

INK SLINGS.

We want to tell you right here that there is moonshine these nights where moonshine never penetrated before.

No, dear reader, the San Francisco platform won't be built of green lumber even if there should happen to be one damp plank in it.

Governor Sproul is so frequent and earnest in his endorsement of the ticket that one is almost compelled to say "he doth protest too much."

Probably those seismic tremors felt along the California coast were caused by the concentration of so much Democracy in San Francisco.

Hi Johnson hasn't endorsed the work of the Chicago convention as yet. But Hi has the reputation of saying what he means or remaining silent.

It wasn't because of anything he has ever done that Harding was nominated. It was because he has done nothing in a public way that he was given the honor.

President Wilson may not be as strong, physically, as before he was taken sick, but recent utterances reveal no impairment of his mental force or depreciation of his courage.

General Wood may contemplate the result of his campaign for the Presidential nomination complacently but those who put up the million and a-half to meet the expense account may think it wasn't worth the price.

Of course Mr. McAdoo will always cherish the delightful memory that he could have been nominated and elected President of the United States had he but said the word. This will be true no matter which way the cat jumps in November.

The Milesburg band seems to be about as successful in bringing rain for its scheduled concerts in this place as was the baseball team that represented the Burg at the confluence of Spring creek and Bald Eagle in our inter-borough league last season.

The western end of Centre county is suffering greater damage by the whiffing fly than any other section. While it is bad in many sections farmers in west Ferguson are being damaged to the point where they don't expect much more than half a crop.

The Altoona Times-Tribune thinks "the right sort of a League of Nations would be a long step toward international brotherhood." So does everybody else except Hi Johnson but some of us don't seem to be able to get together on what would be the "right sort of a League."

Colonel Harvey's own version of how Senator Harding came to be the Republican nominee for President gives rise to the suspicion that he was trying to get in the Jim Blakeslie class as a maker of Presidents. The Colonel thinks he did it, just like Jim thought he nominated Wilson. Only the Colonel didn't light a cigarette and think before he gave the eventful decision.

With a boost of eleven mills in the taxes for borough purposes in Bellefonte, with a very probable increase of three mills in our school taxes and the increase of two mills in the county tax the grand aggregate of fifty-six mills is staring Bellefonte property owners right in the face. Some people laughed when we predicted last fall that it would be fifty but it has gone even beyond that high mark.

The big observation picnic to be held today at Boalsburg should have something of interest for every man, woman and child in Centre county. No sane consideration of how and what future generations are to do for essential natural commodities can be made without conjuring a very gloomy prospect. If our posterity is to be blessed with the water supply, the timber, the game and fish that we have wasted so ruthlessly it is none too soon to consider ways and means of conserving what is left. It is everybody's duty to try to leave the world as pleasant a place to live in, at least, as he or she found it.

There is one exceedingly hopeful and encouraging advance notice of what is to be done at San Francisco next week. All wings of our party seem to be in accord in the determination to build a platform that will talk to the people in language they can understand. There is to be no "pussy-footing," no dissimbling, no evasion. The party platform is to state clearly the exact stand we take on all of the great issues of the day. And that will be as it should be. We want no such meaningless platitudes as came out of Chicago last week. We want the world to know, beyond any possibility of misinterpretation, just what Democracy stands for. We want to win or lose on well defined issues.

Many people are curious to know how the population of Bellefonte could have decreased during the past decade when most of them are aware that many new residences have been built in the town within that period and that the housing situation has never been as acute as it has been during the past two years. It does seem that the figures and the facts don't square. However it might be accounted for partially by a condition that few of us stop to consider. Twenty years ago, and even ten, many of the old and larger homes in Bellefonte were occupied by families averaging from five to eight persons, whereas now those families are scattered so that less than half of their former members are left to have a permanent residence here.

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Details of a Great Event.

Colonel George Harvey's statement of the causes which brought about the nomination of Senator Harding at Chicago would have been interesting even if he had been less candid. Colonel Harvey is always ornate and in supreme confidence of his own power as a master politician, sometimes picturesque. He imagines that he is responsible for the nomination and election of Woodrow Wilson in 1912 and has been more or less peeved ever since because the President failed to put the same appraisal upon his friendly services. Of course the thought of commercializing politics never entered his mind but he has been giving powerful influence and potent support to the Republican machine ever since.

In an interview given to the writer for the New York World of Sunday last Colonel Harvey epitomizes the history of the Republican National convention in the frank declaration that Senator Harding was nominated "because there was nothing against him and because the delegates wanted to go home." In these words combined there was ample reason for making a quick decision in the selection of a candidate for High constable, no doubt. But in choosing the candidate for President one would think that graver reasons would impel action of the representatives of a great party. But Colonel Harvey, whose mental vision penetrates a millstone as far as that of any other man could discern no other reason for Harding.

It seems that the selection was made in Colonel Harvey's room in a Chicago hotel at three o'clock of the morning upon which the act was consummated. Several gentlemen had casually called on the Colonel "during the wee small hours" and the canvass of the candidates and the process of elimination began. Sproul, Knox, Coolidge, Lodge, Lenroot and Allen were brought out in order, but "they didn't get beyond the stage of mere suggestion." Then Harding was trotted out. "I suppose his name had been in our minds all along," the Colonel adds. Anyway "the word came back that he would do," and he was promptly sent for and asked if he knew any reason why he should not be nominated.

When some years ago, the late Mrs. Theodore Tilton was accused of misbehavior with the late Henry Ward Beecher as co-respondent, Mr. Beecher was called as a witness. In most imposing manner and dramatic fashion Mr. Beecher said: "I declare the woman innocent of this great transgression." Harding was equally positive. He mentally reviewed his record, carefully searched his soul, and "protested that his conscience was void of offence, and we were satisfied." The convention was allowed to proceed for a time, however, as if nothing had happened. The sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth ballots were taken but on the tenth the order was issued and the diminishing strength of contestants vanished.

To Colonel Harvey names are "unconsidered trifles," and in his interesting narrative of the convention he uses them sparingly. Of course he speaks of the striking figures and mentions Senator Brandegee, Senator Lodge, Senator Wadsworth, Senator Calder, Senator McCormick, Senator Smoot and Senator Watson who composed with himself the controlling cabal. There is one other in his galaxy of greatness. It is Mr. Joseph R. Grundy, of Pennsylvania. As the Colonel put it "last of all came Grundy." But he came with bells on. "The virtue of Grundy's advice," continues Colonel Harvey, "lay in the fact that, as we knew, he saw things as Penrose would have seen them had he been there."

And there you are. "The strategy Grundy outlined was the strategy Penrose would have proposed," so "that with Grundy present and assisting we felt ourselves safeguarded on every salient." No doubt Governor Sproul will find great comfort in this assurance that Penrose was the moving spirit in the nomination of Senator Harding and that Grundy, who is his "pet aversion," was the sick man's alter ego in Chicago.

The big German gun which was presented to Bellefonte last summer by W. Harrison Walker, chairman of Group 3, war savings division, and which ever since has occupied a place of honor in the triangle in the Diamond, was taken down to Milesburg on Saturday to be repainted in as near the original color as it is possible to do. When the job is completed the gun will be brought back and installed on a foundation to be put down by the County Commissioners in the southwestern corner of the court house yard, opposite the soldiers monument, where it will be permanently anchored as the one trophy secured by Bellefonte and Centre county from the great world war.

It's all here and it's all true. Read the "Watchman" and see.

Hopeful Note from San Francisco.

An encouraging note comes from the "advance guard" of the Democrats who will compose the National convention of the party at San Francisco, next week. National chairman Cummins, who will be temporary president of the convention, declares that the platform will be frank and explicit on all questions to be considered in the campaign. Mr. Cummins consulted with the President before his departure for the seat of the convention and probably got his inspiration concerning the platform from that source. In a recent interview the President said: "Whatever else the Democratic party may do, I hope that its convention in San Francisco will say just what it means on every issue."

This hope will be cordially shared by every right thinking Democrat in the country. The Republican platform is a jumble of ambiguities laboriously and stupidly brought together to conceal the purposes of the party leaders and deceive and confuse the minds of voters. The Democratic platform should be the antithesis of this. A League of Nations created for the purpose of averting war and securing prosperity throughout the world for all time has been a cherished hope of the people of this country for many years. The covenant created and adopted by the peace conference at Versailles promised the fulfillment of this great ideal and the Democratic convention at San Francisco should and will declare for its ratification without "nullifying reservations."

The Republican platform straddles every important question of public interest. It failed to express the purpose of the party on the beverage question, the Irish question, the labor question and all other questions and hopes the voters will imagine whatever they would like to have on all these issues is meant. It is to be hoped the Democratic platform will take the opposite view and state what the party intends to do. The people are not fools. They know what they want and appreciate the value of candor and honesty. The Democratic party has always been faithful to its pledges and obligations and if the convention is true to the party there will be no ambiguity in the platform.

Nobody will ever know what Senator Harding's intentions with respect to Mexico are until Senator Penrose opens his mouth on the subject.

Slighting an Interesting Event.

Reports from Chicago concerning the Republican National convention were entirely too meager concerning one of the incidents. In the dispatches published on the morning of the final sessions of the convention a brief reference was made to a dispute among the Pennsylvania delegates which occurred the night before. The inference to be drawn from the casual reference to the affair was that an old grudge between Senator Crow, chairman of the Republican State committee, and Joseph R. Grundy, president of the Manufacturers' Club, had broken out afresh and that these two distinguished party leaders "had almost come to blows." It seems to us that such an episode deserved more attention than was given it.

The old grudge between Grundy and Crow originated during the last session of the Legislature. For some unexplained reason Governor Sproul had inferentially made pledges before his election that certain legislation demanded by labor and humanitarian bodies would be enacted and Senator Crow as the recognized representative of the Governor in the General Assembly undertook to fulfill the pledge. Mr. Grundy representing the manufacturers and incidentally the campaign fund contributors, objected to the proposed legislation and a bitter quarrel ensued. Grundy threatened to prevent Crow's re-election to the chairmanship of the committee and before the reorganization began work to carry out his purpose. Mutual friends interceded, however, and the quarrel was amicably settled.

Soon after the delegates to the Chicago convention reached their destination it was discovered that Grundy was exercising more authority in the movements of the delegation than his position as a district representative warranted. In other words it developed that Grundy represented Penrose as well as the Eighth Congressional district and the real bosses of the convention appraised Penrose as more important than the State. At the final meeting of the leaders held in Colonel Harvey's room Grundy represented the State and he had never been sincerely for Sproul's nomination. This was the reason of the altercation between Crow and Grundy and a full account of the affair would have been interesting.

There is some comfort, also, in the thought that Chauncey Depew's Chicago convention address was his last offense.

McAdoo and the Administration.

The statement of William G. McAdoo forbidding the presentation of his name to the San Francisco convention as a candidate for the Presidential nomination has been regarded by the public with varying interpretations. "I am unable to reconsider the position I have consistently maintained," he writes, "namely, that I would not seek the nomination for the presidency." If he had stopped there his declaration would have signified little in the popular mind. But he adds: "I cannot, therefore, permit my name to go before the convention. This decision is irrevocable, as the path of duty seems to me clear and unmistakable."

We are constrained to express admiration for the genuine spirit of self-effacement plainly expressed in this positive declaration of the great financier and statesman who has given it utterance. But we are not persuaded that it completely eliminates him from the consideration of the convention as those who would like to have him eliminated profess to imagine. In every reference Mr. McAdoo has made to the matter he has said that he would not seek the nomination and he has been scrupulously faithful to that pledge. But hitherto he has always added that no man influenced by the spirit of patriotism could refuse to answer a call to duty such as the nomination of a great party for President implies.

In view of these facts we sincerely hope that the friends of Mr. McAdoo in the San Francisco convention will not only consider his name but nominate him. The delegates in the convention representing the Democrats of Oregon are instructed to name and support him and they have no alternative. For seven years he served the country with transcendent ability and at immense personal sacrifice and we believe that if he is nominated at San Francisco next week he will accept the call and serve the people in the future as he has in the past. Therefore let us hope that he will be nominated for in that event his election is certain.

It is suspected that President Wilson's mind was moving in the direction of Nebraska when he wrote the other day that he does not believe that the delegates in the San Francisco convention "will permit themselves to be led astray in order to gratify the vanity or promote the uncharitable or selfish impulses of any individual."

Issues of the Campaign Fixed.

The Republican press as well as the leaders of that party are extremely anxious to divert the issue of the campaign from the League of Nations to some questions upon which the public mind is less settled and the candidate of their party less vulnerable. Even ex-President Taft is rendering lip service to the party machine in this matter and in an address recently delivered insists that other questions are paramount. But the people will not be fooled in that way. The Republican party by the action of the Senate in refusing to ratify the treaty has forced that issue and it has been accepted. There is no getting away from the inevitable and the issue must be met.

Moreover conditions are particularly auspicious for the treatment of the League of Nations as the dominant issue. The Republican nominee for President is largely responsible for the failure of the Senate to ratify the treaty. At the organization of the Congress Senator Lodge in pursuance of his enmity against the President packed the Senate committee on Foreign Relations for the purpose of humiliating Woodrow Wilson. In carrying out his plans he selected two classes of Republicans for service on the committee. One sort was the irreconcilables like Hi Johnson and Moses and the other negatives like Harding. In the nefarious work both sorts cheerfully got together under the leadership of Lodge.

If the people of this country favor permanent peace and freedom for all future time from the horrors, destitutions and destructions of war they will vote to condemn the conspiracy through which Senator Lodge by the use of such men as Harding was able to prevent the ratification of the treaty. There is no other question of equal importance to this and it must be determined. The ratification of the treaty eight months ago as might have been done would have saved the people billions of dollars wasted through industrial uncertainty, commercial paralysis and high cost of living, purposely kept high by the Republican Congress for partisan reasons and use in the impending campaign.

The only frank features of the Republican platform are those which denounce President Wilson and they occur so frequently as to create the impression that the platform makers had no other issue in mind.

Bryan and Johnson.

Both the great political parties possess radical elements and between these radical elements there is greater harmony of principles and action than there is between the radicals and the remaining elements of their respective parties. Just how long these radical elements will remain within the lines of the old parties is a much discussed problem that only the future can answer. Senator Lenroot, of Wisconsin, who received considerable support for the Republican nomination for Vice-President, has expressed his regret at the nomination of Harding, but will support him at the election. He declared, however, that he would be "among the first to join a new political party if when elected President Harding would adopt reactionary policies and be controlled by the Old Guard." Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, another Republican, issues a warning to the Republicans that they "may as well get over the idea that the election is a cinch and announces his determination to fight any domination of Congress. Having been out of power for over seven years, the only issue that holds the party together at the present time is to get in power and opposition to Democrats.

The Democrats at San Francisco are likely to meet the same trouble with the radicals as the Republicans had at Chicago. William J. Bryan will be there as usual as a disturber of the peace. He is now upon the pay roll of the Anti-Saloon League and will try to earn his salary by fighting for an endorsement of the fanatical Volstead law. Between Bryan and Johnson there is supposed to be a wide political gulf, but as a fact they are one in political sentiment. Bryan sat in the front row at the Johnson meeting in Chicago, smiling and applauding the speech of Hell-Roaring-Hiram. What Johnson attempted at Chicago will no doubt be the program of Bryan at San Francisco. Both deal in threats as to what they will do if they are not permitted to have their own way. Their attitude is one of intimidation and menace, supported by superior airs and pretensions. No doubt Johnson will return the compliment and be on hand at San Francisco to applaud the efforts of Bryan. Damon and Pythias never had any quarrel on this pair of political American. It would be an evil fate to keep them apart and they should form a party of their own.

The radical sentiments of these gentlemen extend all along the line of their supporters, from La Follette, Borah and Mayor Thompson, of Chicago, down to Hearst and his followers. Just now the Republicans are coddling this element in the hope of using them at the next election, but if successful they will only come back to plague them in a worse way. Both parties must sooner or later stop playing fast and loose with their radical elements. The great mass of the people of this country are not radicals and would welcome a radical showdown.

Hot Weather Food and Drink.

Much of the discomfort of hot weather comes from unintelligent eating. We are all prone to carry over into summer our winter tastes at the table. If we can summon up fortitude to discard those foods which develop heat—the rich meats, gravies, pastries and sweet things generally, which build fires in our tummies and raise the temperatures of our bodies—we shall all be saved not only much discomfort, but also many of the perils of hot summer suns.

The vegetables and fruits are the things to "play up" on the table now. The vegetables are the great blood purifiers. They rid the blood of what it called for in cold weather, those qualities which resist cold; and they leave us in condition to combat excessive heat, while the acid and juicy fruits ably reinforce them. Of all the fruits the lemon yields the most wholesome acid. It is as pure gold to pig as an acid never to use vinegar. It is a good rule never to use vinegar. And if you would be cool while others sputter and bubble with heat, eat lightly! Hot meats, rich puddings, sweets, all heavy foods, have to be burnt up in the body. Therefore shun them if you would not have a conflagration within while the sun is raging without. And drink pure water in abundance at cellar coolness. All iced drinks react unfavorably on the system. In the days when cold beer "iced cold beer"—was sought by the heated crowd, those who knew how to take it regarded ice on or in it as an abomination. In Europe, which has been drinking intelligently much longer than America, cellar coolness is the rule. Ice has permanently injured more stomachs in this country than all the beer ever guzzled into it.

Bellefonte may yet have a safe and sane Fourth if the boys and girls continue shooting off the fireworks at the same rate as they have already started doing, notwithstanding the fact that some Bellefonte stores are exhibiting good-sized stocks of the red explosives.

The wise man will lay up his winter's supply of coal for no man knoweth what the conditions will be when winter comes again.

Read the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The American Legion at Lewistown is to have a new home. A committee of business men took over a \$14,000 building for the boys, and propose to pay for it by popular subscription.

William M. Hargest, of Harrisburg, deputy Attorney General since 1900, and one of the active members of the Dauphin county bar, was last week appointed judge of Dauphin county to succeed the late Judge George Kunkel. He assumed office immediately.

State and local police are investigating the death of Carmell Bonjourni, aged 28, whose body was found with a bullet wound through the head, at Aultman, a mining town near Indiana, Pa., early Sunday morning. It is believed that he was murdered during a fight on Saturday night.

In July it is thought the last log will be saved at the big mill of the Norwich Lumber company, McKean county. This will complete the operation of cutting about 35,000 acres of timber. The mill is one of the largest in the State and will be moved to Clarion county, where another tract of timber is to be cut.

Joseph Lazawich, 7 years old, of Sharon, was accidentally shot and killed Monday morning by his brother Nicholas, 9 years old, while the latter was playing with a revolver at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lazawich, of Farrell. The father purchased the pistol after he had been held up and robbed of \$2500 three weeks ago.

Three years ago five holes twenty feet deep were drilled in rock at the Potomac Valley Lime Company quarries at Pinesburg, Lycoming county, and loaded with dynamite. A bolt of lightning set off two and the other three could not then be located by the workmen. During last Thursday's thunderstorm lightning set off the remaining three.

Thomas Gibbons, making \$30 a week as sexton of St. Matthias Roman Catholic church, Conshohocken, was found guilty in criminal court at Norristown, of stealing altar articles, valued at about \$250, and pawning them for \$8. He told Judge Miller that he did it to get money for drink. The court censured him, but suspended sentence, placing him in charge of a parole officer.

A Clearfield county miner a half mile under ground was so badly injured by lightning during last Thursday's storm that he is now in the hospital. Ohmar Whitwell worked in the mines, at Frostburg, and was leaning on his shovel which was on an iron rail when a bolt of lightning followed the rail into the mine, shattered the shovel and knocked the miner unconscious. He was badly cut.

A six-foot flood in the river at Clearfield last Wednesday uncovered the fact that deer are being killed illegally and the local game warden have started out to find the violators. A large buck came floating down the river and stopped in an eddy near the Market street bridge in that town. Boys pulled the box ashore and it was found to contain the hide and head of a buck deer which had been killed within the last three weeks.

A combat between a buck deer and a five-foot blacksnake was witnessed last week in a field near Youngdale, Clinton county, by Emanuel Arnold. The fight was short, for the deer trampled the life out of the big snake in a few minutes. Mr. Arnold says he saw the blacksnake in a field, and the next instant he beheld the buck leap in the air four times in succession, coming down with its feet close together. As he started to make an investigation the deer ran into the woods. On reaching the spot where the animal had been jumping, Arnold was surprised to see a large blacksnake, crushed by the hoofs of the deer.

Although 2300 electric volts flashed through his body for an instant at the Lytle colliery near Pottsville on Saturday, William Katerman, of Minersville, is alive to tell the tale, his life having been saved by an occurrence which seems miraculous. Holding a pipe which had a naked high tension wire wrapped around it, the current suddenly connected with Katerman's body, knocking him senseless. Pipe and man were whirled around with lightning swiftness, when the pipe suddenly became connected with another pipe, grounding the current before Katerman was electrocuted and releasing him, not much the worse for his startling experience.

Two of the largest beer and near-beer producers in Central Pennsylvania, the J. and A. Moeschlin, Inc., Sunbury, and the Fuhrmann & Schmidt Brewing corporation at Shamokin, have suspended operations. No brewed products will be made in the future, it was said. At the Sunbury brewery less than twenty-four barrels of near-beer is on hand, it was said, and in Shamokin there is very little of that. The only other brewery in Northumberland county, the Mount Carmel, suspended operations last week. Some of the brewers are said to be bitter at whiskey bootleggers and sales by those who have druggists' permits. These, they say, pay no license but are permitted to ship booze by the car load.

Placing a ladder against the side of the residence of James Carr, a Newwood, Chester county policeman, thieves entered the house by a second story window, a few nights ago, and ransacked Carr's bedroom, where the cop was peacefully sleeping. The burglars took Carr's trousers, in the pocket of which was his gold watch and a wallet containing \$25. They also gathered other booty before they were interrupted by the barking of a dog. This awakened Carr, who found the men descending the ladder. When he attempted to follow, the thieves jumped and pulled the ladder away from the house. Then Carr got his automatic pistol and began to pump lead at the burglars, who fled, leaving Carr's pants, but not the contents of the pockets.

Tranky Talemento, a dapper Spaniard, of Pittsburgh, who astounded the court with linguistic accomplishments far beyond that of the official interpreters, was fined \$50 by Magistrate Fugassi, on Monday morning, after he had confessed to a charge of stealing a kiss from Miss Helen Maurice, who declared she had no acquaintance with the prisoner. Miss Maurice had refused to flirt with Talemento while passing "down the street. Not discomfited, Talemento took matters into his own hands, and as the pretty young woman entered a candy store, he placed his arm around her shoulders and kissed her full on the lips. When asked why he acted in such an ungalant manner, the Spaniard said: "It was well worth the price. I will buy many more at the same price, if the young lady is willing." She was not.