

INK SLINGS.

If you've just got to be fooled some day during this year 1922 fall for it tomorrow instead of on the 7th of next November.

If the coal strike goes on tomorrow oil stoves may come into their own and through them John D. Rockefeller will come into a little more of ours. He needs it.

Judged by the state highway immediately on either side of the marker of the line between Centre and Mifflin counties the traveler would think Mifflin a Paradise and Centre a slough of despond.

Congress passed the soldiers' bonus bill last week by a vote of three hundred thirty-three to seventy. It remains to be seen what the Senate will do with this attempt of the House to feed the service men "flapdoodle."

Senator Fisher declines to withdraw for harmony's sake and the plot thickens. Fisher and Pinchot both say they are going to stick and Mackey, Beidleman and Snyder are so far up in the air that they can't say anything.

The Democrats of Centre county have not been able to bring out a candidate for the Senatorial nomination in this District so W. W. Betts Esq., of Clearfield, has decided to file papers. Mr. Betts has been holding off with the feeling that Centre was entitled to preferment, but since no aspirant has announced he has decided to enter the race.

Fighting the devil with his own fire is the reason the Anti-Saloon League gives for having presumed so far as to protest the appointment of federal judges and contribute money for the election of preferred Congressmen. Presumption and inconsistency are not virtues but Mr. Wheeler is after results and will probably appeal for absolution later.

Arthur C. Herle, supervisor of Prohibition enforcement in Pennsylvania, has been transferred to Texas. He was one of the officers instrumental in gathering information against former Director McConnell's administration. Probably the Department would have sent Walnut to the Philippines had it had the same control over him that it had over Herle.

Our private boot-legger has been hanging 'round the office a bit more than usual of late. Of course he knows that only two weeks intervene before we will be away with rod and line and, he thinks, bottle. But he's wrong. Dead wrong! We're for upholding the law and the law no longer recognizes the bottle as a necessary accessory before, during and after the fact of catchin' trout.

Let us all make up our minds, right now, to make it very plain to those who are ambitious to go to the Legislature and to Congress that we are sick and tired of Bureaus and Commissions, that we want them to represent us and not some political machine, that we want the necessity of making reports and statements of everything we do cut out and that we want at least fifty cents' worth of visible results for every dollar we pay in taxes.

Mr. Bell's final determination not to enter the contest for United States Senator has only thrown the Republican organization, in Pennsylvania, if there be one, from one horn of the dilemma to another. While his retirement as a possibility removes the consequent disaster of a fight between Bell and Reed forces in Allegheny county Mr. Bell is a very rich man and very rich men are much to be desired in the kind of a fight the Republicans will have on their hands next fall.

The "Shifters," playfully conceived by New England school children, is sweeping the country like wild-fire. Innocent and harmless in its inception its rules of order have been amended to the point where practices that are causing public alarm are indulged. We have not been initiated, but we have learned enough about the "Shifters" in the public schools of Bellefonte to warn parents of little girls of the dangerous indulgences their daughters are bound to permit if trapped by a fellow member.

The people of Centre county need to be getting the Bellefonte hospital on their minds. It is getting in a precarious condition financially and soon a drive will have to be driven for its benefit. We can't have the advantage of such a splendid institution without very generous support and that support will have to be more generous than ever if the deficit of two thousand and a year caused by the reduction of the state aid by that amount is to be taken care of without reducing the service of the hospital.

Ordinarily practicing economies is a matter of necessity and, in most instances, a very unpleasant task. There is one economy, however, we could effect that would bring much pleasure to the workers of this community and cause serious inconvenience to no one and that is the practice of saving a little daylight. We understand that there is some desire for it in Bellefonte. Let's make it general and try it on our own for awhile. Other towns have been doing it ever since it was inaugurated as a war measure and have found the beneficial effects so great as to wholly overwhelm isolated cases of inconvenience it might cause.

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Attorney General Daugherty's Notion.

Referring to the recent dismissal of assistant district attorney T. Henry Walnut, of Philadelphia, Attorney General Daugherty said to a newspaper correspondent: "Considering the unjustified insinuations of Mr. Walnut in the action of the grand jury and the court proceedings made public today as a consummation of the work of the Department of Justice, according to the plans of the Department of Justice, without the assistance of Mr. Walnut and in spite of his interference, completely hulls that walnut." Possibly that is true but it depends a good deal on the point of view. A walnut isn't much use until it is hullled, and the operation usually leaves a stain on the fingers of the huller.

In the case in point Mr. Walnut, a Republican assistant United States district attorney, began an investigation into the violation of the Volstead act a year or more ago. He had conducted the inquiry with skill and ability until it led up to the incrimination of certain prominent politicians. Then a halt was called by direction of the Department of Justice of which Mr. Daugherty is the head. Mr. Walnut was admonished against presenting evidence to the grand jury involving these pet politicians. He insisted on fulfilling his sworn obligations and was summarily dismissed. If he had consented he would have stultified himself and saved the politicians. By refusing he vindicated his honor and lost his job. Upon the publication of the facts the Department of Justice was compelled to do just what Mr. Walnut intended to do.

And this is what Attorney General Daugherty imagines was hulling a walnut. It was perverting justice, penalizing integrity and prostituting power. A mere politician and corporation lobbyist, Mr. Daugherty has no conception of the moral obligations of a lawyer. Because the politicians in question have since been indicted and may be brought to trial and punishment, he imagines the public will justify the treatment of Mr. Walnut. But the public isn't as stupid as he thinks. Every intelligent observer knows that if Mr. Walnut hadn't protested against the injustice to him and thus exposed the perfidy of the Department of Justice, W. C. McConnell would never have been indicted or disturbed. And this suspicion in the public mind is made positive conviction by the transfer to Texas, on Monday, of Arthur C. Hearle, supervisor of the Prohibition office in Pennsylvania, who was instrumental in collecting the evidence of Director McConnell.

Mr. Baker and His Olive Branch.

Mr. W. Harry Baker, secretary of the Republican State committee and residuary legate of the Penrose political estate, visited Philadelphia the other evening, according to a more or less esteemed contemporary of that city, bearing a large assortment of olive branches. After assembling the alleged leaders of the party he submitted the foliage for inspection and declared that he is ready for peace or war, hot dog or harmony. If all the others who have been named as candidates for Governor will withdraw, he said, his entry in the free-for-all will take himself out of the race. If all the others are not willing to do this Mr. Beidleman is in the fight to the finish.

This "listens" like a fair proposition. Mr. Beidleman was first in the field and to all intents and purposes had a mortgage on the favor. It is claimed that he withdrew four years ago on the promise that he should have an unopposed nomination this year and that both Governor Sproul and Senator Penrose were parties to the agreement. It is now said that just previous to his death Senator Penrose expressed a willingness to fulfill the obligation. But the Governor has not shown a like disposition. He has not expressed a preference for any other candidate though he has been urged to do so. But Beidleman demands "the bond," and Mr. Baker believes that it is within reason.

The offer to withdraw Beidleman if the others are withdrawn is therefore fairly generous. The single proviso is equally just. It is that in the withdrawal of Mackey the Vares shall not put forward and demand the nomination of an equally servile follower. There must be a clear sweep and a complete surrender of personal ownership in public office. Senator Vare is not particular as to names and one of his henchmen is as good as another so long as he implicitly obeys orders and literally comes up to expectations. Mr. Baker wants a guarantee that all will be on an equal footing when the deal is made and then "every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost."

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After the Fittest of the Bunch.

It would be fortunate, indeed, if the present confusion and impending panic in the Republican party of Pennsylvania should compel the machine to nominate for Governor a candidate of the type of Attorney General George E. Alter. His record in public and private life is unassailable. He is a lawyer of distinguished ability and a public servant of wide experience and high ideals. If he were nominated and elected the people of the State would be assured of an honest administration of the office, in so far as a Governor is able to guarantee that result. He would have no profiteering plans to "eat up" the money of the people. He would have no absurd ambitions to divert him from his official duties.

In the present demoralized condition of public affairs in Pennsylvania no Republican Governor could possibly correct the evils which have grown out of a long continued period of corruption. It has degenerated into a vicious system of graft in which many persons are involved. A cleaning up would inculcate considerable number of party leaders in crimes, misdemeanors and malfeasances. No beneficiary of these evils, however free from personal touch or participation, could entirely end or materially check them. But we firmly believe that George E. Alter, given the opportunities which would come to him as Governor, could and would do all that is humanly possible in that direction.

The election of John A. McSparran, as Governor of Pennsylvania, would achieve the result, however. He would enter upon the duties of the office absolutely free from obligations to the grafters, big or little. Party prejudice and political fellowship will be equally impotent to restrain him. His interests and inclinations will be in full accord in the matter. For these reasons the people ought and we believe will prefer him to any Republican candidate. But of all the candidates named for the Republican nomination Mr. Alter is far and away the fittest. Because of this fact we hope he will be nominated for in that event grafters will get a jolt however the vote results.

Young Mr. Reed, of Pittsburgh, wants to be elected Senator in Congress because his father was once a partner of the late Senator Knox. That is a meager basis of claim but better than some of the other candidates have to stand on.

Four Power Pact Ratified.

By a vote of sixty-seven against twenty-seven the Senate on Saturday ratified the four-power treaty recently adopted by the Washington conference, though in a bungling way that will require correction. The vote was taken after a prolonged and somewhat acrimonious debate and the majority was four more than the necessary two-thirds. Twelve Democrats voted with the majority, including the floor leader of the party, Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, who was a member of the conference, and four Republicans joined the minority, so that it was not a strictly partisan matter. But it is not easy to see why those who voted against the League of Nations should favor this treaty.

As a matter of fact the only real difference lies in the fact that the covenant of the League comprehended the whole civilized world and made provision to prevent war everywhere. This treaty is limited in its operations to four or five governments and professes to be binding on none of them. Of course an obligation which is not binding is absurd, but that is probably the reason why the Republican Senators, or a great majority of them, favored it. It is precisely like the campaign promises of the President to the soldiers and the people and naturally appeals to men who are insincere or actually dishonest. It serves a temporary purpose and when brought to the test will fail.

It is just as well that it is ratified, however, and there is no just cause of complaint against those Democrats who voted for it. Mr. Underwood had a selfish reason for his action and Mr. Williams may have been influenced by a desire to maintain consistency. The Democrats who voted in the negative probably hoped that if it were defeated the wider and better treaty made by the distinguished gentlemen in Versailles two years ago would ultimately be adopted. In this they may not be mistaken. Time will vindicate the merits as well as the wisdom of that great treaty, and when the four-power pact fails, as it will, the other can be taken up and adopted. The interests of the world require this.

Woman suffrage has been defeated in South Africa but the women have no reason to be discouraged. The incident only presents the dark side of the subject.

France Recognizes Our Right to Collect.

The announcement made yesterday to the effect that France recognizes the right of this country to collect charges for maintenance of our army of occupation on the Rhine, will probably be a bit reassuring to those who have been under the impression that Uncle Sam was cracking at a deaf nut, but recognizing our right to collect doesn't mean much. Who are we to collect from? The Allies, the Germans or the League of Nations?

The Germans are supposed to have covered the costs of occupation in their reparation obligations, and as that was given to the League it would seem that the League must dispose of our bill. Inasmuch as we are not a signatory to the treaty of Versailles we are not in the position of having a friend at court so will probably have to get whatever consolation we can out of France's declaration that we have a right to collect.

It would have been more to the point if France had told us when, where and how we are to get it.

The mention of Judge Henry C. Quigley's name as a possible dark horse who might close the breaches and unite the factions warring over a Republican gubernatorial candidate in Pennsylvania has caused a large and varied assortment of comments. Readers of the "Watchman" will recall that more than a year ago we stated that Judge Quigley was in training for something higher. He has presided over the courts in many parts of the State and in so doing has found opportunity to widen his circle of acquaintances very materially. He makes a good impression and the honor of having his name mentioned for so high an office as Governor is naturally the fruit of his work as a judge in distant courts. We believe him to be far better gubernatorial timber than a lot that his party is now trying to get to the market.

The manner in which the Gazette is jumping into the Hon. Harry Scott, one of its party's aspirants for Senatorial honors, in this district, would be more convincing of sincerity if there were not such strong suspicion of large-sized African concealed somewhere in our contemporary's wood-pile. Be that as it may what we are interested in knowing is what is the Gazette going to do in the event that the Hon. Harry gets the nomination of its party. Can it support him, after all the charges it has made?

Wouldn't it be a joke on them all if the Hon. Giff. Pinchot should grab off the Republican nomination for Governor while the makers of Governors for Pennsylvania are squabbling over the makings?

Mr. Walnut, of Philadelphia, is not a Democrat but he is an honest man and that is "equally as bad" in the estimation of the Republican machine.

Now let us hope that the President has acquired strength enough to stand the arduous labors of his office for a couple of weeks at least.

Senator Pepper is said to be well-healed but he can't expect his relatives to be as liberal as those of his friend Newberry.

Mr. Pinchot doesn't seem to have put much "pinch" in the Republican machine but he has certainly given it a hard "shot."

The loan sharks and the Republican Congressmen are equally anxious to get the Fordney bonus bill on the statute books.

State Treasurer Snyder still imagines that he is a candidate for Governor, which is one of the mysteries of politics.

The present period of fine weather may be only a prelude to the coming complaint that the peach crop has been killed.

The volume of paper marks in Germany rather discounts the statement that there is a shortage in paper over there.

In the event of a coal strike Attorney General Daugherty may be relied upon to see that the corporations get theirs.

Attorney General Daugherty may have "hulled" that Philadelphia Walnut but he hasn't cracked it.

All the Republican candidates appear to be depending upon the women voters of the party.

"No Alliance."

From the Philadelphia Record.

What is an alliance? It has been supposed to be an agreement between two or more nations—or would Senator Ashurst insist "among" two or more?—for certain specified purposes. Sometimes an alliance is offensive and defensive. Sometimes it is or professed to be—defensive only. It may be for purposes not directly concerning war.

If this Four-Power treaty is an alliance, what is it? The Senate says: "There is no commitment to armed force, no alliance, no obligation to join in any defense." But it is an agreement between four Governments to do, or not do, certain things. That looks like an alliance for the purposes named. Furthermore, if there shall be a difference of opinion among the four, the two that differ, "shall invite the high contracting parties to a joint conference to which the whole subject will be referred for consideration and adjustment." But if the two that have a controversy do not agree to the adjustment, the whole thing ends in tact, does it?

Furthermore, if the rights of any of the four are threatened by the aggressive action of any other Power the high contracting parties shall communicate with one another fully and frankly in order to arrive at an understanding as to the most efficient measures to be taken jointly and separately to meet the exigencies of the particular situation." But, then, after fully and frankly communicating with each other, there is an end of the matter so far as we are concerned. We agree to communicate fully and frankly; and that is all. We will not defend the threatened rights of any one of the other three nations, or of all of them. We are not committing ourselves to any armed force, and we are under no obligations to join in any defense.

No such agreements were ever made between nations, and no one outside of the United States, and not many inside, can understand what the agreement means, except as an expression of the United States at the present moment. It was never before thought to be necessary for several nations to agree by treaty to consult with each other over a menace to their respective interests and to stop there. They are in the habit of doing that without any treaty. The object of the proposed conference is "to arrive at an understanding as to the most efficient measures to be taken, jointly and separately." And there the matter ends. We do not agree to do anything except to confer, and we do not make a treaty for that purpose; we could confer if there were no treaty.

So the Four-Power treaty is an expression of good intentions and nothing more. There is no commitment to use force, no agreement to stand by each other, no obligation to protect or enforce the treaty. Do the American people realize how ridiculous their Senate makes them in the eyes of the world?

The Flannagins.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

While Republican spoilsmen in Louisville are up in arms to oust every Democratic job-holder who may yet linger in any of the departments of the city government, the Internal Revenue Bureau of the National government is reported as losing millions of dollars from chaotic conditions resulting from turning the bureau over to the spoilsman.

Finding places for party job-hunters has been one thing that the Administration has done with conspicuous success.

The President has even set an example. More than once he has taken pains to write to office-holders, having commissions from the preceding Administration, warning them to get out of office before their commissions had expired. Departments have been swamped with applicants for jobs. Berths for these sinecure-hunters have been provided in great number. Civil service rules have been evaded, and even set aside to make room for "the faithful" and the inefficient.

And now, the reports are, the government faces a loss of not less than one billion dollars in the Department of Internal Revenue alone, where inefficient workers, placed there by partisanship, have mishandled the Department's business.

In the meantime, expenditures of the government have, as Secretary Mellon recently warned Congress, increased rather than decreased. According to Mr. Mellon's estimates, the government faces a deficit of \$28,000,000 for 1921 and \$184,000,000 for 1922.

What will the harvest be at the end of four years, if this is the result of the first twelve months under "More business in politics?"

Sweet Beulah Land.

William Allen White, in Judge.

The 1920 census reveals the fact that in three Kentucky counties no one has a motor car. Sure here is the "land that is fairer than day!" No motor car, no Greek temples on the corners dispensing gasoline and misinformation about the roads. No garages where they keep time on a repair job with the speedometer; no dinner talk about the new models; no accidents and deaths. Probably there are no telephones and no prohibition, and no votes for women, and the world still is unsafe for democracy.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Either by a misstep or as the result of a stroke of paralysis, M. William Pease, aged 71 years, of Lock Haven, fell down stairs at his home and died shortly afterward of a broken skull.

William Dotts, almost 92 years old, who has been seriously ill at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. E. Radebach, of Oceola Mills, is showing fine recuperative power and getting well again. He was for many years a resident of Gles Hope.

Dr. F. T. Aschman, of Pittsburgh, has been elected a chairman of the board of chemists of the state bureau of foods, succeeding the late Dr. William Frear, of State College, who held the place many years. Dr. C. L. La Wall, of Philadelphia, is secretary.

Fire early last Friday morning destroyed the former Mann mansion, near Mill Hall, now the property of Thomas Kelley, coal operator of that place, at a loss of \$50,000. The home, one of the finest in that locality, was consumed together with all of its contents.

The Derry township, Westmoreland county, school board is back of a prosecution of one of its teachers, Miss Lulu Berg, who administered corporal punishment to an unruly pupil. The lad's mother, Mrs. Shamanski, went to the Brenizer school after hours and beat up the teacher. She had a preliminary hearing Saturday.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Murray, of Leconte Mills, Clearfield county, was destroyed by fire a few days ago, with almost all its contents. Mr. Murray was away from home and his wife, her mother, Mrs. Mary Dale, of Philipsburg, and a lad employed on the farm were the only ones at home. The aged mother was taken to a neighboring farm.

Oil, said to be of an unusually high grade, has been brought in with a natural flow of more than 100 barrels a day from a well located in a 100-acre tract in the heart of the Twenty-eighth ward of Pittsburgh. The well, drilled by the Arkansas Natural Gas company, is claimed to be the strongest ever tapped in