

INK SLINGS.

—Herbert Hoover is surely slipping. At any rate he has slipped off the front pages.

—The President presided at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday. God speed his complete recovery.

—Cheer up, last year at this time we had a regular freeze that put a crimp in nearly all of the fruit and many of the flowers.

—Meanwhile "Hungry Hi" Johnings goes on gathering in delegates or running neck-and-neck with the other candidates whenever a Presidential preference vote is taken.

—If emigration continues long to exceed immigration we Americans will have to get our schools and colleges to add courses with the pick and shovel to their curriculums.

—Farmers are almost a month behind with their spring work. Only those who worry who have no faith in the promise of the Good book that seed time and harvest we will always have.

—When you are reading about the great joy ride Congressmen and their families are preparing to take at the expense of the government just keep in mind that it is a Republican Congress that is going junketing off to the Philippines at a cost to the people of the Lord only knows how much.

—Missouri gave Jim Reed exactly what he deserved. As a Senator in Congress he betrayed the sentiment of the Democrats of that State and by declining to send him as a delegate to San Francisco they have told him in language that he will feel most that he is in the discard so far as further political honors are concerned.

—Local rum-hounds are reported to have lately given up the business of "settin' hens" for the more direct process of gathering up real, old fashioned ninety-five proof red hiker that is being clandestinely dispensed at from five to ten dollars a quart. Of course the H. C. L. is a terrible thing but the H. C. D., well, that's something else.

—Physicians throughout the State are advocating that the dandelion be eaten in more liberal portions on account of its virtue as a good spring tonic, but the man who has had visions of big patches of the yellow blossoms as the basis of an all the year 'round tonic won't take very kindly to the idea of thus digging his tonic up by the roots.

—People who believe that real strong jurists should be sent to the Supreme court bench will vote for Judge Kunkel at the primaries next month. Judge Kunkel is a Republican and he is the man who administered stern justice to the capitol grafters. For that reason the Republican machine is against him and for that reason, if no other, every other voter, Democrat and Republican alike, should vote for him at the primaries.

—The delegation of Republican bigwigs that journeyed from Centre county to Pittsburgh to meet Gen. Wood and Governor Sprout, on Tuesday, was a mixture of the stalwart and Bull Moose varieties. What they went out for nobody knows for all of them but Major Terry Boal and Major Wilbur Leitze will be for the man Penrose is for and as the Senator hasn't spoken yet the trip looked to us very much like a "kiddin'" expedition.

—Developments of the past two weeks indicate that Tom Beaver's campaign to beat the Hon. Ives Harvey for the Republican nomination for Assemblyman has lost some of the "pep" it started off with. Many of those who hailed it with vociferous acclaim are getting decidedly "mealy-mouthed" and some are actually trimming for the Harvey band-wagon. We can't understand such tactics for certainly Tom Beaver is too fine a fellow to be made a "goat" of and it seems to us that, right or wrong, win or lose, those who encouraged him to enter the fight should finish it with him.

—Admiral McKean told the Senate on Tuesday that if the statements that Admiral Sims made some time ago about the preparedness of the navy had come from a patient in the "government insane asylum" they could be understood but coming from an active admiral in the navy they were "monstrous" and an insult to every man in the service. As time rolls on and men who did something more than sport gilt-lace in London are given an opportunity to have a say the country is discovering the truth of the "Watchman's" statement, made several months ago, to the effect that Sims is an egotistic old ass and ought to be retired.

—If the State Highway Department were to call off all new road building until there is relief from the labor shortage it seems to us that a very beneficial public service would be rendered. With new state roads being constructed through the rural districts where farmers are trying to hold enough men to get their crops into the ground and passing essential industries that are operating now at only fifty per cent. of their capacity and the contractors on them offering common labor five dollars a day it is any wonder that the farmers can't hold help and industrial concerns are hampered. Good roads are no longer a luxury, they are a necessity, but only an ultimate one. We could get along with present road conditions for awhile, but we might find it different trying to get along without an adequate supply of bread and butter and potatoes and other necessities of life.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 65.

BELLEFONTE, PA., APRIL 30, 1920.

NO. 18.

Price of McCormick's Perfidy.

Two years ago Mr. Vance C. McCormick appeared on the floor at the meeting of the Democratic State committee, of which he was not a member and in which he had no right to a voice, and orally supported Mitchell Palmer's movement to repudiate the Democratic nominee for Governor. His hand-picked and servile candidate for the nomination had been overwhelmingly defeated for the party favor and he felt that because of the personal relations between Mitchell Palmer and the Republican nominee for the office, he would stand a better chance of getting favors from Sprout as Governor, though a Republican, than from Bonniwell, a Democrat. The interests of the party and the welfare of the State gave him no concern.

Mr. McCormick is a multimillionaire by inheritance and has little, if any, care for salaries. But he has an abnormal ambition for power and an insatiate thirst for control of public affairs. But he revels in power and in the expectation of favors from a Republican administration, social or material, he betrayed the party of which he was at the time the official head.

And Mr. McCormick is now enjoying a full and complete recompense for his perfidy. The General Assembly of 1919 authorized the Governor to create a commission to be known as "The Commission on Constitutional Amendment and Revision," the duties of which are "to study comprehensively and in detail the provisions of the present Constitution in the light of modern thought and conditions, with especial view to the necessity or advisability of changing or omitting any such provisions, in order to obtain and secure for the people of this Commonwealth a form of government best suited to their needs and most conducive to their welfare." Membership of that body ought to satisfy the ambition of any man.

The selection of twenty-five citizens of Pennsylvania to perform that vitally important service was a titanic task. Among the members of the convention which framed the present constitution were such men as Jeremiah S. Black, Charles R. Buckalew, William Bigler, Charles Brodhead, Lewis C. Cassidy, Silas M. Clark, Andrew G. Curtin, R. A. Lambertson, and George W. Woodward, Democrats, and Henry C. Carey, Wayne MacVeigh, Morton McMichael, Henry W. Palmer and Samuel A. Purviance, Republicans. Those were intellectual giants and men to revise and amend their work ought to be leaders in thought and masters in achievement. And to this great purpose Governor Sprout has called Vance C. McCormick.

But the appointment has served its purpose. If Vance C. McCormick had not betrayed his party candidate, William C. Sprout's life-long ambition to be Governor of Pennsylvania might never have been fulfilled. His pledge to the Prohibitionists had aroused such a volume of resentment that the party majority was tottering until McCormick's perfidy turned the tide of opposition. Therefore he owed McCormick a debt of gratitude which the appointment fully repaid and he gratified McCormick's absurd ambition to pose as a distinguished man of affairs at the same time. Of course he has no fitness for the service. But as the late Tim Campbell said to President Cleveland: "What's the constitution among friends?"

The "Watchman" extends its compliments to the secretary of the Bureau of Internal Affairs of Pennsylvania for the very interesting article on the manufacturing industries of Centre county published on the fourth page of today's paper. If every department would confine its energies to sending to the press in different parts of the State only such items as are of interest in the locality covered by the different papers they would not only save a vast amount of paper but would stand a bigger chance of getting the really newsy items in print.

High priced sugar is popular in the South and the South has a good deal to say in selecting the Democratic candidate for President. But it is unpopular in the North which also has a voice in the convention.

The discussion of the name of Senator Knox in connection with the Republican Presidential nomination is being revived. It probably strikes a responsive chord in Berlin or Pottsdam.

The primary election is likely to be the most important political event this year until the vote for President. Most of the questions will be decided on the 18th of May, in this State anyway.

Admiral Sims appears to be the only man in the country who believes that our naval operations during the war were failures.

Palmer's Claims False and Absurd.

The "Presidential poll" of the Literary Digest plainly reveals the falsity as well as the absurdity of Mitchell Palmer's candidacy for the Democratic nomination for President. The returns of two weeks' canvass show a total vote of 33,748 of which Mr. Palmer has 1169, next to the lowest, though he is the only candidate of the eight named who has made any personal effort to get votes. The vote as recorded in the last issue of the Digest stands Edwards 7568, McAdoo 6740, Wilson 6491, Cox 5649, Bryan 3885, Clark 1555, Palmer 1169, Marshall 691. Herbert Hoover, who has declared he would not accept a Democratic nomination, has 9974, while Hungry Hi Johnson received nearly five times as many votes as Palmer.

These figures prove the absurdity of the Palmer claim to consideration as a candidate. The falsity of it is shown by taking the figures in another angle. Recently the Harrisburg Patriot, which is the mouthpiece and principal advocate of Palmer's nomination announced under flaring headlines that Connecticut, Minnesota and Iowa Democrats are enthusiastically for Palmer and would send solid delegations to the San Francisco convention to vote for him. The Literary Digest's poll shows just one vote for him in Connecticut, two in Minnesota and one in Iowa. The purpose of the Patriot was to make the Democrats within the radius of its circulation believe that there is a popular demand for his nomination throughout the country.

The vote in Georgia is also cited to support his claim to popular favor in the south. There are three candidates for the preference in that State, Hoke Smith, Tom Watson and Palmer. Hoke Smith, a Senator in Congress, was notoriously pro-German before and during the war and among the irreconcilable opponents of the peace treaty. Watson is a half-baked "Georgia cracker" of the type of the late Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, immensely popular with the illiterate, and Palmer, after a campaign of great energy got considerably less than one-third of the total vote, though having carried the populous counties, secured a trifle more than one-third of the delegates to the State convention.

Senator Reed, of Missouri, has been partially rebuked but a good clubbing is about the only punishment that would exactly fit his various crimes against his party and his country.

Republican Leaders Responsible.

It may safely be said that the industrial disturbances are ascribable largely to the Republican conspiracy to discredit President Wilson in public estimation and defeat the Democratic party in the approaching Presidential election. Even before our government entered the war the leaders of the Republican party were sowing the seeds of discontent in the industrial life of the country and since the cessation of hostilities they have increased their activities in this direction. That was in reality the basis of the opposition to the peace treaty. The complete restoration of peace would have been followed by industrial prosperity and contentment and the indefinite success of the party in power.

When Senator Lodge issued the "Round Robin" to his political associates in the Senate asking them to refrain from committing themselves to the support of the peace treaty until after conference, he had this in mind. He realized the impossibility of defeating the Democratic party in the coming Presidential contest if the industrial life of the country were prosperous and the wage earners contented. He was equally well aware that until the full restoration of peace there could be no substantial prosperity and without it no industrial contentment. Hence he organized the conspiracy to prevent the ratification of the peace treaty and the result has proved the accuracy of his judgment.

It may be true that the I. W. W.'s are behind the outlaw railroad strikers but it is equally certain that the Republican politicians are behind the I. W. W.'s. The responsible leaders of the labor organizations are and have been opposed to industrial disturbances such as have been occurring at short intervals during the past two years. But the political leaders are more potent in influencing the action of radical wage-earners because they are more liberal in promises and more persuasive in speech. It is not shooting wide of the mark or traveling far afield to say that some of the employers of the striking workers are highly pleased with the industrial confusion which prevails throughout the country.

The Supreme court keeps the liquor men guessing. That decision that is always looked for never comes.

Importance of the Primaries this Year.

Voters should bear in mind the fact that a Justice of the Supreme court of Pennsylvania will be elected this year at the primary election, on the 18th of May. Under the law any candidate for the judicial office who receives more than fifty per cent. of the votes cast will be practically chosen. That is to say his will be the only name on the official ballot at the general election in November and it would be literally impossible to elect a man to a State office whose name is not on the ballot. For that reason those who have a preference between the candidates for Supreme court judge should express it at the primary election. After that it will be too late. The other candidate may have succeeded.

There are so many reasons why Judge George Kunkel, of Dauphin county, should be elected to that office this year that it seems like a waste of words to enumerate them. Judge Kunkel has had sixteen years' experience on the bench of Dauphin county, the most important court in the State. All the State cases are tried in that court and more important cases are heard there than in any other court in the Commonwealth. It is a matter of record that he has been reversed less frequently than any other of the judges of the State notwithstanding the wider interest in and because of the greater importance of the litigation before him. This is a guarantee of judicial fitness necessarily absent from his opponent.

An equally important reason lies in the fact that the Republican party machine is against him. Since his masterful conduct of the capitol graft cases in the Dauphin county court his name has been anathema to the machine politicians some of whose associates in party management were convicted before him and sentenced by him to prison. He simply performed his duty, of course, but if he had been more a politician and less a jurist he might have been advanced in the favor of those who select public officials and received any reward he desired. But he obeyed the mandates of conscience and fulfilled the law. Without the least feeling against his opponent we candidly believe he should be elected.

The big vote for "Hungry Hi" in the western States indicates a strong element of radicalism in the Republican party and augurs badly for harmony in the near future.

Factional Politics and Booze.

The scandalous relations of booze and factional politics in Pennsylvania has been brought to the attention of Congress by former Congressman Diffenderfer, of Montgomery county. We referred last week to the exposure of this sinister traffic in the coal regions in the interest of A. Mitchell Palmer's absurd ambition to get a local endorsement for the Democratic nomination for President. Since then Mr. Diffenderfer has offered additional and important evidence in confirmation of the charge that Department of Justice agents and Revenue officials have been prostituting their offices in Philadelphia.

After stating that revenue agents "have been known to stop trucks on the highways distributing beer to their customers and take barrels off the trucks to the storage house, ostensibly for the purpose of securing evidence," the brewer in consideration of a fixed sum, "was advised where his particular barrel was stored in the warehouse," in order that he might remove it. Mr. Diffenderfer added that "it has been asserted by a certain Judge in Schuylkill county that liquor dealers might go as far as they liked, provided they work for Palmer." By this violation of the law and manipulation of politics the friends of Mr. Palmer claim they have so securely tied up the coal region in his interest that it will be impossible to defeat his delegates.

A man named Andrew Breslin, of Summit Hill, Carbon county, who is a candidate for District delegate to the National convention in the interest of Palmer, visited Philadelphia the other day, according to former Congressman Diffenderfer, and "sent for various saloon keepers and officers of the Retail Liquor Dealers' association, of Philadelphia, and demanded of them that they support Palmer." His headquarters at the Bingham House, "were conducted for the past three weeks precisely like a wholesale liquor clearing house." Yet this arch-hypocrite pretends to be a prohibitionist and his oath of office binds him to the prosecution of all violators of the Volstead Prohibition law.

Turkey may be "the sick man of Europe" and by the same token she is making all the rest of the world both sick and tired.

Can it be possible that Vance McCormick approves of Mitchell Palmer's partnership with booze vendors?

Reed's Humiliation.

From the Philadelphia Record.

It would be difficult to imagine a more stinging rebuke than that which the Democrats of Missouri have administered to Senator Reed for his party recency. Not only did they, in defiance of all State traditions, reject him as a delegate-at-large to the San Francisco convention, but they refused to allow him to be elected as a district delegate, and if he goes to the convention it will have to be as a mere onlooker without influence in deciding its action. This deep humiliation was imposed upon the faithless Senator for his course in opposing the peace treaty and the League of Nations, which the Missouri Democrats went on record as endorsing without those reservations which tend to destroy its effectiveness. The issue was a clean-cut one between the supporters and the enemies of President Wilson, and the former won overwhelmingly.

No valid explanation has ever been given of the peculiar tactics of the Missouri Senator in separating himself from his party associates and allying himself with the Republican opponents of the peace treaty. Apparently it is due to sheer cantankerousness or to a personal vanity which leads him to imagine that he possesses the qualities of a great statesman and that he must display these by acting independently of the real leaders of the Democracy. Throughout his career in the Senate Reed has shown this pure cussedness, mulish obstinacy, or delusion of grandeur—whatever one may care to call the motive of his actions. It was just three years ago, soon after the entrance of the United States into the world war, that he exasperated the nation by his bitter opposition to the appointment of Herbert Hoover as Food Administrator. The pettiness and narrow-mindedness which he then displayed have been characteristic of his attitude toward the peace treaty and the League of Nations.

Now he goes into the discard so far as any importance as a party leader is concerned. His own State has repudiated him, and the rest of the country long ago took his measure very accurately. Who will blame Missouri Democrats for kicking such a miserable hound dawg around?

Who'll Do the Work?

From the Easton Argus.

America might as well make up its mind to do its own dirty work. Either that, or it will have to invent the machinery that will do away with the dirty work. One thing seems certain: America cannot longer depend upon "foreigners" to do the disagreeable jobs, as it has so largely in the past.

For now the foreigner is staying home and going home. For the twelve months beginning in November, 1918, a total of 214,421 persons left the United States, while only 201,473 arrived. During the normal period prior to 1914 more than half of the immigrants were listed as unskilled workers. But it has been estimated by the inter-racial Council that five times as many unskilled laborers left the country as came in during the twelve months succeeding the armistice.

And, although more came in October, November and December, 1919, and the Ellis Island estimates for the first three months of 1920 indicate that the tide is swelling again, an analysis of the movement indicates that the incoming stream of humanity are women and children, while the predominating number of the departing is composed of able-bodied men. And further, the Department of Labor reports that 1,100,000 men and women are awaiting passports or passage to the land of their nativity. In the past, approximately 50 per cent. of the work on the railroads and in the railroad shops of this country has been done by men of the immigrant class. The iron and steel rolling mills employ 70 per cent, immigrant labor in all departments employing unskilled labor. In textile mills the figure is 72 per cent. In the building trades 60 per cent. of the unskilled labor is foreign born. Certain restrictions by foreign nations, high passenger rates, shortage of ship accommodations and American immigration laws prevent the tide from moving westward again. Until it does, America will have to learn how to do the kinds of work that these people performed for her.

A Wise and Lively Old Boy.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Chauncey M. Depew was one of the corporation men who were swept out of public life by the tide of political reform years ago, when we began to get so high-minded. We thought little of his mind and less of his political morals. Perhaps the best thing that ever happened to him was when he "got in the neck" from Madame Virtue. He started out then to disprove his reputation, or, if he didn't "start out" with that intention, he has succeeded in making us revise our opinion of him. We have discovered that he is as wise as he is witty, as strong mentally as he is graceful. At 86 he delivers a forcible and telling speech on the railroad strike that few men half his age could equal either in common sense or vim.

Reform does not always provide for the survival of the fittest in politics. Who lost more by the elimination of Chauncey Depew from public life—Chauncey or his country? At all events, Chauncey seems to be the "chippier" of the two just now.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Granulated sugar jumped from 20 to 27 cents per pound in Lewistown grocery stores Thursday, and the sweetening luxury was hard to secure even at that price.

—John D. Davis, for years a member of the Carbonale city council, has been indicted by the Lackawanna grand jury on a charge of bribery, Mayor John T. Loftus being the prosecutor.

—Running to catch a street car at Sossingrove on Monday, Felix Kerstetter, 74 years old, of Northumberland, a Civil war veteran, was stricken with a heart attack and died in a few minutes.

—It is said the McKean county auditors have surcharged two of the county commissioners with \$2537.33 each to cover alleged excess profits in electric lighting of the county home and court house at Smethport. Being commissioner isn't perhaps entirely what it is cracked up to be.

—While Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Raup, of Shamokin, were visiting at Williamsport, thieves forced an entrance to their home and stripped it of everything but the furniture. The loot taken included table linens, silverware, cut glass, rugs and clothing. Even the kitchen utensils and light globes were removed.

—The blue denim craze has the historic borough of Northumberland in its grip. Whole classes of Sunday school students have pledged to wear overalls. The ushers of St. John's Lutheran church will be so clad. High school students have appeared in overalls in classes and half the employees of the big Pennsylvania Railroad yards have had them on.

—State Highway Department officials have given notice that no contractor is to be permitted to charge automobile drivers for being permitted to go through sections under construction or repair. This action follows discovery that a foreman on a contract on the Lincoln highway in Fulton county had been charging for the privilege. The money was ordered returned.

—Charles F. Desch, a veteran of the world war, a bridegroom of one month and a brakeman on the Pittsburgh division was fatally injured by falling from a west-bound freight train at Portage, on Saturday, dying fifteen minutes later of the injuries sustained. The accident occurred at the eastern end of the bridge at Portage. Desch sustained a fractured skull and had his right hand cut off.

—Badly burned in mouth, throat and lungs by ammonia fumes, Samuel M. Baumgartner, aged 60 years, of Altoona, died on Thursday of last week. He was repairing the refrigerator system in a meat market when the ammonia pipe burst. He was unconscious before he could be rescued by Charles Stadler, wearing a gas mask. Baumgartner was a former patrolman and constable.

—A gas well which is said to be producing 100,000 feet of gas daily was brought in by the Indian Gas company, a Brookville company, on the Cyphert farm near Emerickville on Tuesday of last week. It is thought the well will produce considerably more gas when a lower sand is reached. This is the second producing well sunk by the Indian people within a week, a big strike having been made on the Haines farm a week ago.

—Henry Jones, an employee of the White Pine sanatorium, in Franklin county, pleaded guilty to larceny in court at Chambersburg on Monday. He confessed to stealing materials from the sanatorium and shipping them to Philadelphia where his wife disposed of the goods. He had been carrying on the business over a long period. Judge Gillam sentenced him to the eastern penitentiary for not less than two and a half years nor more than three and a half years.

—What some people regard as a heaven-sent relief has made Greensburg a Mecca for thirsty prospectors from all over western Pennsylvania. Reports of the existence of a "whiskey rock" in the east-dale farm near that city caused a rush of strangers that makes the town look like a boom community of the old west. According to the report, a chip from the rock, when dissolved in water, makes a pint of hard stuff with a real kick. The farm is big and has many rocks.

—Withdrawing \$1500, representing her years of hard work and frugality, from an Allentown bank preparatory to her departure for her home in Austria to look up relatives from whom she had not heard since the war started six years ago, Annie Wassco, of Onnrod, put the money in a trunk in her bedroom. Saturday night her home was visited by two robbers who threw the trunk out of the window, then rifled it, leaving only a few dollars. The woman fought the robbers, but was soon overpowered. Mrs. Wassco made all the money by working in a Copley cigar factory.

—The State Department of Education has made announcement of the retirement of Professor David Milton Lotz, of Dun-cansville, one of the pioneer school teachers of Blair county, on pension. Mr. Lotz is 75 years old and has taught 35 terms of school, most of which were in Dun-cansville borough and the surrounding townships. He began before the Civil war and, being a soldier for a number of years, the time he was off then was his only abatement of the profession. Mr. Lotz is a well preserved man for his years and will take life easy for the remainder of his journey through life.

—Local statisticians at Chester, Pa., figure that the railroad strike cost Chester three quarters of a million dollars. More than 600 men were absent from their posts in Chester during the strike, meaning a loss in wages of about \$25,000. While a number of the merchants boosted the price of their goods and secured additional revenue in this way, many others were unable to make sales because they could not get the merchandise. The only feature of the strike that in any way appealed to local tradesmen was the fact that it kept a number of people from going out of town to make necessary purchases.

—Before national prohibition, Billy, pet goat of the Keystone Coal company mine No. 2, near Greensburg, Westmoreland county, acquired a fondness for drinks with a kick. Whenever the miners had a party, Billy was not allowed to go away from the company office, while nobody was in thicket. On Sunday, Billy entered and knocked a fire extinguisher from the wall. The chemical contents flowed over the floor. Billy tasted the liquid, evidently liked it and lapped it up clean. Then he attacked everything in sight, which happened to be chairs, tables, desks and typewriters. Investigating the series of crimes, Superintendent Mull was called up the nearest telephone pole. An offensive force was organized. It overpowered and tied the goat.