

INK SLINGS.

—What's the use of worrying if you don't see the comet. This is not the last time around for it.

—Was it Neptune, or Jupiter, or Saturn, or Uranus that took the comet's tail? Surely old Mother Earth had no use for it.

—Now that's what Governor MARSHALL, of Indiana, gets for licking TOM TAGGART for Senator. TAGGART has declared for him for President.

—A cabin was always a cabin until the bungalow business made those who were ashamed to live in one commence to cackle about their home.

—Anyway it wasn't a woman who claimed she was one hundred and thirty-one years old and when put to the test could count up only ninety-three.

—Two more big battleships and six torpedo boat destroyers are to be added to our navy, but Congress hasn't yet been able to add a single thing to our ladder.

—Col. ROOSEVELT's throat still bothers him so much that he can scarcely talk. How quiet it must be in England under such circumstances. But still those lovely teeth are to be seen.

—A week from tomorrow the spring primaries will be held. Make up your mind whom you would like to support as a nominee of your party and then go out and vote to get him a place on the ticket.

—King GEORGE, of England, is said to have a very red nose and up to this minute every writer who has commented on it seems to have forgotten that indigestion quite often affects the nasal appendage in that way.

—President TAFT will find that it was a great deal easier to revise the tariff upwards than it will be to make the public believe that BALLINGER is all right. You can fool the people some times, but not always.

—Probably the future will solve the big navy problem for itself. We are informed that the new dreadnaughts are to cost eighteen million dollars each. If this is the price to-day a few years from now they may be too high even for Uncle SAM's long arm.

—If so many of the Pennsylvania Republicans are determined to defeat Senator OLIVER for re-election why wouldn't they be turning their efforts in a still better direction by including Senator PENROSE in that determination and getting rid of him also.

—The Virginia, Minnesota, Enterprise preaches a whole sermon in a paragraph when it says: "The idea of teaching every girl to thump the piano and every boy to be a book keeper will make potatoes worth eight dollars a barrel in another twenty years." And so it will.

—A few wise heads get together and decide that railroad freight rates are too low, then the ninety million rest of us have to get together and raise the extra hundred million dollars necessary to keep business moving. Even the new PAYNE-ALDRICH tariff bill wouldn't do that.

—Philadelphia philanthropists are planning a campaign to protect the infants of that city against "summer complaint." Just what is to be done is a secret as yet, but there are those who think that the North American has engaged Dr. COOKE to take them all up to the North Pole until October.

—Those big automobiles that the PATTONS and the EMERYS had over here last week might have been brought along merely to impress the observers with the idea that if either one of the owners are picked to go to Washington Uncle SAM wouldn't be asked to provide them with one out of the public pocket book.

—"It can only condense and fade away, as the end of an active tail always does," says Prof. FROST in speaking of the comet's appendage. It is well to bear this bit of expert advice in mind, so that you may realize how little some wise men know about "active" tails when you chance to meet a pole-cat on the highway.

—For sensations the old BARNUM and BAILEY shows still lead. They burned down their big tent a day or so ago even though they hadn't billed any such pyrotechnics and the grand and lofty tumbling that was done by the crowds on the seats proved to the world that all of the acrobats are not winning fame in the sawdust ring.

—HETTY GREEN, once the richest woman in the world and still possessed of enough pelf to buy most anything in sight, has just been convicted in a suit for rent of \$550 and costs. She is a notorious old miser and the public will be glad to know that someone has been able to separate her from her money even if they did have to invoke the law's aid in doing so.

—Mr. PATTON, himself, and Mr. EMERY's son spent most of last week visiting in Centre county. Of course both were after votes for the congressional nomination and it looks as though the Republicans of Centre are more or less divided. While many of them feel very kindly toward Mr. PATTON there are quite a few who regard him as a Regular aspirant and they prefer to be counted among the Insurgents, because it looks as though the Insurgents in the next Congress will be the members who get the plums.

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Senator Dimeling's Record.

In unanimously renominating Hon. GEORGE M. DIMELING for State Senator the Democrats of the Thirty-fourth district will pay just tribute to fitness and fidelity. Senator DIMELING's record is a credit to himself and an honor to his constituency. Always on the job, keen of intellect and earnest in the service of the people his voice and vote were ever ready to respond to the call of duty. With an alert conscience he intuitively took the right side of every question and from the beginning of the session of 1907 until the close of that of 1909 it is safe to say that he never got on the wrong side of any measure, whether viewed from the point of politics, morals or economics.

Senator DIMELING is a Democrat, though not of the narrow, partisan type, and naturally aligned himself with his Democratic colleagues on party questions. But there are many measures of a non-partisan character considered at each session of the General Assembly, some of which are good and some vicious. It can be said without fear of contradiction, that Senator DIMELING never once got on the wrong side of such measures and that he was as faithful to his moral as he was true to his political obligations. To put up a candidate for nomination against a man with such a record would have cast an aspersions upon the character of his constituents. It would imply an indifference to honesty and courage.

It would require too much space to give Senator DIMELING's actions in detail on the legislation considered in the Senate while he was a member of that body though we have taken the trouble to look it up. It is sufficient to say that his vote is recorded in favor of no bad measure or against no meritorious bill. He was the consistent and courageous enemy of every bill which proposed the needless increase of offices, the profligate increase of salaries and the useless increase of expenses. He could see a parliamentary snake the moment it entered the chamber and he never failed to give it a blow when the opportunity presented itself. Pinch and graft bills are his pet antipathies.

Senator DIMELING opposed at every stage the bills to enlarge the capitol park at the cost of three or four million dollars to the people. He opposed the monstrous attempt to divert the public school department into a political machine and resisted at every step legislation which increased the chances of predatory corporations to oppress or despoil the public or in any way discriminate against the people and in favor of monopoly. But with all his zeal and energy in fighting such legislative iniquities he was always held in the highest respect by such of his political opponents as held patriotism above partisanship and aimed to conserve the interests of justice.

It was not accidental, therefore, that Governor STUART named Senator DIMELING on the commission to revise the election laws of the State. It is true that under the provision of the joint resolution creating that commission, it was necessary to name one Senator of the minority. But there were eleven Democrats in the Senate most of whom had been longer in service than Mr. DIMELING. But the Governor understood, and all of Senator DIMELING's Democratic colleagues knew, that he was especially fitted for that important service because of his acute intelligence, unyielding courage and uncompromising devotion to high ideals. We congratulate Senator DIMELING and the people on the certainty of his re-election.

Decadence or Something Worse.

When a preacher of the gospel or a professor of the christian religion exalts THEODORE ROOSEVELT to the highest pinnacle of merit the incongruity implied is startling. Preachers of the gospel are supposed to be disciples of the Prince of Peace. THEODORE ROOSEVELT is the spirit of war incarnate. He is a man of blood. His pleasures are in the destruction of life. His paramount desire is to kill. He slaughters, not to provide food or guarantee the safety of others but to gratify his passion to destroy life. It is an uncommon and certainly anything but an admirable temperament.

But there is even a greater incongruity, if that is possible, in the laudation of President TAFT as an honest man. Even those who reprobate his environment qualify their criticism with the apology that he is an honest man whose amiability is imposed upon. But every act of his official life proves that he is a grafter. He not only accepts but solicits emoluments forbidden by the constitution and he hucksters the patronage of his office like a fishmonger. He is insincere, selfish and in every respect sordid. There is nothing in his actions that indicates the finer feelings of the cultured gentleman.

Probably this mistaken admiration for ROOSEVELT and TAFT is attributed to the decadence in popular sentiment or possibly it may be ascribable to a developing

sycophancy among the people. It has become a rule in Congress to exempt the President from criticism as it has become a rule among the newspapers to praise those in authority whether they merit it or not. That was not always the case, however. There was a time that no one was high enough or influential enough to escape just censure and it would be better if that were the case now. Manly men are not stifled by power.

The Troubles of Senator Penrose.

That Senator PENROSE is experiencing a good deal of mental anguish on account of conflicting claims for the gubernatorial nomination there can be no doubt. The friends of Lieutenant Governor MURPHY, among whom is Governor STUART, are becoming insistent. When Congressman TENER bailed banker MONTGOMERY, of Pittsburg, and thus prevented an exposure of the gravest consequences, he was inferentially promised the nomination and QUAY's promise to Colonel WATRES, as yet unfulfilled, is a sort of mortgage upon the machine. Mr. PENROSE knows, however, that the nomination of either of these gentlemen means disaster but he doesn't know exactly how to avoid those obligations and get a candidate who will serve his purpose and fool the people.

But these are not all of Senator PENROSE's troubles or even the greater of them. The senatorial situation is also a disturbing element at this time. His colleague, Mr. OLIVER, never was a favorite in the party and now he appears to be more unpopular than ever. PENROSE literally can't get out of supporting OLIVER and every day adds to the volume of opposition to his re-election. It will be just twenty years next January since Senator J. DONALD CAMERON practically sacrificed himself in an effort to make Mr. OLIVER's brother, the late HARRY W., a Senator in Congress. CAMERON was under much the same obligation to that gentleman then that PENROSE is to GEO. T. now and it would not be surprising if the memory of that contest is a disturbing element.

The Independent Republicans of the State are very much averse to the re-election of OLIVER and appear to be busy making plans for his defeat. This may easily be accomplished if energy and intelligence are invested in the enterprise. In the present General Assembly there are 212 Republicans and only 45 Democrats. It is conservatively estimated, however, that the Democrats will have 100 votes on joint ballot in the next Legislature, which would reduce the Republican majority to a trifling more than 50. The Independent Republicans confidently believe that they will be able to elect enough anti-machine Senators and Representatives to break this majority and prevent an election as was done in the case of QUAY at the session of 1899.

Not on the Right Lines.

The Pennsylvania Society for the prevention of tuberculosis is working energetically, if not intelligently, to promote its purpose and fulfill its self-imposed but useful mission. It has enlisted the labor organizations in the work and at a meeting held in Philadelphia, the other night, one of the speakers said: "Picture what it means to have 2,000,000 children harnessed to the wheels of industry, cut off from sunshine, fresh air and all that makes for health in the next generation." That spectacle is too abhorrent to contemplate. Such a condition is a crime against humanity. But it is not the entire or even the principal cause of the increase of tuberculosis.

That dread malady is attributable mainly to the want of proper protection against a rigorous and treacherous climate. Children need warm, woolen clothing during the inclement seasons and failure to provide them with such sows the seeds of the dread white plague. It is well enough, of course, to employ every available means of mitigating the evil. But it would be infinitely better to remove the source. In other words the labor organizations and philanthropists should unite in a movement to entirely abolish or greatly reduce the tariff taxes on wool and the immediate and certain result would be such a cheapening of the price of woolen fabrics that people could be properly clothed.

Under existing conditions only the very wealthy can indulge the luxury of flannels. The average citizen is deluded into the absurd belief that he is buying woolen clothes when he pays a fair price for an admirable imitation. But unless he pays more than the average man can afford he is getting nothing but shoddy which has neither the warmth nor the durability of wool. But the wealthy sheep raisers of the West and the predatory trust magnates of New England multiply profits and bask in the sunshine of prosperity while the children shiver and absorb the germs of tuberculosis which are in the chill air. Good intentions are all right for pavements in hot climates.

Bailey Reveals His Malice.

The Johnstown Democrat reveals a surprising irascibility in replying to the WATCHMAN's recent reference to its bad habit of untimely criticizing leaders of its own party, if it acknowledges allegiance to any party. "MEEK shows his teeth," our Johnstown contemporary observes, when, as a matter of fact the editor of the WATCHMAN simply revealed his "bowels of compassion" for an erring brother, and pointed out the path which he might have followed. The Democrat has been assailing Congressman WILSON for his vote on the lumber schedule of the ALDRICH tariff bill, to the palpable enjoyment of the Republican machine. Mr. WILSON, a Democrat, has twice defeated Mr. DEEMER, a Republican, and incidentally planted in Mr. DEEMER's bosom an implacable resentment. Mr. WILSON is a Democrat representing a Republican district and is certain to be the nominee of his party for re-election. A change of a few hundred votes at the coming election might defeat Mr. WILSON's re-election and restore the seat in the National Legislature to the Republican party and the vote to Speaker CANNON. The criticisms of the Democrat, invariably reprinted in Mr. DEEMER's Williamsport paper, might influence thoughtless voters who are guided by impulse rather than by reason, to vote against WILSON.

The Democrat justifies this pernicious activity in the interest of Senator PENROSE's party machine on the ground that it must be consistent. It reproaches Republicans who vote contrary to its ideas of right and therefore professes that in order to be consistent it must be equally censorious against Democrats who offend it in the same way. Persistency in wrong action on the part of a Representative would justify such treatment, but to purposely, or stupidly overlook the fact that one fault is less damaging than a thousand and assume that because a man has made one amiable mistake he must be sacrificed in the interest of another who makes a thousand is without either excuse or reason. It may look like consistency but it is also folly. Dr. JOHNSON once said that "patriotism is the last resort of a scoundrel." A more recent, though probably less illustrious philosopher has added that "consistency is the shelter of a coward." The accuracy of Dr. JOHNSON's adage has been proven a thousand times. The Democrat proves that the other axiom is equally exact. Having gotten in wrong our contemporary hasn't the moral courage to acknowledge its error and hopes to vindicate itself by sacrificing, not only its party but the principles it professes to support. If Congressman WILSON is re-elected the party is certain to have a faithful and capable advocate on every issue except one. If he is defeated the opponents of the party will have a champion of every iniquity which the greed of graft and the lust for power, can invent.

In this unreasonable attitude toward Mr. WILSON, however, the Democrat exhibits no malice. It is simply fatuous, though harmful. But in trying to make Mr. MUNSON responsible for Mr. WILSON's action in Congress and deliberately misrepresenting the language he used at the harmony meeting of the Democratic State Central committee on April 7th, our contemporary becomes malevolent. It knows, if it knows anything, that while it may be the duty and privilege of private citizens to hold high officials responsible for their actions, at the time and under the circumstances, the public criticism of Mr. WILSON by Mr. MUNSON, would have been both impertinent and out of place. But even if the Democrat is a trifle cloudy on that point, it must know that there is no excuse, other than that which a high-wayman offers for his crimes, for deliberately misquoting Mr. MUNSON or inferentially attributing to him sentiments which he did not utter. At the harmony meeting referred to, Mr. MUNSON said that he had not been active in the party organization as he ought to have been and that he had not borne his share of the burden, either of expense or labor. But he did not say that he had "sulked in his tent," or was out of sympathy with the organization, the candidates or the principles of his party. He has been a busy man, absorbed in the work of his profession, like hundreds of others who are now awakening to duty, but he has never been recreant.

—Former residents of Centre county now located in Ohio will hold their annual reunion on July 4th at the farm residence of J. D. Danney, Medina, Ohio, stop 77, C. & S. W. electric line. Any further information can be had by writing to Mrs. J. D. Danney, R. F. D., No. 3, Medina, Ohio.

—GIFFORD PINCHOT's home coming may be regarded as merely the arrival of the advance agent of the big show.

A Tradition in Ruins.

From the Omaha World-Herald. The people of this country will sincerely regret the astounding and sickening disclosures of administration duplicity which have recently been added to the Ballinger scandal. While there is in the spirit of partisanship which ordinarily would lead Democrats to rejoice when Republicans are feeling sick at heart that a President of the United States could be guilty as President Taft is shown to be guilty, and that not one, but several members of his cabinet could be so shamefully involved with him in a plot to betray justice and wilfully trick the public.

It was bad enough that the policy of conservation was betrayed by the appointment of Ballinger to preside over the interior department. It was bad enough that the incalculable riches of Alaska, the property of all the people, were to be delivered over to the "Morgenthau" looters. It was bad enough that public servants who revolted and protested against that program of rewarding, out of the national storehouse, the mighty financial interests that assisted in Mr. Taft's election, should have been dismissed in disgrace from the service.

But it was still worse that the President of the United States stooped to cheap subterfuges to deceive the people. It was still worse when he permitted himself to become a willing party to a tawdry conspiracy to make the people believe what was not true. It was still worse when, in the furtherance of that conspiracy, he resorted to acts and statements that were neither honorable nor in accord with the actual facts.

For it is of this that President Taft has been guilty.

This is what he tried to make the public believe: That he sat as an experienced and able judge in the Ballinger-Glavis case; that he laboriously and faithfully reviewed all the evidence, including an exhaustive summary and report of the attorney general thereon; that he finally prepared his decision, exonerating Ballinger and ordering Glavis discharged, because his conscience and judgment and great knowledge of law and of men would not permit him to do otherwise.

For these are the facts: The President did not sit as an impartial and fair judge in the case. He did not himself exhaustively review the evidence. He did not have before him the attorney general's summary, as he sought to make the country believe, when he prepared the findings. He did not, strictly speaking, even prepare the findings. The findings were prepared under the direction and with the assistance of one of the parties to the controversy—Secretary Ballinger himself! The President took the verdict thus prepared, using even a portion of the identical language, and following its arrangement and sequence of facts throughout, dictated the result to his secretary as his own verdict, and signed his name thereto!

The President was an unfair judge. He lent himself to the uses of a band of midnight conspirators who did the miserable work in secret and, after they had finished it, sought to destroy by fire all evidence of their guilt! Pretending to sit as a judge in a momentous dispute which involved, directly and indirectly, the public interest in property valued at many hundreds of millions of dollars, he betrayed the prosecution to the defence and allowed the defence to prepare the verdict declaring its own innocence!

To attempt to comment on this in the way of characterizing it fittingly is a task before which good and patriotic citizens may be excused for hesitating. There is a dignity and kind of sanctity that attaches to the office of President of the United States—that attaches even when the office is dishonored by its occupant—which discourages plain speaking. When a President goes hopelessly wrong it inspires shame even more than anger in the patriotic heart. There inheres in and exalts the presidential chair a tradition of personal honor, of personal integrity, that has grown brighter and surer with the passing of the years. That tradition today lies in fragments at the feet of the American Republic. The Ballinger scandal has become a national tragedy.

A Wall for Uncle Ben.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. It looks as if Uncle Ben. Focht, the irrepressible Union county candidate, is about to suffer the pangs of a victim of political ingratitude. After sacrificing his valuable time in the service of his party as a first term member in Congress, he is in imminent peril of losing a nomination for another term. There is apparently a conspiracy afoot in this district to terminate his Congressional career. The conspirators ought to be ashamed of themselves, for didn't Uncle Ben. offer himself on the altar of his party as sponsor in the State Legislature for the present ballot law under which assistance-in-the-booth is made easy and arithmetic in the count of election returns simplified? And now when the devoted Uncle Ben. needs assistance at the polls, he is to be denied it by the very people he has so loyally served. Can such things be and overcome us like a disappointing comet's tail without our special wonder?

Will Not Down.

Free trade will never be dead while men demand that which is their own, and protection will never be dead while men demand that which belongs to their neighbors. The free trader demands his right to do as he wishes with his own—to make and use, to buy and sell. The protectionist demands that the public be obstructed in their purchases that he may levy prices on them to which he is not in equity entitled.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—About \$50 was realized in the recent tag day of the Ladies' auxiliary of the Johnstown Young Men's Christian association.

—The Cambria Steel company at Johnstown has received an order from the Harrington lines for 1215 steel cars for fall delivery.

—Two proprietors of a cut-glass concern were in Lock Haven recently looking over the field with the idea of probably locating a plant there.

—John Frank of Osceola, while returning from his work at a mine, was run over by a coal train and killed almost instantly. He was aged 63 years, and is survived by a widow, one son and three daughters.

—The Clearfield County Bar association recently acted unanimously in favor of the purchasing of the G. L. Reed homestead, at the corner of Market avenue and First streets, as a site for a new court house.

—One of the best gas wells found in Greene county was brought in on the Mathias Morris farm, near Rogersville. The well was drilled by the Carnegie Natural Gas company and is producing 8,000,000 feet per day.

—Pleading guilty of having shot two blackbirds, Ulrich Stevens was sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars for each bird, and costs, by a justice of the peace at Allentown. The prosecution was brought by a game warden.

—When the time for closing bids on the \$100,000 bond issue of the Johnstown Water company came, recently, it was found that the amount had been largely over-subscribed and it will be necessary to apportion the awards among the bidders.

—More bark is being taken on wagons to the plant of the Elk Tanning company at Newport this season than in any other season on record. In one day recently 151 tons, almost twice as much as any previous record, were taken to the place.

—Emil Otto Bohn, the youngest of two sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Bohn, of Winburne, died recently in the Cottage hospital, Phillipsburg, from burns received in an explosion of powder with which he and his brother were playing. Both children were burned.

—J. G. Smiley, a car inspector at the union depot, Harrisburg, while going through a coach on the Pennsylvania railroad, found a pocketbook containing \$2,700 in cash and negotiable notes. He turned the find into the office and it was later returned to its owner.

—Clearfield borough has an assessed valuation of \$2,831,734, according to the triennial assessment returns just completed at the commissioner's office. The people will be expected, during the year 1910, to pay into the county, borough and school district treasuries, the sum of \$87,951.72.

—It is stated on reliable authority that the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg Railroad company in the near future will begin the erection of a steel coal chute at DuBois, to replace the present one, with which it is impossible to coal expeditiously. The new affair will cost in the neighborhood of \$80,000. Several tracks are to be changed.

—While Harry Mills was driving with a load of coal across the bridge leading from South Phillipsburg to the brick works recently, the structure gave way and precipitated the wagon, team, driver and forty bushels of coal to the creek below. Mills and the horses escaped with scratches and the wagon was damaged only slightly. The coal was lost.

—Charles Fry, one of the foremost fancy chicken-raisers of Huntingdon, for two months lost a large number of little chicks in an inexplicable manner. Recently, however, the clouds of mystery rolled away, when he discovered the thief to be a blowing viper, three and a half feet long. The snake was killed and the chickens since have been left in peace.

—Attorneys for Architect Huston have filed demurrers to the actions in equity brought by the attorney general's department at Harrisburg to recover \$5,000.000 for the Commonwealth from persons and firms connected with the capitol's furnishing contracts. The papers declare suit should not be brought in equity. The arguments are set for September.

—The burgess and chief of police of Coatesville are at cross purposes concerning the manner in which the fourth of July shall be celebrated. The burgess wants a wide open celebration, while the chief declares he will arrest all persons who violate the ordinance relative to firing explosives. To this the burgess retorts that the prisoners will come before him for trial.

—Cumberland Valley farmers are finding old potatoes dead stock on their hands, and have a great many bushels in the bins. Last fall when the potato market was high they held their tubers for better prices, and now that the market is overstocked, little or nothing can be secured from their sale. There is so little demand for the home-grown product that the potatoes are being fed to the stock.

—Rev. Father J. N. Codori, pastor of the Catholic church of the Immaculate Conception, at Lock Haven, has been appointed by Rt. Rev. Eugene A. Garvey, bishop of the Altoona diocese of the Catholic church, as the rector of St. Columba's, Johnstown, to succeed the late Rev. Father Cashman. Father Codori has the reputation of being an active pastor. His last services at Lock Haven will take place next Sunday.

—Reversing a previous decision, Judge Brumm of Schuylkill county, has decided that a married woman need not pay the debts contracted against her estate by her husband, unless it is expressly shown that he was authorized to act as her agent. The decision was made in a test suit brought against Mrs. Catherine Schaeffer, of Wayne township. Other cases depended on the outcome of this one, and Mrs. Schaeffer would have lost her estate if defeated.

—Such a shock did the death of his brother, Michael Haverty, prove to Patrick Haverty, of Pottsville, that he fell dead Monday as Michael's remains were being borne to the cemetery. When the latter's death occurred, last week, Patrick was prostrated and had to take to his bed. He was so ill that he could not attend the funeral and succumbed to heart disease as the cortege to the cemetery took up its solemn march. The news of the sudden death reached the mourners while they were beside the open grave in the cemetery.

—That a big subterranean river flows in Somerset county, near the Somerset & Cambria branch of the Baltimore & Ohio, is the theory advanced by L. E. Chapin, of Pittsburg, a consulting engineer, who had been called before the Somerset council on the water problem. He bases his belief in the existence of the river on numerous holes drilled in the bottom land north of Somerset, which have proved to be flowing wells. The first of these wells was put down as a test hole for coal ten years ago and it has been flowing ever since. Other borings also have proved to be flowing wells when the strata overlying the supposed river has been penetrated. It is thought that the river is two miles wide, owing to the distance apart of certain wells. The stream is supposed to flow northeast, and to supply numerous springs that supply Stonycreek river, flowing into Johnstown, and the Quambahoning creek, on which is located the big Quambahoning reservoir, being built by the Manufacturer's Water company. Engineer Chapin has been engaged to locate a well on the under ground river to increase the water supply of Somerset.