

INK SLINGS.

The red men have been here and gone and so far as we have heard not even a "flapper" scalp is missing.

Centre county bull-dogs must have been all penned up on Wednesday. At least we haven't heard of any canine lamps being doused by the senatorial sputum of George Wharton Pepper.

And now the figures from the Treasury Department make it appear that the second year of this economical, tax reducing Harding administration is to end with a greater deficit than the first. The Lord only knows what will be staring us in the face when the fourth and last year of it rolls round.

It has just come to light that it was the much maligned Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, who steadfastly stood out against the Standard oil in its efforts to grab control of the last remnants of oil territory in the United States that were reserved for the use of our navy.

Pseudo-science has been absorbing the attention of intellectuals a lot of late. They say it is spreading the philosophy of the easiest way and is building round the world a broad primrose path over which are trooping thoughtless thousands.

Yes, we have to hand it to Mr. Director Dawes of the budget bureau. He's the real thing. He can make the five inch trout look six inches long when the fish warden meets up with him on the stream.

On the local Republican calendar May 16th will be the big day. We should worry about that date. Our troubles were all composed by the committee of seventy-two.

Dawes the Swashbuckler Tamed.

Some months ago a rollicking swashbuckler named Dawes came to Washington "out of the west" and swore himself first into popular approval and then into public office.

Since that Dawes has been the most tractable and servile politician in Washington. His entire time has been spent and all his energies centered in efforts to show that the Harding administration has been the most economical ever and that vast sums have been saved to the people by the vigilance, efficiency and industry of Warren Gamaliel.

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Both Delinquent and Unworthy.

It is not surprising that Mr. Gifford Pinchot should promptly avail himself of the opening for a blow at the State Republican machine afforded by the Auditor General's recent exposure of unlawful manipulation of public funds by the late State Treasurer and present deputy in that office, Harmon M. Gephart.

Commenting upon the exposure Mr. Pinchot has appropriately declared: "No one can deny that false statements have been issued by the State Treasurer. No one can deny that appropriations have been made and are now in effect far beyond the estimated revenues. No one can assert that the State Treasury is able to tell us how much it pays out for salaries, how much for expenses, how much under contract, for we have their official statement that they do not know."

Centre surely has been a Republican battle ground this week. The faithful and the heretics have been busy from early morning 'til late at night with Scott, Pollum, Swoope, Jones and Pepper cavalades. In fact it has been so conspicuous in country districts of the county that some of our Democrats, chaffing under the wonderful harmony that has healed the fights we have been having for ten years or more, have telephoned in urging us to start something so they can have some fun too.

Admonition to Pepper.

The nomination of a blatherskite like Alfred J. Beveridge, of Indiana, for the great office of Senator in Congress would be a cause for regret under ordinary conditions.

The defeat of the covenant of the League of Nations was the result of a vicious conspiracy to prolong the evils of commercial and industrial confusion in order to discredit the Democratic administration of Woodrow Wilson.

In this gratifying result of the Republican primary election in Indiana there is a note of admonition to George Wharton Pepper, of Pennsylvania.

Republicans may be ungrateful but the present Republican President is not guilty. Every delegate in the National convention of 1920 who was instructed for another and voted for Harding has been rewarded by appointment to office.

Juggling the State Funds.

The loose, if not actually criminal, juggling of the funds of the State under the control of the Republican machine, now asking for a renewal of its license to loot the public has been revealed by Main & Co., certified accountants, employed by Auditor General Lewis to audit the accounts of the State Treasury during the administration of Harmon M. Gephart, now deputy State Treasurer.

At the end of each month the State Treasurer is required to publish a statement of the deposits under oath. In order to favor certain banks, or for some other unexplained reasons, Treasurer Kephart certified under oath that they held less money than was actually on deposit and other banks held proportionately more.

The then State Treasurer protests that the State lost no money by this manipulation of accounts which is probably true. But one bank was favored, and by a strange coincidence the president of that bank had been promised a seat in the United States Senate and in turn is supposed to have agreed to pay Senator Crow's debts amounting to more than a quarter of a million dollars.

Democrats Vote at the Primary.

Because the admirable candidates recommended to the Democratic voters of Pennsylvania by the committee of Seventy-two are practically without opposition is no reason why voters of that party faith should refrain from voting at the primary election next Tuesday.

It would be impossible to imagine a more auspicious condition for the Democracy of Pennsylvania. The opposition is divided, demoralized and engaged in a bitter war of factions.

But these generous promises of the future should not be converted into a potion to put the Democrats to sleep. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" and insistent and energetic work is essential to victory.

United States Senator George Wharton Pepper visited Bellefonte on Wednesday, coming here from Lock Haven with Hon. Richard S. Quigley. He was scheduled to arrive in Bellefonte at eleven o'clock but it was almost noontime when he arrived, consequently his much heralded talk in the court house was greatly abbreviated.

The County Commissioners have been busy this week distributing the ballots for next Tuesday's primaries. Inasmuch as the only real contest of any importance is between the two candidates for Governor on the Republican ticket the probability is for a light vote, especially if the weather is favorable for farm work.

The demand of Russia for reparation of 50,000,000,000 gold rubles from the allies in the late war is simply an echo of Senator Lodge's speeches opposing the ratification of the covenant of the League of Nations.

Senator Pepper certifies that he has spent \$14,979.11 in his campaign for the Senatorial nomination. Like his friend Newberry he probably doesn't know how much the corporations have expended in his behalf.

The only sure way to get a job in the revenue service is to acquire a criminal record. Nearly all the prohibition enforcement officials have already qualified in that way.

Anything to put the discussion of the juggling of public funds over until after the primary election will be satisfactory to the Republicans.

Senator New has been properly disposed of. Senator Pepper will be the next to pay the penalty of voting to ratify Newberry's purchase.

The real acid test of toughness is to "spit in the eye of any bull dog you meet."

The Farmer's Hide.

From the Washington, D. C., News. Is the tariff an economic rather than a political question? It is. Proof? Why, even Republican Congressional leaders—"regulars," not "insurgents," if you please—are opposing some of the principal schedules and opposing them openly on the floor of the House.

The Republican majority of the Ways and Means committee, which framed the bill, is split wide open on the important schedule of a tariff on hides, and the leader of the opposition is no less a member than Hon. Willis C. Hawley, from the strictly rural First district of Oregon.

The American production of hides is 850,000,000 pounds annually. The imports are 700,000,000 pounds annually. \* \* \* The proposed duty of 4 cents a pound is supposed to be laid for the benefit of the farmer. Then every pound of hide taken off in this country must be advanced 4 cents a pound.

Each cent a pound on hides, according to our tariff commission, means 10 cents additional on each pair of shoes. Four cents on hides means 40 cents on each pair of shoes. Therefore, the farmers who might get the \$34,000,000 duty, would pay back \$30,600,000 additional for their shoes and \$8,000,000 more than they could possibly get from their hides.

There are in this country 6,800,000 farm operators having a total population of 30,600,000 persons. Each person uses 2.5 pairs of shoes per annum? That is 76,000,000 pairs of shoes bought by the farmers annually.

A Republican Monopoly.

From the Philadelphia Record. It seems to be a cardinal point of Republican doctrine that a Democrat is congenitally incompetent to administer a political office, quite regardless of whether or not its functions have anything to do with the execution of partisan policies.

Now, everybody knows that the Governor of Pennsylvania has no hand in shaping the policies which guide the nation, and that it does not make a particle of difference in what goes on at Washington whether he be a Republican or a Democrat. There is no Republicanism or Democracy in the administration of the Governorship of Pennsylvania.

What is required of the Governor of the State is honesty, executive capacity and business ability. To say that Republicans have a monopoly of these qualifications would be as foolish as to claim that a man is incapable of running a big business because he happens to be a Methodist, or a Catholic, or a Jew, or because he has red hair or a large nose.

Senator Pepper is insincere when he makes such statements; he is merely endeavoring to win the support of voters who are incapable of thinking. If only Republicans know how to govern, how is it that a Republican administration of this State, supported by a Republican Legislature and a Republican judiciary—has got the business affairs of Pennsylvania into such an awful mess?

Good Campaign Provender.

From the Clearfield Republican. Tom Harter, erstwhile Penrose follower and virile editor of the Keystone Gazette, Bellefonte, is out hard and loud against Harry Scott for the Republican State Senate nomination. He gives plenty of reasons for his stand and will go the limit to boost the Pollum vote over the mountains.

How Senator Vore acquired the admiration of George Wharton may never be known but Senator Pepper won the affection of Brother Ed by "spitting in the eye of a bull dog."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Jury trial to determine whether grocers must pay for sugar bought from refiners at the peak prices but delivered after the price had fallen, has been ordered by Justice Simpson, of the State Supreme court.

Governor Sproul has appointed Samuel T. Bodine, Villa Nova; Alfred M. Collins, Philadelphia, and M. I. McCright, DuBois, to represent the state at the second national conference on state parks to be held at New York May 22nd.

Stephen Popet, held a prisoner in the Northumberland county jail, tore the water pipes off the wall in his cell and lay down in the spurting water, saying he wanted to drown. After guards rescued him he was caught trying to put himself to death with his suspenders for a noose.

When a steer driven by S. V. Manifold, of Wrightsville, York county, became enraged it attacked several men. Clarence Manning was internally injured and Howard McKinley's left arm was fractured and he was badly bruised. The bull jumped a five foot wall in Stewart Brothers' yard and was captured after ruining the garden.

A company of the Pittsburgh fire department was instrumental last Friday in preventing a hold-up in the Hill district. Albert Pyle, a tea company collector, was attacked by three negro bandits. He was badly beaten but kept hold of a satchel containing about \$2,000. A pedestrian turned in a fire alarm and the clanging of bells and roar of motors scared the robbers away.

State troopers rounded up several Romees who parked their cars along state roads, near Hazleton, turned off the lights and conducted sessions with their Juliets, regardless of the rights of the traveling public and the danger of accidents. Each young man paid \$10 fine and costs before Alderman E. J. Fallon. The state police declare the highways are not the place for courting and announce they will keep up the campaign.

Squire John E. Bertach, of Mountainville, Lehigh county, justice of the peace, deputy clerk of the quarter sessions court and county tax collector, returned home late Friday night with \$100 in collections in his pockets. Too tired to put the money in the safe, he hung his trousers on the bed post and went to sleep. Saturday morning they were missing, and about the same time his wife found them under the dining-room table. The money was gone.

The whereabouts of the bandits who held up the First National bank of Crafton last January and killed Harold T. Moss, assistant cashier, have just been ascertained. Two are dead, two are dying and the fifth member of the gang is serving sentence in the Stark county workhouse, near Canton, Ohio. The deaths and woundings resulted from a battle last Thursday between gunmen and a posse of armed citizens on a road leading to Canton.

The May term grand jury at Bloomsburg, the first in a year and half without a woman member, last Thursday raided confiscated liquor stocks held at the Columbia county jail and drank eight bottles of contraband liquor before Mrs. Howard Gunther, the sheriff's wife, stopped the party. The sheriff believes the jury-men also sampled some of the whiskey that is being held in barrels. The court had discharged the grand jury before the raid was reported.

Recently re-appointed as tax collector in Uniontown, Miss Alice Baer has issued an appeal to all women voters to settle their taxes in order that they may be eligible to vote. Miss Baer is of the opinion that women should pay their own tax bills and not depend upon their fathers, husbands or brothers to pay them. The collector says that it gives a woman voter a sense of responsibility, and that, if she pays her own taxes, she will be more likely to go to the polls on election days.

After firing five shots at himself Dominick Bonneretto, of Philadelphia, finally succeeded in slightly wounding himself with the last bullet. He told the police he was in love with a married woman, who would have nothing to do with him and he had intended to end it all. After buying a revolver he engaged a room in a hotel on Market street, pointed the weapon at himself and started firing. The first shot shattered a mirror. The second and third shots tore into an unsuspecting chair, while the fourth hid itself in a bureau drawer. The fifth managed to scratch his hip. Bonneretto was arrested but Magistrate Tougill discharged him with a warning.

Students of the Yeagertown High school have won their strike for the return of school pennants which were removed last Wednesday from the roof of the High school by Professor H. W. Firch of the faculty, whose action precipitated a strike at first among the boys of the Senior class and finally the entire student body. At a big public mass meeting Monday night at Yeagertown the Derry township board of education met with the parents of the children and after a lengthy discussion in which the case was aired both pro and con, the board ordered that the pennants be returned to the students and that the pupils who had been out on strike be reinstated.

Harry Pritchard Sr., of Kingston, for many years in charge of payrolls of the East Boston Coal company, was arrested last Friday charged with having forged due bills and taken from the company \$500 in the last two years, and \$13,000 in the last ten years. He is under \$4000 bail. The company charges that Pritchard took the money in small sums, doctoring the records each pay day to cover the shortage. Recently company officials got trace of the alleged crookedness, and had an audit made, which resulted in the discharge of Pritchard and caused his arrest. Pritchard has been a member of a church at Edwardsville, singing in the choir and serving on the board of trustees.

Foul play is feared in the sudden disappearance Monday of the Rev. J. S. Potts, aged 54, pastor of the Methodist church at New Alexandria, near Greensburg, friends admitted, following a fruitless search which led them into the mine districts. The Rev. Potts left his home early Monday morning to call on a parishioner who lives several miles from New Alexandria. Complaining that he was not feeling well, the minister started for home. Later it was learned that he went to the New Alexandria bank, withdrew his entire savings account including several Liberty bonds, totaling, it was said, about \$2,000. Shortly afterwards the Rev. Potts was seen driving in the direction of Crabtree, a mining town.