

INK SLINGS.

—There are usually three groups of people in a community. One tries to build up, another busies itself tearing down and the third sits tight criticizing and reaping whatever benefits accrue from the work of the other two.

—Just by way of a bit of friendly advice to those who are trying to push more drastic supplements to the Governor's enforcement bill through the Legislature we rise to remark that when things get too dry very often they crack.

—Having stuck three rows of onions just before the gentle rain of Tuesday evening we are looking forward to the time when our breath will command as much attention in a crowd as will that of the fellow who has just gotten outside of a slug of new corn moonshine.

—The announcement that young John D. Rockefeller is one hundred million or more richer than he was this time last year excites no envy in us. Last year seventy-nine millionaires committed suicide in this country and we'll bet there wasn't one person as poor, and as happy, as we who went west by that route.

—We note, with a degree of suspicion as to the uncontrolled status of several metropolitan newspapers, that since Mr. Stotzberger returned from Florida the Dorothy Keenan affair, in which his son-in-law figured conspicuously, has dwindled from scare heads on front pages to two or three inches sandwiched in on the advertising pages.

—The Democrats have elected the mayor of Chicago by the greatest majority ever given any candidate for that office. We mention the result, not with gloating and we don't bank on it as an indicator of what Chicago will do in 1924. It was purely a local fight and had we been Judge Dever we would rather have lost than won with the support of the Thompson faction—if that was the balance of power in his election.

—Science is getting down entirely too pat for us. A Chicago professor has invented an "emotional reaction machine" which will tell whether a man is a coward or not. A "lie-detector" is another device, the product of some savant who might have been better employed in other fields. We wouldn't fear going up against that "emotional reaction machine" but we might appear a bit nervous if some one were to spring the lie-detector on us after we get home from the fishing excursion we hope to have on the 16th.

—It matters little to us whether Mr. Lasker succeeds in ousting John T. Adams from his position as chairman of the Republican National committee or not. We admit that it is going to take more pep than Adams has to even keep Harding in an "also ran" place in the 1924 race, but Lasker, being an advertising man, won't be able to sell Warren G. to the country by his methods either. The next President of the United States will be a Democrat and the row about who shall lead the opposition interests us not the least.

—The Pennsylvania State College was sixty years old on Sunday. Three score years of service to the people of Pennsylvania certainly deserves retirement from its biennial struggle for funds enough to keep the institution going. If the Legislature of Pennsylvania had properly conserved the land that the Federal government gave this State as an endowment for the College it would be getting millions today, instead of the paltry thirty thousand a year interest on the five hundred thousand that the lands were sold for. New York held her lands until they came into value enough to give Cornell an annual income of a million or more. State would be rich in her own right today if Pennsylvania had had a Cornell in 1862.

—The spirit of "clean up" has entered a part, at least of the circus business. All of the tented exhibitions in the United States are under the control of two rival organizations. One of them, that has the guidance of the one really big show and many of the good smaller ones, has issued an edict that no gambling, no hootchy-kootchy dancing, nothing immoral or unclean will be tolerated on a lot on which any of its circuses are exhibiting. All the joy of the side-show will be gone for many spectators and a lot of us "hicks" 'll forget how to guess which shell the pea is under. If these reformations continue their progressive interference we view our posterity as a race of ninnies who have never had their eye teeth cut.

—If Governor Pinchot wishes to retain the respect and confidence of the reasonable people of Pennsylvania he'll quit spoofin' and get down to brass tacks. He knows that his plan of governmental reorganization can't effect economies enough to provide funds for the schools, the road building and the forest land purchases he advocates. In the same breath that he tells the Legislature that it must provide for these pretentious enterprises he insists that there shall be no new taxation. We admire the adroitness with which he has brought the remnants of the old machine to the humiliating position of eating out of his hand but when he attempts to force it to add two and two and try to make the public believe the result is five we have nothing but contempt for him.

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Ballot Fraud a Quarter of a Century Ago.

On the first day of April, 1898, according to the esteemed Philadelphia Record, of April 1, this year, "due to the many pardons of persons convicted of election frauds in Philadelphia, a local grand jury recommended a bill to the State Legislature that would make illegal voting and ballot-box stuffing unpardonable crimes." That was twenty-five years ago but the State Legislature has not yet enacted the legislation requested. The evil complained of has been abated somewhat. There are fewer pardons to that type of criminals now than then, but it is for the reason that a different form of protection has been adopted. Illegal voters and ballot box stuffers are not brought to trial now.

Twenty-five years ago the Republican machine in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania was a cruder organization. Quay was the dominant figure in the State and Durham in the city. Their methods were those of "cave men." They put down opposition with strong arm processes and paid little attention to public opinion. Money was less abundant and force more easily applied. The courts had not then been corrupted while the pardoning board was a servile creature of the machine bosses. Since then more refined methods have been introduced. Then voters were coerced and discredited. Now they are bought and satisfied. The courts do the work now the pardon boards did then and with greater safety and more satisfaction.

A quarter of a century ago ballot box stuffing and illegal voting was a comparatively new industry. Since then it has become the controlling force in elections throughout the State. It is practically admitted that the last three gubernatorial elections have been decided by illegal votes and stuffed ballot boxes. The honest voters of the State have protested in vain but the beneficiaries of the crimes have set their faces against any legislation which might result in honest and fair elections. The present Governor has had his attention called to the matter officially and otherwise but he seems oblivious of this great evil. He is wasting his time and energy on worthless or bogus reforms.

—A news dispatch states that "a cold wave of Augusta chills Harding's party." Maybe so but Harry Daugherty's announcement of Harding's ambition gave the Republican party a severe chill.

Pinchot's Meaningless Platitudes.

"The mountain labored and brought forth a mouse." That is the first thought that comes to the mind on reading Governor Pinchot's much advertised speech delivered to the General Assembly in joint session on Tuesday. We must plan wisely, he says substantially, and the maintenance and improvement of our public schools is essential. We must promote higher learning, conserve the lives of workers and foster agriculture. Most people will concur in these propositions. Then our commercial interests must be fostered, good roads maintained and our forests protected and developed. That is the gist of his oration.

In addition to these things the Governor wants "a giant power survey leading to the planned and orderly development of all available sources of power in Pennsylvania and in the protection of Pennsylvania's right to a due share of the power produced in adjacent territory," and last but not least "the enforcement of the law itself in order that the reproach of law breaking may pass from our Commonwealth, and that Pennsylvania may become again what she was in the beginning—the leader among the States in respect for law and in defense of the National constitution, which is the bond of our common union."

Certainly "simple words in a solemn way." Is there a man, woman or child within the borders of the Commonwealth who will oppose these suggestions? We firmly believe not. Then what was the use in wasting the time of the Legislature in stating them? How will it help to "clean up the mess at Harrisburg." The reckless "not criminal profligacy of previous Republican administrations has plunged the State into a bottomless pit of debt and the Governor's only cure is a bunch of platitudes as meaningless as they are silly. But Pinchot has again captured a place on the first page of the newspapers.

"Pride goes before a fall," according to the adage, and Easter proved that it also takes a tumble in the presence of a hard frost.

—Wilhelm has lost his empire, his honor and his wife but his bad reputation clings to him.

Signs of Mischievous Deal.

Political gossip is running at a rather high rate of speed throughout the State concerning the vote of the Pinchot enforcement bill in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, last week. According to current rumors "the votes necessary to put the measure over were recruited through the medium of deals in which the alleged party leaders were involved." In this connection State chairman W. Harry Baker, of the Republican State committee, and Austin McCollough, chairman of the Democratic State committee, are linked together as participants in the transaction and considerable indignation has been expressed by voters of both parties at this strange if not exactly "unholy" alliance.

It is an easy matter to conjecture the cause that influenced Mr. Baker to come to the assistance of the Governor to put over his most cherished piece of legislation. What is known as the "Beideman machine" in Harrisburg is really the Baker machine, and it has something like 500 employees on "the Hill." The Governor is said to have indicated pretty plainly that his official favors would be limited to those who helped him force the enforcing bill through and Baker was anxious to save the faithful five hundred. But McCollough's action is utterly inexplicable from a party viewpoint, except upon the hypothesis that Congressman Greist, of Lancaster, hypnotized him to act as cat's paw.

If the matter were to end there it would be of little consequence for the reason that nobody actually regrets the passage of the enforcement measure. It is "neither fish, flesh nor fowl," so far as it affects the liquor traffic or the public morals. But the gossip indicates a spirit of resentment in the rank and file of both parties in as well as out of the Legislature that may work mischievous results in the future. Bi-partisanship, whether in the form of a conspiracy to control legislation or an agreement to manipulate nominations or elections, is obnoxious to well-intentioned minds and is especially odious to sincere and active Democrats. We shall await the results of this affair with anxiety.

—The Senate appropriation committee on Monday night reported for passage as committed, Senator W. I. Betts' proposed constitutional amendment for an eight million dollar bond issue to provide additional buildings and equipment for The Pennsylvania State College.

Let the Monroe Doctrine Alone.

Thoughtful men and women of the country will learn with grave fear that the Pan-American conference in session in Santiago, Chile, will take under consideration "a project providing for the establishment of a code of international law for the American continent incorporating and amplifying the principles of the Monroe Doctrine." Any system of international law worth while ought to be sufficiently comprehensive to cover all international relations and the chances are more than even that any attempt to create a code of limited jurisdiction will be a botched job. European nations, for example, might feel justified in creating a code in conflict with ours and the result would be bad.

But that is not the greatest cause for alarm because of the declared purpose of the conference. The menace is in the proposition to "amplify the principles of the Monroe Doctrine." That time-honored and almost sacred declaration of the fifth President of the United States needs no amplification. Within the last quarter of a century it has been more or less juggled by pretended interpretations which caused confusion and might have led to conflicts. But thus far it has survived all such assaults and is as strong and as clear today as when President James Monroe threw it into the teeth of the "Holy Alliance" in 1823. It was ample enough and plain enough then to serve its purpose.

The last attack upon the Monroe Doctrine was the late Colonel Roosevelt's attempt to construe it as conveying to him authority to wield it over Central and South America like a policeman uses his club or a schoolmaster his switch. He did no great harm because nobody outside of his own official family took him seriously and all other nations of the world were amused rather than frightened. But there is no telling what might come of an attempt to amplify it by a conference of the calibre of the delegates representing the United States government at Santiago. The Monroe Doctrine is all right in its present form. It has increased in force and public confidence immensely and should be left alone.

—There may be doubt as to who is the goat of the administration but Secretary Work is easily the bluffer.

Daugherty Causes Alarm.

President Harding was not altogether pleased with Attorney General Daugherty's announcement of the second term aspirations, according to the newspaper correspondents attached to the southern junket. "It was unnecessary and inopportune, in the opinion of the President," these usually well informed writers declare. The previous declaration on the subject by Senator Watson, of Indiana, gave ample information to the public and the subsequent announcement by Daugherty who assumes to be the real "guide, philosopher and friend" of the administration carries an impression of over-anxiety. Many of the President's followers add the complaint that it is too early to open a campaign for 1924.

In the history of the Republican party there has never been a time when party conditions were so critical. The failures of Congress, the disappointments over cherished legislation, the attempt to get into the League of Nations through the side-door of the court of international justice, and other incidents of recent occurrence, have set the factions on edge and the least discordant note is liable to cause an irreparable disruption. The too frequently repeated announcement of the President's ambition is irritating upon the minds of those who might prefer another candidate and it looks as if the Daugherty declaration may supply the dynamic force for an eruption. It is a delicate situation.

Others of the President's friends regret the incident for another and equally potent reason. Daugherty seems to be the goat of the administration. His reputation as a lawyer is shady, some of his official actions questionable. His very intimate relations with the President have been a source of annoyance to a great many leading Republicans of the better type who hoped that the end of the present term would serve to eliminate him. But his assumption of authority over the future purposes of Mr. Harding disappoints this expectation and broadcasts the seeds of discontent. For the same reason that Senator Pepper complains of the appointment of Alex. Moore others complain of the power of Daugherty.

—At the regular meeting of the Philipsburg borough council, on Monday evening, an ordinance was passed finally providing for a bond issue of \$30,000 of 4 1/2 per cent. thirty year bonds to be used in street paving. An application is now pending with the State Highway Department for the building of a highway in that town and the bond issue is to provide the money to pay the borough's share of the cost thereof. A special election will be held on Tuesday, May 15th, at which time they will vote on the bond issue.

—The Altoona Tribune made its appearance on Monday morning so changed in appearance that it was almost impossible to associate it with the conservative newspaper built up under the guidance of the veteran editor W. H. Schwartz. The change is no doubt in keeping with the progressive policy editor A. E. Vorse has outlined in his salutatory, in which he promises to give the people of Altoona such a paper as the city deserves.

—There is a good deal of uncertainty in the public mind as to whether LaFollette's prediction that gasoline will be a dollar a gallon was a threat or a promise.

—Senator Capper predicts a twenty-five per cent. increase in the cost of living within a year, and he voted for most of the things that will cause the increase.

—We expected something startling from Postmaster General New but never dreamed it would take the form of making letter carriers hospital runners.

—Lord Robert Cecil may not have said anything new about the League of Nations in his New York speech but he said some things startlingly true.

—About the only people who were April fooled on Sunday were the ladies who purchased a lot of spring finery for the Easter display.

—March is said to have broken the weather records in various ways but it didn't diminish the rejoicing at its passage.

—John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s income is only a million dollars a month, yet he manages to keep up appearances.

—Possibly the ex-Kaiser refused to beat the parlor carpet and lost his "happy home," for that.

"Tired of Aloofness."

From the Philadelphia Record.

Ex-Governor Allen, of Kansas, may not be empowered to speak for the Republican party, but he is a Republican, he has just retired from the office of Governor, and he comes from the section of the country which assumes a special right to reign over the United States. When he says that "the country is tired of aloofness," the issue on which his party carried the country three years ago, his opinion is entitled to some consideration. Is the Republican party ashamed of itself? Is the country sorry that it elected the Republican candidates for President and Congress?

What makes this question particularly insistent is that President Harding recently urged upon the Senate the participation of the United States in the Permanent Court of International Justice, and the Senate having received it coldly and evaded action thereon, the President is now proposing to appeal to the people, making twenty speeches in the centers of various sections. Is the Republican party hedging on its isolation policy of 1919 and 1920?

Just before going to Europe Governor Allen conferred in Washington with leading Republican officials, and after this, in Paris, he ventured his statement that "the country is tired of aloofness." "The outstanding feature of the next Republican platform," he said, "will be a declaration of our foreign policy—an effective foreign policy. I mean, one that will have an effect on the world." Mr. Allen does not care to admit that his party finds it has made a mistake, and is convinced that it cannot win a second time on a policy of isolation, so he explains that the election did not mean what it was supposed at the time to mean. "There is a growing realization," he says, "that President Harding's overwhelming defeat of Woodrow Wilson (sic) was not brought about by the desire of the people to reject the Wilson foreign program so much as it was the desire to put the reins of government back in the hands of the Republican party. While it meant the rejection of the League of Nations, as set forth in the Versailles covenant, it did not mean the rejection on the part of the American people of the idea of national relationships."

We are not sure that there is much in this explanation, but it is at least an indication that the Republicans of the West realize that the policy of aloofness is impracticable. Of course, if the country has reached this conclusion it should elect a Democratic President next year. Josh Billings said that success in life does not consist in never making a mistake, but in never making the same mistake again. We do not believe the American people will repeat the tremendous mistake they made in 1920.

Tightwads.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Does it require a government publication to define that well-known type, the "tightwad?" The authorities at Washington have printed "How Other People Get Ahead," as a timely pamphlet inculcating thrift. The "tightwad," by his finding, is a man who saves sixty cents out of each dollar he gets, spends thirty-seven cents to keep alive and invests a cent apiece for education, recreation and charity.

If the likeness of the "spendthrift" is no more amiable, he saves nothing. Out of each hundred cents he bestows fifty cents on food, raiment and shelter, forty cents to keep himself variously amused and a cent each for alms and education. Held up for emulation is the model "thriftful man." This paragon puts up twenty cents against the lean years and the rainy days. He allows half a dollar to the domestic routine. Ten cents each he apportions to education, charity and play.

No fixed economic scale for one man is likely to serve his fellow. It is always a complex matter to determine a "living wage" either for an occupation or for the occupied. It does not follow that those who do the same work live in the same way and want the same things. But it is certain that a mark of success is the ability to save. The thrifty man is the happy medium between the man who wastes too much and becomes penniless and the man who saves too little and becomes a wastrel. There need be nothing mean about thrift. Some men win a reputation for generosity in public by a lavish distribution of money they ought to spend at home and on the family. If only the tightwad suffered from a penny-wise, cheese-paring policy of needless economy—if miserliness hurt none but the miser—then a man might hutch his riches and gloat over his hoard, and it would matter little. The spendthrift is far less displeasing than the tightwad who makes others suffer from his close-fistedness, as if the dollar were the biggest value in our lives.

—William F. Shope has resigned his position as local editor of the Bellefonte Republican, effective tomorrow, to go with his father and brother at their lumber yard and planing mill. He will continue his work, however, as correspondent for Harrisburg, Williamsport and Altoona papers.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Mrs. Jane Worrell is dead at her home at Mountainville, Lehigh county. She was the pastry cook in the restaurant of her brother at Columbia borough, seven years, and in that time she baked 239,915 pies.

—George D. Hess, of Beech Creek, has declined a re-election as superintendent of the Sunday school of the Beech Creek Memorial Presbyterian church, a position he has filled continuously for forty-six years, having been elected in 1877 and annually thereafter.

—When a medical examiner went to a cheap Park Row lodging house in New York, on Sunday, to examine the body of a supposed pauper who had died, known to other lodgers as T. Hawley, of Hawley, Wayne county, Pa., he found \$1900 sewn in a small bag suspended from the man's neck by a cord.

—Rushing a moonshine still in upper York county, after a siege of three hours, members of the Harrisburg troop of the state constabulary early on Sunday shot and killed George Alekesick, who had barricaded himself in the house. The policemen confiscated a 25-gallon still, 25 gallons of whiskey and 20 barrels of Mash.

—One man lost his life in a Monday morning fire at Lancaster, which destroyed the truck department of the Rowe Motor company and caused damage estimated at \$300,000. Monroe Gest, truck driver, attempting to save some of the machines in the shop became confused by the smoke and flames and was burned to death. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—Containing that damage to the amount of \$25,000 has been done to plants and flowers at its farm at Springdale, Allegheny county, by smoke, coal dust and gases, the Elliott Nursery company on Monday filed a bill in equity against the Duquesne Light company, which operates a power plant on property adjoining the farm. The bill asks for an injunction to restrain the light company from maintaining the alleged nuisance.

—Alimony paid for fourteen years by George Rutenbach, of Pittsburgh, to his former wife was without legal obligation, Judge Ambrose B. Reid ruled on Friday in rescinding an order made in January, 1909, directing payment of \$2.50 weekly toward her support. Ten days after the order was made Mrs. Rutenbach was granted a divorce, which, the court ruled, relieved Rutenbach of legal obligation to continue payments. He told the court he paid a total of \$1900.

—Railroad companies are responsible for injuries suffered by persons jostled in crowded stations, according to a verdict for \$6166 given by an Allegheny county jury on Thursday in favor of Mary Spagnel, of Export, Pa., and against the Pennsylvania railroad. The plaintiff was about to board a train at Export April 19, 1920, when she was caught in a crowd and thrown under the train before it had come to a stop. Part of her right foot was amputated and she suffered other injuries.

—The second summer extension course in forestry will be given at a mountain camp adjacent to the State forest school at Mont Alto under the supervision of the State Department of Forestry. The course will be given by the regular forest school faculty, and will extend from June 16 to July 28, sessions being held each morning. Located on the Mont Alto State forest reserve, in the heart of the South mountains, this camp is excellent for the study of forests, trees, flowers and the wild animals of the forest.

—A jury in the Northumberland county court on Friday awarded Miss Anna Abromitis, of Kulpmont, \$213.51 damages from John B. Hencke, a Shamokin hotel man, whom she sued for breach of promise. Each member of the jury wrote on a piece of paper what they thought she should have. Then they averaged the total and agreed upon this as a verdict. One member wanted to give her nothing, another, \$67.25, the cost of her trousseau that she never used, and a third \$625, for the kisses she said she never got.

—Mrs. John T. Woolems was burned to death on Sunday morning at her home near Oxford, Chester county, presumably when she suffered a paralytic stroke and fell across the kitchen stove. Neighbors, who saw smoke coming from the lower part of the house, found the kitchen and dining room a mass of flames. The woman's charred body was recovered after the fire was put out. Mrs. Woolems had a stroke some months ago, but had rallied sufficiently to go about with the aid of a cane and crutch. Her husband was away at the time of the fire.

—Chief of police Hiram D. Yeaman, of Lewistown, secured six quarts of honest to goodness Gordon gin Sunday night as the result of an April fool joke. A stranger approached the chief with the information that he just saw a "bootlegger" go up the alley in the rear of the Temple opera house with a sack of gin on his back. The chief mounted up the alley where he found an automobile apparently deserted and, making a search, dug up a suit case containing gin. The chief says the owner of the automobile must come to him under the new "dry" law of Pennsylvania if he wants his automobile which is a valuable one.

—Five dwelling houses in Northumberland, occupied by Noah Letzleit, George and Harry Bastress, J. D. Roush, Marjorie Vincent and Henry Barringer were almost totally destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon, entailing a loss of \$25,000, partially covered by insurance. About 8 o'clock the same night another fire was discovered in the drug store of James Lloyd, on Queen street, in the same town, which spread to the moving picture house of D. A. Fisher, the art shop of Carrie B. Walker and the Van Kirk hotel, the leading hotel of the town. The first three named buildings were totally destroyed and the hotel was wrecked. Loss over \$25,000.

—The Lewistown Motor company plant was burned on Saturday, destroying sixty-four motor cars, with a total loss estimated at \$125,000. One fireman, E. S. Hasben, was injured by burns about the face and arms while fighting the flames. Several homes nearby were partially destroyed as the high wind drove the blaze against them. Herbert Gallagher, of Middletown, Pa., and Albert Ayre, of Washington, D. C., proprietors of the Lewistown Motor company, place their loss as follows: Fourteen new Cadillac, Nash and Dodge automobiles, received from the factories the day previous, \$28,000; fifty cars in the plant for storage and repairs, the property of individuals, \$50,000; stock and fixtures, \$15,000. O. O. Orner, owner of the building, \$15,000 with an additional loss of \$1000 to his residence next door and \$18,000 to adjacent property.