

INK SLINGS.

—Girls. A vanity bag may catch a man, but it takes a frying pan and a good cook book to hold him.

—Mr. Wallingford humbly takes off his hat to Mr. Ponzi and tearfully admits that Blackie Daw is a piker.

—In the last analysis inflation is nothing more nor less than getting the most money for the least service.

—Senator Harding's idea of a campaign is to stand on his own front porch and ask Governor Cox where he stands.

—The last word in the manner of training children almost always comes from some one who has never had any to train.

—In these days of high prices and often unobtainable maids folks are doin' their own reachin' who seldom did it before.

—If what you are doing bothers you, do it a little better and you will either be more satisfied with your work or called to a better job.

—If the federal authorities really have succeeded in arresting the kidnaper of the Coughlin baby hanging will be none too good for him.

—The "old skates" about town are not cheered up by the temporary location here of a regular skating rink. It isn't that kind of foot-work they were up in.

—Mr. Harding is almost as anxious to find out where Mr. Cox stands on the Prohibition and League of Nations questions as the public is to find out where the evasive Mr. Harding stands on the same questions.

—As a frenzied financier Mr. Ponzi, of Boston, has had a career that makes the greatest games that Tom Lawson ever played look amateurish. Besides, the Ponzi scheme appears to be legally on the level.

—Of course the recent boost in freight and passenger rates authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission was actually necessary to save the railroads from bankruptcy but the public will pay the bill just as it always does.

—Many of the men who were sent home from the trout streams of the county last Saturday, because the season closed then, have found it quite impossible to settle down to work until all the post-mortems over the big ones that got away have been held.

—Our friend A. M. P. drew two inches of space on the bottom of a front page of one metropolitan daily on Monday. Soon the name of the also ran in the late presidential primary will be as hard to find in print anywhere as is that of M. G. B., late Governor of Pennsylvania.

—In New York poker chips are so hard to get that knights of the round table are forced to use lima beans in their stead. Now, we presume, some Burbank will start in to crossing limbs with red, white and blue posies so they can produce the colors desired and then a flattening machine will have to be employed in order to make the beans stack.

—The American Bar association, at its meeting in St. Louis, the latter part of this month, will recommend the ratification of the peace treaty, including the League of Nations, without change from the form in which it was presented by the President to the Senate. Such public action by the lawyers of the United States will be more or less of a surprise to the public since it will be public endorsement of the President's attitude by an association of men most qualified to pass judgment on the treaty and the League.

—The Altoona Times-Tribune is all heted up because a pig has been found in that city that can walk on two legs. We wouldn't, for the world, say anything mean about the Mountain City, but personal experience there on the occasion of the annual visits of the Ringling shows leads us to wonderment as to the nearsightedness of our contemporary's reporters in years gone by. It seems to us that the number of pigs that can walk on two legs up there was relatively as great as that of the ones that can be seen in and about Bellefonte and every other community every day.

—Of course the labor vote can not be delivered to any candidate for President by any labor leader or leaders. The laboring man reads, thinks and votes where his personal interests lie. He will read the labor planks in the platforms of both parties and he will consider what the Republican party failed to do for him in a quarter of a century of power and he will weigh that thought against what he knows the Democratic party has done for him during the past eight years and he will vote the Democratic ticket. Not because any leader tells him to do it, but because his own good, common sense tells him to do so.

—"Jimmy" Cox is talking now in that good, hard horse sense that has made him the idol of Ohioans for years. In planning his campaign speeches he has told his managers that they must arrange his itinerary so that his stops interfere as little as possible with work in the various communities he is to visit. Talking about visiting agricultural sections of the west the Governor says "it must be between corn shucking and threshing for no real dirt farmer is going to rush off to hear political speeches while ripe crops are lying in the fields." That's the kind of practical, common sense things our next President is always thinking about.

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Taft's Strange Attitude.

In a special plea which is as stupid as it is surprising, former President William Howard Taft attempts to justify his support of a candidate for President who has declared himself against the vital policy which Taft professes to support and against a candidate who is in favor of the policy in question. His reason for this attitude is that the party with which he is affiliated will be strong enough in the Senate, even if defeated in the Presidential contest, to prevent the fulfillment of the promise of the candidate of the opposition party, though elected. If he had been frank he would have said that he supports the Republican candidate because he is more a partisan than a patriot.

In his special plea, in the nature of what the lawyers would call "in confession and avoidance," Professor Taft says, "when Mr. Wilson brought to this country the League covenant as reported to the Paris conference I urged on the same platform with him that we join the League. I thereafter recommended amendments, some of which were adopted into its final form. Had I been in the Senate I would have voted for the League and treaty as submitted; and I advocate its ratification accordingly. I did not think and do not now think that anything in the League covenant as sent to the Senate would violate the constitution of the United States, or would involve us in wars which it would not be to the highest interest of the world and this country to suppress by universal boycott and, if need be, by military force."

Yet the potent leaders of the party with which Professor Taft is affiliated organized an opposition to the treaty and the covenant, and with the active help of the candidate he is now supporting for President, compassed its defeat, under the pretense acknowledged to be false by him, that it did violate the constitution of the United States and would involve us in wars of every sinister sort. And he opposes a candidate who cordially and in full measure agrees with him on a question which "transcends in its importance any domestic issues and would justify and require one who believes so to ignore party ties and secure this great boon for the world and for this country," for the reason that with the help of the spineless creature he is supporting the leaders of the party to which he belongs would be able to defeat the treaty anyway.

This, to say the least is an anomalous position for a man of intelligence who professes patriotism, to assume. If the ratification of the covenant of the League of Nations is of the value to the world and to this country that he appraises it to be, one would think that his conscience would impel him to put the full force of his influence behind the effort to compass the ratification. He admits that the moral effect of Article 10 would "safeguard the United States from any perversion of the high purpose of the League," rather than impair our interests and sacrifice our sovereignty. Yet he elects to support a candidate for President who acts upon the opposite side of this question, and to oppose one who agrees with him for the poor reason that his associates in supporting the candidate of the opposition are strong enough to defeat it.

The surprising feature of Professor Taft's disingenuous plea in confession and avoidance, however, is in his attempt to put the blame for his strange attitude upon President Wilson. He agreed with Wilson completely until the votes in the Senate revealed a stubborn adverse majority. Then he "switched" and because the President, whose word and honor were pledged to his colleagues in the peace conference, didn't follow his bad example he accuses Mr. Wilson of obduracy. It is probably the most glaring exhibition of mental weakness in high life, of recent years, and places the ex-President in the class of trimming politicians who have to be paid for exercising the right of franchise.

—A big drop in coal was announced at the mines in the neighborhood of DuBois on Tuesday. Hardest coal was in demand at \$12.00 and \$14.00 a ton, but this week operators were offering it to the public for \$9.50 and \$10.00.

—It is predicted that the census will show a greater number of women of voting age than men in this country, but we see no grave cause of alarm in that fact.

—Mexican troubles appear to be adjusting themselves nicely and just at the time the enemies of the President were trying to make a campaign issue of them.

Governor Cox Will Not Straddle.

Senator Harding is still insisting that his antagonist for the office of President answer some more or less pertinent and altogether irrelevant questions propounded on the occasion of Governor Cox's call on the President. He wants to know how the Democratic candidate stands on the League of Nations and why. He hasn't defined his own attitude on the subject so that any reasoning mind could fix him firmly, but believes he has a right to know exactly what his opponent thinks. That is a characteristic of small minds. Men of his calibre invariably "butt in." They hope to create confusion that will conceal their own deficiencies by asking fool questions.

Governor Cox will be formally notified of his nomination for President at his home city, Dayton, Ohio, tomorrow, and in his speech of acceptance will tell the country exactly what he thinks about the League of Nations and other questions of public interest. And there will be no ambiguity or uncertainty as to his views after his speech has been delivered. Jim Reed, of Missouri, and Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, will not think that both of them has been endorsed on their action in the Senate, as Taft and Senator Johnson imagined concerning Mr. Harding's speech. Senator Reed and Senator Johnson were in complete accord and Mr. Taft and Mr. Hitchcock were in perfect agreement concerning the League. But Reed and Hitchcock will not claim vindication in Cox's speech as Taft and Johnson do in Harding's.

Governor Cox will probably say in his speech tomorrow that the covenant of the League, as President Wilson presented it to Congress, was entirely satisfactory to him. He may add that in the face of a stubborn as well as stupid opposition, he would have been willing to accept interpretations that in no respect impaired the force of the treaty. The Democrats of the Senate, with few exceptions, assumed that attitude and the Democrats of the country with practical unanimity concurred. But Governor Cox will not try to deceive either his political associates or the voters of the country by straddling the question as Senator Harding has done. He is not built that way.

—The ratification of the peace treaty would have cut down the expenses of government by hundreds of millions, but Senator Harding, who is now lamenting the vast expense of the army and navy, voted against the ratification of the treaty.

Principal Issues of the Campaign.

The signs plainly indicate that so far as the Republican party is concerned the principal issue of the campaign is to be calamity. The high cost of living, industrial unrest and commercial paralysis will be shouted from the house tops. "Steel mills set sixty days as limit before shut down" is the headline of a review of the industrial situation in one of the leading Republican organs of the State, and it may be confidently predicted that the smaller fry of the fraternity will join in the prophesy early in the campaign. It is an appeal to public credulity, and that is the favorite method of the party organs. An appeal to reason is bad for them.

The high cost of living is a present and perplexing evil, and every circumstance of time appears to favor it. The increase in the wages of railroad employees has been followed, as was to be expected, by an increase in the rates of freight and the charge for passenger service on railroads and both charges will be levied ultimately upon the public, with an added sum to cover contingencies. For example, it is estimated that the increase in wages on the roads will aggregate \$600,000,000, and to cover that added expense the freight and passenger service is increased to more than double. This charge will be paid by shippers who will shift it on to the consumers with a plus, and so on.

But there is no reason why the blame for this state of affairs may be charged to the Democratic party. It is the natural result of conditions incident to adjustment after the war. Some part of it might have been avoided and would have been if the peace treaty had been signed promptly. But the Republican party is responsible for the failure to ratify the treaty and incidentally for part of the evils complained of. In any event, however, the complaint would have come. Industrial discontent is the only hope of the Republican managers and it will be created and continued until after the vote. If necessary strikes will be organized and lockouts forced to achieve the result.

—A great many Democrats will regret to learn that Mr. Bryan's obligations to the Democratic party hold him in the ranks, even though his heart is in the grave and the going is good.

Followers Not in Agreement.

While Senator Johnson, of California, pretends to be entirely persuaded that candidate Harding's speech of acceptance commits him to absolute opposition to the League of Nations, his followers are not so credulous. Mr. Frank A. Harrison, who was manager of the primary campaign for the California Senator in Nebraska, and carried that State for him, has issued an address to his friends in which he charges that the opponents of Johnson have usurped the management of the campaign, utterly ignored the friends of Johnson, and declares "it is a direct challenge to the sixty-three thousand men who voted for Hiram Johnson, that their votes are not wanted in November."

While William Howard Taft professes to believe that Senator Harding, in his speech of acceptance, declared himself unequivocally in favor of the League of Nations, his friends in the Republican party are not so easily deceived. In every section of the country protests are being registered against the abandonment by the former President, of a policy which he has, with much energy and considerable ability, supported ever since the return of the President from France, nearly a year ago. They interpret the Harding speech somewhat as the Johnson followers in Nebraska construe it, and refuse to support a candidate who is openly committed to the isolation of the United States from the peace-loving countries of the world.

Hiram Johnson and William Howard Taft are alike aspiring politicians and believe they will promote their political ambitions by supporting the ticket. Johnson's Senatorial term is drawing to a close and he is anxious to sit in the millionaire's club. Taft has grown weary of the precarious life of a college professor, with the meager recompense that such employment affords. They know that with the defeat of Harding their hopes of future political service will vanish, and regardless of principle and in the face of inconsistency, they are stultifying themselves by supporting Harding. Their unselfish followers are of a different mind, however.

—While the high cost of funerals may have a restraining influence on persons inclined to the suicide route, the faith that the expenses of living in the next world will be negligible is encouraging.

Continue the Booodle Inquiry.

The Democratic campaign managers are wise in insisting upon a continuation of the Senate inquiry into campaign expenses. Senator Kenyon, chairman of the committee that exposed the profligacy of the Republican primary campaign, has stated that he is willing to drop the investigation and give both candidates "clean bills of health." But Kenyon is a Republican and is probably influenced by his present frame of mind by considerations of safety for his party. The Democrats have no such reason to abandon a movement that has already accomplished a vast amount of good.

It has already been shown that the nomination of Harding cost his friends close on to a quarter of a million dollars. While competitors for the party favor were spending much greater sums, Harding's disbursements seem moderate. But he is not entitled to a health certificate of the kind Governor Cox may claim. The utmost endeavor of a partisan committee could produce evidence of the expenditure of less than five thousand dollars in his behalf, while at least one of his competitors for the Democratic nomination spent more than twenty times as much. It is certain that Governor Cox didn't buy the nomination.

Besides the Republican machine has fallen into the pernicious habit of buying elections, and public interests require that such an evil be stopped. The present party majority in the Senate was procured by the purchase of the seat of Senator Newberry, of Michigan, and though he has been convicted of the crime, he continues to hold the seat. No doubt the Presidential nomination would have been purchased for General Wood if the movement hadn't been exposed and the investigation ought not be discontinued until the evil is so completely eradicated that it will no longer be a menace to the country.

—Mr. McAdoo now realizes that the office may seek the man, but it refuses to go the limit of what you would call diligent search.

—The tone of Harding's speeches would indicate that he imagines he is still blowing a horn in that village band.

—If you see it in the "Watchman" you will know it's true.

To a Potato.

By M. V. Thomas.
Little "tater," tell me true:
Must I now devour you?
Time was when I used to plant you,
Hoe you, dig you, pare and cook you;
When I even tried to dash you
At some disappearing dog.

Little "tater," seldom shown,
How exclusive you have grown.
For so rarely do we meet you
And so very rarely greet you
And we still more rarely eat you—
You who once grew in the bog.

Little "tater," small of size,
Have you even sold your eyes.
Farmers soon will have them planted,
And the fields will then be haunted
By the folks by whom you're wanted—
Who will look for you in vain.

Little "tater," once my care,
For you I'll no more despair.
Tho no longer I may eat you
And but rarely I may greet you;
Yet some day I hope to meet you
Dangling from some nabob's chain.

Harding Wants Explicitness.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Senator Harding has delivered his acceptance speech, and therein he managed to straddle the League of Nations to such good effect as to win the support of Senator Johnson at one end of the line and William Howard Taft and The New York Tribune at the other. Everybody knows that Johnson and Taft and Johnson and the Tribune do not want the same thing, but they are all for the shifty and evasive Harding.

How explicit Mr. Harding was on the occasion for which he had prepared laboriously one may infer from this fact. He tried to say what would sound well enough to the supporters of the League and to its implacable opponents. Here is the leading issue of the day, which the Republican Senators have kept undecided for a year and a half, and Harding has juggled his words over it so that he gets the support of the men who are for it and those who are against it.

But the Senator demands an explicit declaration on the subject from Governor Cox. He will have no shilly-shallying, no evasive utterances, no "weasel words." He has got to have a precise, definite and explicit statement about the League from the Governor. Why should Cox be any more explicit than Harding? What right has the Republican candidate to wag a double tongue and insist that his rival shall talk straight?

Mr. Harding was as non-committal as a human being could be on the question of prohibition, but the Anti-Saloon League, a Republican organization, is insistent that Governor Cox shall declare his warm approval of the Eighteenth amendment. Mr. Harding has not; why should Mr. Cox be required to?

Mr. Harding has succeeded in finding a new suit of clothes for that venerable and decrepit fake, "British gold." What was once a favorite Republican battle cry was so palpably false and foolish that of late years little has been heard of it, but this candidate of the Old Guard, whose views of domestic and foreign policies are about 30 years old, has revamped this worn out folly, and tells his gaping auditors on the front porch that "certain international interests are ready to finance the Democratic campaign."

Anything more fossilized, more futile, more foolish than Mr. Harding's ideas it would be impossible to conceive. His opinions are those of 1890. He has learned nothing since. Probably he flatters him in saying that his ideas are those of 30 years ago. It is possible that he has no ideas at all.

Pennsylvania Shows How to Save Game.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

It is appropriate that at the very time when Dr. William T. Hornaday, the naturalist, is warning that wild life in the United States is threatened with extinction, an officer of the Ohio bureau of game and fish has come here to inquire how Pennsylvania has succeeded in restoring its supply of game, which only a few years ago was sadly depleted. The Buckeye man's mission directs attention to the fact that Dr. Hornaday's statement does not apply to Pennsylvania, where notwithstanding that half a million men go hunting every autumn and winter, slaughtering hundreds of bear, thousands of deer, and millions of rabbits, besides wild turkeys, grouse, squirrels and other animals, the supply is steadily increasing. It will, perhaps, make it plainer what a paradise for sportsmen Pennsylvania has become to state that although it has been settled for more than a century and has a population as great as that of the whole Dominion of Canada the number of bears killed by hunters here each year is greater than is bagged in any other State. Not even the vast undeveloped western States make such a showing as we in this respect.

If wild life in America is threatened with extermination, Pennsylvania shows how it can be saved. The Ohio conservationists have directed their inquiry to the right place. New York is also interested in "The Pennsylvania plan." The method is simple, consisting of the establishment of many game sanctuaries of a few thousand acres each, bought with the hunters' license fees; in these preserves shooting is forbidden and the wild creatures given a chance to breed undisturbed.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—County Solicitor Styer has begun action to recover for Montgomery county \$703 illegally paid to the Norristown hospital for the insane for maintenance of inmates during the years from 1900 to 1912.

—It cost Bucks county almost \$1,000,000 during twelve months to maintain its schools, streets and roads. Figures tabulated show school taxes amounting to \$428,217.50, while road taxes are \$405,194.81.

—A boy seven years old, smoking a cigarette, led the police to apprehend four Norristown boys, who later confessed to breaking in and robbing the American Express company warehouse in Norristown of seven cartons of cigarettes.

—William Harris, twenty-one years old, of Sharon, threw three sevens in a crap game Friday night at Farrell. As he picked up the pot of \$2.00 and walked away, Haney Adams, twenty years of age, the police say, drew a revolver and shot him dead. Three bullets entered the victim's chest. The police say the dice were not loaded, but the revolver evidently was.

—The Pennsylvania Coal and Coke Corporation operating mines in Indiana, Cambria, Clearfield and Blair counties, has brought suit against the Pennsylvania railroad company for not delivering the number of cars they were assigned. The Coal corporation asserts they lost \$35,000 in the month of May because cars assigned to them were diverted and delivered to other mines.

A full-sized still with a capacity for making liquor enough to supply the consuming public of a good-sized town was seized when state officers raided the house of Joe Bedona, an alien Austrian, charged with being the owner of the still, at Hamler mines, near Huey, Clarion county. Several barrels of mash were found and a barrel of bottled goods ready for the market. It is believed that Bedona was tipped off, as he has not been located.

—What is probably the oldest producing oil well in the world is located at McClintockville, near Oil City, and is owned by Joseph E. Robinson, that city. The well was completed in 1861 and had an initial production of 175 barrels a day. It is still producing at the rate of one-quarter of a barrel a day, which at the present price of Pennsylvania crude, \$6.10, makes it still a paying proposition. The year the well was drilled the average price of oil was fifty-two cents a barrel.

—Leon Grencavitch, aged 12, a Luzerne county boy, picking huckleberries, touched a 90,000 volt high tension line of the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, when he climbed a transmission tower to look for fruit bearing bushes. His clothing was set on fire but he managed to scramble down. Companions took him to the State Hospital, where he is in a critical condition from terrible burns all over his body. When Grencavitch touched the line he threw out for half an hour the power service to several cities and mines.

—With an expense of \$3000 yearly and an income from sales of \$1200 last year, the Northumberland county commissioners will discontinue the carpet-weaving department at the county jail. The work was done by prisoners, but it has been found to be unprofitable because so few men are in jail since the dry era as to make it impossible to get enough workers. Time was when petty politicians would "buy" enough carpet for their needs and have it "charged" at the court house, and thousands of dollars of shoddy and accounts got on the carpet-weaving books.

—While Captain D. J. Newmiller, of Shamokin, and Ray S. Nutt, a mechanic, of the Middletown aviation field, were attempting to make a landing on the Hoffman farm at Leost Grove near Columbia, at noon on Sunday, engine trouble developed when the plane was only 100 feet from the ground. Their plane took a nose dive, striking the ground with terrific force. Captain Newmiller was instantly killed. Nutt had an eye gouged out, both legs broken and suffered from a fractured skull. Newmiller was married only two weeks ago. They were carrying repairs for an airplane wrecked at the same place Saturday.

—The outbreak of typhoid fever at Mill Hill seems to have been checked, with the total number of cases being held at seven. Six of the cases are being taken care of at the Lock Haven hospital. One case originated last week, the others occurring during the past few days. Dr. John B. Critchfield, of Lock Haven, district medical supervisor, is authority for the statement that the source of the epidemic had not been ascertained. It is believed, however, that it is traceable to an old well at a farm from which the families affected receive their milk. The utensils used in caring for the milk are washed in water from this well.

—A story of how, a short time after they had robbed a paymaster of \$5300, they were stopped by a policeman in Charleroi, a short distance from the scene of the robbery, and after satisfying him they were all right, went to sleep, with the officer standing guard, to call them when their car came, was told to detectives of Pittsburgh, by Alexander Trudisick, of Richleyville, Pa., and Philip Davidik, of Pittsburgh. The men admitted relieving the paymaster of the Richleyville Coal Company of the money on July 13 last. They were arrested in Gary, Ind., several days ago, and taken back to Pittsburgh to answer to the robbery charge.

—A mob of unidentified young men on Friday night pelted with eggs that had outlived their usefulness as food and otherwise mistreated Professor W. M. Kleckner, an instructor at the Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove. He was beaten about the head, but succeeded in escaping and taking refuge in the home of Asher Hower, nearby. Mr. Hower took his shotgun and escorted Kleckner to a street car, which he boarded and reached his home in Sunbury without further mishap. The motive for the assault has not been determined. The instructor says he has no known enemies and cannot imagine why he should be a victim of such an attack.

—Charles G. Wolfe, Louis S. Frank and Samuel M. Frank, all employed by the Adams Express company at DuBois, have been placed under \$1000 bail each on charges of larceny and much loot is said to have been recovered as a result of the activities of F. J. Kronenbrock and Al Casey, special agents for the company. A number of valuable packages are said to have been missed, especially one sent from Oil City to DuBois, which started the investigation by the special agents. The three men were given hearings before Alderman Joseph Bogdon. Wolfe is employed as a messenger on a run out of DuBois and is charged with the larceny of money and a valuable package. The Frank brothers are drivers and are held on single charges of larceny.