

INK SLINGS.

—There isn't a chance of New being the new Senator from Indiana.

—This being music week we have the spirit but not the voice to sing.

—Sunday will be the anniversary of the day the Lusitania was torpedoed.

—France says she'll pay us when she gets hers, which might prove more satisfactory if it were not conditioned upon our helping her get it.

—Naturally the Germans would make a great fuss over Jack Dempsey. Wasn't he one of the very few who tried to shyster out of fighting them.

—Mathilde McCormick, the American heiress, has not thrown the Swiss riding master. He is still in the saddle, her friends say, and will lead her up the bridal path next month.

—Now it has developed that not nearly all of the fruit was killed by the freezes and frosts of April. Apparently none of the apples, the late cherries, peaches and pears were injured.

—Have you ever stopped to think what would have been the result if a frost had killed the blossoms on that apple tree in the Garden of Eden the season that Adam got an itch to do something bad.

—The more we read of the mental processes of the Bolsheviks the more convinced do we become that they will only yell enough after they are flat on their backs with all the rest of the world menacingly astride of them.

—The Red Men of Central Pennsylvania will come here next week to camp on the ground that such real red men as Bald Eagle and Mingo made historic long before their white emulators took to the tomahawk and tepee.

—Mr. McSparran will be at State College on Monday, May 22nd. The occasion of his visit will be to confer the Sixth degree on a class in Pomona Grange, but he will take the opportunity to address a mass meeting at that place at some hour during his visit.

—The Republicans of Indiana have recorded a crushing rebuke to the Harding administration. The defeat of Senator New in the primaries for renomination and the selection of former Senator Beveridge as the party candidate can be construed in no other sense.

—Giff Pinchot is still raving about a lot of things at Harrisburg that he knew all about when he was in a position to call a halt on them. How can reasonable people believe his professions that as Governor he will do what he failed to do while one of the chief advisers of the Governor.

—So President Harding has a solution for the coal problem, as well as for ending the strike of the workers in that industry. Recalling that he also had a solution for the troubles of the farmers and handed them that lemon of an emergency tariff bill we don't look for a Hardingesque utopia in the coal fields for some time to come.

—The Prince of Wales, that good looking, democratic heir to the British throne, who set the hearts of a lot of American debutantes thumping when he was here two years ago, is journeying in Japan and on the side buying kimonos. The Prince is anything but a Sis so they can't be for himself. Rumor has it that the girl to whom he presents them will be chosen for his bride. If that be true we opine that a Cavendish Lady will get the kimonos.

—Talk about looking a gift horse in the mouth. Some time ago a charitably disposed gentleman learned that a couple of ladies of Bellefonte were trying to support a large family of hens on an adulteration of air and water. After more than a year of careful investigation of the merits of the case he sent them five steel drums full of corn. His thoughtful generosity was rewarded by an injured-air inquiry as to why the corn was not shelled and why the drums didn't have handles on them.

—The fight for the Republican Senatorial nomination between the Hon. Harry Scott and Dr. Pollum seems to have turned definitely in favor of the former. The personal attacks that some members of his own party have been making on Mr. Scott have been discovered to be the figments of fanatical or personally prejudiced minds and have had the effect of turning many to his support who had originally expressed intention of supporting the DuBois physician. Our survey of the situation leads us to conclude that Scott will get the nomination easily and that he will be defeated by Mr. Betts, in November, just as easily.

—Did you know that when Gifford Pinchot was appointed Commissioner of Forestry of Pennsylvania the salary of his office was five thousand dollars a year? Did you know that when the orgy of salary raising and other squandering of the public money began at Harrisburg, the salary of the office he filled was raised to eight thousand dollars? Did you know that while the constitution prohibits the present incumbent of an office from taking advantage of a raise in the emoluments of the office he is then filling, Pinchot resigned one day and had himself re-appointed the next? A pretty trick for a man who is now shouting himself hoarse for honesty in state government. What a faker! What a hypocrite!

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Pepper a Servile Tool of the Machine.

Senator George Wharton Pepper's first vote in the chamber to which he had been called by the order of General Atterbury revealed his moral infirmity. Truman H. Newberry, with a swollen and tainted fortune, had purchased a seat in the body for the State of Michigan. For this crime against the government he was indicted by a Republican grand jury, tried by a Republican jury before a Republican judge and sentenced to a term in prison. But his vote was needed to give the Republican party control of the Senate and an appeal was taken to a packed higher court and the sentence was set aside, not because the evidence didn't justify the conviction but for the reason that party exigencies required his presence in the Senate in order to pack the committee on Foreign Relations against the ratification of the covenant of the League of Nations.

Mr. Pepper's first vote in the Senate was to ratify the corrupt bargain under which Newberry bought the seat. A prolonged and searching investigation by a Republican committee of the Senate confirmed the verdict of the jury which convicted Newberry and justified the sentence of imprisonment by the court. Even the resolution awarding him the seat admitted that he had committed grave crimes against the laws of the United States and those of the State of Michigan and expressed the hope that such a thing would never happen again. But Senator Pepper, without reading the evidence and without understanding the facts, voted in favor of Newberry's retention of the seat in fulfillment of the alleged bargain made with the political machine before he was appointed to the office. He preserved the rule of "honor among thieves" at the expense of justice.

For many years George Wharton Pepper lusted for public office. Senator Penrose, who hated a hypocrite as "the devil hates holy water," would not trust him and he was forced by his inordinate ambition to appeal to the reform elements and by professing morality and practicing the forms of religion, he managed at frequent intervals to get himself mentioned, and we believe once or twice nominated for some unimportant office. But he was never elected because most voters saw through the veneer of his false pretense. It was not until Penrose died that he came into favor and now he out-Vares Vares in his obedience to party discipline and is more servile than any of the Vares sycophants in obeying the orders of the machine bosses. The election of Vares himself would be more creditable to the State than the choice of this arch-hypocrite and corporation lobbyist.

Democratic Governor Necessary.

Mr. Gifford Pinchot volunteers the information that in the event of his election to the office of Governor he will promptly introduce the "budget system." It will be "as easy as rolling off a log," he declares, and supports his assertion by indicating his plan. "Each department of the State government," he says, "will be called upon to submit an estimate of the amount necessary and that amount will be appropriated." If the expenditures of the department are in excess of the estimate the subsequent action is left to conjecture. The department will necessarily cease to function or operate on credit, depending upon a deficiency appropriation to balance the books.

But that is precisely what has been done in the past, with the result that the last session of the Legislature enacted deficiency appropriation bills to the extent of eight or ten millions and left a balance of upward of forty millions to be taken care of later. Where a deficiency could be concealed it was allowed to remain and by process of shifting funds from one account to another, or "borrowing from Peter to pay Paul" would serve the purpose, that policy was adopted, with the result that even expert accountants are unable to find out how much the State owes or where the money to pay is to come from. Mr. Pinchot is not likely to fool any intelligent voters by such promises of reform.

It is true that the budget system may be introduced at Harrisburg and made effective but an essential prerequisite to the operation is the election of a Governor who has had no political affiliations or official relations with those responsible for the deficiencies and delinquencies of the past. If John A. McSparran is elected Governor next fall, for example, he will have no personal or party friends to shield and he may lay down and enforce such restrictions upon departments as will secure the result. If Mr. Berry hadn't been elected State Treasurer in 1905 the people would never have heard of the capitol graft. Unless a Democrat is elected Governor this year there will be no reform.

Both Statements Probably Correct.

In his speech supporting the candidacy of Gifford Pinchot, at Indiana, on Saturday evening, former Banking Commissioner Fisher declared that unless Pinchot is nominated the Republican party of Pennsylvania will be irretrievably wrecked. Senator Larry Eyre and Senator Vares have publicly declared that unless Attorney General Alter is nominated for Governor the Republican party of Pennsylvania will be hopelessly ruined. The Philadelphia Inquirer and the Public Ledger of that city earnestly concur in the opinion of Mr. Fisher. The Pittsburgh Gazette-Times and a number of less influential party organs of the State vehemently reiterate and support the opinions of Eyre and Vares.

This is a gratifying condition of affairs and we most cordially agree with both statements. For a quarter of a century the Republican machine has been exploiting the resources of the State and looting the public. During the life of Penrose, by force of his dominating will, the lid was held on and the people were held in ignorance of the facts. But recently, as a result of a quarrel among the small calibre leaders who have assumed control of the party organization, an exposure has been made and the public conscience has been aroused. Men and women who have been indifferent heretofore are interested now and that is the reason that the future of the Republican party is in jeopardy.

But we can see no reason for regretting the peril of the Republican machine or lamenting the danger that confronts it. The Democratic party, aided and abetted by the independent voters and the best element of the citizenship of the State, are offering a candidate for the votes of the people who may be depended upon to guide the affairs of the Commonwealth along safe lines and in straight paths to safety. John A. McSparran is honest and capable. He knows how to defend the interests of the people and has the courage to do that which is necessary to accomplish the result. In view of these facts the peril of the Republican machine is a cause for rejoicing rather than regret.

—If the Republican candidates for Governor are truthful it is fortunate that the Democrats are offering the voters a man fit for the office.

America Then and Now.

When Woodrow Wilson was "working his heart out" at Versailles two years ago to secure enduring peace for the world and guarantee permanent safety for humanity the United States was the most potential power in civilization. Lloyd George, Clemenceau and all the great statesmen of the world deferred to the judgment of Woodrow Wilson, and though he yielded unimportant points every essential recommendation he made in the peace conference was adopted in the settlement of the great war. Since the work of that body of statesmen was rejected by the United States Senate the prestige of our government has been receding until now it is almost at the vanishing point.

At Genoa the other day Mr. Lloyd George gave expression to the disappointment of the world at this lamentable turn of affairs. "I wish America were here," he said. "We want America because she exercises a peculiar authority," he continued. But he wants the America as expressed by Woodrow Wilson. He wants the unselfish, the helpful and the humanitarian America that led the thought and shaped the purposes of the peace conference at Versailles. The America that sneakily made separate peace with Germany and entered into a sectional alliance with Great Britain and Japan to frighten the weak nations of the far east should be of no more use in Genoa than it is at home.

In an address delivered before the Central Democratic club, of Harrisburg, the other evening, James M. Cox, of Ohio, expressed the belief that within a comparatively brief period of time the America which Lloyd George had in mind will be in the League of Nations and wholeheartedly rendering the service to the world in which our late associates in the world war are now engaged. Reason will resume her place and perform her part in the affairs of the people of this country and when that has come about the "spleen of Lodge" will no longer determine the policies of our government. The American people are just as sensible as courageous and will perform their part.

—Senator Pepper may be defeated for the nomination but Senator Vares can get him appointed ward constable which will be just as good.

—DeValera doesn't sound like an Irish name but the Irish ex-President's pugnacity qualifies him to claim that he is Irish.

Shady Deal in Oil.

The administration forces of the Senate have been forced into providing for an investigation of a "deal" said to have been entered into by the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior on one side and the Mammoth Oil company on the other, some weeks ago. It is the first investigation the Senate has allowed to go through and interest in it increases because of its striking resemblance to the "timber land deal" of the then Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Ballinger, during the Taft administration. The Mammoth oil company is a Delaware corporation apparently organized for the purpose of defrauding the government out of some exceedingly valuable oil deposits in Wyoming.

It appears the government owns some very promising oil territory in that western State which has been placed under the control of the Navy Department with the view of securing oil reserves for use of the warships and other naval vessels in commission, when needed in the future. The public lands in which this oil pool, commonly known as the "Teapot Dome," is located is under the control of the Secretary of the Interior. The Mammoth oil company controlled by a few pet politicians wanted the oil and entered into secret negotiations with the two government officials and secured the lease on conditions very favorable to the oil company and correspondingly unfavorable to the government.

Senator King, of Utah, brought the matter to the attention of the Senate, and other Democratic Senators joined in a protest against the deal. But Secretary of the Interior Fall found it convenient to take a vacation and the Department reported that no information on the subject could be given in his absence. Meantime the oil company was proceeding with increased energy to complete the deal by taking possession of the property. At this stage of the proceedings Senator LaFollette introduced a resolution for an investigation and the whole crowd has been thrown in a panic. The President has "sent for the papers" in the case and Secretary Fall's vacation may be extended indefinitely.

—The treasurer's sale of unseated lands is advertised in this issue of the "Watchman" and can be found on page 2. Time was when the number of tracts advertised for sale filled almost a page in the county papers but the list has been gradually cut down until now there is only about one-third of a page. But most of the tracts now advertised exist in fact and not in title only, but at the forthcoming sale many of them will not bring enough to wipe out the taxes against them.

—For the hunting season of 1921 the number of resident licenses issued in Centre county was 5331, and non-resident 11. Of this number only 640 hunters sent in a report of game killed to the State Game Commission. While this is a small per cent. it perhaps represented the number of hunters that got game worth reporting.

—Senator McCumber is back home trying to make the farmers believe that the tariff bill when enacted into law will be of great advantage to them. But the result of the emergency bill makes them credulous.

—However loud Mr. Pinchot shouts now the thoughtful voter will wonder why he kept so quiet about the profligacy of the Sprout administration during the long period he occupied a seat in the cabinet.

—Every department of the government is able to show big savings, but the fact remains that there is no decrease in the total expenditures of all the departments together.

—The times are certainly out of joint when reasoning men and women can feel a hope that Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana, may be nominated for Senator in Congress.

—Those Chinese factionalists are exceedingly inconsiderate in starting war just after the Washington conference had settled amicably all differences in the East.

—Andy Mellon, of Pittsburgh, was never considered an adroit politician but he appears to be the safety valve of the Harding administration.

—The vast amount of money spent in trying to sell bogus stocks reveals the inexhaustible optimism of the average crook.

—Thus far May has brought far more seasonable weather than April gave us.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Frenzied Red Finance.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Requisition follows requisition in Russia. Requisition is a prettier name than robbery. But it means that the long arm of Bolshevik brigandage is reaching out to loot the shrines.

In the history of our own land, patriots melted lead statues and vessels and even rain-gutters to make bullets. The Soviets might be gathering the eikos, the gold and the jewels to pay the arrears of debt to France and other lands. But the temper that brought the Russians to Genoa with a demand for \$25,000,000,000 does not suggest that they are gathering the spoils from the temples for the sake of paying their debts.

For debts, there is the paper money. You can have as much of it as you like at a million rubles—and sometimes even four million—to the dollar. The money market in Moscow is reeling drunk. Today it is holding high wassail with 100,000,000-ruble notes. This is the fulfillment, it would seem, of the Soviet threat made a year ago to issue so much paper that money would become worthless and revision would be made to the cumbersome archaic system of payment in kind.

But the exchanges and bourses that cannot have the "acres of diamonds" taken from the cathedrals, where the lamps and crosses glittered through the blue haze of the incense and the voices of singers were reverently reverberant, are not going to accept the output of the teeming printing-presses as a substitute. Pillaging the churches and persecuting the priests do not increase the faith of foreign financiers in the good intentions proclaimed by Tchitcherine at Genoa. One-half the Bolshevik house is forever in the field as Krassin was in London or Martens was in New York, to persuade the world that the Soviet regime is cruelly maligned and really just and generous; while at home, unhappily, the tactics that no craft can keep from outer ears destroy belief in the heralded sincerity and self-sacrifice.

Receivers of stolen goods are the last people who have a right to expect honest men to open an account and do business with them. The paper promises that issue from a den of thieves and cutthroats hoarding their loot are about the poorest securities a man in the business world today.

G. O. P. Fear of the Truth.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Republican partisans in Pennsylvania have frequently accused "The Record" of unfairness in its efforts to tell the truth about the management of the business of the State and to let in the light upon the methods employed in controlling the G. O. P. machine.

Now that we have a contest for the Republican nomination for Governor and future control of the machine, both of which are to be settled at the May primary election, we wonder what the critics of "The Record" think of the things the rival candidates and their supporters are saying. Cannot they now see for themselves that the State has been misgoverned and that things have been dominated by the few bosses who have thought more of plans to keep control of party machinery than of giving the people honest and economical government?

In the face of the efforts to get votes by telling part of the truth, is it any wonder that the organs of the G. O. P. and those individuals who are looking ahead to future control of the machine are beginning to warn the candidates and their spokesmen to stop telling the truth, on the ground that the truth is harmful to the future prosperity of the machine and those who control it?

The machine managers are certainly in a bad position, but their troubles are hardly less than those of the other machinists who hope to take over the organization and are fearful that too much of the truth now may make it more of a liability than an asset.

Crocker Finishes.

From the Altoona Tribune.

For about a score of years Richard Crocker, who died at Dublin, Ireland, on Saturday, has been living on the other side of the Atlantic, chiefly in Ireland, his native land. He came to America when a mere boy but soon became interested in politics, especially the politics of New York city. In the beginning he was poor but he managed to pick up gradually so that when he left the leadership of Tammany hall in 1902, after a busy and not too nice reign of sixteen years, he was immensely wealthy. He succeeded John Kelly as boss of Tammany and during the period of leadership was absolutely supreme. Along about 1902 the situation became too dangerous for him here and he abandoned politics and went across the seas. He lived to the age of four score but there is no outward evidence that he was ever other than a demoralizing and evil force in the world.

Call to Throw Away "Bricks."

From the Harrisburg Telegraph (Rep.).

George E. Alter and Gifford Pinchot are both clean and able Republicans who are a credit to their party. This being so, why the bitterness and mud-throwing among their over-zealous supporters here and there? If the nominee is to have the united support after May 16, a little less of the superheated atmosphere is desirable.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Since August 15th, 1921, the Rev. Alexander Agnew, pastor of the Mill Hall Church of Christ, has added 2552 names to the roll of his church. The population of Mill Hall is 1281.

—James B. Aurand and his mother, Mrs. Maggie E. Aurand, left Lewistown on Saturday for Salt Lake City, Utah, where they will visit Mrs. Aurand's sister, Mrs. Mary A. Goss, now 90 years old. The two sisters have not seen each other since the close of the Civil war.

—Fire which broke out Monday morning completely destroyed the Frank R. Otto Furniture company plant in Williamsport, causing an estimated loss of \$50,000. The origin of the fire is not known as there was no watchman on duty. The fires had been drawn under the boilers Saturday night.

—For the first time in Northumberland county a woman was sent to jail last week for failure to send her children to school. Mrs. Annie Besteigle, of Marlon Heights, police say, declared she didn't have to send her boy to a public educational institution. She was fined \$2 and costs and in default was sent to jail for two days.

—Burglars risked capture in the business district of Allentown and wrecked the office of Edwin Koch, flour and feed dealer, to blow open a large safe on Friday night only to find it empty. They did not know that it had been left open. A smaller safe in an adjoining room, which also had been left open, was locked by the burglars.

—The Keystone Power company, of Ridgway, has purchased the land from Tom Callagan, located along the banks of the West Branch of the Susquehanna river and Sinnemahoning creek, at Keating, and propose building a large power house to supply power to the entire West Branch valley, extending its lines as far east as Harrisburg.

—When an ax slipped while cutting cordwood last Saturday, William Coveskie, aged 52 years, of Elysburg, cut his right foot almost off. He made a tournament out of his shirt and hobbled a mile to the farm house of Galen Clark, where he was rushed to the State hospital at Shamokin. Doctors say he probably saved his life by using his shirt.

—William Shade, aged 92 years, the oldest man in Mifflin county, is dead at his home near Newton Hamilton. Deceased was a life long resident of the farm on which he died in Wayne township, served in Company F, 102nd Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the Civil war, and is survived by ten children, fifty-four grand, 134 great-grand and twenty great-grandchildren.

—Suits for \$30,000 damages have been brought against the Philadelphia and Reading Railway company by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hudock, of Mt. Carmel, as the result of a wreck that occurred near Ashland the night of July 2, 1920. The woman alleges she was permanently hurt and asks \$20,000, while the husband is seeking \$10,000 as a result of the loss of his wife's services.

—W. C. Moulton, of Scranton, has appealed to the State Supreme court in an effort to have set aside a decision of the Northumberland county court holding that he has no title to a \$2,000,000 culm bank on his land in Treverton, Northumberland county. Ownership of the culm pile has been in question in the court for the last six years, and at one trial the first, the jury held that he was the owner of the culm pile.

—Vandals on Sunday wrecked the mine of the Baylor Coal Mining company two miles from Coalmont, in the Broad Top bituminous field. Cables were cut, mine cars were smashed, the office was wrecked and the steam hoisting engine damaged. Harry Weyandt was developing the mine under contract for the Baylor company with non-union miners. Officials of the company say the men who wrecked the mine first made certain the watchman was too intoxicated to offer resistance.

—Seeking permission to trap or shoot a wild turkey gobbler which for years has caused her all manner of trouble, Mrs. Warner Baldwin, who lives in the heart of the Black Log mountains near Newton Hamilton, has appealed to the State Game Commission for the necessary sanction. Mrs. Baldwin breeds turkeys for the market, and she says the intruding gobbler, who annually constitutes himself king of the flock, thrashes the domestic gobblers and literally "rules the roost." She is anxious to end the reign of terror among her domestic fowls.

—A gas well with an estimated flow of 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 cubic feet was struck on the farm of Frank Gear, Fairview Hill, about four miles from Johnstown, Elk county. The well is on the lease belonging to S. P. Oakes. The gas came in with tremendous force just as the Speechley sand was to be penetrated. Two days previous a 500,000 foot flow was encountered in the Tiona sand, but the drilling was continued to a depth of 2020 feet. The gas field in which the new well is located is an old and much prospected area and there are several producing wells within a radius of 1000 feet.

—Escape of three prisoners from the Franklin county jail was discovered Saturday morning by Sheriff Mayer. The fugitives are Frank Lochbaum and Owen Fleet, sentenced for wife desertion, and Samuel Shockey, committed on a charge of larceny. A fourth prisoner, Eugene Roberts, was found on the ground beneath a third-story window with a broken hip. Shockey, who was a trusty, is believed to have aided the other two in the escape. The four prisoners made a rope of blankets to reach the ground from the cell room on the third floor of the building. Roberts fell and was injured when the rope parted.

—Judge Thompson, of the Orphans Court of Philadelphia, handed down an opinion on April 27 dismissing the contest in the case of William Thompson, wealthy steel broker and former resident of Alexandria. The case was a contest of the will of Mr. Thompson by William T. Stewart, a nephew. Judge Thompson declared no undue influence had been brought to bear upon Mr. Thompson and that he was not only not mentally incapable of making a will, but had a mind of unusual vigor, virility and independence. It is not likely an appeal will be taken. The J. C. Blair Memorial hospital, at Huntingdon, receives the income from \$10,000 under the terms of the will. John Scott, the executor, is authorized under the will to distribute the bulk of the estate to charitable uses. Mr. Thompson's estate is estimated at approximately \$1,000,000.