The advance in the last five in Washington interpreted this as a to any one who would bring to the years in the direction of international first step in a purpose to repudiate Walnut street theatre a saxophone so co-operation," he said, "has been little the obligation. Previous intimations that she could comply with the plea." short of miraculous." Ascribing these We haven't inquired as to whether Miss Hale's publicity man caught his "since its inception under the lead- tion of the war was a common oblisucker. There are oodles of them, but ership of Woodrow Wilson, a great gation among those participating in we are wondering why she didn't send American and a great citizen of the it and that no nation owed any other her correspondent a new saxophone world. There is no title to fame high- nation for money advanced, whether when she was using him to get space.

called Judge Dale on the telephone Tuseday morning. We don't know what the Governor talked to the Judge about, but in the light of the strenuous effort he is making to get votes for his candidate for Speaker of the House it would not be a far stretch of the imagination to assume that he was grave disagreemnts have arisen and urging Judge Dale to line up the Hon. J. Laird Holmes for Goodnough. Whether this deduction is right or not tervention of the League the differthe Hon. Laird is in a helluva fix. He ences have been adjusted with comparis naturally dry, ran on a dry platform and dry Centre county will expect him to vote for a dry Speaker, notwithstanding the irrelevancy of a unity and the solidarity of mankind." wet and dry issue in a Speakership contest. But the Governor appointed Judge Dale over Mr. Holmes' protest and two weeks before the election, when prospects of election looked gloomy indeed to the embryonic statesmen from Centre, he hurried off to Harrisburg and said things to Harworks in Pennsylvania, that persuad- his colleagues at Paris has already on that score, not to the government, ry Baker, master of the Republican ed that gentleman to send word to the grown and flourished beyond the most but to individuals, and Great Britain hitherto lukewarm workers in Centre that Holmes is all right and must be to foster its growth, and not wasting United States failed to ratify the Verelected. Now Baker has a candidate our time in criticism and regret, let sailles treaty the citizens of the Unitfor Speaker in the person of W. Clyde us press forward toward that glorious Harer, of Williamsport, but Baker's prize which even now seems almost pate in the benefits of the treaty. fats in the fire and he is likely to pull within our grasp." The work thus Harer and go over to the new Vare- far has been the achievement of a Grundy combination that is pushing cripple. The help of the United serve a good purpose by giving it aton his great act of riding two horses as it will be, we may hope for "on at one time on last November 4th. earth peace, good will toward men." There are rival shows now. Holmes' mounts are in different rings and he matter which one he lands on the oth- would be breaking faith with period-



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be counted against Harer, who is the

Small fry politicians like Vare and

Grundy are against Baker but the

shown the most friendly interest in

dence in his leadership. It must be

assumed that Mellon is against Ba-

ker in order to believe that the Alle-

election. The country members will

Then the combination of Grundy

and Vare is unbelievable. For many

years an almost dealy feud has exist-

tion only increased the bitterness and

that they should be together now

form pledged to make a dry commit-

"The Speaker of the House

which enforcement is conducted.

be practically solid against him.

BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 2, 1925.

Republican Harmony Rudely Jolted. Confusion of Interests Perplexes. Those Republican leaders who ex-Viewed from any angle the quarrel among the Republican bosses over the Speakership of the House of Representatives is perplexing. It is claimed by the sponsors for the Philadelphia wet candidate that all the votes of Allegheny county will be for him. It is known that the Allegheny county delegation is split up into three parts of nearly equal proportions controlled respectively by Max Leslie, Mayor Magee and Mr. Oliver. Until recently Oliver was affiliated with the Governor but is now alleged to be with Leslie, who is bitterly at enmity with Magee. If Leslie is for Bluett Magee will be against him. The only man Judging by past experiences it is ble. not easy to figure out how Mellon can

Philadelphia and Allegheny county candidate of State chairman Baker. cus. The other counties will have in the neighborhood of 115 votes. The wet issue will entice a few votes from | Speakership of the House. The Rethe coal regions and third class city districts but not sufficient to afford doesn't need to employ flattering unccontrol. The only chance for the se- tions to induce the liquor interests to gressman McFadden have always lection of the wet candidate, therefore, cast the liquor vote for the party. lies in a division of the dry vote. In The opposition to the election of Mr. his direct appeal to the public the Harer to the Speakership is not based Governor has made that an unlikely upon his dry proclivities. It was incontingent. While the Republican spired by the fact that chairman Bamachine is as wet as the Atlantic ker, of the Republican State commitgheny county delegation is solid for Bluett. On the other hand without ocean the voters are as dry as the Sasuch support the wet candidate can't hara desert and a Representative of a Mr. Harer for that office. Mr. Grundy have even the ghost of a show for dry district who votes for the wet and Mr. Vare and their camp followcandidate will write himself down as ers have set out to get the conspicua political suicide.

Governor Pinchot may have made cap of Mr. Baker. a tactical mistake in bringing out Mr. widened the breach. Of course Ed. ical affairs. The only other candidate

We are not in the confidence of not the law enforcement officer of the either but feel perfectly safe in say-State," as an esteemed wet conteming that Joe Grundy will get no more porary remarks. But he has a large invitations to the Pinchot estate in voice in framing legislation under Pike county.

Senator Reed Unduly Excited.

Senator Reed, of Pittsburgh, ap-

pears to be unduly excited over the

war debt owed to this country by

France. In a recent review of the

had come that French public opinion

in the form of loans or military ex-

Great Britain some time ago enter-

ed into an agreement with the author-

the habit of repudiating her debts and

we see no substantial reason to im-

agine she has such an act in mind now.

But Senator Reed is young in years

and inexperienced in public matters

appointed or otherwise, may have had

izens under the Versailles treaty.

takes the position that because the

ed States are not entitled to partici-

There is a good deal of plausibility in

this claim and Senator Reed might

-Probably those army world

One reason for the Republican

fliers would rather have had a few

hundred dollars in hand than a chance

of promotion after they are dead.

his jurisdiction as party boss.

not to deter him.

Lord Cecil on Woodrow Wilson.

In accepting the award of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, in New York on Sunday evening, Lord Cecil, famous English statesman, fitly and financial affairs of France the Finance the League of Nations "is a closed in- Some more or less pessimistic officials results to the work of the League inclined to the idea that the prosecuer than that." That is the just ap--We know that Governor Pinchot praisement of Woodrow Wilson made penses. by one of the foremost statesmen of the world.

Within the five years that have ities at Washington to pay her debt in elapsed since the organization of the comparatively small instalments and League of Nations no serious war has paid down a considerable sum of inbeen waged and no general slaughter has occurred. Several more or less for a similar or more generous agreevarious minor encounters have taken place. But through the friendly inatively little shedding of human blood. This is the fulfillment of Woodrow and inclined to talk. Being the Wilson's idea "that peace is based on spokesman of Secretary Mellon, self-As the faithful administrator of Mr. something to do with his activity in Wilson's idea it is peculiarly happy that the first award of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation should go to Vis-

count Cecil, of Great Britain. After citing numerous of the great achievements of the League of Nations Lord Cecil continued: "The seed planted by Woodrow Wilson and There is a good deal of money coming sanguine expectation. Let it be ours Bluett, a decided wet from Philadel- States was from the beginning and is tention. He might thus cast reflecphia. If Baker swings, what is now essential to a full measure of actions on his own party but that ought Holmes going to do? The curtain fell complishment and when that is given,

-The hearings in the postal rate must ride one or the other of them. bill may as well be abandoned. To Indeed he is in a helluva fix, for no increase the postage on magazines er will kick all future political possi- ical publishers who contributed liberhilities clean out of him. ally to the campaign fund.

Real Issue in the Fight.

Governor Pinchot is unquestionapected to run a road roller over the bly correct in his opinion that the prostrate form of Governor Pinchot in election of Thomas Bluett, of Philathe organization and during the ap- delphia, as Speaker of the House of proaching session of the Legislature Representatives, would commit the have had their hopes rudely shocked. party to the wet side of the prohibi-There is not only a fight on but one of tion question. But that is neither new uncertain proportions and results. By nor startling. The Republican masetting up for the Speakership of the chine of Pennsylvania has been in House of Representatives an avowed- partnership, silent or active, with the ly "wet" candidate, the Philadelphia liquor interests for many years. Even machine has enabled the Governor to when Governor Pinchot was the candefine issues and form a line of battle didate of the party for Governor the that gives him more than an even great influence of the liquor interests "drys" have an overwhelming major- accurate in his estimate that the elecity in Pennsylvania. When Bluett as tion of Bluett will make prohibition candidate that issue is made inevita- enforcement an issue during the ses-

But the Governor is widely away publican machine of Pennsylvania tee, had expressed a preference for ous "red feather" which decorates the

The Speakership fight is not essen-Goodnough as his candidate for tially a wet or dry contest, though ed between Grundy and the Vares, and only two years ago an attempt by mutual friends to effect a reconcilia
recedent to support his claim. But lican machine and to destrey W. Harprecedent is a "broken reed" in political affairs. The only other candidate None of the supporters of Bluett -Nobody loves Christmas pleasant-ries more than we. For a week our the Vare honor and conscience, while the Vare honor and conscience has a conscience to the Vare honor and conscience has a conscien date is almost certain to win, and the and again to attract attention. But fighting for a wet candidate on a plat- shrewdest politician in the bunch, but Grundy and Vare hope to eliminate is less servile to the Governor. If Baker for some reason or another and

> -A very dear friend of ours, a man went over to the railroad station one day last week to meet his son and daughter-in-law. The son got off the train, following him was a charming looking woman whom our friend immediately embraced, indulged in a few osculatory stunts and was about to proceed with an encore when she, having recovered from her surprise, said: "Sir, you have evidently made a mistake." We don't know whether he did or not. The lady was not his son's wife, but she was very good looking. or not. The lady was not his son's wife, but she was very good looking. Either our friend's story about his unimpaired eyesight is all bunk or at 88 we'll have to admit that he's the fastest worker we ever heard of.

-This thing of taking your Christmas dinner out, when you have no help, is grand; so fas as escape from spending three hours worrying over keeping the oven hot and properly basting the bird is concerned. The boomerang comes next day however, when a meal has to be prepared and terest. Possibly France is fencing ment. Anyway she has not been in

Mervin Betz, of Jacksonville, upon his appointment as mercantile appraiser for Centre county. Being a merchant, himself, he is well qualified to make a just and equitable return of all dealers in the county.

-Who is to deliver the Hon. the premises, moreover. The music Holmes? Will Rebecca Naomi and be much better. He was unable to of his throat is entrancing to his ears. Judge Dale hand him over to Pinchot, please everybody with an interest in or will Scott, Fleming and Co., present him to Baker as proof that he is To our mind there is much more reason to complain over the attitude Great Britain has assumed on the a "regular" Republican? question of damages to American cit-

> tween France and Germany. Marshal Foch is beginning to take notice.

> -Money is a great force in this country. It has just changed Trinity college, in Durham, North Carolina, into Duke University.

-Since the jingoes couldn't get us into a war with Japan they seem to be sitting up nights to make a casus belli with France.

-Thus far Pinchot has an advantage in the epistolary duel. His letters are longer than those of his opponents.

-Kid McCoy gets off easily unrow is that Bill Vare wants to expand der a verdict of manslaughter and that is no "kid."

NO. 1. The "Dry" Republican Party.

From the Philadelphia Record. The selection of a Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives is a Republican function, at which the 14 Democratic members of a body numbering 207 will play the role of interested but impotent specta-

From their position on the sidelines of the scrimmage, however, the Demo-crats, if they shall keep their ears open, may gather some curious infor-mation. For instance, the voice of the Governor of Pennsylvania is raised to assert that "this nation is dry. that gives him more than an even chance of victory. Outside of Philadelphia and Allegheny county the "drys" have an overwhelming majorthe Speakership lies in the fact that the leaders of the Republican party in Pennsylvania, who profess to act in harmony with the Republican party in the United States, which overwhelmwill have sixty-five votes in the cau- from the facts in his inference that ingly dominates the nation, are about prohibition or enforcement is the dom-inant issue in the campaign for the handle their legislative business for them. We should like to think that the

Governor believes his own statements, but we cannot force ourselves to that extremity of credulity. He has personally and publicly pointed out to the federal authorities in charge of prohibition enforcement, who are all Republicant the exercise wetness of the control o publicans, the excessive wetness of Pennsylvania, and has charged them with responsibility therefor. Mrs. Willebrandt, assistant United States Attorney General, has stated in writing that "Pennsylvania is one of the worth States in the Union" from the ing that "Pennsylvania is one of the worst States in the Union" from the liquor standpoint, because "the law enforcement machinery, both State and Federal, is under political" (which can mean only Republican) "control." Governor Pinchot knows this as well as we do. What does he mean by declaring that the nation, the Republican party in the nation, and the Republican party in the State, are dry? Does he expect anybody to believe that it is the wicked Democrats who are permitting the country to be floodare permitting the country to be flooded with strong drink in violation of

It strikes "The Record," merely as a spectator, that if Mr. Bluett, ortho-dox Republican candidate for the Speakership, is as wet as Governor brought to the writers. Almost we are overwhelmed. We are transported to the point where we cock the hat just right, put a wad of chewed ginger under the tail and start up street to strut. The telephone rings, two times. We answer. It's the bank telling us that the note we discounted on ingust that the note we discounted on the structure of the persistently and almost openly violat-88 years young, without a gray hair ing them, it will be ample time to in his head and boasting that he does credit it with the sentiments ascribed not need glasses to thread a needle, to it by the Governor of Pennsylva-

The Speakership.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Under existing political conditions in Pennsylvania, the Speaker of the State House of Representatives is not likely to be a forceful personality. In the absence of a single dominating Vares." Mr. Bluett has not exhibited any unusual talent as a Legislator, nor has his name been associated with any important enactment making him known to the general public outside his own district. He had places at the last session upon several important committees, but his present distinction rests upon the fact that he is put

the session of 1923, Mr. Goodnough, made a satisfactory presiding officer, and he may decide to offer himself to there isn't any pickins' in the refrig-erator to warm up and serve as tur-key hash.

the House for re-election. But he la-bors under the serious handicap, so far as the majority of the new House is concerned, of being the favored candidate of Governor Pinchot. Since The "Watchman" congratulates this is the case and since the indications are that Mr. Pinchot's influence over the Legislature will be nothing like so powerful as at the 1923 session, Mr. Goodnough's chances are slim indeed.

Nor are those of another aspirant for the place, Mr. Harer, who was chairman of the Appropriations committee at the last session, thought to largely for campaign contributions.

The Chicken Plague.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph. Pennsylvania's chickens have not got the European fowl plague decimating flocks in parts of other States and generally upsetting the trade in poultry in the eastern part of the is a deaf mute, through his father and sis-United States, but the State authoriter, said they were told that the prisoner ties have very wisely put on a quarantine to protect the health of our own birds. The wisdom of this is aptacle of the health of parent when it is stated the poultry industry of the Keystone State has been conservatively estimated at something over \$50,000,000 in value and is one of the most going of the the pony wheels of one locomotive being going concerns.

-When you see it in the "Watchman" you know it's true.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE

-Dr. J. George Becht, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who is ill at the University hospital, Philadelphia, is reported as "doing nicely" this week.

-Delegates from the councils of the Junior Order United American Mechanics in Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield, Bedford and Fulton counties will assemble in Altoona on January 10, for a district convention.

-When a fire in the store of Joseph Nayse, of Bethlehem, was at its height on Friday Nayse rushed through the smoke and flames to his safe and returned to the street, nearly suffocated and badly singed, but with \$1000 he had managed to save.

-Bondholders of the Columbia and Montour Telephone company on Monday stated that the company would not operate after December 31, when the Penn State Telephone company gives up its lease on their lines. No plan for continuance of service had been arrived at, the bondholders said.

-A. M. Pearce, superintendent of the Penn Public Service company, has been appointed general chairman of the committee which is preparing for the Allegheny Region anniversary meeting of the I. O. O. F., at Clearfield, in April. H. S. Mann is secretary and E. Clair Davis is treasurer of the committee.

-An illness that proved baffling to doctors resulted in the death of Joseph Bicksza, 24 years of age, of Carbondale, Pa., at the Hahnemann hospital in Scranton, on Monday night. While it is believed that he suffered from sleeping sickness, an autopsy was being performed to learn if the victim had been poisoned.

-With his mother, Mrs. Stephen Sheetz, believed dying at Shamokin, police have sent broadcast an appeal for her son, Edward, 18 years old, to return home. He disappeared on October 29. He is five feet eight inches tall, has light brown hair, and wore a cap, coat and sweater of the same color when he left home.

-Developments are expected soon in the mysterious death of Henry Rathburn, who there. Coroner Herman has not yet made a definite statement as to the cause of

death. -Suits totaling \$11,000 were filed late on Tuesday against the Greensboro Gas company, of Uniontown, by four members of the family of James A. Anderson, of Annawan, Ill., whose automobile in Brownsville was struck by a heavy iron projection from a gas company truck, causing injuries which sent three of the family to a hospital.

-Notices were posted this week by the Danville and Sunbury Transit company that they would cease operation of trolley cars after midnight, December 31. The disposal of the equipment has not yet been decided on. The company operates between Danville and Riverside on the south side of the Susquehanna river, and runs to the Danville State hospital.

-Mrs. Eliza Anne Blauser Freed, of York, is 91 years old. She was born near Pleasureville, York county, and was one of

and to punish those who grow rich by injury to him, Louis H. Snyder, of Altoona, has entered suit in trespass asking damages in the sum of \$500. Mr. Snyder alleges that in September, he approached the grade crossing near BO tower in a roadster and that because of certain conditions he alleges existed there, his car stalled on the track and was struck and entirely destroyed by a train.

-What Potter county has done with cerfified seed potatoes is the wonder of the State. Of the 65,000 bushels grown in Pennsylvania, more than half were raised n the land of leeks. In fact, 37,945 bushels, 77 of the competing 123 local growers, passed the rigid requirements imposed by The Pennsylvania State College. Paul Smith, of Ulysses, has 6500 bushels, having raised nearly one-tenth of all the certified seed tubers in the whole State.

-The Tipton dam, erected for the Pennsylvania Railroad company, between Aloona and Tyrone, at a cost of \$1,000,000, has been completed. This is the last of six dams built for the railroad in the Allegheny mountains. It has a capacity of 400,000,000 gallons, increasing the supply forward by Congressman Vare and the Grundy interests.

From all accounts, the Speaker at Special Superintendent of the Tipton company, was formerly superintendent of the Philadelphia Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

> -Guy Myton, 57 years old, of Petersburg, is in a serious condition in the Blair Memorial hospital, at Huntingdon, suffering from fractures of the ribs of both sides of his chest, a possible puncture wound of the lung, and lacerations of the head which required ten stitches in closing. The man was found on Monday morning of last week, lying in the clearway between No. 1 and 2 tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad near the Petersburg passenger station by trackwalker, Charles Beatty. How he met with the accident has not been divulged.

-Another triumph for overalls over white collars is reflected in the report that more than 1700 of the 2700 night students in Carnegie Institute of Technology at upon whom the party machine depends growth in night student enrollment in these trade courses, which is this year There must be something menacing in the condition of affairs between France and Germany. Marshal

At all events, he is meeting with powerful opposition, and at the moment backing Mr. Bluett believes it holds the winning hand.

At all events, he is meeting with powerful opposition, and at the moment the combination backing Mr. Bluett believes it holds the winning hand. about 100 per cent. over that of three years cess by the "overall route" rather than through the "white collar" jobs.

-William Rosenmund, 28 years old, of Mifflin county, was arrested by Pennsylvania railroad police on Saturday in connection with three attempts to wreck fast night trains between Mittin and Denholm. The police in examining Rosenmund, who wreck trains to frighten the girl into consenting. The police also were told that he had given the girl \$300. Two attempts to wreck trains were made early on Friday, derailed by splice bars placed on the track. Railroad police watching on Saturday said they saw Rosenmund crossing the tracks carying splice bars and arrested him. He lives on a farm with his parents.