

Ink Stings.

Vote for MUNSON for Justice of the Supreme court and be sure that you will be voting to put a clean, able jurist on the bench.

There are a quarter of a million more men than women in Australia. It follows, no doubt, that wall-flowers are rare at the parties in Australia.

The beef packer's association has just announced that there is no hope for cheaper meat in the future and Dr. MUNYON doesn't even raise his finger to say there is.

If Canada should retaliate by prohibiting the exportation of pulp wood the result would come about as near as anything we know of to calling an extra session of Congress.

Sir THOMAS is coming over to talk of another yacht race. We hadn't heard from Sir THOMAS for so long that we fear he is after tea advertising more than the American cup.

COOK and PRARY had both better stop blabbering so much else they will have to go back to the Arctic regions for a new supply before they get their respective claims proven.

If State should happen to beat Penn tomorrow we advise the quiet citizens of State College to decamp to the top of old Nittany and watch what happens from that point of safety.

The Blue Goose is the name of a dainty new tea house that has been opened at State College. Here's hoping that its business will never be such as to make the owner and the sign one.

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE's prediction that Uncle JOE CANNON will be relieved of authority in the next Congress is at such low range that Uncle JOE probably won't even refer to it in any of his elegant phrases.

When you see something like a W. box coming out of a millinery store with a lady dangling at its side you know some poor man will have to put off buying a winter overcoat until the feathers and parvelvet are paid for.

Don't stay away from the polls on November 2nd under the mistaken idea that it will not be an important election. Any election is important, but one in which you must decide whether your constitution is to be changed should prove an exceedingly important one to you.

It is a safe bet that Dr. W. P. SNYDER and Mr. JAMES M. SCHUMAKER are solid for VON MOSCHIZSKER. They will need him in their business when the capitol graft case against them comes up for review in the Supreme court, as it is now certain to do, at some time in the near or remote future.

Things have come to such a pass in the tariff arrangements between this country and France that Uncle SAM threatens to raise the tariff on champagne. How awful! With these good (?) TAFT times coming on we thought everybody would be able to change from five cent beer to four dollar wine, but this threatened increase in the tariff blasts that hope.

Goodness me! In Philadelphia the Department of Health is going after the school children who have adenoids. Again the poor things are vaccinated, have the adenoids hooked out, deprived of the use of a slate for fear of the germ and made to spend half their time in calisthenic contortions we presume that what they are able to pick up in the way of mental improvement doesn't matter much.

The city of Cleveland has the opportunity to show her gratitude in her present mayoralty campaign. After losing his fortune and the best years of his life in his fight for three cent car fares for the people of that city, TOM L. JOHNSON is again a candidate for the office of Mayor. He has finally succeeded in getting the cheap fares for them and we await with interest the result to see how they repay his sacrifices.

The difference between a player on the world's champion baseball team and a player on the defeated team competing for such honors is just \$661.31 for the year 1909; each player on the Pittsburgh team receiving \$1,825.22 as his share of the receipts from the first four out of the seven games played and each player on the Detroit team receiving \$1,163.91; so that in baseball as in everything else it pays to be the best.

Our esteemed contemporary the Republic used two columns in its last week's issue in an effort to make the public believe that No. 7 of the proposed amendments to the constitution to be voted on next month is not vicious. Its principal argument was predicated on the fact that certain gentlemen voted for its passage in the House and Senate. All of which changes the situation in no way whatever. If you believe that the voters ought to be given a chance to vote for their own election officers then you should vote against No. 7. If you think a commission at Harrisburg, or somewhere else, could select better election officers than the voters can themselves then you should vote for No. 7. It is all a matter of personal opinion. We can see no politics in it at all, unless it might be to keep minority parties from any representation on election boards. And the fact that certain eminent gentlemen voted for it in the Legislature does not change the meaning of the amendment. It is vicious and contrary to the spirit of a republican form of government and it should be defeated.

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The Judicial Salary Question.

Men are properly measured by their actions. A man is unfit for judicial service who perverts or through ignorance misinterprets the law. Measured by that standard ROBERT VON MOSCHIZSKER, the Republican nominee for Justice of the Supreme court, ought to be defeated. He absurdly misinterpreted the organic law of the State in declaring the act of 1903, fixing the salaries of Justices of the Supreme court and Judges of other courts of the Commonwealth, to be constitutional. That act increased the compensation of nearly all the Judges in commission. Section 13 of article III of the constitution forbids either the increase or decrease of the "salary or emolument after his election or appointment," of any public officer.

Judge VON MOSCHIZSKER predicated his postelection decision upon the theory that Justices of the Supreme court and Judges of other courts are not "public officers." Section 2 of article V of the constitution reads: "The Supreme court shall consist of seven judges who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State at large. They shall hold their offices for the term of twenty-one years." Section 15 of the same article of the constitution provides that "all judges required to be learned in the law, except the judges of the Supreme court, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the respective districts over which they are to preside, and shall hold their offices for the period of ten years." Section 19 of the same article says: "The Judges of the Supreme court, during their continuance in office shall reside within this Commonwealth; and the other judges, during their continuance in office, shall reside within the district for which they shall be respectively elected."

The opinion that judges are "public officers," and within the inhibition contained in article 13 of section III of the constitution, is tolerably well sustained in the provisions of the fundamental law quoted. But it is further sustained by other expressions of that instrument. For example in section 4 of article VI, we read: "All officers shall hold their offices on the condition that they behave themselves well while in office, and shall be removed on conviction of misbehavior in office or of any infamous crime."

If there were no other evidence on the subject, however, the language of section 1 of article VII, would be overwhelmingly conclusive. That section provides that "Senators and Representatives and all judicial, State and county officers shall, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe an oath or affirmation. Among the obligations thus solemnized are that 'I will support, obey and defend the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of this Commonwealth, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.'" Paragraph three of the same section and article declares that "the foregoing oath shall be administered by some person authorized to administer oaths, and in the case of State officers and judges of the Supreme court, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and in the case of other judicial and county officers, in the office of the prothonotary of the county in which the same is taken."

Manifestly, so far as the letter of the law goes, Judge VON MOSCHIZSKER's made-to-order decision hasn't a leg to stand on. He depends, however, on the intent of the framers of the constitution, to justify his action. There was no subject more thoroughly discussed by the delegates to the constitutional convention. There were members in that body who believed that the Legislature ought to have authority to increase the compensation of judges and others who were as strongly opposed to that policy and feared that section 13 of article III of the constitution was inadequate, or at least not sufficiently specific, to prevent it. Such eminent lawyers as Mr. CALVIN, of Blair county, ANDREW REED, of Mifflin county, CHARLES R. BUCKALEW, of Columbia county, A. G. CURTIN, of this county, WAYNE MACVEIGH, of Philadelphia, and others spoke so convincingly on the subject, however, that all were finally persuaded and the provision was adopted as a settlement of the question. A synopsis of this debate will be found in another part of this issue of the WATCHMAN.

It was a difficult matter to get judges to pass upon the question of the constitutionality of the act of 1903. In the first place it was necessary that they should have no personal interest in the matter, that is to say that they should be judges who, having been elected since the approval of the act and therefore not in commission when it was enacted, their salaries were not affected. The judges themselves seem to have fixed upon another essential. In other words they wanted judges who would affirm the validity of the law, notwithstanding the plain provisions of the constitution to the contrary. After a good deal of canvassing VON MOSCHIZSKER was "discovered." He "took the bull by the horns,"

figuratively speaking, and declared the constitution unconstitutional. The decision has cost the people something above half a million dollars a year since, will continue to drain on the treasury for all time and it is not easy to see why he should be rewarded for his recalcitancy by promotion to a seat on the bench of the highest court in the Commonwealth.

Grafters Will Go Free.

The decision of the Supreme court, on Monday, allowing an appeal from the judgment of the Superior court in the capitol graft case, may as well be set down as an order of acquittal. The defendants in this case were convicted more than two years ago. In the original proceedings there were four of them, WILLIAM P. SNYDER, former Auditor General; W. S. MATTHUES, former State Treasurer; JAMES M. SHUMAKER, former Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings, and JOHN H. SANDERSON, contractor for the furnishing of the building. Their trial occurred a few months after the exposure and while the political machine responsible for them was still in a state of fear. The leaders were apprehensive of a political revolution in the State and unable to command their forces. There was no tampering with the agencies of justice.

The result of the election of 1906 restored their confidence, however, and the trial of other conspirators resulted in acquittal, notwithstanding the fact that the evidence against them was overwhelming. The machine courage had been restored and the tactics which had previously made court trials travesties were again invoked with success. The spirit which influenced VON MOSCHIZSKER to declare the constitution unconstitutional, in the judicial salary decision, was projected into the second trial of the grafters and they were acquitted. The decision of the Supreme court on Monday is practically certain to result in a new trial with the result that on account of lack of evidence or for other reasons, the accused will be dismissed without punishment.

How long will the people of Pennsylvania stand for this manifest miscarriage of justice. That the first trial of these grafters was fair and the verdict just, is beyond the shadow of a doubt. The review of the proceedings by the Superior court clearly established this fact. But it was not what the machine managers wanted. The verdict was not what the exigencies of the Republican party require and the Supreme court, the bench of which the late Senator QUAY alleged has been filled by outspitting processes, has paved the way for a reversal and an acquittal. There is now no hope of changing conditions in so far as the defendants in question are concerned. But the people can prevent a recurrence of such an outrage upon justice by defeating the Republican ticket this year.

Vote Against This Danger.

During the campaign of 1906 Governor STUART personally assured the people of Pennsylvania that if money had been lawfully drawn from the treasury during the construction and furnishing of the State capitol he would see that the perpetrators of the crime should be punished and the money restored to the vaults. Nearly three years have elapsed since Governor STUART was installed in the office to which he was elected as a result of such promises. Four of the conspirators have been tried and convicted but none of them has been punished and not a dollar of the stolen money has been restored. Is this fulfilling the promise made with a full understanding of their meaning?

Governor STUART meant to keep his pledge to the people, no doubt. Probably corruption in office is abhorrent to him, as it must be to all honest men. But neither Governor STUART nor any other Republican has the moral courage and mental strength to run counter to the machine managers in matters which involve the personal liberty of many of the party leaders. Republican officials necessarily owe their elections to those party bosses. In spite of themselves, therefore, they are compelled to reason that prosecuting and punishing those who have favored them would be ingratitude. It takes a man strong in courage and character to stand against the appearance of ingratitude.

In the case of the Republican candidates this year there is no pretense of improvement of the old methods of the machine. A. E. SISSON and J. A. STROBER are simply servile slaves of the gang. In the past no atrocity was too rank for them. They simply obeyed orders without question or protest. If they are elected the inquiries which made the government of Pennsylvania a stench in the nostrils of good citizens before the election of WILLIAM H. BERRY in 1905, will be resumed at the old stand. Vicious legislation will be enacted with the freedom and celerity of the sessions of 1903 and 1905 and the public business will be a carnival of venality. Vote against this menace.

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Sisson the Champion of the Gang.

When a resolution was introduced into the Senate during the extraordinary session of 1906, to investigate the scandalous Insurance Department of the State, Senator SISSON was the first to interpose against the proposition. The resolution was offered in response to the statement of the Insurance Commissioner that a vast sum of money collected as fees by the Actuary of the Department had not come into his hands or found its way into the Treasury. The Actuary in resentment of this implied aspersion upon his official integrity, had expressed a willingness to testify on the subject. But Senator SISSON endeavored to prevent the investigation by moving to refer the resolution to the insurance committee, packed to serve the interests of the machine.

Mr. SISSON's Republican colleagues were less bold than himself, however. The scandal had gone too far to be concealed and even some of the machine Senators protested against the palpable purpose to stangle the resolution. Senator SISSON then changed his motion for reference by substituting the committee on judiciary general for that on insurance. After some animated discussion during which Senator DEWALT said: "Is there fear of the investigation? The Actuary is not afraid of it. He says he wants the investigation. Is the Senator, (SISSON,) afraid of it? Is this body of fifty persons, representing six million and a-half of people afraid to investigate the conduct of one of its officers? If that be so it is time for us to go home, because we have no further duties to perform." The motion to commit was defeated, the ayes being sixteen and the nays eighteen.

Subsequently a more comprehensive resolution was introduced and adopted and Senator SISSON was named as a member of the joint commission, presumably to take care of the interests of the machine. During the inquiry it was proved that a number of persons were carried on the pay roll of the department, including one of the jurors in the SALTER case, who were performing no services for the State. It was shown that the late Senator DUBHAM, who had just previously resigned from the office of Insurance Commissioner, had received \$141,223.20 in fees from the Actuary, which had not been turned into the Treasury, and that the affairs of the department were wretchedly managed. Owing to the zeal of Senator SISSON, however, in caring for the interests of the bosses, not a dollar of the money illegally abstracted from the Treasury has been recovered and no one concerned in the looting has been punished.

Up to the Individuals.

The Democratic State committee has been doing a prodigious amount of work during the campaign which will end a week from next Tuesday in what we have every reason to believe will be a splendid victory. No public meetings have been held under the auspices of the committee and no noisy demonstrations have been made anywhere. But the State committee has been "on the job" all the time and unless appearances are misleading its work has been effective. In the cities a fairly full registration of Democratic voters has been obtained and in the boroughs and townships the indications promise a good vote.

That stage of the campaign has now been reached, however, at which the activities must be transferred from the State to the local committees and individuals. In other words little remains to be done except get out the vote. The State committee wisely directed its energies to preparing for this stage. That is to say it has been constantly urging Democrats throughout the State to get registered, be assessed and pay taxes, as required by law. That it has achieved this result to an extent rarely accomplished before, we have every reason to believe. All reports received at the headquarters of the committee justify confidence in this.

But the Democratic State committee can't attend to the important matter of getting voters to the polls. That is essentially and necessarily the work of individuals. It ought not to be necessary to personally urge any Democrat to go to the polls. His sense of civic duty ought to be sufficient incentive. It requires little time and even less expense for voters to go to the polls if they are physically able and all such should be glad of the opportunity to do so. Men who are not able to go alone should be helped and there ought to be no lack of helpers. In any event there should be a full vote and it will secure a grand victory.

If Dr. SNYDER and Mr. SCHUMAKER had been poor devils convicted of stealing food to feed hungry families, the Supreme court would hardly have thought it worth while to issue an allocution for a review of their trial and conviction, already twice reviewed by competent tribunals. But they are prominent Republican politicians with strong pulls.

The Wolf and the Youth.

One of the most curious and amusing features of Republican campaigning in this State in recent years has been the misadventure of large quantities of campaign literature. One friend of the enemy assumed to have so much money to spend on printing and postage and the work of their so-called "literary bureau" that they were always willing to send letters to the entire population, although the missives might be particularly designed for a certain element. The best known of the long Democrats found themselves confidently appealed to to save the grand old party of Quay. It was evident that commercial lists of names were being used with absolute disregard of the fitness of things.

That this lavish and careless expenditure of campaign literature even yet persisted in is shown by a letter turned over to this office by one of the best known Democrats in the county, to whom it was addressed. The letter is from the Philadelphia headquarters of the Republican state committee, and is a personal appeal to the individual who is supposed to be "a young American citizen about to arrive at the age when he is about to discharge the highest and most responsible duty that devolves upon an American citizen by the exercise of his sovereign power at the ballot box."

Through ten turpid and almost tearful paragraphs this young man is reasoned with and besought "to begin right" by casting his first vote for the party that for half a century has made the corn grow and the water flow, has multiplied the population and the railroad mileage, and invented and patented happiness and the science of government; namely, of course, the virtuous Republican party of Pennsylvania, so far famed for its graft palace and its many scandals, and for its Quay, Penrose, McNihoel and Andrews. It is the last named who signs the letter, winding it up with the declaration "I will be gratified if on the receipt of this you will advise me as to your decision."

Imagine any clear-headed, clean-headed young man sitting down to pen a serious answer to such a letter from such a source! The wonder of the effrontery of Mr. Andrews in thus inviting the keen scrutiny and zeal of youth for a party so bound by unscrupulous gangsters would be astonishing if the wolf in sheep's skin had not long ceased to surprise.

What of McKees Rocks?

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. What is anybody doing or going to do or thinking about doing about the McKees Rocks rioting and lawbreaking? It seems to us that something should be done to punish the rioting and lawbreaking in McKees Rocks, for the preservation of the fair fame of the Commonwealth and the country.

Soon after the bloody riot near the plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company, when several men were killed, there was considerable talk about prosecutions of everybody who unlawfully participated in the riot, or who lawlessly contributed to the conditions that occasioned it, directly or indirectly. The owners of the plant were arraigned before the bar of public opinion, by the Pittsburgh press, as men who degraded their employes to the level of beasts. The United States government, after an investigation, asserted that the company had violated the employment agency laws of Pennsylvania and New York, and recommended prosecutions. The strikers were unable to maintain the charge of poignance, but several strike breakers insisted that they had been detained in the plant against their will and desire, and that men who wanted to leave were assaulted. And the State policemen came in for a fair share of condemnation. The Assistant Attorney of Allegheny county declared that there should be prosecutions without favor, of all persons whether company officials, strikers, policemen, who had committed any lawless acts.

What has become of these prosecutions? Has it been ascertained recently that the employment agency laws were not violated, that the company officials were innocent of any wrongdoing and that the State policemen did not violate any law relating to violence to the person or restraint of liberty? If all the accused are innocent let it be known. If any of them are guilty let them be prosecuted.

Does the President Know?

From the McKeesport Times. Does President Taft know that the speeches he is making about the country are as blows in the faces of millions who have regarded him with friendly eyes?

Or does he know and dare to imperil his popularity for the sake of what he believes to be right? He is successor of two presidents who kept their ears continuously and intently to the ground—and prospered greatly thereby; and the people have become so accustomed to having an executive at least vocally in sympathy with them that Mr. Taft's apparent opposition to popular ideas surprises and irritates.

Dyed-in-the-wool organs of his party commend his words whenever they think it safe and maintain silence where they cannot approve; but the independent and liberal Republican press of the nation is expressing disapproval of the president's praise of Aldrich, his attack upon insurgents such as LaFollette, Beveridge and Cummins, and his somewhat extravagant praise of the Payne tariff bill. None questions his honesty and sincerity of purpose, but all are speculating as to what these utterances mean. There is a suspicion in some quarters that the president has been hoodwinked by the men who fought Roosevelt.

Whatever the truth is the president has the nation guessing.

Was This Horse Hermit?

From the Houston Post. A true Kentucky gentleman claims that he left his seat and went to the phone to answer a summons by his wife when he held four acres pat, and that he left the game without playing the hand upon her request that he return home. We mention the matter merely to show the high grade of liar proffered in Kentucky.

Spawls from the Keystone.

No new cases of typhoid fever have been reported in Spangler and the patients are getting along as well as can be expected. Seven are on the way to recovery.

Earl Milligan, of Clearfield, was run down by an auto driven by Charles Kurtz and though his injuries are painful nothing serious is likely to come out of the occurrence.

Wilbur Sour, of Pine Station, Clinton county, while out hunting for wild turkeys, heard a rustling in the bushes and in a few minutes was confronted with two bears, each of which he killed with one discharge.

Sentences ranging from six to eighteen months were imposed on the five members of the election board of Reilly township, near Pottsville, who pleaded guilty to the charge of making false returns in the June primaries.

While drilling a well on the land of the Pittsburgh and Southwestern Coal company near Washington a strong pressure of gas was found at the depth of 865 feet. The capacity of the well is estimated at 2,000,000 feet a day.

Lewis Felton and John Pitman, of West Providence township, Bedford county, were found guilty of illegal fishing and placing explosives in the river. They were each fined \$20 for the first offense and \$100 for the second.

In the Juniata Oak Extract company's plant at Mt. Union an order for tanning extract for shipment to Cape Town, Africa, is now being filled. Last summer the company shipped an order for a carload in casks to Melbourne, Australia.

John Bird while out hunting with Melvin Melroy, near East Waterford, Juniata county, was shot through the heart and instantly killed. Melroy fired at a squirrel and it was a stray shot from his gun that caused the tragedy. Both men were residents of East Waterford.

Every bit of clothing except his shoes was torn from his body and the muscles of his left arm were stripped from the bone when George Rider, of York county, was caught in the machinery of a gasoline engine which he was oiling. His condition is serious but he will recover.

Eels got into the water wheel of the Bloomsburg paper mill and so clogged it that it was necessary to stop operations to remove them. To get the wheel in working order it was necessary to cut the fish out and as some of these could not be reached it was necessary to take apart some of the machinery.

Work on the concrete construction of the new South Fork overboard bridge is now coming along well and will probably be finished before winter sets in. The workmen are putting in the arches and abutments at both ends of the bridge and will probably have these complete inside the next ten days.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hall died at Warrensburg at the age of 93 years. She was a member of a Sunday school class that gave a reception to Lafayette on his second visit to the United States in 1824 and told how the great man placed his hand on the head of very little girl present. They talked of this for years afterward, she said.

Arrangements have been made with Dr. W. R. Crane, dean of the mining department at State College, whereby the miners of the State will be furnished with printed lectures and maps prepared by coal mining experts. Every mining feature will be dealt with in the publications. C. L. Fay, of Greensburg, is the author of this new movement.

All the ovens of the Ironvona Coal and Coke company are being fired up as quickly as they can be repaired at Blain City, near Barnesboro. Up to the present time ten have been started and the others will be ready in a couple of weeks. The ovens were closed down for twenty-one months and the news that they were to be fired again was received with much rejoicing.

Nearly all the coal beds in Cambria county that lie near the surface of the earth have been sold or are now being mined. Several tracts, which investors are thinking about buying have not been bought because of the expense that would have been necessary to sink deep shafts. A number of coal deals of some importance are expected to come off in the county this coming winter.

With the project of the dredging of Darby creek well started the town of Darby is experiencing a boom. A large filter manufacturing plant will be erected. It will consist of a large machine shop and engine house and twelve dwelling houses for the employes will be built. One merchant has offered \$500 toward the dredging of the creek. Other new industries are expected to open up in the town.

Highland Inn, Somerset's famous summer resort, was burned to the ground by a fire that started in the kitchen. The loss in insurance was \$80,000 and \$90,000. About \$40,000 insurance was carried. This inn was the largest in Somerset county and was built in 1885. It was on the outskirts of the town. The property was owned by the Somerset Hotel company, of which W. A. Scott, of Pittsburgh, is president.

Michael Kelley, of Snow Shoe, and Swanson Dahlin, of Houtaldale, who recently leased the old Vulcan coal property, about one-and-a-half miles north of Ramey, partially developed by R. B. Wigton & Sons years ago, are putting in a new opening and are encouraged over the prospect of having a very successful mining operation. The old railroad leading to the property, abandoned years ago, is being replaced with new ties and heavier steel rails. The extension is a branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, and is being put in good shape.

Thirty-six years after the death of its maker, the will of Mrs. Eliza Cooper, affecting the title to a piece of property at Saltsburg, Indiana county, has been probated. Before her death Mrs. Cooper told of the will but afterward it could not be found. Recently a son of the woman died in Iowa and after his death the missing will was found among his papers. The property, which consists of a house and lot in Saltsburg, will be sold and the proceeds of the sale divided among the heirs of Mrs. Cooper, carrying out her wishes. The attorney who drew up the testament and both witnesses have been dead for years.