

INK SLINGS.

If the ground hog did it, it's some comfort to realize that his job is half done.

Another thing to consider is the danger that Germans may fall in to the habit of loafing.

It must have been a dentist instead of a doctor who said that Bolshevism is the result of bad teeth.

Anyway Mr. Volstead's little act has served a fine purpose for a lot of daily newspapers. Always there are stories of dry raids and boot-legging breaking to fill up columns.

We are sending grain to Russia to succor the starving population while Russia is sending grain to Ruhr to feed the Germans who won't work for our friend and ally, France. A fine state of affairs, isn't it?

It is making a lot of difference in Washington these days whose wind is jamming the Senate. Talking Harding's ship subsidy to death in 1923 is the analogy of talking Wilson's merchant marine bill to death in 1915.

Cherry trees, little hatchets and all the accessories for properly celebrating George's natal day were in evidence yesterday, but the weather man didn't do much toward leaving pleasant memories of it in this neck of the woods.

Having withdrawn from running England's machinery long enough to gather up an armful of monkey wrenches Mr. Lloyd George has returned and is throwing them into the wheels of the machinery Bonar Law is trying to keep moving.

The Governor is growing more interesting every week. He has emerged from the stage of telling us what he intends doing. Now he is beginning to let the people in on how he is going to do it. The real thrill will come, of course, when we discover that he's done it.

Under ordinary circumstances we find getting out of bed in the morning the hardest thing we have to do in the day's grind. And we want to tell the world that the mess of snow that greets our eyes nearly every morning, after the fight with the hay is won, is making it harder and harder.

One proposition of the Governor that we'll all support is the proposal that there shall be no new taxation by this Legislature. We're all poor now and if Giff. can get through without making us any poorer we'll forget it, if his administration ends in less "magnificent achievement" than did that of his predecessor.

Now that the explorers have found old King "Tut" none of the big museums want him. They say he won't keep in any other pickle than the Egyptian atmosphere. It seems to us that a cadaver with a record of three thousand years could stick it out long enough to see them that say it won't keep lying peacefully beside it.

That Harrisburg couple who are asking the neighbors to supply a name for their new baby are doing some clever advertising for its pop's florist shop. What Mr. Uttley is really after is to get a lot of people to "say it with flowers"—flowers from his shop—then he'll step in and name the baby himself. It's his prerogative. It's a boy.

The Prince of Wales, the democratic young chap who some day might be King of England, is tired being fiddle-dee-dee and having pink sashes tied on him. What he is in rebellion. It is crying out to be let alone, to pursue life like regular folks pursue it. We're for the Prince. He's the boy who is taking the joy out of life for the snobs.

The proposal that a commission of the Legislature be appointed to study and report on a plan for a more equitable system of taxation for Pennsylvania sounds good to us, principally because the author of the resolution, Representative Alexander, of Media, thinks fifteen thousand dollars a sufficient appropriation to defray its expenses. A Pennsylvania commission on fifteen thousand dollars would be worth while even if it only scratched the skin of the tax problem.

Just at the season when the regular duck is thinking of flying north one of the big lame ducks in Washington is getting ready to fly south. Senator Miles Poindexter, of Washington, whose constituents invited him to stay at home last fall, has been appointed Ambassador to Peru. He much preferred being in the Cabinet, but the Ambassador was evidently regarded as being too frank with her gossip letters to newspapers to be an entirely safe person to have around Washington these days.

We note that a movement is afoot among the world's best writers to project real literature on the silver screen. In other words the highbrows are going to uplift the movies. Our first impulse was to view this undertaking with alarm, but now that we recall the result of that conference of the best writers—no, it was the best minds—that was held at Marion, Ohio, a bit over two years ago, we're not so much perturbed. Anyway, we can't stick a movie out. We get a dizzik in the head—as old August Newman, of Milesburg, used to say—after ten minutes and all our real joy of the film went to heaven with John Bunny.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 68. BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 23, 1923. NO. 8.

Importance of Honest Elections.

The esteemed Clearfield Republican joins in the regret expressed in this column last week that Governor Pinchot is inclined to invest all his official energy in the enforcement of laws to suppress one vice to the neglect of other equally if not greater evils.

"How about the ballot box stuffers, the fellows who override the will of the people year after year in Pennsylvania and elect whomever they please in defiance of law, in opposition to the honest efforts of the best men and women of Pennsylvania?" asks our contemporary. But we see no signs of response to the inquiry.

The "mess at Harrisburg" is easily traceable to this paramount evil in the public life of Pennsylvania. It practically began with the inauguration of John K. Tener and the late Edwin H. Vore boasted in a speech in the State Senate that he was elected by the 40,000 fraudulent votes counted for him in South Philadelphia.

If Tener had been defeated there would be no "mess at Harrisburg" to "clean up" now. It would have been "cleaned up" immediately following the inauguration of William H. Berry as the capitol graft mess was cleaned up after his induction into the office of State Treasurer, and the monumental blunders of Brumbaugh and the profligacies of Sproul would never have defaced the escutcheon of Pennsylvania.

"Why then does Governor Pinchot treat the election reform efforts of his friends so indifferently?" continues our Clearfield contemporary. "It was on the liquor traffic and crooked election boards that the Republican State organization depended for years to carry through any ticket named."

Judging from the weather we have had the past three weeks the groundhog must have seen two shadows on Candlemas day. And the man who last fall predicted a mild and open winter made a poor guess as a weather prophet.

They have finally got "Mont" Rely, Harding's alleged Governor of Porto Rico. Persistent effort may get Attorney General Daugherty and Ambassador Harvey.

The moment that any one announces that King Tutankhamun's private stock has been found we will begin to feel an interest in the search of his tomb.

Just Protest Against Injustice.

Mrs. Archibald R. Harman, of Philadelphia, president of the Women's Republican club of Pennsylvania, is justly indignant because of some recent developments in the political life of the State.

It goes without saying that any legislation which impairs the rights of women in this day of grace is absurd. The rights of women to complete equality before the law is recognized by legislation, State and national, and guaranteed before the possibility of a backward step.

The recent trip of the male bosses of Philadelphia to Florida for the purpose of picking a candidate for Mayor seems to be the "straw that broke the camel's back."

If France had adopted the course in 1871 that Germany is pursuing now Prince Bismarck would have died of heart-failure instead of disappointment at the ingratitude of a thankless Kaiser.

Repeal of the Coal Tax.

There are now pending in the General Assembly, at Harrisburg, three bills providing for the repeal of the law levying a tax on anthracite coal.

There never was a valid reason for imposing this tax on the poverty and industry of Pennsylvania. If the government of the State had been properly administered during the last quarter of a century there would have been abundance of revenue to meet the obligations of administration.

In every part of Pennsylvania today people are suffering because of this tax. The price of coal, previously excessive, was increased because of the tax and the poor who buy a bucketful at a time get less for their money.

Possibly the saloon keepers weren't as good to Pinchot at the crucial moment as the ballot box stuffers.

If Germany insists on the "side-step" too long the "tango" may be substituted.

Woman's Views of Woman's Rights.

There is reason and logic in the argument of a woman writer in the Philadelphia Record who favors the bill introduced into the General Assembly by Senator Schantz, of Lehigh county, on the subject of jury service for women.

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But the point which the "Woman Juror" brought to notice is of a different nature. During the committee hearing on the bill one of the female opponents of the measure, assuming to speak for all the women of the State, asked Senator Schantz "where are the women who are in favor of the bill in question?"

Ambassador Harvey believes that Great Britain and the United States are closer together than ever. That impression may have come from the fact that this is the first time in our history that we have been represented in London by a joke.

In the Days of Stage Coaching.

A copy of the Bellefonte Patriot, Vol. I No. 11, under date of Monday morning, July 27th, 1818, was placed upon our desk this week, and after looking it over we have decided that the local editor of that day had a very easy time of it, as not one item of local news could be found in the four pages of four columns each.

But most remarkable of all the advertisements was that of the stage line between Northumberland and Bellefonte. According to schedule the stage left Northumberland every Friday morning at five o'clock and drove to Deerstown in time for breakfast. Dinner was eaten at Mifflinburg and the night spent at Aaronsburg.

At a joint meeting of the Centre and Clinton county commissioners, held in Lock Haven last Thursday, it was decided to repair the inter-county bridge at Beech Creek and put it in substantial shape just as soon as the weather in the spring will permit of work being started.

With the adjournment of Congress we will get rid of the ship subsidy forever, and of Senator Borah for a while.

The ship subsidy bill is breathing hard and Drs. Harding and Lasker have about given up in despair.

The War Debts.

All of the 10 billion dollars we advanced to our associates in the war was spent in this country, buying American materials, employing American labor and enhancing American fortunes.

Those of our statesmen who regarded the financial aid we extended to our associates in the war as exclusively a business matter are very much dissatisfied with the rate of interest. The rate is more likely to be too high than too low.

But it is a mean soul, or a disloyal heart, that insists on regarding this transaction as merely a matter of finance. We entered the war in our own interest, because our rights were violated, and because a German triumph would threaten our safety and our freedom of action.

It will be painful for Americans in the future to read the present discussions and learn that in 1923 there were Americans who wanted to make a good business investment out of money advanced—spent in this country—to the nations that had been pouring out their blood for nearly three years before we entered it in a war for civilization and democracy.

Senator Glass told the truth when he said, "The indebtedness of the United States to Great Britain is quite as great as Great Britain's indebtedness to the United States."

All is Not Rosy for Pinchot.

Pittsburgh and other large daily newspapers with correspondents at Harrisburg are beginning to tell the truth about the conditions in evidence down there.

It is writ that Daniel went down into a den of lions and escaped unscathed, that little David went out against the mighty Goliath and slew him, and it is of written record what Sampson did to a multitude of Philistines with no more formidable weapon than the jawbone of an ass.

For lo, and behold, and there cometh in these latter days one Gifford Pinchot, who, having formulated a budget some twenty-eight million less than hath been customary, he layeth it before the Legislature, and not only doth he get away alive, but is acclaimed as well by the populace.

If Lloyd George will "search his heart" thoroughly he may discover that he is himself somewhat to blame for present conditions.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Plans are now being made by the Gettysburg chamber of commerce to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd of this year.

Mrs. Lena Margel, widow of Joe Margel, was awarded \$10,000 damages at New Castle last Saturday, by the jury which heard her suit for \$25,000 damages against Louis Weinberg, a constable. Margel was killed in an encounter with Weinberg more than a year ago.

Speechless for six months, Miss Laura Hartzell, of Bloomsburg, suddenly recovered her voice at the Bloomsburg hospital last week. For six weeks she made no effort to speak, resting her voice completely. She was confident that her prayers for recovery would be answered.

Grace Methodist church, Williamsport, has instructed the superintendent of the Williamsport district, Central Pennsylvania Methodist conference, to use his good offices to obtain reappointment of the Rev. Alexander Scott to the Grace pastorate. If he is sent back the congregation will add \$400 per year to his salary.

A murdered man's widow is entitled to compensation under certain circumstances, the State Compensation Board decided at Pottsville, last Friday, in awarding \$5000 to Mrs. Catharine Ford, of McAdoo. Her husband was found with his throat cut, near a coal stripping, and was so near death he could not tell what happened to him.

Declared to be the largest ever fabricated in this country, an anchor has been shipped by the American Steel Foundries, of Chester, for the Leviathan, which is now being reconditioned at Newport News, Va. The anchor weighs 33,300 pounds and is wrought of cast steel.

Bernard Strouss, wealthy Mount Carmel resident, invited Elmer E. Rowe, his barber, to ride with him in his automobile. The car upset, and Rowe has sued Strouss for \$30,000 damages.

Running away from her home only partially clad, Mary Wasko, 17 years old, of Columbia county, was found dead last Friday afternoon from exposure, in a field a half mile from her home at Briar Creek. The girl had been ill for some time, and following a reprimand left the house. She tried to commit suicide by throwing herself in front of a train, but the engineer stopped in time to avoid striking her.

A 50-gallon still, seized when George Bowers, of West Fairview, Cumberland county, was arrested on a charge of making moonshine, is running full blast in the Cumberland county jail at Carlisle, and Bowers is the operator.

Radio offers a wholesale challenge to churches because "we may perhaps be compelled to make good or to go out of business," the Rev. E. J. Van Etten told his congregation at Calvary Protestant Episcopal church, in Pittsburgh Sunday night.

Thomas Wilson, 6 foot basket ball star of the Camp Hill High school team, of Harrisburg, helped save Prof. C. G. Bowers, principal of the school, from getting a thrashing at the hands of another pupil.

Merle Balmer, another basket ball player, was next. He started to mix it up with the principal, and the latter had to call for help. Wilson intervened for him, but, being next on the list, got his own thrashing as if nothing had happened.

The home of C. W. Shannon, of Berwick, was wrecked by an explosion of the kitchen range just as Shannon arose from the breakfast table Saturday morning. Pieces of metal were driven through partitions, all the windows in the house were broken and several in adjoining homes.

George Bryant, known throughout the northern part of the State as the "David Harum" of Pennsylvania, is dead at his home in Carbondale, which is known as the "house of a thousand fiddles."

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