

INK SLINGS.

-If the comet put this weather on us we ought to all be glad that it won't be back again for seventy-six years.

-The Illinois pastor who declared that all women are liars might have done work with census takers while arriving at such a monstrous conclusion.

-With the trout fishing season showing every evidence of being a failure there is nothing else to do but have a baseball club for the summer's amusement.

-GLEN CURTISS won a ten thousand dollar prize for flying fast and high on Saturday. The average fellow draws ninety days in jail for doing things like that.

-Tomorrow, the primaries. Are you going to attend. If you don't, remember that you will be showing a poor face if you kick at what the other fellows did in your absence.

-Possibly the fellows who are hollerin' most now because Cambridge made him an LL. D. were the very ones who in a certain day in October in the year 1907 were conferring the degree of D. F. on him.

-The Wilmington News thinks President TAFT is all right because he has "a judicial mind." He may have it, but we fear it is just weighed in the balance of public opinion just now it would be found wanting.

-The official bathing season opened at Atlantic City on Monday. Thank the Lord, official doesn't mean obligation to do it in this case. If this kind of weather continues the half of us won't take a bath ever again.

-When the railroads were raising wages it was heralded as a great thing, but when they undertook to raise rates high enough to compensate for the advance given their employees—why, that was different.

-Now is the time when those State College boys are letting out two or three reets in the lower end of their pants, eclipsing pink socks, and beginning to realize what their dads sent them to school for. The final Exams are on.

-It is costing two hundred and twenty-eight per cent more to run the government now than it did during the last term of GROVER CLEVELAND'S tenure. Are you having any better time because the cost to you is over twice as much as it was then.

-The DuBois Express remarks that it is noticeable over there that "the politicians are for PATTON and the people are for EMERY." That is exactly the situation in this county and tomorrow we will find out which there are the most of, politicians or people.

-Have n't heard of any great amount of enthusiasm being aroused by our suggestion to engage a good band for Bellefonte's Fourth of July celebration. Is it possible that we are the only music lovers in the town or are we just a little too "dippy" on the subject for the rest of them?

-Most of the High school commencements are over now and another flood of wouldbe doctors, lawyers, engineers, stenographers and parlor ornaments has been turned loose in their respective communities, but nary a one among them to handle a plow, a shovel, a dish rag or a dust pan.

-The performance of GLEN H. CURTISS, in flying from Albany to New York, in his bi-plane, at the rate of nearly a mile a minute, looks like another finger board to popularity for the flying machine. Shades of DARIUS GREEN, we yet have to swap that good old green boat for something that won't have tires to mend and makes less noise than a traction engine.

-Mr. PATTEN'S corner in wheat having been broken that commodity has been doing some grand and lofty tumbling lately. The price is well down toward ninety cents and about the only complaints likely to be heard will be from those farmers who wanted a dollar and thirty when it was up to one and a quarter and have their wheat in their granaries as a result of their wisdom.

-Only a little more than a month remains until Messrs. JEFFRIES and JOHNSON will settle the question, that next to base-ball, is uppermost in the American mind and by that time Mr. T. R. will be home to fill up the space in the daily papers that would be yawning caverns of peacefulness were it not that he is expected to be loaded for warfare with either the Insurgents or the Regulars. It doesn't matter much, which, because TEDDY is certainly shifty and he can fight a better fight—on paper—than any man living today.

-Somehow or other, within the past few days, there has been a very decided scramble among local Republicans to get onto the EMERY local wagon. It appears that on his recent visit to this county Mr. PATTON did not deny that if elected he would support boss CANNON and as there are a lot of Republicans in Centre who are of the opinion that CANNON has injured their party as much as he should be allowed to do, they are going to vote to send a man to Congress who has openly declared that he will not support the present Speaker.

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Causes of the Cost of Living.

That the tariff is the principal cause of the high prices of commodities must be accepted as a self-evident proposition. The main purpose of the tariff is to exclude from domestic use foreign products in order that the prices of domestic products may be increased. If this result were not achieved domestic producers would not spend money in order to get tariff legislation. Business men don't waste money in that way. They may contribute to charities and indulge in philanthropies that cost money and give them glory, but they never work for nothing or spend the coin that costs toll on enterprises which promise no return. Therefore it may be set down as a fact that tariff taxes are the principal source of high prices.

But there are collateral reasons for high prices of living and as one of the leading economists of the country has said one of them is profligacy in public life. Until within a comparatively recent period the salary of the President of the United States was \$25,000 a year and out of that sum he was obliged to pay all his simple domestic expenses including the wages of servants and the equipment and maintenance of his stable. If he traveled he paid his traveling expenses out of his private purse and if he remained on the job he supplied his table and other necessities and luxuries from the same source. Unofficially he was an American citizen and gentleman who depended upon his own resources to gratify his own desires.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT changed this system in the White House. He never paid for anything out of his own pocket. His household servants were on the pay rolls of the government, even his barber being entered as a clerk in the Adjutant General's office. WILLIAM H. TAFT is constantly following this nefarious example. He pays for nothing except by warrants on the treasury and though his salary is three times that of LINCOLN he was illegally allowed a traveling expense fund of \$25,000 a year and is now begging Congress like a mendicant to give him more. He thus sets an example of profligacy which is followed by others in the official oligarchy and adds to the expense of living in all the walks of life.

Perverting the Postal Law.

The other day, according to authentic reports from Washington, "the mail coaches groaned beneath the loads of campaign documents prepared at great expense, by the Protective Tariff League, and sent forth under the frank of the Pecksniffian Senator from New Hampshire, in violation of the postal laws." Presumably it is meant that Senator GALLINGER, of New Hampshire, has been franking, for distribution in the United States mails, matter which is not a part of the congressional record. No matter that has not become a part of the congressional proceedings can be entered for post-office distribution under a congressional frank.

The proceedings of an organized body, or the opinions of an individual, may be made a part of the congressional record by vote on a motion or by unanimous consent. There was no way to make the proceedings, or for that matter any part of the record of the Protective Tariff League, a part of the congressional record, except by vote of one branch of Congress or the other. According to the best evidence attainable no such motion was made or adopted. Therefore the "burdening of the mail coaches with matter prepared by the Protective Tariff League," whether under the frank of Senator GALLINGER or not, was a violation of the law and deserving of the punishment which follows any other criminal operation.

The Postmaster General is striving, the reports from Washington assure us, to reduce the expenses of the mail service. He insists that the volume of second class matter, the newspapers and magazines, shall be decreased in order that the deficiency in the service may be ended. The newspapers and magazines other than those which have been subsidized by administration patronages, are condemning the "system" of the Republican machine and consequently are to be suppressed. But if the Postmaster General were half as wise as he is cunning he would see that the deficiency is caused, not by the newspapers and magazines but by the franking of such rubbish as the Protective Tariff League distributes under the frank of the "Pecksniffian Senator from New Hampshire."

-The fast Academy ball team will close the season on Hughes field tomorrow afternoon at 3.30 when the Lock Haven Normal boys will be their opponents. A fine game may be expected and as the Academy boys have contributed so much good sport this spring a large crowd should go out to their farewell game.

Obviously a Bogus Interview.

Obviously Mr. BERRY is misquoted in an alleged interview published in the esteemed Philadelphia Public Ledger of Wednesday. In that interview he is made to say that he is considering the proposition of some of his friends to make him an independent candidate for Governor in the event that the Allentown convention nominates another gentleman for that office. Mr. BERRY has been the nominee of his party too frequently and understands too well the obligations of loyalty to the party candidate, to even think of such a course. He knows that entry as a candidate in a convention implies the obligation to abide by the determination of a majority of the convention. In the manifestly bogus interview Mr. BERRY is made to say that the Democratic organization has given him no encouragement in his campaign for the nomination of the Allentown convention. The Democratic organization has treated him precisely as it has treated other gentlemen who aspire to or are willing to accept the nomination. The Democratic organization has not been created to give encouragement or support to candidates for the nomination. Its mission is to help elect the candidates after they are nominated and conserve the interests of the party all the time. The present organization has endeavored to accomplish these results to the best of its ability and according to its means.

Nor are we willing to believe that Mr. BERRY has referred to certain leaders of the party in the language attributed to him in the alleged interview as published in the Public Ledger. The party leader in question has been a faithful and generous friend of Mr. BERRY in the past and we believe cherishes for him the kindest feelings at present. In view of the circumstances, therefore, and in the light of facts known to all the Democratic leaders throughout the State, we feel that Mr. BERRY has been misquoted both in the charges he is said to have made about the desires and purposes of the party leaders as well as in the statement that he contemplates becoming an independent candidate. Mr. BERRY is neither a disorganizer nor an ingrate.

Mr. Flinn's Political Activities.

Former State Senator WILLIAM FLINN, of Pittsburg, according to newspaper reports, is financing the campaigns of any Republican candidates for Senator or Representative in the General Assembly who will promise to vote against GEORGE T. OLIVER for Senator in Congress. FLINN and OLIVER are neighbors in Pittsburg and rivals in local politics. They are both rich, beyond the dreams of avarice, and each acquired his fortune through graft. OLIVER is a steel and iron manufacturer and FLINN is the same business though the bulk of his fortune was made in city contracts. Both went into the newspaper business after having secured more money than they needed and they are as ambitious as CAESAR.

FLINN gives as his reason for opposing OLIVER the opinion that OLIVER is not fit, morally or mentally, for the job. In this view of the subject he is probably right. But it is not his real reason. The fact that he wants the job himself is probably the influencing cause of his action. On the other hand OLIVER is of the opinion that FLINN is morally and mentally unfit, and it is likely that he is quite as accurate in his judgment. But the Republicans haven't been in the habit of sending very able men to the Senate and therefore the objections of neither of these gentlemen are valid coming from Republicans. QUAY used the office simply as a stock-jobbing station and PENROSE isn't much better.

We sincerely hope, however, that Mr. FLINN will persevere in his work of organizing Republican campaigns against OLIVER. Great good may come of it for the election of twenty-five or thirty Republicans who will hold out against the candidate of the PENROSE machine during the next session of the Legislature or result in the election of a really fit man by a combination of actually independent Republicans, who are not pledged for or against any Republican candidate, with the hundred or more Democrats who will occupy seats in one branch or other of the next Legislature. That will be "a consummation devoutly to be wished."

-A large delegation of station agents and other railroad men from the Cumberland Valley railroad were at State College on Wednesday of last week receiving instruction on how to interest the farmers in that valley in the latest methods of agriculture. Special trains of instruction will be run over the Cumberland Valley line in the near future at which time lectures on the most important agricultural topics will be given by members of the college faculty.

President Taft's Grafting.

Congress has refused to make President TAFT'S "expense fund," available immediately, though the President admits that he needs the money very badly. He has overdrawn the account, though to what extent has not been revealed. When the cashier of a bank or any officer of a corporation overdraws his account he is guilty of embezzlement and compelled to make good immediately. Technically the President is in the same situation and has begged Congress to provide him with the means to reimburse the government. Just why the statesmen "at the other end of the avenue," are obtuse has not been revealed. Probably some of them want a definite understanding about patronage.

As we have already said on several occasions this voting of an expense fund to the President is "graft" pure and simple. The constitution provides that the salary of the President shall be fixed by the law and that he shall receive "no other emolument." With the purpose of being liberal to President TAFT Congress fixed his salary at \$75,000 a year, an increase over that of his predecessor of \$25,000, and precisely three times as much as was paid to LINCOLN. In consideration of his signing the vicious ALDRICH tariff law he was voted a traveling fund during the extra session of the present Congress. For some reason as yet unexplained he has again been voted that fund but he has not been authorized to use this year's appropriation to pay last year's overdrafts.

In this State we have recently sent to the penitentiary a couple of gentlemen who had previously stood high in their communities, and a few weeks ago another was convicted in the Dauphin county court, for grafting in the construction and furnishing of the capitol building. But what's the use of punishing these comparatively little fish for an offense which the President of the United States is constantly committing. Mr. TAFT may be soothing his manifestly easy conscience with the thought that the graft in which he is indulging is sanctioned by law. But he knows that legislation in conflict with the constitution is invalid and that necessarily his graft is of the sordid sort.

A Senatorial Misfit.

Senator LORIMER, of Illinois, protests that there was no buying of votes on the occasion of his election, a year ago. He brands the story of bribery and corruption as the wicked invention of a Chicago newspaper which had for its purpose an aim to destroy himself and his friend whom it can't control. This is a strangely familiar defence. Nearly everybody who is caught blames it on the newspapers. It must be admitted that there are newspapers which commit crimes of that kind that are abhorrent. There are journalistic "yellows," here and there, which transgress the laws of decency in order to discredit a man who reveals his contempt for it. But the Chicago Tribune is not in that class.

Half a dozen Senators and Representatives in the Illinois Legislature have already confessed that they were bribed to vote for Senator LORIMER against his Republican competitor for the office, former Senator HOPKINS. It was a sort of choice between evils among them and they were easy to bribe. HOPKINS was about as bad as can be imagined and had the nomination of the Republican machine. LORIMER, who had control of the Chicago machine, joined with the Democrats in the organization of the Legislature, thus creating a "community of interest" between himself and such of the opposition as were willing to be bribed. The bribery followed, as might have been expected, and the exposure was the next step.

Senator LORIMER doesn't improve things, however, by a vitriolic attack upon the newspaper which discovered the facts and revealed them. In fact he makes matters much worse for while he was speaking on the subject in the Senate chamber in Washington State Senator HOLSTLAW, of Marion county, Illinois, was testifying before the Sangamon county grand jury that he had been paid \$2500 for his vote for LORIMER, corroborating in every detail the similar testimony of several others. Thus far it has not been shown that LORIMER or any of his friends furnished the money for the bribery operations, but that will probably follow. At any rate enough has been revealed to prove LORIMER'S unfitness for the office he holds.

-In the regular advertising column of today's paper will be found an advertisement for the sale of school bonds for the borough of Milton, sixty-four bonds of five hundred dollars each, an aggregate of thirty-two thousand dollars, at four per cent. No bid less than par will be considered. Here is a chance for men with money to make a good investment.

Shreds of Suspicion.

From Collier's Weekly. It has been a dismal fight, this harsh conflict, for justice and the truth, and it is not a pretty thing to force presidents and attorneys general unwillingly to be candid with congress and the people. We are accused of wishing to injure the administration. Those who have followed, since last August, our campaign in vindication of Garfield, Glavis, Pinchot and in defence of Alaska and the water-power inheritance of us all, know how clinging was our confidence in Taft, how unwillingly we concluded that his credulity must bear its full share of blame for what Ballinger has been allowed to do.

Why did the attorney general of the United States need to misdate a document in order to deceive the public about the amount of investigation made before a public servant was dismissed? Why did the president of the United States need to tell the senate he had based his decision partly on a report of the attorney general which did not exist; and why did he conceal from the senate a document which would have shown that the "exonerated" of Ballinger was prepared not by Mr. Taft, but the interior department?

The reason that the president, the attorney general and the interior department struggled so hard to suppress, by shameless trickery, the essential documents in the Ballinger report, on which the president founded his so-called exoneration, is a wicked document; a false, cruel, cheating document; a report so full of lies and oppression that it justifies our term, "The American Dreyfus Case." If the president believed this evil concoction, no wonder he discharged Glavis and allowed Pinchot, Shaw, Price and Hoyt to be sacrificed also to the serpent-slaying Achilles. Mr. Taft wrote a few months ago that he had seldom gone so deeply into any matter as into this. Then alas for him!

It is no wonder Gifford Pinchot made up his mind there was too much crookedness in Washington for him to remain quiet. Of course, when this investigation began, the administration, thinking it could name the committee, never expected that the public would learn such facts as the Guggenheim agreement, Senator Guggenheim's interest in the interior department, Hitchcock's role, Ballinger's previous record and his concealing of documents, Wickersham's misdating and his suppression of the Hoyt interview, the president's permitting the department to write the "judicial" opinion in its own name, the people complain of the length of this investigation, let them remember that every step has been a struggle against the majority of the committee; that the most important evidence has been suppressed; that the "goat defense" has used up much time; that Ballinger's whole plan was to refuse to answer squarely any questions, treating them all as "persecution," and to lie with incredible freedom. It was only at the end of weeks of struggle that Mr. Brandis obtained absolute proof of Wickersham's duplicity and Lawler's authorship of Taft's decision.

The Lorimer Scandal.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Senator Lorimer, of Illinois, has shown no eagerness to answer the charge made through the Chicago Tribune that his seat in the Senate was obtained by bribery. The reason for his delay as stated by him in the Senate, may be adequate, but he need not have taken much time from his work of organizing a new bank to suggest an investigation.

The affidavit of an ex-member of the Illinois Legislature, published by the Chicago Tribune, was not in itself convincing. It had many of the marks of journalistic animosity, to which Mr. Lorimer ascribes it, and it is quite possible that its publication was timed, as he declares, to injure him in his business. It did not any the less demand notice from the Senator, and while he delayed to denounce the libel there has appeared corroborative testimony that further dulls the effect of his belated denunciation of the libel. While Senator Lorimer's bad opinion of his opponents may be just, it is unfortunately true that neither his own political reputation nor the circumstances of his election, by a trade between Republicans and Democrats, make the suggestion of bribery and corruption incredible. He has taken the only course open to him now in demanding an investigation by the Senate, and the Senate committee has nothing to do but to push the investigation in the most effective manner possible. If the allegations are true, Mr. Lorimer ought not to be in the Senate. If they are not true, he is the victim of an outrageous wrong, which the Senate, for its own dignity, should take pains to lay bare.

The Voice of Ohio.

From the Uniontown Genius. The Democratic voters of Ohio have spoken and the sound of their voice has found a welcome echo in the hearts of millions of Democrats, for Tom L. Johnson and not Gov. Harmon is the one Democrat of Ohio the people would accept, follow and elect President. Ohio Democrats never showed themselves more worthy of their name nor more alive to the interests of the people and Democracy than in the recent Ohio primary.

Sinfulness of Protection.

From the Huston Post. It is said people prayed in Pennsylvania on comet day, which suggests a pretty good use for comets in Pennsylvania, anyway.

-The pleasant little things that State Senator FLINN is saying about U. S. Senator OLIVER, and OLIVER about FLINN, might sound bad were not both the gentlemen from Pittsburg.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-Mad dogs have been causing all sorts of trouble in Greene county and now all the canines are to be quarantined.

-Indictments for negligence in the repairing of roads have been ordered in the cases of 159 township and borough officials in Schuylkill county.

-The big pile of soft coal stored by the New York Central railroad at Clearfield recently caught fire by spontaneous combustion. Measures were taken at once to save it from destruction.

-S. C. Seligman and Dr. G. A. Wifford, Wilkesbarre capitalists, have purchased the old shops of the Vulcan Iron company in that city and will turn them into a manufacturing plant for automobiles.

-The Harrisburg Elks have awarded the contract for the erection of a new home in that city to cost \$40,000. Work will be started at once on the building and it is to be completed by January 1st, 1911.

-A party of Philadelphia capitalists headed by attorney G. H. Cloud, recently secured possession of a site on Walnut street, Johnstown, near the Capital hotel, on which it is the intention to erect a 150-room hotel.

-George Gray, a mason, recently fell about fifteen feet from a scaffolding at the new hospital at Huntingdon and as the result had to have several stitches put in the back of his head. His right hip was badly bruised, also.

-Captain John McNevin, aged 65 years, former City Treasurer of Altoona and State Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic is dead at his home in Pittsburg where he has lived for the past three years.

-The iron ore mines at Markleburg, Huntingdon county, will be reopened. A new tunnel is to be put in. W. A. Lauder, manager of the Kemble Iron Ore company, of Riddlesburg, with surveyors, was looking over the property a few days ago.

-The growth of the lace industry in the United States was given a practical illustration Wednesday when it was announced that the company which has a plant at Wilkesbarre will build an addition to its plant at the cost of \$500,000. It now has 1,500 employes on its pay roll.

-All of the 211 census enumerators of the Berks-Lehigh district have finished their work and made their returns, but one. This is Edgar J. Ballis, of Ironton, Lehigh county, who is ill with diphtheria. He had completed his papers and was just ready to hand them in when he was stricken.

-Rev. C. H. Williamson, pastor of the Park Avenue Presbyterian church, Pittsburg, has been given an unanimous call to the pulpit of the Great Island Presbyterian church, Lock Haven. It is understood that he will accept, although he will not assume his new position until about September first.

-Mrs. Ida Potts, of Indiana, was arrested recently on the charge of stealing linen from the Indiana State Normal school. She has a daughter working at the institution and is alleged to have paid frequent visits to the place and to have carried home a goodly amount of bed linen belonging to the school.

-Coming from Russia, a distance of over 4,000 miles, Michael Aronovich arrived at Mineville Saturday expecting to see his son whom he had not seen for ten years. He collapsed when he was informed that his son had been killed in the mines on the very day on which he started from Russia for this country.

-Edward Kugler, of Shermansdale, Perry county, has a three-legged chicken. An extra leg protrudes from the back of the peep, bearing five toes. The bird is lively as such creatures usually are. Another curiosity around Kugler's home is a bear's nest in his parlor furs. He is trying to think out a plan as to how he can get their honey.

-Samuel Radel, of Montgomery's Ferry, Perry county, who purchased the Lewis Riddick home a few years ago, recently removed some boards from the old place and found in a recess an old box containing over \$100 in paper money. He never dreamed that any money was hidden in the place, but now is of the opinion that there is more about.

-Residents of Hicks Run, Clearfield county, were excited recently when a balloon was seen sailing over their town. It was cut loose at Meadville, with Alex Thurston, an aeronaut, and Harry E. Faber, a jeweler, now of Meadville but formerly of Lock Haven, in the basket. The craft was in the air ten hours and went 175 miles, to Driftwood, Cameron county.

-The memorial erected by the State of Pennsylvania in the National cemetery at Salisbury, North Carolina, to the memory of the Pennsylvania soldiers who died in the confederate prison and are buried in the National cemetery, is nearing completion, and will be dedicated some time in November, 1910, on a day to be designated by the Governor in the near future.

-Rt. Rev. Eugene A. Garvey, bishop of the Altoona diocese of the Catholic church, has appointed Rev. Father Richard J. Farrell as present pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church at Spangler, to succeed Rev. Father Coriari, pastor of the church of the Immaculate Conception, at Lock Haven. Father Farrell assumed his new place June 1st, when Father Coriari went to Johnstown, to assume the rectorship of St. Columba's.

-Thirty years ago Thomas Gunn, a contract painter of Altoona, was working on a scaffold which he thought was going to fall. Placing his hand against a window to steady himself, the pane gave way, and his right arm was apparently slightly lacerated. Recently Mr. Gunn has felt sharp pains in his right arm, and Friday he was rubbing it when his hand struck a sharp substance protruding through the skin. It proved to be a piece of glass, and it had been in his flesh all these years.

-A meeting of the archdiocese of Altoona of the Protestant Episcopal church was held Thursday afternoon at Trinity church, Tyrone. Rev. Franklin T. Eastman, of Philadelphia, was elected archdeacon; E. J. Lomnitz, of Altoona, secretary, and F. K. Luckenbach, of Tyrone, treasurer. The archdiocese of Altoona comprises the following parishes and missions: Philadelphia, Tyrone, Huntingdon, Bedford, Everett, Oriskany, Lewis-town, Mifflin, Thompston, Hollidaysburg, Altoona and Juniata.

-Judge Savage, of Northumberland county, recently ordered a verdict for the defense in a case that caused much interest at Mount Union. Mrs. Orlena Moudy sued W. T. Bell, A. S. Welch, Samuel Cremer, William Stratford and Frank Kell, as the result of the sale of a chair factory at Mount Union. The plaintiff claimed personal property and real estate in the factory and sued for what she said was hers. The defendants were willing to turn over the personal property to her, but she wanted both and sued for both the personal property and real estate. The judge ruled that there was no trespass, as alleged.

-The veteran soldiers of Danville had among their number on Memorial a notable figure in the person of one William H. Moser, a veteran of two wars. The old gentleman is approaching the completion of his 98th year, yet recently he walked from his home in Columbia county to the home of a son in Danville, a distance of thirty miles, having a desire to join his comrades in the affectionate and patriotic service of decorating the graves of those who have gone before. This venerable man was over thirty years old when the Mexican war broke out and he is one of the few survivors of that somewhat questionable episode in our national history. Then he was a soldier of the union in the war that crushed the rebellion.