

Ink Stings.

The KNOX boom failed to boom even a little bit.

The Republican ticket will probably be TAFT and CUMMINS.

The price of steel has been reduced, but reduction of prices doesn't create a demand.

The Republican national convention nominated TAFT on the first ballot yesterday afternoon.

The ROOSEVELT rosters tried their best to stampede the Chicago convention for the President on Wednesday.

The Republican national convention is emitting harmonies that sound very much as if ROOSEVELT were at the key-board.

The fact that a bet cannot be legally laid on a horse race in New York does not prove that the racing will be any better.

Poor FAIRBANKS! Was it the cock-tail or saving that drowning girl in Yellowstone lake that killed him? It was neither. It was the ice.

A new election law in Oregon prohibits a candidate from asking a friend to vote for him. What if BERT TAYLOR were running for office in Oregon?

The man who has just found out that there is "nothing in it," after being a criminal for forty years, evidently wasn't in on the capitol job at Harrisburg.

There isn't much new timber in the Republican national platform. It is about the same old worm eaten thing that has had the dry-rot for the past sixteen years.

When the promise of a bumper crop of feed-stuffs presents itself the price of beef takes another jump upward. Strange how utterly out of harmony economic conditions seem to be.

The injection of an anti-injunction plank in the Republican national platform looks like another effort on the part of the enemy to run away with some more good Democratic thunder.

In New Zealand everybody is required by law to take a weekly half holiday. We presume that in New Zealand there are a few, at least who are never in any danger of making an infraction of the law.

State has a new president. May the SPARKS that are flying at the head of the great institution now prove the bright spots pointing the way onward and upward to greater fields of usefulness.

Our friends at Chicago didn't have so much to say this time about sound money and the full dinner pail. The sound of money isn't so loud in the land these days as the rattle of the empty dinner pail.

The small boy now divides his time between the green apple tree and the old swimming hole and with all the cramps and goose-flesh that follow in the wake of his daily wanderings who wouldn't like to be a small boy again.

The increase in salaries of our mail carriers is a matter of much gratification to all whom they serve. A more diligent, patient, hard working set of men cannot be found in the federal employ and they earn every cent they get, and more.

During WILLIAM'S reign in England bachelors and widowers were taxed one shilling a year. There is no such an incentive to get married in this country, but we notice a great many of our bachelors and widowers getting very busy these days.

The effort of the Boston Water's union to have a law passed prohibiting the employment of women to serve drinks at any restaurant or cafe is a movement that should meet with success. The farther women can be kept from that traffic the better for humanity.

The West ward gentleman who was wandering home the other morning at a rather early hour and ran up against that already famous stone fence post at the corner of High and Potter streets is scarcely to be blamed for thinking he had lost his way and had wound up in the Union cemetery.

The fear of the revelations of the law has evidently influenced someone to disgorge. It was announced yesterday that the Allegheny National bank of Pittsburgh will now pay one hundred cents on the dollar. Funds have been mysteriously re-appearing in the wrecked institution just as mysteriously as they disappeared.

The duty of every good citizen now is to begin to consider the merits and qualifications of the various nominees for county office. Now is the time to arrive at a reasonable conclusion, before the heat of a presidential campaign warps the judgment and prejudices the consideration you should exercise in this all important matter. Make up your mind what to do and stick to it.

If nations that pay the highest wages produce the cheapest goods, and statistics prove that the statement is a fact, then why do we have a tariff at all. Of what benefit can it be to anyone but the trusts. We pay the highest wages and produce our goods cheaper than any people on the earth so why the necessity of protecting anything. By a fair and open competition we could win every time and, perchance, such an open door might make other foreign doors open to our manufacturers. After all, the whole tariff system is wrong. It should be one of reciprocity throughout.

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Lincoln Steffens and Roosevelt.

Mr. LINCOLN STEFFENS is in Chicago, "as a citizen interested in the general problems of government and of common, social living," according to his statement. He imagined that that city, at the time the Republican National convention was in session there, would be an eligible viewpoint for such observations. But he has been disappointed in the result. Writing three days before the convention opened, he said: "The work of the convention is practically done. The delegates elected by the Republican electors are not yet here. They will not begin to arrive for a day or two; they don't meet till Tuesday; and when they do sit down together, they may not deliberate at all. Most of what they will do has been decided upon or it will have been by that time, in private, not here in Chicago, but in Washington, D. C."

Mr. STEFFENS significantly adds, "that is bad." But he subsequently qualifies his criticism. Because THEODORE ROOSEVELT is "doing the deciding," he is partially reconciled. If it were anybody else it would be intolerable. Thus his sycophancy is revealed. Nobody knows better than he of the piratical instincts of the President. For example he was commissioned to write an article for one of the June magazines. Like most of the magazine "pot-boilers," STEFFENS submitted his manuscript to the President before he turned it over to the publishers. It contained a striking paragraph which caught ROOSEVELT'S fancy. It described "one of our successful millionaires" in graphic phrases. "He has money, yes, but what has the money cost him?" STEFFENS asked. "Cruel lines in his strong face; soft spots in his once mighty body. His wife is as sad (or as bad) as he; the boy is a fool and the girl is a foreign princess." We quote from memory but with sufficient accuracy to serve the purpose.

The magazine for which the screed was written was scheduled for appearance about the 20th of May. A few days before that ROOSEVELT sent a special message to Congress in which the striking sentences of Mr. STEFFENS' article appeared almost in his exact language. The President had plagiarized not only his idea but his phraseology and pilloried him in the equivocal position of having committed the offense himself because the message came under public scrutiny first. What better evidence of a dishonest heart and dishonest mind conceived. And yet STEFFENS, like a our licking the hand that smote him, declares that is "a big gain," that ROOSEVELT is directing the political inquiry at Chicago. When MARK HANNA did the same thing it was atrocious in the opinion of STEFFENS. Then it was "a business like machine," and something odious.

But there is nothing to excrete in it now. It has been converted into "an engine for the enforcement of his popular policies," to be tolerated if not commended. But that is not the only conversion the incident reveals. It shows that STEFFENS has been converted from a virile foe of political inquiry into an apologetic sycophant kowtowing at the feet of power. Probably the character of his employment makes such perversion necessary. Maybe the pages of the magazines are closed to all except those who worship at the dirty shrine of ROOSEVELT. But one would have thought that a man who could assize vice entrenched behind millions in gold would have been able to stand out against such profligacy. STEFFENS is his own accuser, however, and upon the testimony which he himself offers he stands convicted.

Frank Hitchcock's Reward.

Last week we predicted that FRANK HITCHCOCK would be promoted for the successful brutality with which he controlled the committee on contested seats of the Republican national committee. Since then it has been announced that President ROOSEVELT and Secretary TAFT favor him for the office of chairman of the national committee. In other words, because it is believed that he will "rough house" the campaign, ROOSEVELT has ordered that HITCHCOCK be made manager. The ruffianly spirit which controls the President is to be extended so as to cover the entire country and the corporations will be put under tribute or out of business.

This is easily the limit of political iniquity. Four years ago CORTELYOU, who had acquired corporation secrets through his official relation to them, was made chairman because his information enabled him to blackmail them and ROOSEVELT himself solicited corruption funds through "Dear HARRIMAN." But those operations were conducted in a polite way, comparatively speaking. They were what might be termed "gentlemanly burglary," rather than the rough form. But that system no longer serves the purpose of the political pirates. The bludgeons in the hands of a bully is necessary and ROOSEVELT welcomes the new conditions.

Possibly HITCHCOCK will be able to control the election by the rough processes he

adopted in creating a TAFT majority in the national convention. If the leaders of his party are sufficiently servile to submit it is a fair presumption that the rank and file will be equally docile. But a government thus created will not endure. A servile citizenship has no made and never will constitute a self-governing State. The silly claim that ROOSEVELT means well will not excuse such excesses forever. He doesn't mean well any more than CAESAR or NAPOLEON meant well. He means empire as they meant it and the opportunity to him will be seized as it was by them.

Pennsylvania Republicans.

Several hundred citizens of Pennsylvania have been parading the streets of Chicago, with bands and banners, during the past week, in the interest of the presidential candidacy of PHILANDER C. KNOX. They have gone to vast expense to make such a demonstration as would challenge the respect, if not the admiration, of the country, for their candidate. And the gentleman deserves the distinction they have bestowed upon him. Compared with the average Republican politician of Pennsylvania, his superiority stands acknowledged. But such distinctions are invidious. A man is judged by the company he keeps and KNOX has not only kept the company of the gangsters, but has freely obeyed the orders of the machine leaders.

The Pennsylvanians who have been marching the streets of Chicago in the interest of KNOX have had their labor for their pains, however, and their bill of expense is a dead loss. The ROOSEVELT juggernaut has overtaken and run them down, notwithstanding their servility to him. Like other politicians the President understands that there is no necessity for conciliating the party in this State. Pennsylvania is "joined to its idols," and TAFT, or CANNON, or a yellow dog would be equally certain of the electoral vote of the State if either of them or it, were nominated for President. For that reason so respectable a candidate as Senator KNOX is ruthlessly turned down by the ROOSEVELT machine, for a favorite of the President without half KNOX'S merits.

If the Republican machine were brought to the knowledge that there is sufficient independence and manhood in Pennsylvania to resent a wanton insult, the result of the Chicago convention would be different. In that event the merits of their claims would be considered, at least, and their candidates for favor treated decently. There would then be no actor in Washington capable of controlling the action of the highest court of the party for the purpose of establishing a dynasty or continuing "my policies." Unhappily, however, things are as they are and the friends of Senator KNOX will be obliged to accept their disappointment with whatever grace they can summon. All that remains for them is to lick the hand that swiped them.

The Failure of a Party.

The strenuous efforts to deceive the public into the belief that industrial and commercial activity has been restored is only partially successful. There are abundant reasons why it should be true. The soil has yielded most bountifully. "Bumper" crops have followed each other in regular succession for a dozen years. Last year the aggregate value of the farm products of the country reached the enormous total of over \$7,000,000,000 and the promise of this year is of more prodigious amount. No people in the history of the world have enjoyed such gifts of nature. Industry and thrift have never before, since the beginning of time, been so generously rewarded.

But industrial and commercial prosperity has not been restored and the false reports to that effect are not deceiving the people. In every industrial centre in the country vast armies of idle men are suffering from want or appealing to public benevolence for relief. The abundance which has been produced has been absorbed in speculative enterprises or seized by predatory monopolies for questionable uses. This evil is the result, moreover, of misgovernment. Vicious legislation enacted at the behest and in the interest of Wall street not only made it possible but inevitable. It encouraged the speculation and the speculation did the rest. Effect followed cause.

Congress assembled when the panic was in its incipient stages. The plain duty of the majority of that body was to enact remedial legislation. At the outset the obligation was publicly acknowledged and the promise specifically made. But the conspirators of Wall street intervened. They were not willing to relinquish their grip upon the throats of industry and commerce and betrayed the pledge that had been made. In the closing hours of the session a palpably inadequate measure was enacted in spite of the opposition of every friend of the people. But it was not remedial and the offer of such a make-shift was an insult to the intelligence of the people.

Hearst's Contest in New York.

Up until Saturday last 630 of the 1,942 ballot boxes in New York had been opened and recounted, in the HEARST contest of the election of mayor of that city with the result that 288 votes had been thrown out, largely for technical reasons. The New York ballot, like that of Pennsylvania, is a complicated affair, but the system there, unlike ours, permits of no assistance in the booth except to those physically incapable of marking their own ballots. It is fair to presume, therefore, that instead of being a fraudulent election that which resulted in the victory of McCLELLAN over HEARST, was an exceptionally fair one. In this State the proportion of irregular, and consequently invalid ballots, would be great.

This contest, which has been dragging its slow length along for three years, has cost the people of New York vast sums of money and the contestee more than he ought to have been compelled to pay in defense of his title to the office. It is the fruit, however, of a political mania which has had possession of the minds of the people for some years. It was expressed in the preposterous pretenses of COXE a few years ago and is being continued in the surprising popularity of President ROOSEVELT. It was revealed in the candidacy of DENB for President four years ago and in the recent nomination of TOM WATSON, of Georgia, for the same great office this year. It is a mischievous mania which portends great evils to the Republic unless checked by an overwhelming popular condemnation.

HEARST is a political adventurer who having inherited a vast fortune and acquired a large assortment of absurd ambitions, has been trying to buy his way into public office of some kind. Since his defeat for mayor he has succeeded in buying the nomination for Governor of New York from the leaders of the TAMMANY society, with the result that there is a Republican Governor in that State now while all the other elective officers are Democrats. In the contest for mayor he squandered nearly a hundred thousand dollars in an attempt to debauch the voters and his campaign for Governor cost him double that amount. Wherever he has operated he has left a trail of corruption to mark his sordid and sinister way, and made political office a proboscable commodity. Like all others of his kind he ought to be execrated by public opinion and it is to be hoped that the result of his contest of mayor McCLELLAN'S seat will have that result.

The Conspirators Acquitted.

As seemed to us likely a week ago, the second trial of the capitol graft conspirators resulted in their acquittal on Saturday morning last. The evidence of their culpability was strong. The overcharges were made plain, the misstatements clearly proved. But the court held that so far as the State officials were concerned, there was no conspiracy for the reason that it was their deputies who acted, and the jury, not unreasonably, concluded that if the architect and contractor didn't conspire with the officials, they didn't conspire with anybody. It was a palpable miscarriage of justice but precisely what was to be expected. There are several years of "good stealing" in Pennsylvania yet.

There are other graft cases to try but they may as well be abandoned. The conviction of the first group, early in the year, was a mistake, the result of what might be called a moral hysteria. The machine was scared into a state of panic. The bosses imagined that a wave of civic righteousness was sweeping over the Commonwealth. But before the second trial began this illusion was dispelled. The result of the election last fall, when the people literally canonized crime, inspired the confidence which was expressed in the acquittal of CASSELL and his associate conspirators last week. There will be no further signs of timidity. The machine will resume business "at the old stand."

The frauds perpetrated by these predatory politicians cost the people of Pennsylvania something like ten millions of dollars. They were expensive and demoralizing but they were the logic of events. The QUAY precepts were fulfilled in those iniquities and the QUAY monument is a fit memorial of their achievement. SANDERSON and his associates in the first trial have not been punished yet and probably never will be. They are no more guilty than CASSELL and HUSTON and their turpitude is less than that of PENNYPACKER. In view of these facts there ought to be a judicial review of their trial and their triumphant acquittal be celebrated by the unveiling of the \$20,000 statue of Senator QUAY.

Children's day services were held in the Methodist, Presbyterian, Reformed and United Brethren churches and at each place exceedingly interesting programs were given. The decorations were quite elaborate and appropriate. In addition to the Children's day services Flag Day was also celebrated in most of the churches.

Who is to Blame?

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. The state capitol acquittals are received by many great newspapers with a degree of calmness which may not mean indifference, but hardly suggests a fit degree of indignation.

The blindfold goddess has received a blow in the face, and those who should be her quick defenders are generally content to remark that it is too bad, but only what might have been expected.

We are told that the state did not prove no evidence that the changes in the contracts were not made by the benevolent and conscientious Huston for the best interest of the state, or that Cassel was not trying to give the state a square deal when he sold it all those boxes and tables and things by that singular plan and that splendid price.

In the same breath we find it asserted, with a variety of phrase and emphasis, and a unanimity which argues a well established impression that the assertion is the voice of the people forcing itself to be heard through the press, that the Pennsylvania state capitol building is a monument to one of the most scandalous of conspiracies to defraud a people.

From a legal point of view, there may be no paradox about this, but it is as plain as a pike-staff that the prevailing popular point of view puts the effort to do justice in a light highly suggestive of either false pretence or pitiful feebleness.

There will be plenty to say that this miscarriage of justice would not have happened if the elections had gone differently last November.

Will there be as many to remember this when they are once more called upon to exercise duties of citizenship as sated as any official duty?

A New Kentucky Condition.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

Politicians are wondering what may be the possible political effect of the pardon by Gov. Wilson of Caleb Powers and Howard, who were twice convicted of complicity in the murder of Gov. Goebel. There is no doubt that Goebel was murdered, there has been no question that the shot was fired from the office of Powers, who was at that time secretary of state. It is equally admitted that the whole power of the state administration at that time was exerted to shield the murderer whoever he might have been, and that the then governor has ever since been a fugitive from justice protected by successive Republican governors of Indiana. It appears that with the accession of a Republican administration in Kentucky nobody is to be punished. Among Republican politicians outside of Kentucky there is a general apprehension that the action of Gov. Wilson will have a decided effect in throwing the state back into Democratic control. "It means," said one New England Republican, "that the Republican party in Kentucky is willing to recognize assassination as a legitimate political expedient. I notice also that in his message of pardon the governor made no reference to the pardon granted by Gov. Taylor dated in advance of the crime and in possession of Powers when he was arrested."

Desperate Conditions.

From the Lock Haven Democrat.

In the army the pull is mightier than the sword by all odds. It is no wonder that conditions in the military service, as described by chairman Hull, of the house military committee, are "desperate."

Mr. Hull's son was made a major and soon afterwards lieutenant-colonel in violation of the rule of promotion by seniority and merit. The son-in-law of Senator Wagner, chairman of the senate military committee, was promoted from the rank of captain to that of brigadier-general at one bound, in violation of the same rule. General Wood, for being a chum of the president, was raised from the rank of colonel to that of major-general. Political pull and personal favoritism have filled the higher ranks of the army with incompetents; and this has disgusted the trained officers who have been kept down by that vicious policy.

It is now proposed to conciliate those professional military men by raising their pay; or in other words, by bribery. But the panic brought on by the extravagant and vicious tariff a financial legislation of the Republicans is likely to make the bribery scheme impossible, and many young officers will abandon the army for civil life. The private soldiers are already deserting by scores.

That Tariff Plank.

From the Pittsburg Post.

You can not note all the joints in that tariff plank in one day and certainly not in one column. Instead of justifying a tariff because revenue is needed, profit is brazenly stated as the incentive. Supply and demand do not operate, but a tariff supplant them to provide profit. The maximum and minimum scheme is to work "automatically." The big stick is to be suspended in full sight of foreign nations and their friendship, the germ of commerce, be and of living. The "present high standard of living" must be maintained. Beef of the protected trust way up the standard, like a weight on a strength tester at a county fair, stuck. Tobacco and sugar singled out as exceptions to freedom of trade with the Philippines. And yet there is a plank about trust busting.

Notwithstanding the dull times which have prevailed for some time the Karthaus fire brick company has been in continuous operation and been able to dispose of their entire output. This company has just opened several new beds of superior clay and are now better equipped than ever to make the best brick possible. They have also opened several new coal mines which it is estimated will yield from eight to twenty million tons of coal. This will also be mined and put on the market.

Spawns from the Keystone.

The tag method for securing contributions for the city hospital, was practiced in Williamsport last Wednesday, and the total amount secured from those who were tagged was about \$1,400.

The Pennsylvania Funeral Directors' association which held its annual convention at Uniontown last week, increased its membership 150 during the year and its members now number nearly 1,000.

S. Simcox, general manager for the New York and Pennsylvania Paper Wood Co., has ten thousand cords of paper wood cut and ready to be conveyed to the cars for shipment on his land a few miles east of Phillipsburg.

Arrangements have been completed whereby the Tidewater Pipe Line company will ask for bids for the construction of a 550-mile line of pipe which will extend from Bradford to Robinson, Ill. Between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 will be spent.

Among the articles auctioned off by the Adams Express company at Altoona last Saturday was a suit case which sold for thirty-five cents. When the purchaser opened it he found a full set of burglar's tools and in the bottom wrapped in a piece of dirty paper \$125 in cash.

Charley, a young son of James White, of Phillipsburg, is at the Cottage hospital with a fractured skull and is in a very serious condition, the result of having been hit with a baseball but which accidentally slipped out of the hands of James Nixon during an exhibition game on Friday afternoon.

Last Wednesday evening Joseph Wise of Knox township, Clearfield county, killed a grey eagle on the farm of David Patterson. The bird measured seven feet from tip to tip and weighed nine pounds. It had been killing and carrying off a lot of chickens and lambs from the farmers in that vicinity.

William H. Hauck has instituted an action in trespass at Bloomsburg, against the Pennsylvania railroad for \$10,000 damages. The action is one for five damages, it being alleged by the plaintiff that \$500 acres of timber land were burned over by a fire started by coals from defendant's engine on April 4th, 1908.

DuBois is getting a new industry, a plant for the manufacture of cement blocks for building purposes and paving and also for all kinds of cement ornaments for buildings, cemeteries, lawns, artificial stone troughs, posts, etc. A building for the plant 55 by 100 feet, two stories high, is in course of erection.

The costs in the capitol contract trial will be borne by the commonwealth, not by James T. Walters, the prosecutor, and the bail of all defendants in the capitol cases will be respite until next fall when additional cases will be called for trial. The metallic cases which served as exhibits were removed from the court house to the capitol.

The Logan Iron and Steel company at Burnham, Moffitt county, resumed at their plant on Monday afternoon to run on full time, giving employment to several hundred men who have been idle for the past three months. The Logan company's return to activity will be a boon to Lewisstown and surrounding community which have been held tight in the grasp of the general financial depression.

The authorities around Huntingdon, but not particularly in the borough, have been receiving information from reliable sources that some automobilists around that section of the State are using false numbers on their machines and the matter is being investigated by the proper authorities. The penalty for violation of this act deprives the offender of the use of his machine for a period of six months and he is also subject to a fine.

The State Dairy and Food division states that its receipts from elec licenses so far have amounted to \$32,299.27, the number issued being 287, of which 269 are retail. A gratifying announcement in connection with this statement is that 290 samples of butter examined and 281 were found pure, 80 of 83 food samples found pure, 27 of 35 vinegar samples found pure, and all of 13 milk samples. This indicates compliance with the law.

On Thursday evening just one minute before he was to quit work for the day, Martin Lukich, an employee of the Booth and Flynn company at the Blue Rock quarry, near Latrobe, tripped on a piece of stone at the top of the quarry and fell over the edge, his body flung through thirty feet of space and landing in a heap on the jagged rocks below, causing his instant death. Deceased has a wife and children in the old country.

Alex. Wallace, the veteran hunter and herder from Hubler's camp, was viciously attacked by a wild cat on Saturday afternoon about three o'clock, at the mouth of Stone run, Clearfield county, while fishing for trout. The cat made a leap for his face, but he dodged to one side and was only struck on one arm by the furious beast. As it was the animal tore out the left sleeve of his red flannel shirt and scratched long gashes in his shoulder and arm.

Several boys of Lock Haven while spending the day in the woods near Ferney on Thursday came upon a rattlesnake coiled beside a log. They were instantly imbued with a desire to capture it alive and become snake charmers. With a forked stick they proceeded cautiously and just as Donald Yasley went to catch it so a string could be placed about its neck the reptile sank its poisonous fangs into the left thumb. His condition is quite critical, his hand and arm being greatly swollen and the flesh is much discolored.

When the people of Lewisstown arose Thursday morning they found that the trees surrounding the public square had all been chopped down. Although diligent inquiry has been made, the identity of the tree chopper remains a mystery, the axe wielder having carefully covered the trail. As a result, neighbor is looking suspiciously at neighbor, and nearly everyone there is busy framing up an alibi. Two years ago, when the soldiers and sailors monument was placed in the park, the city authorities planted trees around the shaft their action was severely criticized at the time, as it was asserted that the trees would hide the monument from view. It is believed that one of the old ob- jectors, and there were many of them, did the chopping.