

INK SLINGS.

—If Germany has no army and no navy of ever having one again why are eight spies who were recently caught with the French forces?

—The real old dude is coming back. English fashions for men include coats that they wore years ago when the fop and dandy swaggered about the places where the man in knickers has since lounged.

—The former Kaiser has confirmed a report that he is going to marry again. The lady is probably one of his own ilk and the marriage is probably designed to give misery company.

—If Mr. Pinchot is so sure of being the next Governor of Pennsylvania why does he think it necessary to make the most strenuous campaign any candidate of his party has ever made. Governor Sproul didn't claim to be half as good a man as Gifford Pinchot and he didn't make a tour of all.

—At Pottstown, in 1912, Pinchot, then a Progressive, said: "The Republican party is dead." At Huron, south Dakota, in 1914, he said: "I am through with the Republican party for good and all." That's the kind of a Republican who is now asking the Republicans to make him their Governor.

—Ohio is to vote on a State constitutional amendment legalizing the manufacture of light wines and beers. What for, we'd like to know? Ohio assigned her rights of self government in this respect when she ratified the Eighteenth amendment so what's the use of her trying to get something back that she knows she can't have.

—The Kemalists Turks may set all Europe aflame if they are not suppressed at once. Feeling that way we are not what England's ulterior motives may be she is taking up the world's battle when she hastens to the defense of Constantinople. And let us say right here that when Europe is aflame again our fat will be in the fire.

—So the Philadelphia Public Ledger thinks that the rural element looks upon its youth solely in terms of potential farm labor. Well, well! We wonder how many men who are really doing things in Philadelphia today would be left if all those who can trace their ancestry back to rural elements who did not think of them solely in terms of potential farm labor should be called back to the farms.

—The Episcopal church has nominated Rt. Rev. Paul Jones to be missionary Bishop of eastern Oregon. The interesting aspect of the selection lies in the fact that Bishop Jones is a Socialist and a radical among those leaders of the advanced movement in the church. We have only commendation for the work of any prelate who is really working for good, but we have lots of sympathy for those who sit in the pews and have to accept fanaticism and trappings in lieu of the simple, homely gospel of Christ.

—Archbishop Curley, of Baltimore, and Bishop Turner, of Buffalo, have just returned from Ireland convinced that DeValera represents less than five per cent. of the people of that stricken land, that he has completely lost his head and should be suppressed. We pass this information on to the Irish friend who told us where to get off after we had paid our respects to Mr. DeValera's fanaticism. If it had not been for the money misguided patriots in this country sent to DeValera Collins would not be dead and Ireland would be a Free State enjoying peace and plenty.

—Quoting the report of council proceedings, published in another column of this issue, "the boys only make fun of the policemen." The remark was made by a member of council while Mr. Emerick's inquiry as to what had been done toward abating the begging-boy nuisance in front of the Scenic. It's the real live policeman wearing blue uniforms and carrying billies that "the boys only make fun of." Get that! Not the dummies that stand at the street intersections and the boys range in age from six to fourteen. If the policemen are only a joke to the kids and the lock-up is to continue a hang-out for nothing but cob-webs we suggest that council arm some good woman with a paddle and put her on the Scenic beat for a few nights. She'd solve the problem.

—President Harding has vetoed the soldier's bonus bill and it hasn't enough supporters in Congress to carry it over the veto. Thus, endeth, as predicted, the great play that a lot of scared Senators and Congressmen have been making for the votes of the soldiers. They knew that the government has no funds with which to pay bonuses and they frittered a whole year away without devising any practical means for raising the funds, then, with elections drawing near, they thought to fool the friends of the bill by passing it in the full knowledge that there would be nothing left back to them. While they tried to make President Harding the goat, and probably some of those who think little will treat him as such, we admire the courageous stand he has taken. With his party's strength in Congress already certain of being materially weakened in the fall elections it required more than ordinary courage to take the responsibility of an act that will almost as certainly pull more props from under his administration.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Auditor General Lewis a Bogus Reformer.

The insincerity of the investigation of frauds in the administration of the State Treasury is revealed in the announcement made by Auditor General Lewis the other day. The final report of Main and Company, expert accountants, having shown that the Kephart methods had been used by State Treasurer Snyder, the Auditor General announced that "the practices disclosed can be corrected through the administrative functions of the Treasury Department. For this purpose I will take up with the State Treasurer, Charles A. Snyder, such matters as are contained in his report of the accountants and in previous reports with respect to the accounting and internal check of the Treasury Department."

In recommending the criminal prosecution of Kephart for his misfeasances of office the Attorney General expressed the belief that the statute of limitations would shield him from punishment on all criminal acts except one and that the law provides no penalty for that one. Commenting upon this statement the "Watchman" of last week said, "it was entirely safe, therefore, to investigate and expose Kephart for the reason that the time limit had expired within which he might be punished. If Treasurer Snyder had been investigated it would have been different." Since then a subsequent report has incriminated Snyder and the Auditor General practically condones the crime to shield the party.

As a matter of fact every department in the State government at Harrisburg is honeycombed with fraud and corruption and both wings of the Republican party have come together to prevent a complete exposure. The investigation of Kephart was started to help Gifford Pinchot to get the nomination. Kephart was affiliated with the Sproul-Crow machine which had inaugurated a fight to exterminate Joseph R. Grundy. Auditor General Lewis being an adherent of Grundy struck the Sproul force through the investigation of Kephart and now that it threatens to involve interests with which he is in sympathy, he tries to smother it. Thus the bogus character of Lewis' reform professions are clearly exposed.

—Now if Attorney General Daugherty would enjoin the coal barons from increasing the price of coal he would be doing something worth while for the people.

Concerning Lobbyists in Washington.

Since it is an established custom of special interests to maintain a lobby in Washington there can be no just complaint against the Pennsylvania railroad and the United States Steel trust following the custom. The Anti-Saloon League, the Standard Oil company, Wall Street and other institutions organized for good and bad purposes have men on the floors or in the lobbies of the Senate and House of Representatives, and the greatest railroad corporation in the country, as well as the largest steel making concern in the world, have the same right as other corporations, good and bad, to watch and conserve their interests.

But the Pennsylvania railroad and the Steel trust ought to pay the expenses of their lobby out of their own treasuries. The other lobbyists are paid by those employing and using them, while it has become an established custom for the Pennsylvania railroad and the United States Steel corporation to shift the cost of their lobbies to the shoulders of the pockets of the people. This is an unjust discrimination against the Standard Oil and other corporations that enjoy or imagine they need a lobby in Washington. It will be remembered that soon after Woodrow Wilson became President all the lobbies were driven away from Congress except those of the Pennsylvania railroad and the Steel trust. Their lobbyists were members of the Senate and could not be forced away.

At that time the late Boies Penrose was the lobbyist of the Pennsylvania railroad and the late Philander C. Knox performed that service for the Steel trust. Now George Wharton Pepper is the lobbyist for the railroad and David A. Reed serves in that capacity for the Steel trust. They may draw salaries from the corporations employing them but they also draw salaries from the government for services as Senators. They are now asking the people of Pennsylvania to renew their commissions. If the people of the State want to so favor those corporations they can do no better than elect Pepper and Reed. But if they want Senators to represent the people they will vote for Kerr and Shull.

—Even the late Kaiser has abandoned the absurd idea that big armies guarantee peace. Senator Lodge is now alone in that belief.

Bright Prospects for Democrats.

The Democratic State-wide candidates are about completing the second week of their tour of the State and their journey has been a continuous ovation. It is not alone that large crowds attend the meetings addressed by the candidates, but the audiences reveal an earnestness and enthusiasm which indicates an aroused public sentiment. Mr. McSparran's earnest manner and eloquent speech command the closest attention and highest respect and his associates on the ticket, though less artful in oratory, are earning and receiving the confidence of all thoughtful persons who come in contact with them. It is an encouraging sign of victory.

The great success of this tour inspires confidence in the favorable result of the campaign. It shows conclusively that the voters of Pennsylvania have come to a full appreciation of the importance of correcting the evils of administration at Harrisburg. The civic obligation of the voters have been too long neglected and the result is that slovenliness has combined with corruption and profanity to waste the substance of the public in excessive taxation to maintain corrupt government. The politicians reap the benefits or rather the profits of corrupt administration but the people are largely to blame for permitting it.

The reports from the campaign committee in Harrisburg and the published statements of the meetings held wherever the candidates have appeared encourage the hope that voters will perform their duties this year. During recent years the farmers have been derelict in this respect. They have been influenced by the belief that getting in the corn crop is of greater importance than working for good government in Harrisburg. But they have now come to a realization of the fact that honest government is of first importance to the citizens and acting upon that idea they will vote this year and for the candidates who stand for honesty.

—Mayor Hyland, of New York, says that if it had not been for William Randolph Hearst this country would not now be a Republic. Now if somebody will tell what Hearst did to create or maintain the Republic everybody else will be satisfied.

Pinchot Got the Money.

In a speech delivered at Sunbury the other day Gifford Pinchot admitted that by means of a conspiracy with the Governor he got his salary as Commissioner of Forester increased in spite of the constitution which he had solemnly sworn to "support, obey and defend." But he was influenced in the matter, he gravely declares, by a philanthropic purpose to help his associates in the work of holding down swivel chairs in Harrisburg. Every man of them was willing to hold on to his job at the old salary and even ready to perform any menial or sinister service to secure the money. But Giff, imagined that they ought to have more and agreed to ask more for himself in order to make the demand in their behalf appear more plausible.

If Mr. Pinchot wanted to increase the salaries of subordinate officials he might have asked the Legislature to enact the necessary legislation without including himself and the request would have had infinitely greater force because of the absence of selfishness. But as a matter of fact his principal purpose was to get his own salary increased and he included his subordinates in his bill in order to enlist the friends in the Legislature of the others affected, to the support of the scheme. In making the claim of sympathy for his subordinates he simply adds the voice of hypocrisy to that of cupidity and supplements both with the crime of perjury, for he was violating his oath to defend the constitution.

Upon Mr. Pinchot's statement both he and Governor Sproul might be convicted of conspiracy. Senator Pepper's digest of the laws of Pennsylvania, defines conspiracy as an agreement of any two or more persons "to do any unlawful act to the prejudice of another." Violating an oath is certainly an unlawful act, and in securing an increase of salary by even evading the constitution, he prejudiced all the tax payers and violated his oath to "obey, support and defend" that fundamental law. But he got the three thousand dollars a year and it came to him almost as easy as the inherited millions out of which he drew an eighth of a million dollars to buy the nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania over a better and fitter man.

—If the United States had gone into the League of Nations all the European and near Eastern questions would have been amicably settled long ago and the war clouds now menacing the world would be absent.

Pinchot's Confidence a False Pretense.

Gifford Pinchot appears to be of the "Bill" Chandler type of politician. Mr. Chandler instructed the local managers of his party everywhere to "claim everything." His purpose was to lay the foundation for frauds in doubtful districts. His subsequent exposure so outraged the moral sentiment of the country that he was literally driven out of public life, though he had capacity for service. The vast majority of the people of all parties are fair and honest. Republicans, not in office or in expectation of office, who support the party, may be as sincere in their action as it is possible to be. But they are being deceived by selfish advisers or are immersed in foolish prejudice.

Mr. Pinchot is not certain of election and he knows it as well as any other observer of events in the Commonwealth. The intensely active campaign he is making is plain proof of that fact. No Republican candidate in recent years has found it necessary to travel over the territory and personally solicit voters. Two years ago not a single meeting was held or a speech made in behalf of the Republican ticket. Its success was certain, the atmosphere was charged with Republican victory. The Democrats did their best to check the tide but their work was futile. This year the contrary is true. The Republican party has disappointed the people everywhere and every student of politics understands.

Mr. Pinchot tells the people what he will do when he goes to Harrisburg as Governor. He began functioning as Governor as soon as he was nominated. But it was not for the reason that he is confident of election. It was to fool the people and to keep his own courage up. He knows the voters of Pennsylvania are utterly disgusted with his party. He understands that he must deceive the supporters of the machine or the men of his party who favor good government and there are many of them. He realizes that he has a difficult undertaking on his hands and is trying to evade the consequences by making a false pretense of confidence. He is a fraud and the people will not elect him.

—The granite watering trough which has stood on the pavement in front of the Curtin monument for over a year was removed on Monday and hauled to a point on the Snow Shoe mountain, above the Reese settlement, where it will be connected up to furnish water for the thirsty horse as well as the overheated automobile. The trough in question was purchased by the late General James A. Beaver to present to the borough of Bellefonte but borough council and citizens never could agree on a place to put it, so it was finally donated by Hon. Thomas Beaver to the State Highway Department to erect along the road to Snow Shoe. As the trough weighs over a ton there is no danger of any person stealing it, even though it is located in the wilds of the Alleghenies.

—The funeral services of the Rev. Edgar Wheeler Hall, at New Brunswick, N. J., on Tuesday, were attended by twenty-eight ministers, a Bishop and enough other persons to crowd the church to overflowing. Her daughter, her husband and a dozen others were all who paid a last tribute to Mrs. James Mills when her body was laid in the grave. Rev. Hall and Mrs. Mills, both married, were found murdered at a deserted farm house near New Brunswick. What they were murdered for God knows but if it was because they had sinned He will mete out their punishment and not judge that of the minister as less than that of the choir singer, as the people of New Brunswick evidently did.

—Senator Pepper has had good sense enough to disclaim unearned credit for settling the coal strike. The facts were about to be revealed and he didn't want to take the responsibility of a palpable fraud.

—After all what Rudyard Kipling said isn't half as bad as what Ambassador Harvey said a year and a half ago, so why object to Kipling.

—Did you know that besides being a college graduate and a real dirt farmer Mr. McSparran is a licensed preacher in the Methodist church.

—It is said that the "social set" is now influencing legislation in Washington and recent events make the statement look probable.

—We are rather in favor of encouraging pugilism in Congress. A few broken jaws in the Senate might do a world of good.

—The "Watchman" gives all the news while it is news.

Promise of Rail Peace.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.
The railway skies of this country are being flooded with the light of a promised labor peace such as they have not known at any time for seven years. Except for the enforced peace period of the war, the Nation has been living under the threat of a general rail tie-up since 1915. It came dangerously near in October, 1921. This year again, the shopmen's strike dragged us close to the ragged edge of transportation chaos.

Seven years of threat and maneuvering finds roads and unions in a mood for a truce. They have measured each other's strength. Watching the rising anger of the Nation, they have seen the country's first clumsy attempts to insure itself against strike threats. The unions dread any further step toward compulsory arbitration. The roads have plumbed and known the depths of Federal regulation for a generation. They fear what may be coming.

There is a turning back on the part of both men and roads to the old ways of settling their troubles between themselves. This may end the greater part of the United States Railroad Board's usefulness or it may not. That will depend upon the good will of both sides. It will require the receding of unionism from its recent stand that all rail-wage and working-condition problems shall be settled on a nation-wide basis.

That seems to be coming to pass. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central are making agreements with the Rail Brotherhoods direct instead of taking their troubles to a national body for adjustment. The partial settlement of the shopmen's strike was reached in the same way and is being extended. Before the war rail systems dealt with their own men and were not entangled in settlements that covered all of the 202 Class 1 railways of the United States. The settlements were regional at most and not national.

That older system worked better than that in effect in recent years. Whether it is workable now under the changed conditions left by the war remains to be seen. It can hardly be worse. W. G. Lee, of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, undoubtedly voices the sober second thought of labor and the heartfelt feeling of most rail executives when he says:

We are trying to get our wage problems and working conditions out of the hands of politicians.

More power to them, if this means that the rail industry is able and minded to cease from its troubles and threatenings, smooth out its own affairs, clean up its own house and get down to its real business of giving this country the maximum of rail service and the minimum of quarrels and casts. Its threats and its perennial wars were what brought it into the "hands of politicians."

Plenty of Material for State Prosecutions.

From the Philadelphia Record.
A correspondent of one of the organs of Pinchot, traveling with the Republican candidate for Governor, quotes the ex-Forester as saying that he has a report containing a remarkable body of information regarding the business of the State of Pennsylvania, and that he will have exact knowledge of the various departments of the State government if he shall be elected Governor. To this the correspondent adds:

Whether or not the "thorough and illuminating" knowledge of which Mr. Pinchot speaks includes material upon which to base civil suits and criminal prosecutions he declines to say.

This is all very interesting, but no reports of the business of the State of Pennsylvania are available to the public. None have been printed during the past three or four years. Why keep the facts a secret if Mr. Pinchot has them, as he claims?

In the meantime regarding material for prosecutions, Mr. Pinchot himself, according to The Evening Bulletin, of this city, has offered evidence for a prosecution by the present Attorney General of others besides ex-Treasurer Kephart. The Bulletin the other day quoted Mr. Pinchot as admitting that he had conspired with Governor Sproul to violate the Constitution of Pennsylvania in order to grab an increase in salary of \$3000 a year. What better evidence does Attorney General Alter want to begin a real prosecution? He has apparently been furnished a confession of one of the parties to a criminal violation of the law.

Why confine the prosecution to Kephart, with Pinchot and Sproul available?

Advice Not to be Buncoed.

From the Pennsylvania Farmer.
Already the coal operators are saying that the settlement of the anthracite coal strike on the basis of last year's wage scale will necessitate a raise in price of hard coal. This sounds like the veriest bunk.

Real Fun to Come.

From the Boston Transcript.
And to think that all the politics from which we have been suffering for weeks was only preparatory!

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Because accidents have become so numerous on the new state highway near Mahanoy City, Pa., physicians are urging the State Highway Department to compel motorists to carry first-aid kits.

—A Somerset county farmer awoke one morning to find that thirty of his finest chickens had been carried off by an individual, who left behind him a pocket book containing \$900. The fellow returned and made himself known to the farmer, who has compromised with him.

—Calvin Moyer, a miller at Sassamansville, Montgomery county, who was convicted of assault and battery because his wife was injured when he drove an automobile at a 30-mile clip over a rough road, was required by Judge Swartz to pay to her \$50 for pain and suffering and a \$50 fine and costs.

—Joe Bushel, a miner of the No. 1 shaft of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal Co. in Clearfield county, suffered the loss of his only remaining good leg, when he was caught under a fall of roof rock while at work. The leg was taken off above the knee. Two years ago Bushel lost his other leg in an accident of a similar nature.

—Mrs. Grace Baker has been designated acting postmistress of Claysburg, Blair county, pending the appointment of a successor to her husband, the late William B. Baker, who died several weeks after taking office. As the office comes under civil service regulations, an examination will be held to give applicants an opportunity to qualify.

—Alleging that a quarrel over the way the chicken should be cooked for the Sunday dinner, Oliver Lynch, of Westmoreland county, is in the Latrobe hospital with shot wounds in his legs, and his wife is in the county jail charged by her husband with having yanked the family shotgun from the wall and peppered him when he disagreed.

—Bart Spangler, who was 100 years old last January 13th, died at his home at Marietta Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock. He had been in failing health during the last several weeks, and death resulted from the infirmities of his years. He remained president of the First National bank, of Marietta, until his death, and was active in his store business until about six weeks ago.

—Irvin Homer Wayland, who enlisted in the United States army from Munson, Clearfield county, in 1918, and who after his discharge was found to be insane and lodged in the Danville asylum, has been awarded compensation to the amount of \$80 per month, dating from January 28th, 1921, and his guardian has received a check from the government for \$1,537.33, now due.

—After being in continuous operation for more than a quarter of a century, the big mill of Kaul & Hall, at St. Mary's, Elk county, has been closed down permanently. The operations at the mill opened in January, 1897, with a force of 100 men, in several hundred more were employed in cutting and bringing in the logs. For a number of years the daily output averaged 35,000,000 feet per year.

—Two white men and a negro pleaded guilty to second degree murder in court at Ebensburg on Monday, in connection with three separate killings in Cambria county. Marcellina Naba, who killed Louis Ortego, at Johnstown, got seventeen to nineteen years in the western penitentiary. Joe Bellevic received a similar sentence for killing August Palo, at Colver. Robert Brown shot James Ryan, both Negroes, at Johnstown, and will do from nineteen and a half to twenty years.

—Residents of Newton Hamilton have protested against council enacting a curfew law which would entail the ringing of a bell to designate the extreme hour at which children would be allowed on the streets. The protesters asserted such a law is along the lines of centralized government and would take away from the parents the authority to control the actions of their own children. They declare it puts the child in the criminal class and that the young people of Newton Hamilton have not yet reached that stage.

—Glenn W. Kisor, a Stroudsburg undertaker, had a narrow escape from serious injury last week when returning from Karamac near Delaware Water Gap. While passing through the golf links near Karamac camp he was struck in the face by a wind-golf ball and crashing glass of the windshield of his machine, suffering numerous cuts. Kisor asked that he be taken to Dr. William R. Levering for treatment. The doctor is a golfer. Kisor is reported to have said he regards golf as antagonistic to his profession, because it keeps a lot of men alive.

—In the Springbrook Valley, nine miles east of Scranton, the Springbrook Water Supply company is preparing to erect a great lake in which 1,800,000,000 gallons of water will be impounded. The reservoir will draw its water supply from 15 square miles of territory. The dam will be between 600 and 700 feet wide at its base and 20 feet wide at the top, and will be 125 feet high. Its length will be 1490 feet. Behind the dam the water in the deepest part will be 110 feet. It is expected the work will be completed by November, 1923. The Springbrook company supplies 44 municipalities in the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys.

—Charles Scandalis, formerly a saloon-keeper, of Harrisburg, then a garage owner and finally a prohibition agent, left an estate of \$250,000 in his will, made public at Harrisburg on Saturday. Scandalis died at Red Bank, N. J., last Sunday from wounds incurred in a brawl. His name has figured several times in bootlegging cases in Harrisburg. In New York and in Baltimore, he leaves \$50,000 worth of stock in a cigarette company, of which he was president, to his private secretary, Miss Alice J. Boyle, of Harrisburg. One-third of the estate goes to his widow, who is made executrix, and the balance to his children, Christ, George and Jane.

—Appointment of Margaret R. Sidler, of Danville, as register and recorder of Montour county, makes the fourth woman to be named by Governor William C. Sproul to county office, although two others who were elected were commissioned by him under State laws. The three other women appointed to county offices were: Miss Ella Stewart, register and recorder of Bedford county; Miss Annette Young, clerk of Quarter Sessions and Oyer and Terminer courts of Erie county, and Mrs. Margaret E. Zuber, recorder and clerk of Orphans' court of Lycoming county. Those elected were: Mary V. Reimensnyder, prothonotary, etc., Northumberland county, and Daniela E. Wilder, register, recorder and clerk of the Orphans' court, Warren.