

INK SLINGS.

The grass is short but a lot of farmers have started cutting it. Well, this is the time of year for hot weather and if any other kind were offered most people would object. What the Elks did for Bellefonte little folks yesterday was the kind of altruistic effort that springs from the heart of real men. The "Afaletics" are still on top. They're hanging on by an eye-lash only, but here's hoping that the hair in the eye-lash doesn't pull out. If gasoline goes up a cent a gallon everybody laughs and says John D. has made another bequest to something. But if bread goes up a cent a loaf there is helltopay. Yale and Harvard are the only two Universities in the country that could have permitted a baseball score of twenty-five to fifteen to be published and not be laughed to death—athletically. Wheat has taken a considerable drop and the outlook for those who have held their last year's crop is not as encouraging as it was before the last government report on this season's crop condition was published. Ezra Good, the Pottsville prophet predicts two more hot waves, worse than the one of two weeks ago. Ezra might have the right dope on the weather in store for us, but few will thank him for the joy-killing information. Pinchot drove Dr. Finegan out of Pennsylvania. Pinchot settled the coal strike. Pinchot was the real cause of Dr. Thomas' resignation as president of The Pennsylvania State College. Pinchot is a helluva fellow, isn't he? Now that commencements are all over there is nothing to look forward to but Fourth of July, then the Granger's picnic and fall. To the boys Christmas seems a million years off, but to us—it will be here before we know it. The resignation of Dr. John W. Thomas as president of The Pennsylvania State College is freighted with far more serious possibilities to the town that gets its meat and drink from the institution which he is leaving than it realizes. The prospect of unpleasantness with Mexico is not pleasant. We have nothing to fear, of course, but if there should be any fighting to be done those who have been the cause of it will be patting the boys on the back and telling them that duty calls. John McNish, head of a large distillery in Scotland, is authority for the statement that "up to six months ago more Scotch whiskey had been shipped to America than in any similar time before prohibition." If John knows what he is talking about it was time Uncle Sam got busy with his dry navy. As we watch the daily crowds of strangers going into ecstasies over the big trout in Spring creek and departing with Bellefonte indelibly stamped on their minds the thought often comes into our mind that it might prove interesting to publish the names of a few of the persons who refused to sign and damned the efforts of "Watchman" workers who carried the petition to preserve the fish. Recent revelations reveal that Jesse Livermore has been able to discount the law of supply and demand, the tariff and every other condition entering into the fixing of the price of wheat. Jesse probably doesn't know a wheat field from a buckwheat patch, but he buys or sells fifty million bushels in a season of gambling and the farmer gets two-five or one-forty a bushel according as Jesse is bulling or bearing the market. As for us, we're not much interested in the outcome of the evolution discussion that is scheduled for early hearing at Dayton, Tenn. We're not so much concerned about where we came from as we are as to where we are going. And since there is only one finger-board pointing to a way that offers any hope that's the one we shall continue to accept as the best guide, notwithstanding the attempts of the skeptics to shoot it so full of holes that it is no longer legible. Well, the county has at last wakened up and taken notice of what we have been predicting, since early last fall, is going to be the most interesting political contest ever staged in good old Centre. From all sections we hear that the judicial race is the one topic of conversation now. It's a long pull, however, until the primaries in September and popular favor will probably turn many somersaults in the interim. Political sentiment is a very fickle thing. It grows hot or cold on its muck on the slightest pretext, so that no one can tell just what will happen three months hence. Bellefonte is no larger in area than she was seven years ago. In population the town has probably increased several hundred, yet the clamor for more water has been growing out of all proportion to the reasonable needs of the increase. Why is it? Surely the effects of Mr. Volstead's Act can't be the cause of the need for more water on the high spots in town. They were just as high prior to 1918, as they are today and the minutes of council will show that before that epochal date not a complaint was filed that there was an insufficiency of aqua pura anywhere. To say the least, it is a strange coincidence.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Dawes Plan Dumped.

A poll of the Senate shows that the scheme of Vice President Dawes to stifle the minority in that body by a change in the rules will be defeated in the next Congress, at least. Fifty-three of the ninety-six Senators have openly expressed opposition to the movement against twenty-two who favor it and twenty-one who declined to express their attitude. Of the Democratic Senators all except Senator Underwood, of Alabama, are against the cloture proposition. Mr. Underwood probably imagines that his Muscle Shoals bill might have been forced through if it could have been forced to a vote. The corporate influence in the Senate, which favored private monopoly, was ample to compass that result. It is not often that we have opportunity to agree with Senator Borah, but it is a pleasure to concur in his published statement that "I have never known a good measure to be killed by a filibuster or a debate. I have known of a vast number of bad measures, unrighteous measures, which could not have been killed in any other way except through long discussion and debate." There is nothing in which sinister interests, seeking favorable legislation, are more interested right now than in cutting off discussion at Washington. If they can succeed in reducing the situation to a point where they only have to see one or two men either put through or kill a measure, they are masters of the situation. Senator Norris, of Nebraska, is equally forceful in his argument against the Dawes conspiracy. "If it were possible to arbitrarily shut off debate in the Senate," he declared in an interview on the subject, "it would be the greatest victory that could possibly be imagined for machine politics. The House is already in that condition." Both of these Senators are Republicans and Norris is consistently against machine domination in politics and legislation. Senators Couzens, of Michigan, Howells, of Nebraska, and Ladd and Frazier, of North Dakota, are of the same opinion. In fact it is not necessary to go outside of the Republican group for ample evidence to everlastingly condemn the proposition. The ostensible purpose of Vice President Dawes in pressing his plan to crush the minority in the Senate is to facilitate legislation. There is no necessity for such speeding. There is greater danger from too much than from too little legislation. What is needed in Congress is greater deliberation rather than more expedition. It seems to be the ambition of each Senator and Representative in Congress to get more bills through than another and the question of merit gets little consideration. With cloture in force legislation would degenerate into a system of log-rolling and the statute books would soon become a collection of absurdities, vicious or otherwise. It would be hard to imagine a greater evil. But expediting legislation was not the real purpose of Vice President Dawes in his attack on the rules of the Senate. It was part of a carefully laid conspiracy to subjugate every interest to the control of those who had created the slush fund to buy the election of the Republican candidates for President and Vice President last year. In his inaugural address Mr. Coolidge contributed his part to the enterprise by imploring obedience to party obligations and Dawes, with the finesse of a swashbuckler, undertook to brow-beat the Senate. His failure led to a determination to appeal to the public on a false and fraudulent representation of facts, and the present signs of his defeat are encouraging. The factional war among the Republicans of Pittsburgh is raging, but so long as Max Leslie controls the voting in the "strip" he will hold the leadership in the city. We're never satisfied. Now that all the judicial candidates are in the field we just can't rest until we discover which one the Kluxers are behind. There will not be much doing in politics this year but the present is a good time to get ready for the greater battle of next year. Pepper has finally concluded to defer announcement of his candidacy until after the election this year. This is probably to please Vare. Senator Reed is not talking as freely as usual but he has not relinquished his Senatorial prerogative of bossing the party. That Boston dentist who was sentenced to thirty days in jail may have been trying to pull the teeth of the law.

Sugar Trust Paid in Full.

President Coolidge has finally decided adversely the question of cutting the tariff tax on sugar as recommended by the Tariff Commission a year ago. The Commission spent nearly a year investigating the subject and made its report in July last year. That was just in the beginning of the campaign for President and compliance with the recommendation of the Commission would have taken a billion dollars or so a year out of the treasury of the Sugar trust, which had sent twenty or thirty Coolidge boomers to the Cleveland convention that nominated Coolidge for President. To reduce the tariff tax on sugar would have saved the consumers most of the billion but it would have been rank ingratitude. After the election was over and the beneficiary of the Sugar trust boomers had been inaugurated Mr. Coolidge tried to discharge his obligation to the Sugar trust by appointing one of its officials to the office of Attorney General. If that plan had succeeded he might have assumed that his debt to the Sugar trust was discharged and he would be at liberty to cut the tariff tax on sugar and save the consumers the nearly a billion dollars a year. But the Senate refused to confirm the appointment and left the account open. The other day the President turned down the recommendation of the Tariff Commission and paid the debt to the trust by direct contribution of the consumers' money. In a statement supporting his decision the President justifies his action on the ground that cutting a half cent a pound off the tariff tax on sugar would cost the treasury forty millions of dollars, that being presumably the amount derived from the half cent a pound tax on sugar. But that will hardly appeal to the consumers who by the same process of reasoning must pay the Sugar trust nine hundred and sixty millions a year in order to save forty millions to the public treasury. It may fool some of the people and will gratify the members of the Sugar trust. In fact it is in line with the theory upon which all tariff legislation is based. It robs the many to enrich the few. Von Hindenburg hasn't done much harm to the German Republic thus far, and if he continues his present methods he may vindicate the judgment of those who elected him. Jokes in Political Group. Little information of value is to be expected from political discussion in mid-summer and the party deposter who is able to invent a fairly good joke in a temperature of from ninety to a hundred while speculating in political probabilities does his share. In the gossip of the Philadelphia papers, of Sunday, there was concealed a couple of specimens of real humor. One of these is contained in a suggestion of the nomination of Martin G. Brumbaugh as the Republican candidate for Governor and the other in that of Joseph R. Grundy for membership on the Tariff Commission. Mr. Brumbaugh was elected Governor in 1914 as a harmony candidate and immediately attached himself with the Vare machine. This betrayal of faith incensed the Penrose element in the party and a more or less acrimonious quarrel ensued during which it was developed that Mr. Brumbaugh had made a false statement of receipts and expenditures in his campaign for election. Senator Ed. Vare was the head of the family then and promised to make Brumbaugh the "favorite son" of Pennsylvania in the convention at Chicago to nominate a candidate for President in 1916, but was able to give him less than half the delegation. After that he dwindled in popularity and at the close of his term was "a dead one." Grundy, as a member of the Tariff Commission, would be a cross between a joke and a tragedy. No tariff law has ever been passed high enough to satisfy him and it is said that he actually believes the importation of anything but labor is a crime. He is opposed to all legislation regulating child labor and believes that labor organizations are conspiracies to take the bread out of the mouths of millionaire manufacturers and ought to be prohibited by law. It is said that he would like an appointment to that Commission, and if Senators Pepper and Reed ask for it he may get such an assignment. It looks as though a majority of the Republican party in Lackawanna county is heading for a term in the county jail. Flag day is increasing in popular respect and will soon be as generally observed as Decoration day. The lads who started a vacation fund last winter are in clover now.

Hot Weather in Washington.

The hot weather appears to have a bad effect in Washington. The reasoning of President Coolidge on the sugar tariff expressed a symptom of mental distress, and the statement or proclamation which Secretary of State Kellogg issued with reference to Mexico confirmed the worst fears on the subject. So far as the public is informed the relations between this country and Mexico are friendly. Diplomatic agencies are functioning as effectively and efficiently as with Great Britain or France. But without apparent reason the Secretary of State issued a declaration, the other day, which may be interpreted either as a challenge to fight or an ultimatum leading to that result. In this surprising document Secretary Kellogg inferentially accuses the government of Mexico with bad faith in some matter left to conjecture and warns the Republic of Mexico to mend its manners or suffer the consequences. "The Republic of Mexico is on trial," he says, though upon what charge is left to the imagination. Possibly some of the enterprising bootleggers have been operating along the border and the administration at Washington is strong on lip service against violators of the Volstead law. But in that event the Secretary ought to have been more specific in his statement. In his ambiguity he has thrown what the President of Mexico construes as an insult, and such things frequently cause war. Thus far nobody has ventured a definite opinion as to the cause of this unexpected outbreak in the State Department at Washington. Probably the New England manufacturers of war materials and munitions have grown tired of "these piping times of peace" and want to start something that will not only enliven their business but increase their profits. Their direct interest in war is believed in some quarters to be the reason for our failure to join the League of Nations or subscribe to any proposition that promised permanent peace. Mexico is a weak sister, but even a small war would help considerably in restoring the prosperity of munition makers whose cupidity was whetted to a keen edge during the world war. Between fifteen hundred and two thousand acres of timber land were burned over in a fierce forest fire which raged in the vicinity of the Black Moshannon several days last week. While fighting the flames fire wardens and their assistants came across the charred remains of quite a number of pheasants and wild turkeys, in one instance the mother turkey and her entire flock of young birds having been burned to death. This wholesale destruction of game is one of the deplorable incidents of all forest fires and a humane reason why everybody should exercise the utmost care against starting a fire in the woods. Judicial Candidates Off at the Scratch Wednesday Morning. Wednesday was the first day for the circulation of nominating petitions for the office of Judge, and the five judicial candidates in Centre county got off at the scratch early that morning. Messrs. W. Harrison Walker, N. B. Spangler and J. Kennedy Johnston, Democrats, and Harry Keller, Republican, are confining their aspirations to their own party, but at that getting a nomination paper for Judge filled up is no child's job. The paper must be signed by two hundred legally qualified voters, and this means that the signatures of six hundred Democrats must be obtained to the three petitions within that party mentioned above. In addition to the petitions of Messrs. Walker, Spangler, Johnston and Keller, Judge Dale put three petitions in the hands of his workers, one each for the Republican, Democratic and Prohibition party. While we concede that he should experience little difficulty in getting the adequate number of signers to his Democratic and Republican papers we must confess that we can't understand how he is going to get two hundred simple pure, unadulterated, legally registered, bonafide prohibition signatures to his nomination paper in that party. At least the election returns of the past few years would indicate that there are hardly that many strict party voters in the county, and the man who secures two hundred on a nomination paper will have to travel some. Pennsylvanians in 1924 paid almost ten per cent. of the income tax collected by the federal government in the United States. To be exact 740,478 individuals paid tax on incomes totalling \$2,741,322,702. Centre county is credited with 2,371 returns, 2,247 of which were on incomes less than \$5,000; 93 on incomes from \$5,000 to \$10,000, and 31 on incomes in excess of \$10,000.

Our Southern Neighbor.

From the Philadelphia Record. The result of Ambassador Sheffield's observations in Mexico and his conversations with President Coolidge, the Secretary of State and the chairman of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations is that Mr. Kellogg issues a warning to President Calles that he must suppress the communists and protect persons and property of Americans, or he will lose the recognition which our government accorded to the Obregon regime just before it retired from office. Mr. Kellogg's communication is also a warning to Americans that Mexico is not a safe place of residence or investment, and that if they go into Mexico on account of the possibilities of very large profits they must take their own risks; the United States is not going to send the army and navy into the country to rescue them. The communist agitation in Mexico, which has already gone far beyond the point of agitation, must be pretty serious. We infer that less from what Mr. Kellogg says than from what President Calles has said. Some months ago he warned the Soviet Ambassador that communist propaganda in Mexico had got to stop, or the Ambassador would have to leave. We presume the propaganda has not ceased. Whether the propaganda has become more active under Calles than it was under Obregon is uncertain, but the probability is that it has. Obregon is a soldier eager to secure recognition from other nations, anxious to improve the financial credit of Mexico and not averse to the use of force in executing the laws. Calles means well, as his warning to the Russian Ambassador showed, but he is a civilian, a Socialist, a member of the Labor party, and presumably reluctant to use force. The Soviet has undoubtedly taken note of the contrast between Obregon and Calles and assumed that the latter's administration will be favorable to Bolshevik missionary work. Perhaps it is, in spite of the wishes of Calles. The red elements in Mexico have been growing more active, and they claim the support of the Russian Ambassador. Mexico has a population of 80 to 90 per cent. of which is wholly or partly Indian, and the Indians are as far behind the Spaniards in fitness for self-government as Spaniards are behind Englishmen and Americans. Among the English-speaking people the struggle for self-government has been going on for many centuries. Among Spaniards it is little more than a century old, and neither in the Iberian Peninsula nor in the Western Hemisphere has democracy come to be worn easily and naturally by the people. The Indians are vastly less educated politically than the Spaniards. Diaz maintained order in Mexico and protected person and property, but he used the method of a despot. His Rurales were not much embarrassed by legal technicalities or the rights of the individual. But they were efficient. Since the Madero revolution there has been little law enforcement, persons have been killed, foreigners as well as Mexicans, and property has been destroyed or taken from the owners by force. The warning to Americans regarding future commitments in Mexico is judicious. But Americans have been investing their money in Mexico for 60 or 70 years. They were warmly invited to do so by Diaz and by Calles. If they are shot or driven from their property, which is either destroyed or confiscated, we presume our government will do something more than cancel its recognition of the Mexican government. It has usually found means of putting some pressure upon a foreign government which makes professions of civilization to meet its administrative responsibilities. Paying Taxes a Patriotic Duty. From the Nan-ty-Glo Journal. The local tax collector is being forced to use some stern measures to compel certain of our citizens to pay their assessments towards keeping up local government expenses. Taxes, like death, are almost certain to come to all. Every one is supposed to enjoy the benefits of schools, roads, and all public conveniences of government, and each must pay his share, according to his means, in maintaining the same. It is the tax collector's duty to get the money due the county and borough. It is not pleasant for him to be compelled to seize people's property, or to have persons thrown into jail, but he must do that if other and kinder methods fail to bring results. It is just as much a patriotic duty to pay taxes as it is to bear arms in defense of one's country, and the slacker in tax paying is just as disloyal as the slacker in war. Erie's Way. From the McKeesport News. Two policemen of Erie engaged in a fist-fight at police headquarters and 50 fellow cops looked on without making an arrest. The mayor was lenient, allowing the fighters to return to work after shaking hands and punishing none of the fifty spectators. Nothing Lost. From the Johnstown Democrat. The law of compensations still works. What comes out of the ladies' skirts goes into men's trousers.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Mrs. Sarah Smyser, aged 80 years, of York, was found in her bed-room, overcome by illuminating gas. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zulick, of Hazleton, celebrated their fifty-third wedding anniversary with a family reunion. Edward Dixon, aged 7 years, of Minersville, caught by a train on a railroad trestle near his home, died at a Pottsville hospital. While on an outing at Euclid Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Austin McCormick, of Sharon, found a 3-week-old baby girl abandoned in their automobile. Appointment of John T. O'Toole, of Pittsburgh, as a member of the commission to study old age pensions, was announced at the Governor's office. Benjamin F. Eisenhart, 60 years old, who fell thirty feet from a Pennsylvania Railroad bridge at Lewistown, Thursday evening, died from a fracture of the neck. The vacancy in the pulpit of the St. Paul's Evangelical church at Red Lion, caused by the death of the Rev. H. A. Benfer, has been filled by the appointment of his son, Rev. Kenneth L. Benfer. Mrs. George Olsen, of Cross Fork, has had a needle removed from her right hand where it had been imbedded for twenty-five years. She had forgotten it was there until it began to annoy her several days ago. John Markle, of New York and Jeddo, head of the Jeddo-Hazleton Coal company, largest independent anthracite producing corporation in the world, has recovered his sight, following operations for the removal of cataracts, and is arranging to sail in July with his wife for a tour of the European battlefields. More than six hundred bobcats were killed and sixty-two beavers were trapped in Potter and McKean counties during the past winter. The beavers are being distributed among other counties which have few or no colonies of the animals. A dozen new beaver colonies have been created in the Pocono Mountains during the past few months. At the meeting of the Bloomsburg Rotary club, General Charles M. Clement was presented with the worn American flag that had fluttered over his headquarters at Camp Hancock when he commanded the 28th division before it sailed to France. The presentation was made in an observance of Flag day at which General Clement was speaker. Phillip Stauffer, 20 years old, son of Rev. and Mrs. L. G. Stauffer, of Mt. Wolf, York county, is in the York county jail, charged with having robbed the cigar store of Austin Smith, at Mt. Wolf. The plunder consisted of 1200 cigars, of the value of \$100; a banjo, a clock worth \$20, a pair of opera glasses, six knives, a revolver and nearly \$10 in cash. A blond-haired girl on Friday appeared at the grocery store kept by Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Logan, in Hazleton. She said she was looking for a person who lived in the neighborhood and received directions. She then asked for a drink and, upon receiving it from Mrs. Logan, who had gone to the kitchen for it, the girl departed. Mrs. Logan became suspicious and found the cash register empty of about \$40. Butter may sober a man up the morning after the night before, but a jury did not believe that it took ten pounds of butter, two chickens and three turkeys to sober up Elmer Major, of Chambersburg, as he claimed. The jury found him guilty of larceny preferred by Matteo G. Albert. Major had four pounds of butter in his pockets when arrested. He said some friends gave him the butter for sobering up purposes. Miss Edna A. Martin, A. B., a graduate of Bucknell College, a teacher of French in the High school at Cresson, has been elected teacher of French in the Lock Haven High school, to succeed Miss Mary B. Cushman, who resigned to become a teacher in a mission school in Foochow, China. Miss Martin, whose home is in Lewisburg, taught Latin and French for three years in the Waynesburg High school. She will spend the summer in Paris, studying French. An explosion of dynamite under the front porch of the home of Patrolman George Eggenberger, in Beaver Falls, shortly after midnight, Friday night, partly wrecked the dwelling, shattered windows in adjoining houses and tossed Mrs. Eggenberger from her bed. She was uninjured, and the patrolman, who had entered the house a few minutes before, also escaped injury. Officials say the explosion was in revenge for Eggenberger's activities in enforcement of the prohibition law. Elsie Gregg, aged 2 years, of Berwick, was killed almost instantly and her mother, Mrs. Fred Gregg, was severely hurt early on Sunday when the car in which the Greggs family was leaving Berwick for a Sunday trip was struck five miles west of there by a machine in which two Scranton men were returning from the automobile races at Altoona. The Scranton machine went to the left side of the road on a slight curve, it is alleged. Both cars were overturned and the occupants hurled out. Short circuiting of a high tension 33,000 volt power line, when a cross struck two wires at the same time with its wings, on Friday, caused thousands of dollars damage at Milan, near Tswanda, Pa. The large flour and feed store house of the Farmers' Supply company, and a barn belonging to Daniel Reeves were destroyed with a loss of approximately \$9,000. Incipient fires were started in a dozen homes when the power line burned off and fell across a telephone wire. Three cows were electrocuted when they stuck their heads through a wire fence that had also come in contact with the high voltage line; several people were shocked and telephone and light and power service were interrupted for hours. The body of D. S. Webster, of Altoona, a retired engineer of the Middle division of the Pennsylvania railroad, was found lying between No. 3 and 4 tracks a half-mile west of Huntingdon station at 11:30 o'clock Sunday night by a trackwalker. The body was badly mutilated and it is believed that the man was struck by a westbound train. Webster had been a passenger on train No. 33 from which he alighted at Huntingdon at 9:40 o'clock. It is believed that the man became confused when he left the train and wandered into the yards instead of going to the station. Mrs. Webster was visiting in Huntingdon at the time of the accident. The body was viewed by coroner Schum, of Huntingdon county, and later turned over to an undertaker.