

INK SLINGS.

—Girls let it grow again. Bobbed hair is passe.

—Wouldn't it be fine if spring were to spread her knees and let winter fall out of her lap.

—Pinchot's attempts to get company in the misery of his mud-slinging campaign have failed utterly.

—Every member of the Genoa conference is willing to let Russia have a loan if the other members furnish the money.

—Well, the destruction of the fruit crop was certain to come anyway, and it is just as well now as at another time.

—Governor Sproul and Senator Vare may be all right as sponsors but we wouldn't recommend them to any friend as spokesman.

—With the cherry and plum crops killed for the second year in succession the preserves of the thrifty house-wife have had a jar indeed.

—Council could save a lot of perfectly good paving brick by having those sunken at the approaches to the High street bridge brought up to grade.

—Germany has always been an industrious and thrifty nation and her present attempt to pose as a pauper makes a poor impression on the public mind.

—As long as General Atterbury is opposed to the soldiers' bonus Senator Pepper will vote against it. As a Senator he is simply the echo of General Atterbury.

—More power to the court that has ruled that Grover Bergdoll, deserter, can't have his seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars back. Why not distribute it among the boys who didn't desert?

—We presume it never dawned on Mr. Pinchot that the more he tells of the rottenness at Harrisburg the easier it will be for us to lick him, should he happen to get the Republican nomination for Governor.

—Washington news is to the effect that the government is moving to end the coal strike. Inasmuch as we have seen so many similar moves in Washington we are not very hopeful of early results from this one.

—Yes, Lady Astor has a husband. His name is not Henry Peck either. Lord Astor is said to be a very capable fellow, but his Lady has piquancy, wit and an American way about her that is irresistible. That is the reason she is always in the spot while he is up stage.

—Anyway, it makes little difference to us just how or why Gen. Alter decided to run for Governor. He has rendered a signal service to all the near leaders of his party by giving them somebody to be for. Two weeks ago not one of them knew who he was for. Now they are all for Alter.

—At last the Senate has tackled the tariff problem and there will be weeks, and perhaps months, of backing and filling and then will come the enactment of an emasculated Fordney bill that will serve no other purpose than to raise the cost of things we buy and reduce the sales of things we have to sell.

—While in Bellefonte last Friday Senator Fisher told some friends that he intended keeping hands off in the gubernatorial fight and letting Alter and Pinchot fight it out. The Philadelphia Ledger on Monday announced that Fisher has gone to the help of Pinchot. Now what do you suppose made the Senator change his mind in twenty-four hours? If he did.

—Russia doesn't want much. She will be all right, she thinks, if all her war debts are wiped out, interest on her pre-war debts relinquished and enough money supplied with which to set her house in order. In the next revision of her demands she will probably be asking for new uniforms for the gigantic army she has encamped on the Polish frontier.

—An advertisement of a screen production of the Queen of Sheba informs us that the Jane, who is the Queen on the screen, will wear one hundred and fifty pounds of beads. Why advertise the beads. Why not tell them the number of ounces of cheese cloth that will make the rest of her covering? It's the least cheese cloth not the most beads that counts with the movie fan.

—Mary Garden has resigned as manager of the Chicago grand opera company and Muratore, the French tenor, is very happy, of course. At one moment she called him "pretty boy" and the next "pig," and he was so uncertain as to which he really was that he led a very unhappy life in Mary's company, but not so unhappy as to resign and forget the awful stipend he drew for being a punching bag for Mary and singing a little on the side.

—Just as soon as the Primaries are over and it is known who the Republican nominee for Governor will be the machine will begin talking about cleaning house at Harrisburg, as it always does. It will be suggesting to the vast army of outraged Republicans in the State that, if the house is dirty it will be better to clean it with their own broom than to take a new one of another brand. Don't fall for that kind of stuff. The house must be cleaned and a broom like Pattison and Berry used is the kind that's needed. This is no time for piffing with a feather duster.

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Vare Attacks Pinchot.

What Senator Vare says of a political opponent is of little consequence as a rule but what he said of Gifford Pinchot, the other day, is so clearly in the line of probability as to command attention. It is certainly true that the forester has been a part of the Sproul administration for three years and that he remained silent while an orgy of profligacy was rioting about him. It is equally certain that his salary was increased during the period of his incumbency and that he resorted to a subterfuge to avail himself of the advantage and evade the constitutional inhibition. These things are not consistent with his present pretense of abhorrence to the tricks and iniquities of the Republican machine.

By inference Senator Vare asserts that Mr. Pinchot solicited his support and promised to relieve him of his share of the burden of financing the impending expensive campaign as a consideration for the favor. Unless he supports this statement with proof the average voter is not likely to place much confidence in it. In replying to Mr. Pinchot's allegation that the agreement of the machine to support General Alter for Governor was made "in the back room of a hotel" Senator Vare quibbles. It might have been made in the front room of Senator Vare's office or in the vestibule of some politician's headquarters. The main fact as charged is that Mr. Vare's candidate is hand-picked by the machine politicians and that the Republican voters had no voice in the matter. What if they hadn't? Did they have any choice in the matter of Pinchot's candidacy? Their time will come on the day of the Primary.

The average voter is also likely to accept with a mental reservation the statement of Senator Vare that "I have never bid on a State contract in all my career as a contractor." It is generally understood and widely believed that a number of contracts have been let by the State Highway Department to corporations or groups acting for Senator Vare and that the profits of the operations have gone to him. This charge has been made frequently in the newspapers of the State and have gone uncontradicted. Taking one consideration with another, therefore, it would be safe to assume that most of the things said about Pinchot are true and in the same ratio those said about Vare are equally accurate.

—The Anti-Saloon League may succeed in suppressing the boot-leggers after the public has been taxed into such poverty that nobody will have money enough to buy the stuff they sell.

Two of a Kind and Weak.

No aspersion can be cast upon the personal character of either of the candidates for the Republican nomination for Governor. Mr. Gifford Pinchot is "a gentleman and a scholar," influenced by lofty motives and possessed of high ideals. It is true, as Senator Vare states, that he has been a part of the Sproul administration and remained silent while profligacy was running riot and inquiry stalking about. He might have checked the extravagance and saved the people millions of dollars by a vigorous protest courageously uttered and consistently pressed. But he held his tongue in order to conserve the interests of the party rather than those of the people of the State. He became a creature of the machine.

Attorney General George E. Alter is equally deserving of public confidence, measured by the records of his public and private life. He is a gentleman of the highest attainments, a lawyer of distinguished ability and a citizen of the best type. Left to his own impulses he could be relied upon in every respect. But when the political machine required it he looked the other way during the outrageous proceedings at the close of the last session of the Legislature during which millions of dollars were appropriated for questionable purposes by unlawful processes for the benefit of a corrupt party machine and at the expense of the tax payers of the Commonwealth.

What we want to convey by these statements of fact is that no man affiliated with the Republican machine of Pennsylvania can correct the evils under which the people are suffering. Mr. Pinchot is personally honest but he remained quiet while his party organization was looting the treasury and despoiling the people. Mr. Alter is personally honest but rather than call the manipulators of his party and the despoilers of the State to account for their recreancy he also refrained from protest. The only way to cure these evils is to turn the Republican party out and put in control a man who has both inclination and courage to do the work. John A. McSparran is that man.

Now Pull Together.

At the instance of the Democratic State committee a "harmony meeting" of Democrats of Pennsylvania was held in Harrisburg some weeks ago. At that meeting, as the result of a full and free discussion of the subject, a committee was named by the chairman to select a committee of two from each Congressional district "to canvass the subject and recommend fit candidates for the several offices to be filled at the ensuing election." This is not the exact language of the resolution but substantially conveys the idea. The committee of seventy-two recommended the nomination of John A. McSparran, for Governor; Mr. McAvoy, for Lieutenant Governor; Samuel E. Shull and Colonel Kerr, for Senators in Congress, and Mr. Thompson, for Secretary of Internal Affairs.

This was a novel method of procedure but an absolutely fair one. All factions of the party participated in the original meeting and in the work of the committees. The result was accepted by a practically unanimous voice of the Democratic voters. There was nothing of the "star chamber" method in it at any stage. There was no bossing, no trickery, no underhand proceeding. In fact the suggestions of the committee of seventy-two were cordially received and enthusiastically accepted by the press and voters of the party throughout the State with much unanimity. Not only that but the wisdom of the recommendations inspired hope in the rank and file of the party such as had not been present for many years. It created confidence among the voters.

It is now up to the voters of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania to complete the work of harmonizing the party so auspiciously begun. If every man and woman who believes in the principles of Jefferson and the policies of Woodrow Wilson does his or her part on election day, the admirable candidates recommended by the committee will be triumphantly elected. There are enough Democrats in the State to make a hopeful fight even if the enemy is united. With the present divided and demoralized force against us we may easily win this year by a large majority. Every voter in the State is concerned in this result. It will mean a restoration of the government of the State to the people of the State. It will spell the end of profligacy in Harrisburg.

—It can hardly be said that Governor Sproul's administration has been an entire failure. It has performed the seemingly impossible feat of making the Brumbaugh administration comparatively respectable.

Representatives or Lobbyists, Which?

It is both natural and proper that interest should be centered upon the election of Governor. As Mr. Gifford Pinchot said in a recent speech, "The Governor has the power to limit expenditures so that they will be within the income of the State." With a practically empty treasury and a deficiency of upward of \$40,000,000 to meet, it is important that a man who can and will put restrictions upon the profligacy which has worked this result be elected Governor. No doubt the deficit can and will be met but unless it is properly handled the people will be taxed into poverty. The election of John A. McSparran will guarantee a proper treatment of the subject and the voters have a right to feel deeply concerned in the matter.

But the importance of electing fit men to represent the people of Pennsylvania in the United States Senate is equally plain. The Republican machine has given its approval to the selection of one man for this important service by the Pennsylvania railroad and another by the Steel trust. If George Wharton Pepper and David A. Reed are chosen these great corporations will have capable lobbyists on the floor of the Senate and the people of the State will be without representation. The constitution never contemplated such a condition of affairs. That fundamental instrument provides for representation of the people instead of corporation lobbyists in the Senate. It is up to the people to decide.

At the May primary election the Democrats of Pennsylvania will nominate for this service two distinguished gentlemen who have no affiliation with corporate interests, no obligations to predatory trusts. Samuel E. Shull, of Monroe county, and Colonel Keer, of Clearfield county, are "of the people and for the people." Both of them have already rendered valuable service to the Commonwealth and the country and are now offering themselves to this service unselfishly and for the public good. Voters should keep these facts in mind. The selection of the right man for Governor is important but the selection of real representatives of the people to the United States Senate is equally a bounden duty.

The Fordney Tariff Bill.

In presenting the amended Fordney bill for consideration in the Senate Chairman McCumber wisely admonished his Republican colleagues against expecting too much from it. No tariff bill, he said, substantially will restore prosperity until commodity prices are reduced and the openly declared purpose of this particular tariff is to increase the cost of commodities. Mr. Fordney admits this much and the New York Journal of Commerce, an organ of business with strong Republican leanings, construes it as "a bill to raise living costs and hamper trade." The New York Tribune declares it a sign of "tariff madness" and the New York Herald, intensely Republican, predicts that "it will completely shut America out of foreign markets."

The principal purpose of both Fordney and McCumber in framing and amending the bill was to entice the farmers into support of the protective policy. Previous tariff measures had taken care of all sorts of manufacturing industries and given no protection to the products of agriculture. The agricultural bloc in the Senate early gave notice that its members would oppose any tariff legislation this year unless provision were made for ample protection for farm products. To satisfy these political farmers a tariff tax of thirty cents a bushel was placed on corn imported and a trifle more than that on wheat. It is not likely that within half a century there will be a bushel of corn imported and the importation of wheat in large quantity is about equally improbable.

But the political farmers in Congress were delighted with this concession to agriculture and have promised cordial support of the measure, though it increases the tariff tax on everything the farmer buys by about one hundred per cent. and guarantees him no increase in the price of the commodities he sells, for the price of corn and wheat is fixed in the foreign market in which the wares are sold. Moreover, as the New York Herald indicates, it will "completely shut America out of foreign markets" for the reason that foreign purchasers have no money to buy and the tariff tax will prevent them from purchasing by the exchange of commodities. The logical and inevitable consequence will be that farmers may continue indefinitely to use their corn for fuel.

Candidate George E. Alter Visited Bellefonte on Saturday.

Attorney General George E. Alter, candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor, spent an hour or so at the Bush house, Bellefonte, on Saturday afternoon where he was greeted by quite a number of Republicans. Mr. Alter spent Friday night as a guest of warden John Francies, at the western penitentiary, and on Saturday morning went to State College where he was entertained at luncheon and also made a speech in the auditorium. In his talk Mr. Alter confined himself entirely to matters pertaining to the College, making no direct reference to the political campaign.

Mr. Alter had as an escort to Bellefonte Hon. A. G. Morris, whose guest he was on the trip down; warden John Francies, Republican county chairman L. Frank Mayes, Judge Henry C. Quigley, Representative Thomas Beaver and County Commissioners Harry P. Austin and George H. Yarnell. The party arrived in Bellefonte a few minutes after three o'clock and Mr. Alter held an informal reception in the lobby of the Bush house for one hour. In the neighborhood of two dozen women voters also greeted the candidate, while a sprinkling of Democrats called to pay their respects.

Shortly after Mr. Alter arrived at the Bush house Dr. J. J. Kilpatrick created a diversion by appearing before him with a sixteen inch trout which he had just caught in Spring creek and laying it down on the tiled floor told Mr. Alter it was his. The Attorney General looked at the fish and with a twinkle in his eye said, "almost would I trade my chances of the nomination for the thrill of catching a trout like that." He spent Saturday night and until Sunday afternoon with Mr. Francies at the penitentiary.

—Destruction works faster than construction. In one order President Harding tore down the civil service structure which his predecessors in office spent forty years in building.

—If President Harding is ambitious to make a record for absenteeism he is likely to achieve his purpose. He has every other President except Taft shoved off the map already.

—The House and Senate committees at Washington have agreed upon an appropriation of \$1,900,000 for the continuation of the airmail service.

The Lid is Coming Off.

From the Philadelphia Record. It is evident that the gang is frightened. It is still struggling to avert its fate, but every day it is increasingly clear that it cannot maintain its policy of concealment and evasion. The people of Pennsylvania are going to have the lid at Harrisburg lifted and what has been going on there for years exposed.

Two aspirants for the nomination for Governor have promised the people that they shall know what is the reason for that deficit of \$24,000,000, and a great many other things that have been done under cover. Mr. Pinchot believes that he will be able, if elected, to stop the raiding of the State treasury and to punish the raiders. We have no doubt about his good intentions, but all his associates and subordinates will be Republicans, very susceptible to party pressure, and most of them under more or less obligations to the gang. We are not over-confident of what Mr. Pinchot would be able to do if he were elected.

But the only chance the gangsters have of saving anything is to jettison one more Republican aspirant for the nomination and join in supporting Mr. Pinchot. They might, in a measure, thwart him in his reformatory work. For the Democrats will nominate Mr. McSparran, and there will be nothing to stay his hand if he shall be elected. No obstacles will be put in his way. The whole truth will come out, as it did in the case of the capitol grafting when a Democrat was elected treasurer. The gang has got to take its choice between a Republican reformer, over whom they might have some control, and a Democratic reformer, over whom they will have none.

The people of Pennsylvania are going to have one of these two men. The Republicans are in a large majority in the State, and they are very strong partisans, and they would much rather vote for a Republican than a Democrat. But they want a house-cleaning, and if the gang prevents the nomination of Mr. Pinchot they will vote for Mr. McSparran. The only certain and effective way of getting a house-cleaning in this State is to elect Mr. McSparran. He has courage, and he would be unlettered. He will let the people of Pennsylvania know what the gang has been doing with their money. Hide-bound Republicans may hate to vote for a Democrat, but it has been done sometimes. They are not going to vote this time for any tool of the gang. If they want to find out what has been done with their money they must have a new broom. The only perfectly reliable one is McSparran.

Even as We Thought in 1914.

From the Pittsburgh Post. A dispatch from Washington says that the American administration is wholly untouched by the excitement that has arisen at Genoa over the announcement of the Russo-German pact that virtually brings 250,000,000 persons into alliance. One of the spokesmen for the administration is quoted as saying: "The principal thing the trouble emphasizes is that the United States is fortunate indeed to have remained 3,000 miles from Genoa." Unquestionably at this moment it is much more comfortable than if we were in the thick of the dispute. Nor does it seem unnatural—although suggestive of a harking back, as in the case of the four-power pact in which we are a member, to the old balance-of-power idea—that two nations looking upon themselves as sovereign should negotiate a treaty.

Just the same, when we reflect on how our dream of isolation in 1914 eventually was broken by the world war, there may arise a question as to whether we are so secure, after all, through remaining away from great international conferences. Of course they if we were it "to meddle." But have not our statesmen when put to the test shown some conciliatory power? Did they not have a treaty with Great Britain and Japan superseded by one of a wider character? Aloffness may work occasionally or for a time in our favor, but it may appear eventually that it would be less dangerous for us to enter such world conferences as that of Genoa, doing our part to promote world settlement, than to remain away, trusting merely to luck to guard us against any bad effects.

Gompers and Labor Abuses.

From the Altoona Tribune. As reported by the New York Times, Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, admitted that some labor leaders were corrupt, but he blamed the rascality of men like Sam Parks and Brindell upon the employers, who, he said, put temptation in the way of men who had always been hard up. Even though officers of unions stole the funds, Mr. Gompers is opposed to legislation by the State, compelling unions to install accounting systems. He expressed the opinion that Legislatures should not "interfere" in any way with the unions. He thought that in course of time matters would right themselves. The abuses that are brought to light every now and then by court trials or in other ways are the product of capitalism, according to his notion. In short, he holds that the sin of a faithless union treasurer or other official is the fault of the employers.

SAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Industrial conditions are rapidly improving at Berwick, and within a few weeks more than 4000 men will be employed by the American Car and Foundry company.

—The mystery surrounding the disappearance five weeks ago of Aaron Meyer, Wapawalpen hotel man, was solved on Saturday when his body was found in the Susquehanna river near Berwick. He was 73 years old and his death is believed to have been accidental.

—William Mack, twenty years old, of Farrell, Mercer county, letter carrier, went into the cellar of the postoffice on Friday to shoot rats. His revolver accidentally discharged, the bullet striking him in the left side and passing through his body. His condition is serious.

—Edward Stover, a policeman who has been active in running down bootleggers at Elkland, Tioga county, was fatally shot, early on Sunday by an unidentified man. He died six hours later. Stover's assailant came upon him from the front and fired at point blank range, then escaped.

—Preparations are being made by the Pennsylvania Society, Daughters of the Revolution, for the thirty-first annual convention, which will take place at the Bellevue-Stratford, Philadelphia, during the week beginning Tuesday, May 9th. Theatre parties, receptions and various entertainments are being arranged by the committee.

—William Doty, 16 years old, escaped from the Millfin county jail by working his way through an 8x12 inch hole in his cell door, known as the "pie hole," and passing through the jail office to liberty. Doty was charged with malicious mischief on the property of the Pennsylvania railroad and was kept in the women's department of the jail.

—Ellis Irwin Miller, daylight track-walker and for twenty-five years a trusted employee of the Pennsylvania railroad at Ardenheim station and vicinity, was instantly killed Saturday morning about three miles east of Huntingdon. Avoiding one approaching freight train, Miller stepped in front of another. He was 44 years old and leaves a family.

—Federal Judge Orr, of Pittsburgh, on Tuesday named Horace F. Baker and James R. Wardrop receivers of the Standard Scale and Supply company, with offices in Pittsburgh, Chicago, Cleveland, New York and Philadelphia. In answer to the suit asking the appointment of receivers, F. R. Dravo, president, declared that the concern was unable to pay liabilities amounting to more than \$400,000.

—Fully 5000 persons from Elk and adjoining counties inspected the new Andrew Kaul Memorial hospital at Kane, last week, the occasion being its formal opening. Joseph H. Reilly, of Philadelphia, son-in-law of the man whose memory the institution perpetuates, delivered possession of the building to the community, in a brief address, and it was accepted by Mayor James H. Thompson, of St. Marys.

—Sentenced to die in the electric chair, on Saturday, for slaying his wife last August, Silas Gipson, of Bridgewater, Beaver county, thanked the court. He said, "I am sorry I have brought disgrace on Beaver county and my family. I can't realize it is true, but if you say it is, it must be true." Judge Reeder said: "May God in His infinite goodness have mercy upon you." Gipson replied, "And upon you, too, judge."

—Coroner Thompson, of Brockwayville, Jefferson county, has been advised by officials of the University of Pittsburgh that chemical analysis of the stomachs of Robert and Theodore Heller, of Port Barnett, failed to disclose the cause of death. The boys died within a short time of each other, and when an autopsy did not show the cause, the stomachs were sent to Pittsburgh. On the day they died the lads played around their home in the morning, were taken ill in the afternoon and succumbed in a few minutes.

—While digging post holes on his mother's farm, near Auburn, Schuylkill county, Daniel Steffy on Tuesday unearthed a metal box which contained several thousand dollars in old bank notes, believed to have been buried there 65 years ago by his grandfather. The notes were in such an advanced state of decomposition that when handled they crumbled to pieces. The box has been handed over to the Auburn National bank, which will forward it to the United States Treasury, which may be able to identify the notes before disintegration. There long has been a story that a fortune was buried on the Steffy farm.

—Studies of every car load of wheat shipped out of Pennsylvania, together with data about the county where the grain originated, are being made at the Department of Agriculture in following out plans for grading wheat. Similar projects in regard to apples and potatoes have proved very successful. It is believed with proper grading \$1,000,000 or more can be added to the incomes of the farmers of the State, and instances have been found where refusal to pay \$5 or \$6 for fumigation of a car has caused it to be graded so low that the owner lost twice what might be laid out for the insect-destroying process.

—Denouncing as sacrilegious plans for the erection of a stadium by Bucknell University adjoining the Lewisburg cemetery, Mrs. Aida Myers Houston, a wealthy widow of Lewisburg and New York, protested to Dr. Emery W. Hunt, president of the institution. When asked to comment on her letter, Dr. Hunt said: "I told Mrs. Houston in my reply that the site was chosen by a committee of the board of directors, on which there are a number of Lewisburg residents. I had no part in the choice of the grounds where the stadium is to be built, and I have referred her letter to one of the members of this committee, who is our mutual friend."

—Declaring that mothers-in-law cause 75 per cent. of matrimonial disasters and that they are "out-laws" instead of "in-laws," Rev. Dr. Clayton Albert Smucker, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist church at Hazleton, opened a series of four sermons on love, on Sunday, by advocating the organization of a university for the education of the mothers of brides and bridegrooms. Dr. Smucker also attacked the bachelors, stating they are as vain as peacocks and all that is necessary to make them such is to stick on wings and tail feathers, since the average unmarried man of middle age thinks every woman in the world is in love with him. One of the most interesting sights encountered in life, he said, is to see one of these individuals "get his feathers pulled out."