

INK SLINGS.

—ROOSEVELT will be home next week and the sluiceway of vituperation will be opened to the limit.

—The tip has gone out that if BOB FOSTER gives BENSON a great big vote at State College he is to have the postoffice sure.

—The great question with the HUERTAS of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania after Tuesday next, will be, will "Mediation Mediate?"

—No matter what idea the public may have of Col. ROOSEVELT it can't raise him a particle in his own estimation. That reached its limit long ago.

—It is quite significant and altogether proper that a Guttenberg Bible, recently sold at a Hoe library sale, brought \$50,000; the highest price ever paid for a book.

—After the 19th it will be "mediation" in place of "elimination" with some people who to-day imagine themselves to be about all there is of Democracy in this State.

—Col. HUGH S. TAYLOR is Centre county's candidate for Congressman-at-Large. Why not vote for him? You probably don't know any of the other ten aspirants.

—The river discovered by ROOSEVELT in South America may have been a small stream but in the "Coiner's" estimation it is the most important water way in the wide world.

—A ship named "Pennsylvania" was the first to enter the Panama canal after it was informally opened for traffic on Monday. We suppose MITCH PALMER will be claiming that he arranged that, too.

—Why did WILLIAM H. BERRY announce in this office when he was here with McCORMICK: "BENSON is going to be your nominee for Congress." Is Mr. BERRY one of the bosses of Centre county too.

—If as much liquor had been consumed in Gt. Britain in 1913 as was consumed in 1874 the bill would have been \$430,000,000 larger than it was. They must have been some booze histers over there thirty-nine years ago.

—HENRY O. RUETHE, who wants to be the Republican candidate for Governor, of Wisconsin, says he will save the State six million dollars if he is elected. From published descriptions of the characteristics of the gentleman he will probably save it sixty million if he is defeated.

—Unless GUSTAV A. ENDLICH gets the nomination for the Supreme court or THOMAS J. PRATHERS wins out for the Superior court next week there will be no Democrat appearing on the ticket in the fall. This non-partisan business is beginning to look more like non-Democratic than anything else.

—German scientists, having discovered that electric radiation stimulates the growth of plants, are now trying it on school children to accelerate their growth and mental development. Certainly it accelerates the memory. All one needs to prove that is to start monkeying with the battery. It is wonderful how instantly the memory will be accelerated to switch it off.

—One of the "queerest" business transactions that has ever come under our notice is the one whereby the Clinton Democrat and Daily Democrat, of Lock Haven, have been sold. An option on the plants and papers has been given to a Mr. O'REILLY for sixty days. He is to purchase them at the end of that period, only if he wants to, but for the entire period he has complete control of the policies of the papers. Both papers were naturally neutral but since Mr. O'REILLY has assumed dictatorship they have become fanatical, almost, in their support of PALMER and McCORMICK. To the person on the outside it looks like a plain case of selling the policy of a newspaper which, to say the least, is a blot on the record of two such honorable old journals.

—For years every campaign the Democrats and Republicans got mixed up in our opponents frantically waved the "bloody shirt." But finally the people grew tired of that old humbug. The principle has been revived in politics, however, here in Pennsylvania and now we hear nothing from one element of the Democratic party but "Reorganization." Everybody who happens to be a candidate for any office without the permission of bosses PALMER and McCORMICK is charged with fighting "Reorganization." What asses Democrats are to believe such guff. What will the next Governor, or United States Senator, or Congressman or Assemblyman, no matter who they happen to be, have to do with the organization of the Democratic party in Pennsylvania. No one but an idiot would set up the claim that any such officer will have a voice in it. The Democratic state organization is composed of Democratic State Committees, elected by each county. Our candidate now is W. D. ZEBBY. The very fact that he has no opposition for the office gives the lie to those who tell you that "Reorganization" is the issue in Centre county. Truly it tires our faith in the intelligence of some Democrats when we realize how gullible they are and how easily they can be hoodwinked.

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Vote for Those You Know to Be Democrats.

The WATCHMAN has no favorites to support, no friends to favor or no special reasons to ask any Democrat to vote or to aid any particular candidate among the many seeking the nomination on Tuesday next. With the exception of two we believe they are all good Democrats, and if nominated can be conscientiously supported by Democrats for the offices to which they aspire, and if elected, will do the very best they can to meet the expectations of the party electing them, and to honor the constituency back of them. It is simply a question with each individual voter as to which of all the men, whose names they will find upon the ticket, will make the strongest candidate and stand the best chance of being elected. And that question must be determined by themselves.

As to the two exceptions we mention above, they are Mr. VANCE McCORMICK, who seeks to be the Democratic nominee for Governor, and Mr. E. R. BENSON, of McKean county, who asks to be placed upon the Democratic ticket for Congress. Both of these men have a record that shows them unworthy of the positions they seek, and undeserving the honor it would give them. Neither of them are reliable Democrats, and neither of them could be depended upon to stand by the best interests of the party of which they are now seeking support.

Mr. McCORMICK stands charged with opposing the election of Mr. BRYAN with money, influence and vote, in 1896, in 1900, and again in 1910, and he has not denied it. It is known that he has voted against Democratic State nominees as often as he has supported Democratic State tickets, and only one year ago he openly opposed the only Democratic nominee upon the State ticket. He has treated the local Democratic ticket of the city of Harrisburg and the county of Dauphin in the same manner. For these reasons he is unworthy the honor of being placed at the head of the Democratic State ticket.

Mr. BENSON, as we have long since made public, actually denied his Democracy, betrayed the party that sent him to the Legislature, voted with other Republicans against the Democratic organization of the House, and has devoted his entire time to fostering factional feuds and creating divisions in his own party. He does not even announce himself as a Democratic candidate for Congress nor has he ever given any assurance that if nominated and elected he would stand by, or act with, the Democrats in Congress. Read his announcements and you will see that he does not ask you to vote for him as a Democratic candidate, but as a "Representative" in Congress. The principal reason he gives why he should be the nominee, is that he can get more Republican votes, as a candidate, than any other man. So that if the Democrats of the district want to elect a Congressman who is close enough to PENROSE, JIM McNICHOLS, and other Republican bosses to secure the support of those they control, they can get him by electing this man BENSON.

—Democrats if you desire to have a Democrat to vote for as a Supreme court judge next fall you will have to vote for GUSTAV A. ENDLICH, of Berks county, on Tuesday next. Among all the aspirants for candidates for that honor he is the only one who is recognized as a Democrat. For the other Judgeship, that of Superior court, but one of the candidates Judge THOS. A. PRATHER, of Crawford county, is a Democrat. Without the nomination of these men, both Judicial tickets will be solidly Republican and yet they tell us that the ticket is to be non-partisan.

—Democrats, you should remember that if you want a chance to vote for a Democrat on either the Supreme or the Superior court bench you must choose GUSTAV A. ENDLICH for the former place, and THOS. A. PRATHER, of Crawford county, for the latter. They are the only Democrats who are seeking nominations, and to get either one of them on your ticket, you are compelled to give them more votes at the primaries than any Republican running for the same office receives.

The Matter of Canal Tolls.

In a labored argument in support of the exemption of American coasting ships from toll charges in using the Panama canal, former Secretary of State PHILANDER C. KNOX cites the fact that "we alone are spending the untold millions necessary to fortify the canal so that some belligerent, eager to secure the resulting advantage, may not destroy it; we alone are bearing the risk of losing all this investment as the result of some natural cataclysm, such as an earthquake, against which no human agency can secure us; we alone have stood for whatever of criticism has come from the manner of acquiring the canal zone; . . . We alone have put the lives of the flower of our army engineers and of thousands of American citizens through all the hazards and dangers of fatal tropical maladies, and finally, no other country has shared and does not propose to share one penny of this expenditure or any phase of any risk connected with our stupendous undertaking."

Strangely enough these are precisely the reasons given by the ship subsidists from the beginning of the controversy. It is a stupid appeal to the cupidity of the American people. It is intended to convey the impression that every dollar saved to the American ship trust by the free passage of its coasters will automatically, or in some other way slide into the pockets of the American people. The farmers are invited to believe, on one hand, that products of their soil will be carried cheaper to the consumers, thus enhancing the profits of their agricultural labor. The consumers are asked to think, on the other hand, that the advantage will accrue to them through the medium of cheaper transportation and consequently lessened prices of products. Both promises are "made to the ear to be broken to the hope." Neither the farmers nor the consumers will realize even the symptom of an advantage which will go entirely and inevitably to the ship trust.

Because the American people have expended these millions, taken these hazards and endured these evils is no reason why Congress should close up the most prolific source of reimbursement. Ninety per cent. of the tonnage which will pass through the canal will be carried in coasters and every dollar of tolls saved to them will go to the ship trust which owns and operates them. The principal reason for the construction of the canal was to stimulate commerce. But it was not intended that the expense should be paid by the people who derived no benefit from it. If all users of the canal pay in equal ratio there will probably be sufficient profit in the operation in the course of a few years to repay the cost of construction. But if ninety per cent. of the profits are diverted to the uses of the ship trust there will be no reimbursement but there will be a perpetual deficit in operating receipts. Mr. KNOX's reasons are on the other side of the question.

Another McCormick Trick.

Some of the members of the Typographical Union are as obliging to Mr. VANCE C. McCORMICK as some of the employees of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company were to JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, Jr., when he needed "a clean bill of health" on the labor question. Mr. ROCKEFELLER set the seal of condemnation upon organized labor and hired thugs and invoked the militia to stamp it out of the State. But when the fight got so hot that all the world was beginning to take notice Mr. ROCKEFELLER prevailed upon some of his employees to resolve in the most solemn and ponderous way that he pays the highest wages and did everything possible to strew the path of labor within his bailiwick with roses.

When VANCE C. McCORMICK was Mayor of Harrisburg he vetoed an ordinance of councils providing for an increase of the wages of laborers on the city pay roll from fifteen cents an hour to sixteen and two-thirds cents. According to one of the Supervisors of the city he also ordered the discharge of all old men employed on the streets for the reason that they were not up to his standard of efficiency. He expressed his antipathy to organized labor by taking the Union label out of the Harrisburg Patriot as soon as he acquired control of it. But he has found some of the members of the Typographical Union willing to condone this hostility, probably for the price of a postoffice or two.

To the credit of the Harrisburg representatives in the convention in which this act of poltroonery was perpetrated it may be said that it was without their consent or concurrence. The Harrisburg printers know Mr. McCORMICK quite as well, if not better, than those of Scranton and other cities in the eastern section of Pennsylvania and they not only voted against the motion to whitewash McCORMICK but protested against its passage. But in this as in everything else relating to his campaign for the gubernatorial nomination, he is invoking dishonest tricks and dishonorable expedients. But they won't avail. The laboring men of Pennsylvania are too intelligent to be thus bamboozled.

Mitchell Palmer's Latest Falsehood.

A. MITCHELL PALMER is making all that is possible out of a statement of his own that HENRY BUDD is opposed to the administration of President WILSON. It is a deliberate and malicious falsehood, but that makes no difference to Mr. PALMER if it serves his purpose. Mr. BUDD has freely and frequently announced his complete sympathy with the policies of President WILSON and his unqualified approval of his administration and people who know Mr. BUDD believe his word. But "a lie well stuck to is as good as the truth," is an immoral maxim in which MITCHELL PALMER appears to have faith and in this misrepresentation of his competitor for Senatorial nomination, he is putting it to test.

While the controversy over the canal tolls was on Mr. BUDD expressed a doubt as to the obligations of our government under the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The question was purely one of legal interpretation and the foremost legal minds as well as the most valued friends of the President differed upon it. Upon this utterance Mr. PALMER has built up the vicious lie that HENRY BUDD is opposed to the President. Subsequently Mr. BUDD expressed abhorrence with the idea that the President of the United States might properly interfere in a factional quarrel of his party in a State in which he is not a citizen. In that opinion every genuine Democrat will coincide with him. It expresses a fundamental tenet of the party.

No true Democrat could acquiesce in such a violation of the professions and traditions of the party. No self respecting citizen would tolerate such a prostitution of power and perversion of principles and President WILSON has never done so. The statement that he is actively or even passively supporting PALMER and McCORMICK is a malignant falsehood invented by PALMER with full knowledge that it works injury upon the President. Upon the question of canal tolls we disagree with those who opposed the President's policy. But on the subject of interference in the local management of our party we cordially concur in the view he has expressed and firmly believe that President WILSON is of the same mind.

—Mr. FRANCIS FISHER KANE needn't despair because Mr. PALMER refused to accept his campaign contribution. He can give it to "BAGMAN" BAILEY of the Democratic State Committee and it will be used in the interest of Mr. PALMER.

Mr. Palmer's Thrifty Methods.

The published statement of Hon. A. MITCHELL PALMER's campaign expenses shows that he is maintaining his reputation as a thrifty politician. He received from various contributors \$5230.00 and expended in various ways \$5192.32. Of this sum WILSON BAILEY, the "bagman" of the Democratic State committee, got \$1694.37 and T. J. KEENAN, of Pittsburgh, who seems to have been a solicitor, got \$295.81, which he used for "traveling expenses, printing, advertising and postage." Mr. PALMER took from the fund for "personal expenses" \$2736.11. This, of course, includes carfare, automobile service, hotel expenses, telegraph and telephone tolls and postage.

The largest contributor to the PALMER campaign fund was H. B. McCORMICK, of Harrisburg, brother of Mr. PALMER's "hand-picked" candidate for Governor, who subscribed \$1000.00. The smallest contribution was \$25.00 of which there were two. Nine gentlemen, presumably office seekers, paid \$50.00 each, sixteen donors gave \$100.00 each, one gave \$150.00, three took \$200.00, worth each of Mr. PALMER's influence, one \$300.00 worth and Mr. KEENAN paid \$400.00 which is \$104.19 more than he drew out for expenses. GEORGE W. NORRIS contributed \$500.00 and strangely enough Mr. PALMER didn't give a penny. The "bagman" must have overlooked him. VANCE McCORMICK's uncle SAM gave \$100.00.

Among the \$100.00 contributors was FRANCIS FISHER KANE, of Philadelphia, United States district attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, but Mr. PALMER has since declared that he returned that contribution because of Mr. KANE's relation to the public service. The money obtained by "bagman" BAILEY for macing candidates for postmasterships was retained, probably because it was not identified. But the KANE incident indicates an awakening of the PALMER conscience which is encouraging. He never did anything like that when he was "pulling the legs" of Col. GUFFEY and Senator HALL. In fact Mr. PALMER's announcement of his purpose in the matter must have been a great surprise to them.

—Senator PENROSE was in Bellefonte last night.

Those Tampico Oil Wells.

Oil may be thicker than water, but blood is more valuable than petroleum. To land men at Tampico for the purpose of fighting for the possession of oil tanks is an absurd proposition. It is far better policy to notify the rebels and the federals that while they are at liberty to destroy property at Tampico they will be forced to pay damages to whoever is entitled to recover when peace is restored. It may be shown, if an international court sits upon the case, that the Pearson syndicate is not in a position to claim damages. So why become excited? If men, women and children were endangered it would be a different matter. It is all very well to take extreme measures to rescue those who may desire to leave Mexico, but are prevented from doing so. It is quite a different proposition to land men for the purpose of rescuing an oil tank. Let diplomacy neutralize the oil fields in Mexico if it can. If it cannot, fighting talk should at least be postponed until the Mexican people through their regularly elected officers have refused to consider claims for damages filed with them. Carranza says that if he wins he will pay the bills. Huerta says that when the cruel war is over he will see to it that foreigners are reimbursed for losses sustained as a result of the war. It would be little less than murder, therefore, to get into a row at Tampico over a few oil wells and a few oil tanks.

Waiting on Huerta.

From the Altoona Times. With the wish-as-father-to-the thought, the administration and others are waiting on Huerta, declaring that he is about at the end of his rope, that he will get out of office and that he is in fear of his life. That we have heard this before and many times from the same source does not seem to dim the ardor with which it is announced. Ever since the author of the "watchful waiting" policy took hold of the situation—if what he has done may be regarded in any sense as taking hold—we have been told that Huerta was at the end of his resources and that he was about to flee. Huerta himself has never shown the slightest indication of doing so.

At the very time there does not appear to be sufficient warrant for the belief that this old fox is about to give up. Much as Wilson and Bryan and Carranza and Villa would like to have him do so he does not appear to see it from their standpoint. At the very time they say he is ready to flee they find him addressing his army and telling it that while it may hear that he has been captured, executed or killed and it may be true, that if it hears that he is about to resign it may tell the world it is a lie. At the same time he states that he has agreed to no mediation plan which involves his resignation. This is right to the point and it would indicate that there is little likelihood of anything being done by the A. B. C. mediators which will be productive of important results. Wilson and Bryan regard the retirement of Huerta as a condition precedent to mediation—at least, they have so stated—so what will they do and how will mediation work, if Huerta maintains the stand which he now boldly proclaims?

Colorado an Object Lesson.

From the New York World. Gov. West of Oregon makes of Colorado's costly experience a strong argument in favor of Secretary Lane's plan of leasing oil and coal lands by the government. A system that has resulted in absentee ownership of the mines of the State, which have been worked solely with an eye to dividends, and which have been the scene of chronic strife between labor and non-resident mine owners, has little to recommend it as a local or national policy. Yet it is from Colorado and its state officials that opposition has been persistently directed against the leasing of mineral lands by the government instead of private ownership, with its attendant abuses.

Not only would Secretary Lane's plan serve as a bar to further monopoly holdings of fuel-producing tracts; it would provide for their fullest development under state regulation on liberal lines. By means of a small royalty upon the output of the mines it would provide a fixed return to the government to be used in reclaiming arid lands and adding to the wealth of the separate States. All but one of the five conservation bills drawn in accordance with the Lane plan have been reported to the House, and two of them have been reported to the Senate. They all ought to receive the attention of the House and Senate this session, for they represent a wise and consistent program for the wise use of the natural resources, not merely of one section, but of the nation.

—Health Officer DRON admonishes against drinking well water and our prohibition friends rail against other popular beverages. What in the name of sense are we to drink.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—During the lunch hour last Tuesday the laundry at Clearfield was robbed of \$250. No trace of the robber could be found.

—Wm. Palmer, the Altman Italian who shot and killed Frank Barbuta May 6, is dying in the Indiana jail. Palmer has three bullet wounds in his neck.

—Down in Huntingdon county all taxes must be paid before dog tags are given out. From 1,500 to 2,000 dogs are not assessed, which means a loss of \$1,500 for the county treasury.

—The Patton silk mill has been very prosperous during the past year. A new addition will be added during the summer and one hundred additional hands will be required at the plant.

—Miners of Lilly who have gone out on a strike for higher wages received orders that they must work under the old scale or leave the service of Piper & Co. They have till Monday to decide.

—The residence of postmaster Joseph Wagner, of New Florence, was robbed twice during the past week. Stamps and cash were stolen to the amount of \$400. The house is now well guarded but they have no trace of the thief.

—District Attorney Welch, of Clearfield county, received a note from the Black Hand, who are practicing their felonious methods in that neighborhood. The note stated: "You are doomed," and was signed with the figure of a skull and cross bones.

—The 4-months-old baby of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Phillips, of Punxsutawney, was attacked by a rat and severely bitten through the second and third fingers of the right hand. The baby's face is badly swollen and teeth marks of the rat are shown on its lower lip.

—A house in Greensburg toppled down the side of a steep hill on Friday and landed in a jumble of splinters at the bottom. The house was an eight-room frame dwelling and was being moved to a new location, when a steel hook broke and it lost its balance. No one was injured.

—Mrs. Zelda Keller Geholdt and her mother, Mrs. Jennie S. Ricker, both charged with having poisoned the daughter's first husband, Floyd Keller, by administering poison, were acquitted in court at Chambersburg on Tuesday. No evidence was submitted in the case against the mother.

—Forty-eight prosecutions have been brought by State Dairy and Food Department in various counties throughout the State. The suits cover the selling of unfit cherries, fish, vinegar, and milk, and cream. The suits will be heard in Allegheny, Berks, Schuylkill and Luzerne counties.

—William, the seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Smith, of Westport, was burned to death near his home on Thursday afternoon. He was playing with a crowd of friends, and they started a bonfire. William's clothing became ignited and instead of trying to put out the fire he ran home, a living torch. He died soon after.

—Loosened by the heavy rainfall, thousands of tons of earth and rock slid into Cypher, out on the Huntingdon & Broad Top railroad, 36 miles from Huntingdon on Sunday. The track was buried under 25 feet of earth for more than a hundred feet. A passenger happened to see the slide in time to warn an approaching passenger train and avert its being wrecked.

—Charles Teeters pleaded guilty in the Bedford county court to involuntary manslaughter and carrying concealed weapons. He was sentenced to a term of from three months to one year in jail. Teeters killed his companion, Grover Dodson, in a pool room at Hopewell on April 1. The two had been drinking and Teeters claimed he did not know the revolver was loaded.

—Mrs. Rachael Ogden Shaw, of Clearfield, who had not seen her daughter for twenty years, decided upon a trip to Fleetwood, Berks county, recently, for the purpose of visiting her. The trip was looked forward to with much interest, and when Mrs. Shaw, who is 76 years old, reached the home of her daughter she was so overcome with joy that she died three hours afterward.

—James Goodall, who has been absent from his home in Glasgow for fifty years and for whom a search has been going on in this and other countries for many years has been found in the State asylum at Wernersville. His brother, Andrew Goodall, president of a big steel works in Scotland, has cabled that steps have been taken to have the long-missing man taken back to Scotland.

—William Carr, son of Thomas Carr, a wealthy farmer of Hastings, has filed a suit in divorce against Emma Phillips, on the ground that she was his aunt. This action created much surprise as it was the first intimation that Carr was 27 years old, was married. The divorce proceedings were filed at Detroit, Mich., and Carr claims that his wife is his mother's sister and that they were married last October.

—A 6,000-gal gas gusher was drilled in last Thursday on the P. K. Smith lease in Elk county, making a new record for this wonderful gas field. When the record gusher was struck rocks and earth were blown high into the air and persons nearby narrowly escaped. The well is about two miles from Ridgway. It was decided to continue drilling, as the pressure might be increased at a greater depth. A rush was made at once to obtain leases in the vicinity of the big well.

—Because he brutally assaulted, bound and gagged his benefactors, Mr. and Mrs. Peter W. Learn, of Tuscarora township, Bradford county, and then ransacked their home, in the hope of obtaining enough money to elope with another man's wife, George Bowers was given a severe sentence by Judge Maxwell at Towanda, Saturday. Bowers pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay \$500 fine, the costs and serve not less than nine nor more than ten years in the Eastern penitentiary.

—The body of an aged man, shabbily dressed, was found hanging to a tree a half mile or so above the Mule Shoe reservoir, in Blair county, about three o'clock Sunday afternoon. The fellow had hanged himself with a piece of twine and had been dead a number of hours when found. The body was taken to Altoona, where it is held pending identification. It is believed he was from Cambria county, as in his pocket was found a notebook with the name "McDermitt, Nant-y-Glo." There was nothing else found by which identification could be made.

—Mayor Kreamer, of Lock Haven, has received word that a consignment of from 10,000 to 15,000 pike perch will arrive at Mill Hill the latter part of this week from the state hatcheries at Corry. They are sent at the instance of Fish Commissioner Buller and will be placed in Bald Eagle creek. The Fish Commissioner visited that section recently and was taken up the creek by Mayor Kreamer. He was much interested and declared that it would serve as a fine stream for the propagation of fish life. This is the second large consignment of fish sent there as a result of Mr. Buller's visit.

—Philip Cimo, who killed his sweetheart, Marie Brunetta, in Clearfield two months ago, was found guilty of murder in the first degree, at Clearfield on Sunday. The girl was 21 years of age and had come from Italy two weeks previous to marry Philip. When she saw him she changed her mind and insisted on returning to New York, where she had met some countryman who appealed more to her taste. The engagement had been made through correspondence, Cimo having come from the same part of Italy seven years ago. After he shot the girl at his brother's home on the day she had determined to leave for New York, Cimo turned the gun on himself and tried to end his life. This is the third verdict of first-degree murder returned by Clearfield juries on Sunday within the past few months.