

INK SLINGS.

The King and Queen of Belgium are on their way to visit us. Surely they will discover, while here, that the American people are even bigger hearted than Belgium has reason to believe them to be.

Will the American Federation of Labor live or will the I. W. W. benevolently assimilate it? The answer will be found when labor decides whose advice it will take. That of Gompers or of Foster.

Talking about extravagance, how about the fellow who used to get his exercise by walking to his business and by meeting many of his appointments afoot? He now maintains a motor to save the walking and helps keep up a country club so that he can get exercise playing golf.

Of course it was to be expected that the Senate would move to investigate the steel strike with a view to relieving the situation. Having relieved the high cost of living situation by a similar process this body of big professions and little accomplishments has to do something to keep itself before the public.

Capt. Dick Taylor has fought for the people of Centre county in every way since he was old enough to fight. He went to it voluntarily and every man jack of us cheered the spirit of patriotism in him. He would like to be sheriff of Centre county now and it's up to us to show Dick that we're red-blooded enough to vote as we cheered.

Just as the "Watchman" has so frequently pointed out the present steel strike has been based on the un-Americanism of alien workers in that industry. The number of native born workers who went out on the call of the strike leaders was insignificant when compared with those of foreign birth. The latter are not Americans at heart. They have no conception of our ideals and being free from the autocratic government of their fatherlands their simple minds are readily led by fanatics who prey on them and all of society as a profession.

Last week the "Watchman" mentioned the fact that crap games were being played on the side-walks of the town in broad daylight. Developments since then, indicate that there is quite a craze for crap among the young sports of the town and they gamble with the bones on any and all occasions. Our social news editor got away from the "week-end guests" long enough on Wednesday morning to hear some things out of her line and among them were some stories about how "the boys are shootin' crap all over the place." We can just see her consumed with curiosity to know and yet too adroit to admit that she didn't know what crap was. And the reason we are giving all this space to the incident is because she rushed into the office about an hour after she had heard the big news and wanted to know "what kind of a gun is used to shoot crap with."

It seems strange that so many people can't understand that more pay and shorter hours will only make the cost of living higher. If each individual receiving a wage advance were to produce more there would probably be no further rise in the cost of his product, but if he were to continue producing only as much as he had before his advance in pay then his product would rise to take care of this additional cost. The rule is inexorable in every line of production. If, at the same time he gets an advance in pay, he works shorter hours his product is less and, in addition to carrying the extra cost of production, it takes on another cost because the supply being less than the demand those who can pay most for it fix the price. This is also an inexorable rule. Therefore, can't you see that the price of a product of labor can't come down until its cost is reduced or more of it is produced than will supply the normal demand. High wages and short hours make all things costly and scarce.

In November Centre county voters will elect a new board of county commissioners. Four men have been nominated for the office, three of whom will be chosen. While the salary of a county commissioner is less than that of any of the other county offices, with the exception of the auditors, jury commissioners, coroner and county surveyor, the office itself is the most important of all of them when viewed from its effect upon the pocketbook of every person who pays taxes in the county. A glance at the auditor's statement published last March will show that during the year 1918 the county commissioners handled \$109,595.71. Practically all of this vast sum came from the pockets of Centre county people. It was their share of the cost of the county government. It was large enough, we all feel, but it might have been far larger had we not had capable men managing for us. Inasmuch as we are about to select their successors the time is at hand when men who are looking out for their own interests should begin to inquire just who these men are who are asking to be placed in this important office. It is a business proposition entirely. And men who have had experience in business affairs should be called to take charge of it. Men of good judgment. Men who know Centre county and its people. Men who come with something more than a claim that they need it, for a man who really needs a thousand dollar salary these days is not fit to be a manager of a business running into the hundred thousands.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION

VOL. 64. BELLEFONTE, PA., SEPTEMBER 26, 1919. NO. 38.

Senator Johnson Maliciously Lies.

For nearly two weeks Senator Johnson, of California, and Senator Borah, of Idaho, have been touring the West. "Trailing the President," they call it, but in reality they are misrepresenting the President of the United States and confusing the minds of the public, in an effort to create opposition to the ratification of the peace treaty. They have openly declared that Great Britain will have six votes in the League of Nations against one for the United States and that by the covenant of the League of Nations the United States surrenders various sovereign powers, including the exclusive right of Congress to declare war, to foreign powers. Other Republican Senators are uttering the same falsehoods elsewhere.

The text of the covenant of the League of Nations distinctly provides for a council of five which will be supreme in the determination of all disputes and in which unanimity is required, composed of one representative from each of the great powers engaged in the recent conflict against Germany. Not only does this guarantee complete equality of the United States but gives absolute power to prevent any action which the United States opposes. Senator Johnson understands this fact if he knows anything and in his statement to the contrary he deliberately and maliciously lies. The League bestows no special privileges or powers on any other country and claims none for ourselves. It is absolutely fair.

The other reasons given by Senator Johnson as a basis of opposition to the League of Nations are equally false and fraudulent. In his speech at Minneapolis the other day he said that in the Shantung provision of the treaty China has been defrauded. It may be admitted that China was defrauded when she leased Shantung to Germany and it might be said that the Republican President of the United States at that time ought to have protested against it. But the Paris peace treaty takes nothing from China and gives nothing to Japan. It simply confirms the right of Japan, acquired by conquest from Germany, to the leasehold of Shantung under a solemn promise of ultimate restoration to China.

That Senator Johnson should thus falsify the facts in order to deceive the public is not surprising. He has been an adventurer and demagogue all his life. But that he should pay such scant respect for the intelligence of the public is somewhat astonishing. Men of his type usually flatter the people they are endeavoring to impose upon. But Johnson insults them by uttering falsehoods which they must know to be false, and pretends to think he has fooled them because they don't throw rotten eggs at him. But he is only deceiving himself. The people are overwhelmingly in favor of the ratification of the treaty and in good time will show Senator Johnson how cordially they despise him.

Hope for Philadelphia.

The nomination of J. Hampton Moore, by the Republicans of Philadelphia, for the office of Mayor, ought to work the beginning of the end of that disgraceful municipal management which justified the charge that the people of that city are "corrupt and contented." For more than a quarter of a century Philadelphia has been systematically looted for the enrichment of ignorant contractors who were as deficient in morals as they were destitute of patriotism. One mayor after another has fallen under their malign influence until they had come to the belief that they owned the property as well as the people of the city.

But the nomination of Mr. Moore is not an absolute guarantee of this desirable result. He has been all his life a machine politician, ready and willing to execute any sinister orders which came from the bosses. It will be recalled that when his name was suggested as the candidate of the reformers we referred to his servile obedience in the past and expressed doubts of the sincerity of his professions for the future. But we may be agreeably surprised by his action as Mayor, for his nomination is equivalent to an election. The cordial support of his candidacy by the Philadelphia Record inspires hope.

The corruption in Philadelphia had come to be a matter of more than local interest. The voice of the people of the State has frequently been silenced by corruptly created fraudulent majorities in Philadelphia. It can hardly be expected that the election of Hammy Moore will correct this evil for the misrepresentatives of the Democratic party there will be ready to shift their dealings from Vore to Moore and he will likely be willing to trade with them. Still there is a chance of improvement as the result of the defeat of the Vore machine. It ought to at least eliminate Dave Lane from public life.

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Bad Showing in Primaries.

The Democratic vote in the primary elections throughout the State is most discouraging. In Philadelphia only about 13,000 votes were cast for the office of Mayor though each of the factions had a candidate and considerable activity was shown. In Pittsburgh little better results were shown and in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Reading, Harrisburg and other second and third-class cities mere shadows of the party strength were shown. In some of the counties where there are no cities the returns appear better. But even the best is not flattering and altogether the outlook is discouraging. The Democratic voters have lost hope of success or pride in the principles of the party.

To the superficial observer it might appear wise to gloss over these unpromising facts and profess confidence in the future. Many men and some newspapers imagine that vice and crime in a community should not be exposed because it prejudices the public mind against the people concerned. The "Watchman" is not of that type. In our opinion the remedy lies in the opposite course. There is a reason for the diminution of the Democratic strength in Pennsylvania and it ought to be revealed and removed. Unless this is done Democracy will disappear from the political arena of the State and the Republican machine will acquire a free hand to despoil the people to the full measure.

The Democratic leadership in Pennsylvania is selfish, sordid and inefficient. Those in control have established a trading post in offices and a brokerage in spoils. They don't want the Democrats to succeed even in maintaining former party strength. They simply want to maintain an organization to be used as capital in their commercial operations. They have flouted public sentiment in dispensing the favors of the party and made servility to their persons the test of fitness for office. If the Democratic voters will join together and turn these false leaders out hope in success and faith in principles will soon return and the Democratic party will come back to its own.

Senator Vore, of Philadelphia, has given to his own party such treasures as Governor Brumbaugh, Banking Commissioner Lafean, Insurance Commissioner Ambler, and Mayor of Philadelphia, Bondsmitth. But he has also given to our party Vance McCormick and Mitchell Palmer.

Election Frauds in Philadelphia.

In the frauds revealed in the counting of the votes cast at the primary election in Philadelphia on the 16th the Democrats of that city and the State may extract an idea as to what both factions of the Republican party have been doing to them in the past. Every ballot box shows frauds against one faction or the other. If there had been no factional fight these fraudulent returns would have been permitted to stand as the expression of the legal voters. A Democratic protest against fraud is practically laughed out of the court and the perpetrators of the frauds rewarded with the spoils of office. But the frauds in question were the work of one faction against the other and are exposed.

Some of the frauds revealed are the result of ignorance and incompetency on the part of the election officers. But ignorance and incompetency are features of the Republican party plans in Philadelphia to carry elections and create false majorities. The Vore machine, for example, pays a premium for ignorance on election boards. The criminal and illiterate elements of the electorate are purposely chosen to make up election boards so that if they are caught in frauds they may be able to say that they didn't know any better. Many an election fraud has been put across in that way and the judges of the courts pretend they are unable to see any criminal intent in the operation.

Possibly the defeat of the machine which thus promotes inefficiency and fosters crime will put a stop to this method of debauching elections in the future. But the returns of the Democratic primary vote at the recent election rather discourages that hope. Both factions in the Democratic party appear to have sold out to the Vore ring this year and there doesn't seem to be enough Democrats left in the organization of the city to form the nucleus of a healthy party organization. There may be a great many honest Democrats in Philadelphia, but they refused to affiliate with either of the factions and voted for the candidate of the reform Republicans. It was probably the best thing they could do.

Herbert Hoover has refused to go into politics but General Pershing has not been so candid as yet.

Hi Johnson following the President reminds one of a beagle hound stalking an elephant.

Hampy Calls on the Vares.

The Republican nominee for Mayor of Philadelphia, the Hon. J. Hampton Moore, has already invited his recent antagonists into full fellowship and fraternity. For two or three weeks before the primary election he denounced them in public speeches, two or three every day, as arch-criminals. He declared openly that the city had been looted systematically and mercifully, by the Vares and their associates in the criminal conspiracy which has been despoiling the city for years. That he convinced a considerable part of the electorate on this point may be accepted as proved by the vote. But now he is willing to let "bygones be bygones" and resume his old place as a cog in the wheel.

When Mr. Moore's name was first suggested as a reform candidate for Mayor of Philadelphia we expressed a doubt as to the sincerity of his professions of reform. All his life he had been a servile tool of the machine. He approved of or acquiesced in every iniquity that was proposed by either Penrose or the Vares and freely put his shoulder to the wheel in pushing it across. Therefore when he changed to a reformer over night we were amazed rather than gratified for we were unconvinced. His calling upon the crooks to affiliate justifies our suspicions. It plainly indicates that there will be no reform in Philadelphia though the looting operations may be under a new director.

Philadelphia is "corrupt and contented" and the proof of the fact lies in the nomination of "Hammy" Moore for Mayor by the Republican party. It would be foolish to hope for his defeat at the general election because the Democratic force in the city has been reduced to a shadow. But it is equally futile to hope for improvement in the methods of government in the city by his election. If the people of the city had desired a reform in the administration of the city government they would have chosen a different type of man to vote for. There are men in that city who are sincere in their desire for honest government but they are not in the office-holding class.

The bituminous miners want a sixty per cent. advance in wages and a thirty hour week. That will mean from two to two dollars and a quarter per ton for mining alone. Add to this the overhead, the royalty and the operator's profit before the coal even gets started to market and there is only one of two alternatives for the consumer: Either to stand and deliver or freeze.

With a man with the record for radicalism Foster has guiding the move of the steel strikers it is not well that they should succeed. A victory for him now would only be an incentive to his more dangerous ambition to overthrow all government and bring the country into the chaotic condition in which Russia finds herself today.

The independent packers protest vehemently that they can take care of themselves but that is a matter of little concern. What the country needs is assurance that the consumers are cared for.

Of course while wages and prices were competing for the top notch there was little hope for improvement in industrial conditions. But the future now promises a saner condition of affairs.

The Prince of Wales may be able to find a good deal of enjoyment during his sojourn in this country, notwithstanding the prohibition legislation, but his late lamented grandfather was different.

It is gratifying to learn that Carranza will not be a candidate for re-election to the office of President of Mexico. But we ought to have some assurance that he will be properly punished.

The order issued by Admiral Bristol that the massacre of Armenians by Turks must stop may have transgressed a trifle on diplomatic usage but it ought to stand, just the same.

It may safely be said that Senator Knox's aspiration to become President has been buried under his proposition to make a separate peace with Germany.

Thus far no man in or out of Congress has raised his voice in support of Senator Knox's proposition to make a separate peace with Germany.

Congressman Madden, of Illinois, wants to abolish Jim Crow cars. But even that wouldn't get Madden into decent company.

Austria also protests against the peace terms but signs up. Soon Senators Lodge and Sherman will be the only "hold outs."

Eggs may go to a dollar a dozen, as predicted, but at that price the cold storage variety ought to go bagging.

Dynamic Germany.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The reading of present conditions in Germany which Henry Morgenthau offers the American public is somewhat startling and disconcerting to most of us, who had come to regard Germany as denatured, demoralized and impoverished. He depicts her as uncrushed and far from humble, even with her army pared down and her fleet destroyed. She is amassing resources that are still considerable for the striking of another blow, and her hope is quite as much in the want of cohesive purpose among her foes as in the political solidarity of her own unchastened and unrepentant people.

Germany's failure to subdue the world to her own uses leaves her without a friend, and ready—as the Ishmaelite among the nations—to employ the covert weapons of guile and dissimulation where brute force openly employed availed her nothing. The little countries which she once pretended to protect now need more than ever the guardianship of a steadfast alliance of the greater powers. They are fiercely quarreling over the division of the spoils, and thus playing directly into the rapacious maw of the phoenix of German imperialism.

Disensions in the camp of those who stood together at Armageddon are only helping Germany's game. There is no doubt that this must be for the present a waiting game; but there is a great deal that Germany can do while she is marking time. She can be sowing the dragon's teeth of murderous mischief in neighboring lands, even if of her own motion she can conduct no offensive military campaigns.

America, with the perspective of distance and her men and her resources, lately mobilized, still at her beck and call, is in a position to frustrate the German machinations. America is the hope of the world, not merely as a market, but as a watchtower; not as a playground, but as an armory; not as a playground or a workshop, but as a bustling fortress. We are not looking for more fighting, for we are heartily sick of warfare, but we are vigilant for any effort the Germans may make toward a resumption of the effort to police the earth from Berlin and have no civilization that is not made in Germany. The legitimate expansion of trade in its natural channels is a very different matter from the deliberate confiscation of all commerce and all property on the theory of the "divine right" of Kaisers and the exalted majesty of supermen.

Ratify the Treaty.

From the Northampton Democrat. President Wilson is doing his utmost to hasten ratification of the treaty, and with some success. No treaty probably was possible that would satisfy in all respects, but the Paris conference may have secured the best settlement that could be procured at the time. To reject the treaty would be a step backwards, placing the United States in an unenviable position before the whole world. As a nation we cannot shirk some undesirable responsibilities which circumstances and our great future have imposed upon us. Next to the peace treaty the labor problem is the most pressing. Though the disposition of the conservative element in labor to go slow is encouraging, it would be a mistake to assume that the crisis is over. The radical element, encouraged by past successes, is still running strong; and unrest will not subside unless reason regains its sway or until there is a halt in the rising costs of living. But, how is it possible to reduce the cost of living in the face of rising wages and shorter hours? The only possible way of reducing prices is to increase the product. This labor with few exceptions refuses to do. Until labor leaders and their followers realize the utter impossibility of securing what they want on present lines there can be no change for the better. Neither President Wilson, Premier Lloyd George, nor any other man, however powerful, can indefinitely defy the laws of nature. The law of supply and demand is one of these laws. It is wrought deep into human nature and is among the most inexorable. It may be set aside temporarily, but has always asserted itself ultimately; and the longer its forces are resisted the greater the flood when the dam gives way. The next few months will bring important events into the labor world. Several large conferences are to be held at Washington, and it is essential for all concerned that wise counsels prevail.

The Immorality of Strikes.

From the Manufacturers' Record. Neither the railroad people nor the iron and steel workers have any more right to strike at the present time than have all the farmers and the farm laborers in the country. If every farmer and farm laborer should stop working and refuse to permit a single pound of foodstuffs to come into the cities they would not be guilty of a greater crime than would the railroad men if they should undertake to strike in order to prevent foodstuffs and other things from being moved from the point of production to the point of consumption.

Young Mr. Bullitt, of Philadelphia, may be a truthful man but the evidence is against him. He says that Secretary of State Lansing is opposed to the League of Nations and the Secretary urges the ratification of the covenant.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Potato wart has been discovered in East Butler valley and more than thirty towns are under quarantine.

Using chloroform to prevent being disturbed, robbers stole \$100 and jewelry worth \$500 from the home of Irvin A. Kessler, near Pottstown.

Hundreds of alien women and children from the mining villages of the Lehigh field are earning 75 cents a day helping farmers dig potatoes.

Standing near a chimney when their house was struck by lightning, Mrs. M. B. Pryce and Mrs. Theresa Burns, of Connelville, were badly shocked.

Farmers near Hazleton have hired detectives to run down thieves who raid their farms nightly and haul away hundreds of dollars' worth of produce by auto-truck.

Policemen who were scouring the county for David Shelhammer, of Cataqua, who made an unsuccessful attempt to kill his wife, found his body not far from the scene of the crime. He had shot himself in the heart.

Andrew Bear, of near Beaver Springs, Snyder county, received a bequest of \$12,000 from a western relative only a short time before he died last week. He was a hard working man all his life and his fortune came too late to benefit him.

When their automobile overturned near Shamokin Dam, the Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Hartman, of Grace Lutheran church, Sunbury, were pinned under it. Mrs. Hartman suffered injuries to her left side, and is confined to her bed. The pastor escaped with slight bruises. According to pastor Hartman, a passing autoist forced them too close to the side of the road and his car was overturned.

It is possible to arrange it the new national guard of Pennsylvania artillery regiments will have the guns they used overseas. Among the plans being made for its organization is one for an artillery complement equal to what the Keystone division had in the war, although this will depend largely upon the scope of the bill passed by Congress. The belief is that the three regiments will be authorized.

More than 200 foreign born residents applied for first citizenship papers at the opening of Northumberland county naturalization court at Sunbury last week. This makes a total of 2,500 that have applied in the year. According to Edgar Summers, prothonotary, the desire to become naturalized jumped more than 1,000 per cent. because of a tax of eight per cent. placed on the incomes of all unnaturalized residents as a war measure.

Philadelphia has the honor of providing the first ready-made pair of shoes ever worn by Robert B. Keenan, of Charlestown 78, Carnegie, Pa. Mr. Keenan wears 16 EE, is 7 feet 2 inches tall and weighs 350 pounds. Last June he ordered a special pair of shoes to wear in the Knights Templar parade in Philadelphia. They failed to arrive, but when Keenan went to that city he found a Market street shoe store with a pair of 16 EE shoes in stock.

At the age of 82 years, Nelson Day, of Lamps Creek, Tloga county, who has done the threshing for the community for almost half a century, has just bought a new, complete, up-to-date threshing outfit and is now on the rounds making the grain fly and straw stacks dot the landscape as of yore. He is his own chauffeur. The first day with his new machine he fed it and threshed 500 bushels of grain in five hours. He said he could have bettered the record if the helpers hadn't been slow about passing the bundles to him.

Jonas Barto, residing in the village of Sporting Hill, Lancaster county, made a record as a potato grower that is hard to beat. Mr. Barto had a patch of about one-fourth acre on the farm of John Stehman, near Lancaster Junction, from which he took 315 bushels. The variety is known as "Chifford." The largest potato weighed one pound and twelve ounces. He had at least fifty bushels all of which weighed one and one-half pounds. Mr. Barto has been raising big potato crops for several years and appears to have found the secret.

A verdict of not guilty was rendered last Saturday afternoon at Bloomsburg in the case of Ralph Carl, who was charged with the murder of his aged father, Joseph Carl, near Catawissa, on April 12, 1919. The jury acquitted Carl without leaving their seats, after James Scarlett, senior counsel for the young man, had asked the court to instruct the jury to return a verdict of not guilty inasmuch as the prosecution had not proved that a crime had been committed. Mr. Scarlett contended that the prosecution had not shown whether the death of the aged father was due to suicide or murder.

Edward Raker, postmaster at Shamokin, finds he has a job he cannot get rid of, and, strange as it may seem, it's the \$2800 position of postmaster. More than a year ago Raker resigned, and a civil service examination was held to get a successor. Yet the authorities at Washington have seen fit not to accept Raker's resignation, as yet. Raker is also an assistant district attorney of Northumberland county, and a successful lawyer. At last Tuesday's primaries he was given the Democratic nomination for district attorney without opposition. Now he has asked the Postoffice Department to relieve his bondsman. He wants to resign, and devote his time to other interests.

By her will admitted to probate on Saturday, May Fryburg, late of Upper Dublin, Bucks county, objects to lawyers having anything to do with the settlement of her estate, on the ground that she worked hard for the money saved and does not want it dissipated in attorneys fees. She gives \$1000 to a sister, Mrs. Josephine Brady, and the remainder to her children. She directs that her sister, Mrs. Brady, take her bank book and building association book to the proper authorities, stating: "I know she will do what is right. I want no lawyers to have anything to do with it, as I have worked hard for my money and do not want any one to interfere with it in any way."

The man who bought the Masonic Temple, Chicago, for \$1,000 down and \$5 a week thereafter has a duplicate in Reading. He is Jacob Dzik, an alien, who for months past has envied the Reading policemen's easy lives and their natty semi-military uniforms. Last Thursday he informed Sergeant DeHart that two strangers offered to get him a job on the force for \$300. They first met him at the post-office where Dzik was counting a "roll of bills." He had \$307, the savings of several years. He paid the \$300 and returned three hours later, the time which he was to receive notice of his appointment, but the swindlers had disappeared. They are believed to be buncomen following the county fairs.