

## INK SLINGS.

—Have you made your onion bed yet?

—Are we going to save daylight in Bellefonte? Let's do it.

—When Harry Mackey declared his independence of the Vare influence he winked the other eye at Brother Ed.

—Pinchot is getting so strong that there may be no need of the other fellows withdrawing for the good of the party.

—The prospective Democratic ticket for State, district and county offices certainly goes a long way toward exploding the old theory that a few can do things better than many.

—Just about the time Mr. Lloyd George is supposed to be about to take off from the head of the toboggan chute he changes his mind and so do the English who are working for the undoing of the crafty Welsh Premier.

—Now what do you suppose the King of Siam wants with ten thousand wives. It would take him twenty-seven years and five months to discover their charms, if he devoted only one day to each of them, and if he undertook to do that there would be no King of Siam.

—Thus far six women have filed petitions as candidates for Legislature in Pennsylvania. Bradford, Centre, Chester, Crawford, Delaware and Philadelphia are the counties in which it remains to be seen whether politics will also recognize the chivalric principle of "Ladies first."

—Wouldn't it be funny if Sproul, Gruny, the Vares, Magee, Leslie, Fisher, Beidleman and Mackey and all had to climb onto the Pinchot bandwagon. We know exactly what a happy feeling it would be for them. We used to have the same kind every time we had to have our neck and ears washed when a kid.

—The Episcopalians are going to take the word "obey" out of the woman's marriage vow and to square things off with the man they propose that he shall not endow his bride with all his worldly goods. Having been tied up by an Episcopal service we are interested and would like to know whether this new vow is to be retroactive.

—The authorities have their eye on a young fellow who is knitting a throw-net here in Bellefonte. He doesn't know that they know that he has told a few companions in confidence that he is going to try for the big trout below the falls above this office some night. And he doesn't realize what danger he is in for he already has the reputation of being a bad actor so far as illegal fishing is concerned and when the authorities get him he will get the limit.

—In the news from Pleasant Gap that appears elsewhere in this edition, is a bit of impressive advice. Of course we know nothing of the inspiration that moved our Gap editor to such fulsome dissertation on the value of nature's remedies for ailing manhood, but we do know that his dope is good, for we've tried it. We are wondering whether he is taking a crack at the "never-sweats" of his community. His idea of exercising in the open air sufficiently to produce "free but not copious perspiration" is something the lazy man or woman will never get, yet if they did how much better off they would be both physically and financially.

—The Republican muddle in Pennsylvania was still so muddled when we went to press last evening that no one could guess what would happen before midnight, the last moment for filing papers for Governor. All day Wednesday and up to last evening strenuous efforts were being made to bring the warring factions together on Geo. E. Alter, the one best bet offered in the whole campaign, but our latest advices were to the effect that no success had been attained. We will probably waken up this morning to find that Alter has been persuaded to file papers and that the real fight for nomination will be between Alter, Pinchot and Fisher. Of course there is a possibility of the withdrawal of Mackey and Beidleman. They have until midnight of today to do that.

—The Finance committee of the Bellefonte council wants each department to state what its expenditures will be for the coming year, so that it can fix the millage for tax assessment. That is getting to a budget system; a very practical and lately popular method of conducting public business.

In former years it puzzled us a lot to know how council figured when it laid

six thousand dollars for street pur-

poses and then paid the Edison Elec-

tric Illuminating Co., fifty-eight hun-

dred a year for lighting alone, having

only two hundred dollars left to pay for

all the work on the streets. They did

it by some hocus-pocus, but we've gotten away from those practices in

a measure and now it looks as though a real business-like step is to be taken.

We rise to inquire, however, how the Street department of Bellefonte

is going to tell how much it will need during this spring, summer and fall.

If it had old Jup. Pluvius sitting in at

its deliberations it might be able to

estimate how many times jail, reser-

voir, Quaker and Bunker hills are to

be washed down onto the streets be-

low and carted back again, but unless

it knows that no estimate it can make

will come within thousands of dollars

of being fair.

# THE Democratic Watchman

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NO. 14.

## Anxiety of Republican Leaders.

## Selling the People into Slavery.

## Spoil System Coming Back.

Up to this time the Republican managers have been unable to agree on a candidate for Governor. The harmony in the Democratic party and the obvious fitness and availability of the distinguished gentleman who has been recommended to the voters of our party for the office have admonished the machine manipulators that the strongest candidate must be selected. But selfish interests and personal antipathies among them are so strong that agreement seems to be impossible. The fittest men among those mentioned are Alter and Gifford Pinchot. But the friends of the other candidates can agree upon nothing except that they are equally opposed to Pinchot. Banking Commissioner Fisher is personally clean and politically regular. But the bosses are averse to nominating him. The better element in the party is unalterably opposed to the other candidates.

There must be something more coercive than party loyalty and political principle influencing the machine managers in this matter. Of course the attitude of the Vares is easily understood. It is estimated that there will be \$100,000,000 expended in highway construction and maintenance during the administration of the next Governor. Having been driven by outraged public sentiment out of the contracting business in Philadelphia, that contracting firm wants a Governor who would favor its predatory expectations and were demanding the nomination of Mr. Mackey. The intimate relationship between W. Harry Baker and Mr. Beidleman accounts for Baker's insistence in the nomination of Beidleman. But the attitude of Governor Sproul is inexplicable. Why should he be so deeply concerned for the defeat of the nomination of two members of his cabinet?

The profligacy of the Sproul administration is more than likely to be one of the leading issues in the campaign for Governor. But that fact ought to influence Mr. Sproul to favor rather than oppose a member of his cabinet. The nomination of either Pinchot or Fisher would be a vindication of his administration. Mackey is also a member of his cabinet and it is said he is willing to accept Mackey. Why this discrimination among equals? Can it be that Mackey, who thinks only of Vare's brain, may be relied upon to suppress facts in the event of his election while the others are less obliging? The Governor preferred Mr. Griesel of Lancaster, to either, it was said, but the effort to inject Griesel into the fight met with such a frost that the first mention of him was the last. Mr. Griesel is a machine politician of the most sordid type. But devotion to party and loyalty to friendship are potent elements in policies and conspiracies. Possibly that is the explanation.

Manifestly there is some deep reason for the present hysteria among the Republican leaders. It cannot be that fidelity to party principles or pride in policies create such a measure of anxiety to continue the party in power. If the books balance and the records reveal no misfeasances the election of a Democratic Governor can work no great harm to present Republican officials. It might be that certain party pensioners would lose their opportunities to graft and that some grafters would be brought to punishment. But that ought not frighten honest officials into "conspiracy" fits or drive patriotic citizens into despair of the future. There is certainly something else that makes the gangsters afraid, and that something else ought to make the voters more alert and determined to elect a Governor who will see to it that the facts are revealed.

## Finegan's One Good Act.

We have neither the inclination nor the authority to speak as the champion of Dr. Finegan, the imported head of the educational department of the State government. He is charged with all manner of extravagance in the administration of his office, and apparently with reason, and he is accused of introducing methods that are inimical to public interests and subversive of educational progress. But he has recently performed one service which deserves popular approval. He has shown that the people of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are exempt under the law from one burden some tax that all other citizens of the Commonwealth are compelled to pay. We feel it our duty to say that much for him.

Under the school code enacted by the Legislature of 1911, still in force and effect, the school districts of the State are divided into four classes, in the first of which are the two big cities. In districts of the first class the total annual school tax levy "shall not be less than five nor more than six mills on the dollar." In school districts of the second class the levy "shall not exceed twenty mills on the dollar," and in districts of the third and fourth class the levy may run as high as twenty-five mills on the dollar. But that is not the only or even the greatest discrepancy. In Pittsburgh and Philadelphia there is no levy of an "occupation tax" whereas in second, third and fourth class districts such a tax may be levied "not less than one dollar nor more than five."

According to the esteemed Philadelphia Record there are 758,000 taxables in Philadelphia and an equalization of the levy for school purposes even at the minimum rate would cost the tax payers of that city \$758,000 a year while the maximum levy which is assessed in many parts of the State would produce a revenue of \$3,790,000 annually and put that vast burden upon the tax payers. This unjust unconstitutional discrimination in favor of the people of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh may easily be accounted for. It is an unearned and unlawful reward for the false and fraudulent majorities regularly given to the Republican candidates in those cities. It is the price of perfidy and reward of crime.

Having exhausted the Chautauqua circuits William Jennings Bryan is now working the Methodist conferences.

HOPE!  
By Will Truemaniller.

The winter sun is low  
And the winter winds blow cold,  
At every window and door  
The frost is exceeding bold.  
But rejoice, my heart, rejoice  
We laugh at winter's reign,  
Knowing it shall be short—  
Soon spring shall come again.  
Soon the south wind will blow,  
Soon the birds will sing;  
And up from the teeming sod  
The flowers and grasses spring.  
The new year is young and strong,  
And ever his hopes run high,  
And he tells of the things that shall be  
Under the bright June sky.  
So what care we for the snow,  
And we have no fear of the cold;  
With a youth that shall never grow old.  
For body is less than soul,  
And when time shall cease to be,  
The soul shall be ever young  
In the spring of Eternity.

## Twenty Years of Harding.

From the Wildwood Sun-Tribune.

It seems as though I have been President for 20 years.—President Harding in a speech at the National Press Club.

Not only to you, Mr. President, but to others does your service of one year seem like two decades. To the following citizens it seems all of 20 years—or longer.

The 4,000,000 men who are tramping the streets under your Administration looking for jobs.

The farmers who are burning their corn and who cannot sell their products at a profit because their foreign markets have been destroyed by your party's policies.

The business men who have been waiting in vain for a revival of business, which you and your party promised, while business conditions have steadily grown worse.

The legitimate capitalists who would invest in industrial enterprises, if indeed of tax-exempt securities, if industry had been revived as promised by you and your party.

The owners of factories whose plants are closed or running on reduced time by reason of the failure of you and your party to redeem your election pledges.

The average tax-payer to whom you promised a reduction of taxes, which they are still looking for.

The ex-service men who have been watching you play hide and seek with the bonus and who have been discriminated against in appointments to postmasterships.

The producers and shippers who have waited in vain for a reduction of freight rates.

The genuine friends of the civil service who have witnessed your mockery and contempt for civil service principles.

The man whose emblem was once the "full dinner pail," but is now the empty pocket.

The man who voted for a change and got it.

Yes, Mr. President, it seems like 20 years—all of 20 years.

## Income Tax an Endless Chain.

From the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

It is all a delusion and a snare that most of the income tax is paid on or about March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15. It is being paid every day of the year, the taxpayers following each other in an everlasting merry-go-round. We are all in a lockstep to the collector's office, though many may not know it. The manufacturer pays a tax and adds it to the price of his goods to the jobber. The jobber passes the manufacturer's tax, together with his own to the wholesaler. The wholesaler repeats the pyramidal process, the retailer does the same, and the consumer pays all the previous taxes to the retailer. That is not the end of the chain. The consumer has only one way to recoup himself, which is to buy less goods, and thus the impost is passed to the retailer, the wholesaler, the jobber, the manufacturer and round about again.

The farmer may have had an unprofitable year, and paid no tax directly to the government, but he has to contribute his share in helping to pay other people's taxes in everything he buys. The salaried man or woman or the laborer may have exemption equal to his earnings, but cannot escape any more than the poorest farmer. Those who draw salaries greater than their exemptions undoubtedly pay the largest amount in proportion directly to the revenue collector, as it is almost impossible for them to conceal their earnings.

There is no more fatuous folly than the talk of politicians about framing a tax so that it will hit the capitalists or the rich harder than others. It can't be done.

## Legs Bend Under Taxation.

From the Pottsville Journal.

Every tax that is levied goes round the cycle and then finds its final resting place upon the shoulders of the people. In Pennsylvania the fact is frequently referred to that we have no state tax. True, but we have taxes on coal and gasoline and what not, and these, together with the county and municipal taxes and the national taxes, form a weight under which the legs of the average person almost double.

## SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Two children of A. Dumbreski, of McKeansport, a girl of 12 and a boy of 10, were burned to death when their home was burned Saturday morning. Their mother collapsed and was taken to a hospital.

—Spencer Zeigler, of Saltsburg, was shot dead by a companion with whom he had been having a crap game. The man accused of the shooting escaped but was said to have been killed by a train on a railroad near Pittsburgh.

—Governor William C. Sproul, in a proclamation made public at Harrisburg Saturday, designates the week of April 16th to 22nd as "Forest Protection Week" and calls on the people of the State to aid in the movement to prevent forest fires.

—Seven hundred and twelve saloons in Lackawanna county quit business with the going out of March. As the court has decided to license breweries, some of the retailers want to ask the court to reconsider the license question, but nothing has been done as yet.

—Anthony Vagnine, said by police to be a non-union miner, was shot from ambush on Friday on his way to work in the mine of the Beaver Valley Coal company in Scotch valley, eight miles from Bloomsburg. Physicians said his wound probably would prove fatal.

—T. Bethas, proprietor of the Presto restaurant, at Lock Haven, who left town suddenly some weeks ago, was found at Mahanay City, where he and his wife were staying at a hotel. He will answer to Lock Haven to the charge of forgery and of drawing checks without funds to meet them.

—Just after he was wedded E. R. Reed, of Waverly, N. Y., handed Rev. Edward Simpson, pastor of the First Baptist church, Williamsport, a check on a bank that didn't exist, and got seven good dollars from the preacher. After a warrant was issued for his arrest, the groom made settlement to the alderman who had the case.

—A change of venue will be asked for Charles Benner, 25 years of age, of Turkey Valley, Juniata county, just granted a new trial after his conviction of the first-degree murder of Constable Thomas M. Uish, of Liverpool, on September 1st. Attorney W. Justin Carter, of Harrisburg, expects that the case will be taken to the Mifflin county courts in Lewistown for trial.

—When Freda Hurwitz, 24 years old, of 521 Kressler Court, Scranton, leaped off the Dodgetown bridge into the Lackawanna river last Friday afternoon, in an attempt to end her life, 13 year old Louis Bozon plunged into the swollen stream and managed to drag the young woman to safety on the shore. Parents of the girl said that she had been suffering from despondency.

—Urvian Wagner, aged 18, of Spangler, was instantly killed at the sub-station of the Penn Central Light, Heat and Power company, near the Riley mine at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon, and Leo Farbaugh, his companion, also of Spangler, was seriously, if not fatally, burned when an electric wire which they were stringing near the sub-station came near to and "snapped" into a high extension wire.

—Binding a revolver to a bedpost and tying a string to the trigger, William Baker, 50 years old, a wealthy farmer near Washington, Pa., lay down on his bed and with his heart in line with the weapon's muzzle, he gave the string a jerk and died instantly with a bullet through his body. The act was committed while his sister, with whom he lived, was absent from the house. No cause is assigned.

—If Diogenes was unable to find an honest man he could at least find an honest woman in Beaver Falls. She is a woman who "works out" during the day. After her day's work last Friday, the woman employing her, handed over \$3. The woman handed back 50 cents. "The price for a day's work for women in Beaver is \$2.50, and the women in Beaver Falls should not be charged any more," she said.

—Theresa Trunzo, aged 16 years, a junior at Indiana State Normal, while on the street at her home in Homer City, was slashed across the face with a razor by a rejected suitor with whom she refused to converse. She was carried by witnesses to a doctor's office, where fourteen stitches closed the wound. He locked himself in a pantry in a nearby house, but was captured and taken to the county jail.

—Sheriff A. C. Kemperling, of Lewisburg, blocked a jail delivery on Sunday when he discovered the shank was saved off the big lock on the door of the lower corridor leading into the yard. Bruce Seitz, the turnkey, was in the cellar when he heard a rasping noise and informed the sheriff. Two nine inch hacksaws were found secreted behind the commode in the bath room. How the prisoners got the saws is a mystery.

—Eight days, seventeen hours and fifty minutes—excepting the time taken out for eating and sleeping—was spent by an Indiana county jury arguing over the fate of Mike Jiangioppo, charged with murder, before Judge Langham finally discharged them on Wednesday. One man is said to have held out for conviction against eleven others, almost from the first ballot. Jiangioppo was charged with killing Freeman Walker, at a mine riot at Ed-ri, last January.

—Awakened by a noise in the dining room of her apartment in West Chester early last Thursday, Mrs. James F. McBride aroused her husband. He tiptoed into the room and then turned on the light, coming face to face with a burglar, with whom he grappled at once. Mrs. McBride ran to police headquarters, a block distant. Patrolman Martin returned with her and took the captive to headquarters.

There he said he was Charles Carter, 18 years of age, of Philadelphia, an inmate of the Glen Mills school, from which he and four other boys had escaped early in the evening.