

INK SLINGS.

A new moon will put in her appearance today and maybe she'll bring rain with her.

Secretary of State Hughes has made a very streaked job of his attempt to white-wash Senator Newberry.

The mine conference is deadlocked because it can't find any method of fixing wages after next April 1st. Why quibble over a date that will usher in warm weather on a date that is ushering in the cold.

Lloyd George has been unsuccessful in his efforts to make France believe that she can't get blood out of turnips. His failure has been in not being able to convince France that Germany really is a brassicaous plant.

Fearing that our society editor might overlook the incident we want to note here that two of the Parks sisters departed for their new home in Muncy last week. Judge Quigley hasn't, as yet, set the date for their return.

The "Watchman" suggests that all old-time Republicans attend the Grange picnic at Centre Hall on Thursday, September 7th. Brother Giff will on that day open his campaign and coincident therewith might pull the bung out of his bar!

The heat of the stars Adelbaran Carpella and Betelgeuse has been estimated to be ten thousand degrees centigrade. We mention this calculation of science not because any one cares much how hot the stars are, but because we opine that most of us knew not that there are three of them so named.

Councilman Emerick called official attention, on Monday night, to a real nuisance in Bellefonte. We refer to his complaint of the horde of boys who gather about the entrance to places of amusement and accost passersby for the price of admission. It is annoying, to say the least, and should be stopped.

Already gloom is casting its shadow over the college foot-ball camps and it seems that a whole morgue has fallen on that of State. Four of her last year's veterans are reported as having decided to go to Colgate this fall where they will play under Dick Harlow, who was the line coach at State for so many years before going to Colgate.

With the approach of the Grange picnic our interest increases in anticipation of the verbal bout that is likely to happen between our candidate, John A. McSparran, and the Hon. Giff Pinchot. We know that Mr. McSparran has everything on Giff but the bar! and it remains to be seen whether our Grange friends will fall down and worship the golden calf.

Bellefonte's water has always been pure. Every analysis that has been made of it has demonstrated that fact. Why, then, should the borough be compelled to make an analysis every month and send a report of it to Harrisburg. No other reason under the sun than to add to our taxes here and make jobs for a few more clerks in the Board of Health department at Harrisburg.

Now that the Millheim merchant's association has won that prize of two hundred and fifty dollars for having every retailer in the town a member of their organization they ought to be able to make its capture an annual event. There are not a great many retailers in Millheim so it is just possible that this prize will pay all their dues so that they should have a full enrollment again next year.

If it was an Irishman who killed Michael Collins he must have been as mentally deranged as was the German who killed Dr. Rathenau. Collins offered Ireland her greatest hope of peace. Rathenau was the one man who might have brought order out of chaos in Germany. Both were strong men devoting their lives to the cause of their nation's reconstruction and their murder was misguided as it was lamentable.

The advance in wages by the major steel companies of the country at this time suggests the thought that big business has given up the attempt to bring about deflation and will now lead a movement toward higher prices for commodities. Possibly they are following what they deem to be the line of least resistance. Labor looks on the fat pay envelope as the thing most to be desired, wholly unmindful of the fact that the fat pay envelope is possible only through advancing costs of the things labor has to buy. So that in the end labor is no better off.

There are a great many things in the career of Senator Bob La Follette that the "Watchman" has criticized but, if he really spent an eight month's vigil at the bedside of his son and nursed him back to life after eminent physicians and nurses had given the case up as hopeless, those of his enemies who are trying to defeat him for nomination by charging him with being a slacker in his senatorial duties during that period should blush with shame. Senator La Follette may be an erratic statesman but he must be a father such as few sons have. A man with a heart and a purpose like that can't be as dangerous as some would have us believe him to be. He saved the life of his boy. What such work might he have achieved had he been in his seat in the Senate those eight months?

Democratic Watchman

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Newberryism an Issue.

Chairman Cordell Hull, of the Democratic National committee, interprets Secretary Hughes' defense of Senator Newberry as an attempt to divert public attention from graver matters by making "Newberryism" the dominant issue of the impending campaign. "In a desperate effort to check the rising tide of popular indignation due to the fact that the eighteen months' record of the administration and its Congress contains more elements of complete failure than any or all their predecessors," Mr. Hull declares, "Republican leaders have felt obliged to single out this one issue and make it paramount." It was hoped thus "to draw attention away from the tremendously destructive effects of the Republican industrial panic of 1921-'22 and from the confused, lop-sided, uncertain and demoralized state of business, industrial, economic and social conditions of the nation which the Republican administration and the Republican Congress had not shown the faintest capacity to deal with."

A man guilty of an atrocious murder would probably be glad to plead guilty to a charge of burglary in order to escape the greater penalty of the higher claim. Upon this principle of defense Secretary Hughes may be wise in offering the defense of the electoral crimes of Senator Newberry in so feeble and silly a form as to invite refutation. But a murderer who escapes the electric chair by confessing burglary is hardly a model citizen to be honored and emulated by his neighbors. Senator Newberry was tried before a Republican judge by a Republican jury in a Republican community and convicted of criminally buying a seat in the Senate by the corrupt use of his own and his family's money. The Supreme court reversed the judgment of the lower court on a technicality but did not dispute the evidence or question the facts. The moral turpitude was not denied but it was held that the law applied only to general elections and the crime was committed at a primary.

Secretary Hughes' defense of Newberry is so weak that it might be taken as a "plea in confession and avoidance." In any event it will not serve the purpose for which chairman Hull believes it was intended. It will not divert public attention from the greater issues of the campaign to which Mr. Hull refers. The tax payers of the country will not overlook the fact that more than two billion dollars a year have been added to their burdens by the Fordney tariff bill and the millions of wage earners who are idle because of the "confused, lop-sided, uncertain and demoralized state of business, industrial, economic and social conditions," for which the Republican party is responsible, will simply add several counts to the indictment against the Republican party and vote it out of power at the first opportunity. The crime of Newberryism is present and potent and George Wharton Pepper is among those responsible for it. Pennsylvania voters will not forget that.

According to a news dispatch in Tuesday's papers the women members of the Democratic State committee, which met in Harrisburg on Monday, adopted a plan to raise funds for maintaining local headquarters and to provide watchers for the polls in various parts of the State. They will sell what they term "good government policies" in denominations of \$100, \$500 and \$1000, but what will ultimately become of the policies has not been divulged.

The prolonged dry weather has made the fall plowing a very difficult problem for farmers. At the rate some of them are wearing out plow shares we are inclined to believe that every bushel of wheat they have next fall will have cost them one share, in addition to the seed and labor.

With the passage of the tariff bill in the Senate President Harding probably believes his political debts have been paid in full. But the people who pay the taxes will have to be reckoned with.

Our Republican contemporaries, esteemed and otherwise, are very much opposed to Mr. McSparran's system of campaigning and there is a reason.

We have been trying to figure out what Harding had to do with the settlement of the coal strike, but thus far our efforts have been futile.

Chairman Baker finds Mr. Pinchot a most docile and delightful follower. Meneste must have stroked the fur the wrong way.

With the coal strike ended we can all sing "Keep the Home Fires Burning" with much greater confidence.

Ku Klux Methods in Politics.

Mr. Gifford Pinchot is introducing some tricks and methods in politics, according to current gossip, which is dazing the old line party tricksters. In digging an eighth of a million dollars out of his family supply with which to buy the nomination of his party he surprised, but hardly shocked, the machine managers. As a rule they like liberal contributors and it may safely be said that Giff's generosity rather than his personality enticed the organization managers to promptly enlist under his banner. But another innovation which has just come under public notice has had a different effect upon the minds of the old stagers. Mr. W. Harry Baker has promptly and emphatically repudiated it.

This is a rather expensive but probably not ineffective endeavor to corral the women voters by holding out an alluring promise of recompense. The plan is to organize female "first voters" in clubs and bind them under solemn obligation to vote the straight Republican ticket. The lure is an offer of a prize of \$1000 to the woman or girl who procures the greatest number of signatures to such pledges or organizes the largest number of clubs so obligated. The League of Woman Voters, organized for the purpose of educating the women of the State to the best use of the ballot, has denounced the enterprise in severe terms and the chairman of the State committee has declared that he had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Pinchot appears to imagine that all political results are obtained by the use of money. It was probably for that reason that he violated his oath "to support, obey and defend" the constitution of Pennsylvania in order to get a three thousand dollar increase in salary as Commissioner of Forestry, and spent money freely to buy the nomination for Governor. But the prompt action of the women of Pennsylvania who hope the franchise will be properly used by the women in the State shows that they are of a different mind on the subject. They do not believe in buying votes direct, as Pinchot must have done in the primary, or by subterfuge, as he proposes to get them at the general election.

Lady Rhondo, who was recently refused a seat in the British House of Lords, is now in this country. She is "running true to form." Britishers capitalize their disappointments as well as their successes in this country.

Swat Enemies and Flies.

The Fordney-McCumber tariff bill passed the Senate on Saturday by a vote of forty-eight to twenty-five, three Democrats, Broussard and Ransdell, of Louisiana, sugar planters, and Kendrick, of Wyoming, wool grower, voting with the majority and one Republican, Borah, of Idaho, on the minority side. Some twenty Republican Senators spoke against the measure while it was under discussion and voted against important features. But the party lash brought them into line on the final vote and denouncing it as iniquitous, they voted for it as a whole. Both the Senators for Pennsylvania voted in the affirmative, that being the first vote of Senator Reed, of Pittsburgh.

It is estimated that the bill, if it becomes a law, will increase the cost of living to the extent of nearly two billion dollars. This enormous burden is levied upon all or nearly all the necessities of life. Foods, clothing, building materials, medicines are alike put under levy to impoverish the people under the false pretense of supplying revenue to the government. As a matter of fact it will diminish rather than increase the revenues, for many of the schedules are actually prohibitive of importations. The late President McKinley admonished the country against this element of evil before his death. He said that unless we bought in foreign markets we can't sell there.

The bill is particularly hard on the women of the country. As we pointed out last week it will add \$58,000,000 to the cost of corsets and \$587,000,000 to the cost of hosiery and knit goods. In the event that importations continue after in the proportion of before the law was made corsets and hosiery and knit goods will produce revenues to the total of \$3,610,000. But if, as Mr. McKinley predicted, imports cease the cost will increase to the full measure and there will be no recompense to the treasury. Meantime the women voters should bear in mind the fact that Pepper and Reed, who voted to put this burden upon them, are candidates for reelection. Swat enemies as well as flies.

The McKinley tariff cost the Republicans a defeat. The Payne-Adrich tariff presented the country with the same favor. Now watch the effect of the Fordney bill if it ever becomes a law.

Hail! Hail! The Gang's All Here.

Nothing more is likely to be heard of Gifford Pinchot "running a separate campaign." Giff has been completely subdued. Chairman Baker visited him at his "estate" in Pike county, last week, and came away beaming with satisfaction. Giff took his medicine and literally ate it out of the hand of the boss. The itinerary was agreed upon, the tone of the speeches settled, the personnel of the several committees determined. It was a splendid fraternization of congenial spirits and while Pepper is "spitting in the eye of a bull dog" Giff will be cooing in a dove cote of the machine under the patronage of Baker, Leslie and Eyre. The situation is inspiring. The silver lining is the feature of the cloud.

When Baker and Eyre and Leslie analyzed the methods by which Pinchot procured an increase of salary as Forestry Commissioner, in spite of the constitution, they realized that the success of Pinchot is not a menace to the machine. It made him one of the bunch. When they got an accurate appraisal of his contribution to the primary campaign fund, they concluded that he was needed in their business. There are few even among the ambitious fools of the country who are willing to employ a scoop shovel in dumping dollars into the slush fund, and such rare birds are lovely plucking. So after permitting Giff to make a few harmless gestures in the direction of independence, they quietly took him in.

There is still a "fly in the ointment," but chairman Baker hopes it may be removed or made harmless. Grundy and Vare continue to hate each other intensely. Vare would have been for Pinchot for the nomination if Grundy had been for the other fellow. There is really no irreconcilable difference between Giff and Ed. But Grundy nominated Giff and if the candidate attacks himself to Vare, Grundy will "kick over the traces." On the other hand if Giff affiliates with Grundy, Vare will "spill the beans." So there you are. But the prosperity of the machine is unimpaired in any event. Baker will use Pinchot's money to repair damages to the "criminal conspiracy masquerading as the Republican party."

It is said that the average life of a five dollar bill is ten months, according to a bulletin issued by the Federal Reserve bank. It is sometimes impossible for us to keep one alive ten minutes.

Senator Smoot Tells the Truth.

During the closing hours of the debate on the tariff bill, in the Senate on Saturday, Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, leader in the Mormon church and the Republican party, said of one of the features of that measure: "This is an embargo a thousand times over and worse than an embargo. Dyes and coal tar chemicals not made in this country will have to pay a rate of duty so high that it is a crime. No human being can defend these rates before the American people." The beneficiaries of this unjust exaction is a group of millionaires who contributed vast sums to the campaign fund of 1920 to buy the election of Harding.

What Senator Smoot says is true. At the instance of these monopolists the Harding administration tried to force an actual embargo into the measure but the name was too harsh. A number of Republican Senators objected to it and the rates of taxation to which Smoot objected were substituted. These rates are not called an embargo but they operate as an embargo. They make it impossible to import dye stuffs and give the monopolists absolute power to charge any price they choose to fix for coloring matter used in every fabric made of wool, cotton or other fibers used in making wearing apparel.

But the Mormon apostle, Senator Smoot, has no just cause of complaint against the tariff bill on that account. What he said about the rate on dye stuffs might be said with equal truth about the tax on wool and the tax on sugar. But the Mormon church has immense sums of money invested in sheep and sugar beets and Smoot insisted on the "worse than an embargo" on wool and sugar. The exorbitant tax on dyes may cause a decrease in the price of wool but the Mormons will get theirs in any event. Besides Smoot voted for the bill on final passage with the dye stuff embargo in it, thus stultifying himself and revealing his insincerity.

One political question has been settled finally and by unanimous consent. William Randolph Hearst has announced that he doesn't want to be Governor of New York.

The leaves will soon turn brown, the straw hats having already set the example.

Rip Van Winkle Fumbles.

From the New York World. As it fumbles one thing after another—the tariff, the bonus, the railroads, coal, shipping and foreign economic policy—the question arises as to what has happened to the conspicuous ability which by tradition belongs to the Republican party. It is the Republicans themselves who are asking this question. They are puzzled. Ever since the Civil war it has been a more or less accepted theory that the general run of Republican leadership, whatever its other faults, was at least abler than that of the Democrats.

The spectacle in Washington since March 4th, 1921, has completely upset that theory. Whether you look at Congress or at the White House, whether you make your comparison with Wilson's first term during peace and neutrality or with his second term under the stupendous military and economic difficulties of war, the comparison in results achieved, in problems solved, in obstacles overcome, is humiliating to every straight-thinking Republican. The Republicans have had no easy task, of course. But compared with the tasks of the preceding four years theirs have been simple. Nothing the Republicans have attempted can for an instant be compared, for example, with the task of enlisting and equipping 4,000,000 men, and of transporting 2,000,000 of them across a dangerous ocean. Certainly the tariff won't bear comparison nor the shopen's strike nor the coal strike.

Yet everybody knows that the Democrats are not born any wiser nor educated any better than the Republicans. What explanation is there then for the general mess which the Republicans have made of their job?

The explanation, it seems to us, is that the Republican leaders missed the education and the experience of the war. They were in opposition. Few of them in Congress or in the Administration lived day by day with the towering responsibilities of the war. Few of them saw intimately and from the inside how the problems of government expanded and complicated themselves. Mr. Harding himself, for example, saw only as a spectator the vast historic change which the war brought to Washington. He had little share in the change himself. He did not grow up with the thing as the Democrats were forced to do and he did not learn by painful experience, by mistakes and experiments, what the new legislative and administrative problems are. Mr. Harding and his Senatorial colleagues were fundamentally untouched by the war, else he could not have said, as he did say just before election, that government is after all a simple thing.

Failing to learn by experience what was happening, Mr. Harding no doubt sincerely believed that the mistakes of the Democrats could easily have been avoided by the Republicans. Living mentally in the days before 1912, imagining that politics and economics were what they had been in the days of irresistible Republicanism, he and his group thought they had only to take office, had only to apply the old Republican formulae, had only to avoid doing what Wilson had done, in order to make a triumphant return to the good old days.

Mr. Harding knows now in a vague sort of way that he was sadly mistaken. He knows that government after the great war is no longer a simple thing. And the country knows now that a reputation for conspicuous ability may outlive the fact. From the Civil war to about 1903 that reputation rested on a fairly solid foundation. The Republicans held power so long that they attracted to themselves more than their share of the able men. The Democrats, on the other hand, while they were under the Bryan influence could not attract their share of the experienced and executive men. But in 1912 there was a revolution in both parties and the World war found the Democrats in power under modern leadership. Just as the Republicans before 1908 had been taught by experience, so the Democrats were taught in the terrible ordeal of the war. They made huge and costly mistakes. They made the spur of absolute necessity they also achieved unparalleled successes.

The experience of the war has for all practical purposes been lost to the Republicans. Mr. Harding missed it, Mr. Lodge missed it, Mr. Hughes missed it, Messrs. McCumber and Fordney missed it. They are the Rip Van Winkles of politics. In the face of the new problems of government they are amateurs who have first to unlearn the dogmas of a lifetime before they can begin to learn the new necessities of the present. They are like left-handed batters who, for some reason quite unknown to them, are suddenly called to the plate and told to bat right-handed.

Northcliffe Left Millions.

From the Philadelphia Record. Lord Northcliffe is reputed to have left \$45,000,000. He was a good deal of a plunger, but he must have plunged on the right side. We could mention several Americans who have made as much money as Northcliffe did, but they had no such influence on public affairs. Northcliffe had extraordinary abilities in several directions. He had the courage of a gambler, he was always right in his investments, and he managed to be also a foremost political factor.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Destructive forest fires are raging in Columbia county.

—Improvements to be begun immediately at the Jeannette plants of the American Window Glass company will make it the largest of its kind in the world.

—Cumberland, Bradford, Juniata and Northumberland counties are leading in the applications for permits for eel baskets this year. The season for such devices opens next Tuesday and counties which were high on the list last year are again showing up well.

—Alex Karl, a thirteen year old newsboy, found \$7000 in Baltimore & Ohio railroad bonds lying on the sidewalk in the business district of Altoona on Saturday. He took them to a bank where later the owner appeared, proved property and rewarded the lad's honesty with \$1.

—Discovery of a vein of anthracite coal twenty inches thick was made by well diggers on the farm of George Year, near Snydertown, Northumberland county, last week. The location is eight miles east of what geologists term the western end of the Northumberland county coal measures.

—Seized with a heart attack while bathing in the surf at Atlantic City on Monday afternoon, Miss Esther Kerchner, 23 year old daughter of George Kerchner, postmaster at Maconing, Pa., was found floating on the surf of the ocean just outside the line of breakers at Providence avenue. The body was recovered.

—Rev. John Brodhead, who had been at his home in Franklin on a vacation after returning from Zululand, where he was for twenty-five years on missionary work, has gone to England on his way back to his field of labor. He will seek the services of a scientific farmer to stir up interest in Zululand in agriculture.

—Frank Watkins, a convicted bank robber, has been a model prisoner in the Allegheny county jail for two years. But a chance for freedom came Saturday night and he took it. Watkins used a duplicate key which he had made to unlock the outer door. An official at the morgue nearby told deputies that he saw Watkins leaving the building.

—Miss Katie Manning and Miss Alice Lewis, of West Chester, and a party of teachers from State College, are on a trip to Florida. They will stop at Asheville and at Atlanta and study the cotton industries. In Florida they will visit Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Tampa, and St. Petersburg. They will tour Florida by automobiles and by the St. John's Ocklawaha River routes, returning by steamer.

—Some years ago Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dawson, of West Chester, were married, but became so busy rearing a family of seven children that they never found time for a wedding trip, until a few days ago, when, after Mr. Dawson had laid aside his composing stick and other tools in a printing establishment, where he has been employed for thirty years or more, they left on their "wedding trip," and will spend a week in Buffalo, N. Y., Niagara Falls, Toronto, Canada, and other places.

—Fire which swept the West Newton business district Saturday night and which was not completely extinguished until noon on Sunday, wrought a total loss of approximately \$300,000. Fourteen buildings, including several houses, were consumed. A score of buildings were damaged. State police and constables patrolled the burned area. Fire companies from a dozen adjacent counties and towns aided the local force and at least ten firemen sustained minor injuries. The fire started in an unoccupied garage.

—Traveling 3000 miles across the continent at a total cost of one cent a mile was the experience of John N. Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Adams. They left Pittsburgh July 10th for a hike to San Francisco, and on August 9th they arrived in Los Angeles, making an average of about 100 miles. They made 230 miles the first day, covering 224 miles by free rides in automobiles in 19 different cars and walked the remaining six miles. Thereafter they followed the same procedure, making from 50 to 225 miles a day.

"You can be killed by lightning or electric shock and not have a single disfiguring mark upon you," decided State Compensation Commissioner Houck on Saturday. Experts from the western penitentiary, where the State's murderers are electrocuted, gave evidence to this effect, and on their testimony the widow of William Fields was awarded substantial compensation from the Mississippi Glass company at Florette, Schuylkill county. Fields' body was found without any mark upon it, and the company alleged he died from pneumonia. But as his tool box was knocked from the wall and he was heard shrieking just before his body was found, the conclusion was that he had been electrocuted.

—Workmen who are excavating for the new junior high school in Altoona are keeping a sharp lookout for buried treasure. The site where the new school is to be erected, in the Fourth ward, once was an oak forest, near where ran the Kittanning trail over the mountains to western Pennsylvania. Lewis, the robber, who stole from the rich and gave to the poor, operated in that vicinity three-quarters of a century ago, and it is a matter of tradition that he buried some of the loot in that neighborhood, although none of it ever was found. Excavators received a thrill when the big steam shovel tossed up a rusty can, but it was filled only with bolts, nuts, nails, screws and a horseshoe. They expect the horseshoe to give them good luck.

—A large bank barn on the Joseph Hostetler farm along the mountain back of Bellefonte, Millda county, was struck by lightning in a week-end storm and burned with its contents in spite of the efforts of the Bellefonte fire company. The bolt struck fairly in the middle of the structure and a mass of flames shot up like an explosion. The barn contained the grain of the season's crops, including the threshing outfit, the property of Seth Yoder, which was to remain in the barn over the week before moving. All of the stock except six little puppies were saved. The loss will exceed \$15,000. At the Lizzie Taylor farm, adjacent, the silo was torn from its moorings and scattered about the farm, the roof was torn from the barn and the fruit orchard demolished. Only six trees were left standing. The W. O. Bearick home was visited by the storm and the porch swept clean of furniture, which has not been recovered, and the glass of the door broken in. The rod holding the weather vane on the top of the Presbyterian church was bent double and the church property damaged.