

INK SLINGS.

—That predicted German May-day revolution turned out to be nothing but a hisser.

The moon shines east, The moon shines west, But my pap knows Where the moonshine's best.

—Really these radio experts ought to be stopped. The idea of using one's bed springs as antenna. Catch us doing such a thing and have all the world listen to our snoring.

—Gradually the girls and women we pass on the streets seem to be coming out from under the coats of paint they have been laying on for the past few years and we're surprised to see how beautiful they really are.

—At the age of sixty-two Arthur G. Dewalt has taken unto himself a wife. Arthur is one grand Democrat and here's hoping that the new voter in his family never goes out to spill the beans by nullifying his ballot.

—Tuesday was Penrose Memorial day in the Legislature at Harrisburg. Splendid tribute was paid to the last of the big party bosses. Little was heard from the moons that reflected the Senator's living light but much from those little lights that were concealed under his living bushel.

—Let us hope that the million dollars that the Carnegie Foundation has just given for the promotion of a re-statement of the common law of the country will result in such a codification and clarification as will make it impossible in the future for technicalities to prove that black is white.

—Of course the announcement that a new job drawing a salary of seven thousand a year has been created at Harrisburg won't concern the tax payer much. He's so obsessed with the idea of cleaning up the mess that he doesn't stop to think that his posterity for ever will be paying for the job.

—However Berlin may be deceiving the Allies as to Germany's ability to pay; her latest offer of a pact for peace for ninety-nine years seems to us to be worth serious consideration even without the seven billion dollars she offers in cash. It would pay the world all the world round, even to forgive debts, for a century of peace.

—Personally we're having daylight saving all to ourselves. There's so little to do in the old town these nights that we hit the hay so early that the first gillieow bird that gets its bill out from under its wing far enough to start its matutinal song unlocks the arms of Morpheus and we crawl out to start over again just where we started the morning before.

—The trial of federal prohibition director McConnell blew up in Philadelphia, on Wednesday. Each day since it started the prosecuting attorneys have announced to the court that more of their documentary evidence had disappeared in some mysterious way and it is probable that finally it was found to be all gone and the case against the Senator and his fellow defendants had nothing but thin air to rest on.

—If the State is so poor that it will have to cut its aid to the hospitals to the bone we can't understand why Governor Pinchot has insisted on having a quarter of a million dollars appropriated for special purposes of law enforcement. Most every one will agree with us in the belief that there are enough district attorneys, enough sheriffs and enough policemen in the State to enforce the laws. If they don't do it they ought to be replaced with officers who will, instead of taking this sum away from the needy poor and giving it to extra enforcement agencies.

—The circus is coming to town next Monday and, my! What we'd give for one of those days when we used to carry water for washing the wagons, pasted paper on the hoops that the bare-back rider jumped through and missed dinner; all to be chucked under the side wall of the menagerie by some razor-back and be herded up at the end of the big top until the announcer called for volunteers for the boy's race. Them were the days. Them were the days when kids were real. We had only one Little Lord Fontleroy then. Now it seems that they're all understudying the part.

—Writing to the Philadelphia Record on the question of taxation one who signs himself "Richard Wayne" argues that the tax on anthracite coal ought to be taken off and placed on bituminous. He says that as bituminous is used only in industry it should bear the burden whereas anthracite being used by the poor should be free of tax. We don't doubt Richard's sincerity. But we are certain his investigations of the question he discusses have been limited. Up this way it is a sign of opulence when a ton of hard coal is delivered at one's home. All us poor people use soft coal and we protest against his proposal to transfer the tax.

—We have often said that we have too many laws but after looking over some recent shipments of hard coal to this place we think we could agree to having a law passed that would make it a misdemeanor for a miner to load slate and demand pay for it as coal mined. Always the miners are demanding laws to protect themselves. It seems to us that the public should reciprocate in this respect. Don't blame the trouble on your local dealer and don't blame it on the honest operator. Both of them want to give you good coal and would if the miner would stand for having the slate thrown off his car before it goes over the scales.

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Why Pledges Are Not Kept.

The several ballot reform bills introduced in the Legislature at the beginning of the session were all quietly dropped from the calendar of the House of Representatives last week, according to the press correspondents at Harrisburg. As at the burial of Sir John Moore "not a drum was heard, not a funeral note" disturbed the silence or contributed to the festivities of the occasion. Ballot reform legislation is a menace to the comfort as well as the liberty of political pirates who build up majorities for the Republican party. The only safe place for them is the legislative graveyard, and they were consigned to that secure retreat last week, "unwept, unhonored and unsung."

Speaking on the subject, our esteemed contemporary, the Clearfield Republican, ventures to ask: "What about the pledges he (Pinchot) gave about crooked election officials and crooked bosses responsible for crooked election returns? Does the fact that Gifford Pinchot received one hundred thousand crooked votes in Philadelphia, over two thousand in Allegheny county and tens of thousands in other large centers of population prevent the redemption of these pledges?" We will not undertake to answer that conundrum, though an explanation might be found in another statement of our contemporary to the effect that immediately preceding the vote a bulletin sent out from Republican headquarters read: "Go the limit. He will treat the organization all right. We never lied to you before. We know what we are talking about."

It is widely and well known that a week before the election Pinchot was slated for an overwhelming defeat. Then he went to Philadelphia and made terms with the Vare machine. Nobody except himself and a few of the machine managers know what terms were made but everybody knows that the Vares are not in politics for their health and that it is their custom to exact "the pound of flesh." After the conference with Pinchot the floodgates of corruption were opened and 100,000 fraudulent votes were cast for Pinchot in that city alone. Since that he has not spoken a word against crooked politicians or corrupt elections. It is only reasonable to believe that his silence on that subject was the price of those votes.

—Bill Vare has not heretofore been regarded as over credulous but he is about the only member of the old machine who takes Pinchot's word at par value.

The Pinchot Frame of Mind.

A correspondent of the esteemed Philadelphia Record, of a recent date, expresses a doleful story of his disappointment in Governor Pinchot. "To wake up some morning and find one's idol shattered is a rude shock to one's feelings," he declares, and adds: "At least I thought so a few days ago, when I read Governor Pinchot's statement in which he voiced his determination to cut the hospital appropriations 'to the bone' in order to pay for the 'joy rides' of previous administrations." Such things are inexpressibly sad to men and women of philanthropic minds. Thousands of others who imagined him an idealist are equally disappointed for the same reasons, and quite as many for other causes.

Last week we cited the trial and treatment of former State Treasurer Harmon M. Kephart, plainly the compounding of a felony, in order to shield more guilty rogues from exposure and punishment, as an expression of the Pinchot frame of mind. Since then another incident has occurred in Harrisburg which proves the correctness of that appraisal. In the so-called "budget," as prepared by the Governor, there was an item appropriated \$250,000 to the Attorney General for no expressed purpose. It might have been used to buy adherents to the Pinchot personal machine, as his vast contribution to the primary slush fund was used to buy votes for his nomination. In any event it was of doubtful validity for the reason that the constitution prohibits appropriations of that kind "except for ordinary expenses," and this item was certainly extraordinary.

In its wisdom the House committee on Appropriations cut that item out of the bill. Of course Pinchot was disappointed. And what did he do in the circumstances? Did he appeal to the conscience of the Legislature? He did not. He appealed to a corrupt and discredited Philadelphia politician and sent him as an emissary to Senator Vare to request that venal party boss to coerce his colleagues in the Legislature to reverse themselves and restore the mysterious item to the appropriation bill. Everybody knows what methods are necessary to influence the Vare mind and most people believe that an offer to exchange favors has been made. The approaching municipal contest in Philadelphia would afford the opportunity.

Harding is "Kidding" Himself.

President Harding, in an address delivered at the annual meeting of the Associated Press, in New York, last week, declared with some vehemence that there is no connection between the League of Nations and the International Court of Justice. He is evidently trying to "kid" somebody or else he is "kidding" himself. The International Court of Justice is a creature of the League of Nations. The judges who sit on its bench were chosen by the League of Nations and the procedure were named by the League. Without the action of the League it could have no existence and whatever jurisdiction it exercises is in accordance with the authority given by the League.

As Woodrow Wilson said the other day, it would have been better if the United States had entered the International Court of Justice without reservations or conditions. Most of the important governments of the world are already in and it is performing its judicial functions regularly. The addition of the United States to its membership would materially strengthen it in every way but the absence of this country is not fatal in any way. Whether we are in or out of the League of Nations and the International Court are striving hand in hand in the splendid work of promoting peace and advancing prosperity. But they are joined together "for weal or woe" and can neither be divorced nor separated.

In his New York speech President Harding accurately stated the attitude of the Republican party as expressed in its national platforms on the subject of international disputes. Until Senator Lodge set out to "fight President Wilson" it was committed to arbitration. But the League of Nations was the most effective instrument of putting that policy in force that has ever been devised and President Harding, as a Senator in Congress, joined in the conspiracy organized by Lodge to defeat it. The International Court of Justice is a medium aiming for the same results and we sincerely hope our government will join it. It may be a back or side door or cellarway entrance but it will get us into the League.

—President Harding doesn't care how many votes Great Britain may have in the International Court of Justice, but as a Senator he was much concerned as to her votes in the assembly of the League of Nations.

Lodge and the World Court.

If Henry Cabot Lodge has the courage of his convictions and the consistency of his pretense he will make President Harding's excursion into the International Court of Justice a hazardous undertaking. He has already given expression to a decided opposition to the enterprise. In a letter addressed to the Republican Governor, of Missouri, he classifies the court as a creature of the League of Nations, and as he has frequently declared opposition to the League in whole or any of its parts, he can hardly consent to Harding's plan. But Lodge is such a servile creature, so sycophantic a bootlicker, that he may be forced into support of the scheme notwithstanding his feeling against it.

In his letter to Governor Hyde, Senator Lodge quotes from the New York speech of the President and figuratively sticks a stiletto between his ribs. The President said the League of Nations is "serving the old world helpfully" and Lodge added: "I have become convinced that it was fortunate the Senate rejected it and that it is best for the world, for the cause of world peace and for the American people that the United States should not, under any circumstances, become a member of the League." Then by way of making his opinion more emphatic he declared that the Senate will make its own reservations and fight them through at any cost to the President or the party.

Of course nothing else could be expected of Henry Cabot, for he imagines that he is the fountain of wisdom and that patriotism is bogus unless it has the Lodge brand "blown in the bottle." But happily he no longer exercises the control of the Senate which made him so potent in the senseless fight against Woodrow Wilson, and he will have less majority behind him than that which gave him support during the last Congress. Some Republican "bitter-enders" may join in his effort to keep us out of the court, but practically all the Democrats and a majority of the Republicans will support the movement which will ultimately line this country up with the best thought of the world.

—Just naturally we are curious to know how it remained for a professor of a college where they make Methodist preachers to invent a vest pocket "hooch" detector such as professor Vuilleumier, of Dickinson, has just announced as his contribution to science.

Democratic Minority Saves the People

The positive and very proper stand of the Democratic minority in the General Assembly may save the people of Pennsylvania at least twenty millions of dollars within the next two years and hundreds of millions in the future. A tax once put on is hardly ever taken off, and the Republican majority in the Legislature had fully determined to increase taxation to the extent of ten million dollars a year in order to promote Gifford Pinchot's ambition to be President. With that increase in the taxes and a little carelessly conducted juggling of accounts, the Governor might easily have cleaned up the financial mess at Harrisburg within the first two years of his administration.

But the operation would have been an enormously expensive one. It would have been like cutting off a man's leg to cure a corn on his toe. The taxation is already almost confiscatory and an increase of from ten to fifteen millions a year, which was contemplated by the Governor and the majority of the Legislature, would have driven thousands of industrious men and women into insolvency. Realizing this the Democratic Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly declared they would oppose any and all increases of taxes and they spoke with such emphasis and unity of purpose that the conspirators were frightened away from their plans. The payment of the unlawful debts created by administrative profligacy in the past will be spread over four years instead of two.

Paying a debt of forty million dollars within two years without seriously impairing the machinery of government would have been a great achievement and ample foundation for a claim for higher honors, even though the processes had been cruelly destructive. But the Democratic Legislators could see no reason why such sacrifices should be made to satisfy the ambition and feed the vanity of one man's wife. They are willing to do anything in reason to assist in the righteous purpose to clean up a dirty mess for which they are in no respect responsible. But they are not willing to impoverish thousands of people to confer upon Mrs. Pinchot the title of first lady of the land.

—The women politicians are anxious for a constitutional convention. Probably they have "something up their sleeves."

Cleaned the Big Spring.

Borough manager J. D. Seibert gave the big spring, Bellefonte's everlasting water supply, a thorough cleaning out the latter part of last week and it now presents a more attractive appearance than it has for some time. In ordinary seasons Bellefonters go the even tenor of their way without giving more than passing consideration to the spring, but in times like the prolonged drought of last summer every one of us feels doubly thankful for the abundant supply of pure water which gushes up out of the ground with such consistent regularity day after day and year after year.

In fact the fame of the Bellefonte spring has spread clear across the continent. Several years ago the head of the Department of Education in California sent to Bellefonte for data on the spring, for use in the physical geography used in the public schools of that State. The data furnished gave the size of the spring as 60x80 feet with a mean depth of 8 feet. Volume of water, 7,000 gallons per minute, or 10,080,000 gallons a day. (This is a very conservative computation, as the flow is generally conceded to exceed 10,000 gallons a minute). The Bellefonte reservoir is 195 feet above the level of the spring, which gives a pressure throughout the town, according to location, of 15 to 100 pounds. Notwithstanding the fact that some of the water from the spring is used to operate a pump fully eight horse power of water goes to waste as surplus over the tail gate.

The water has been repeatedly analyzed and always shows up as absolutely pure as water can be.

—The United States Supreme court has ruled that no vessel, whether flying our flag or that of any other country, has a right to carry liquors aboard when within the three mile limit of our shores. The ruling has the reverse action of making it possible for American vessels to take liquor aboard, once they are outside the three mile limit, and dispense it to passengers as long as they remain outside. The result of the ruling will probably be to establish liquoring stations one inch outside the three mile limit on all the lanes of travel for boats leaving the ports of the United States.

—The Kentucky girl who married a dishwasher under the delusion that he was a real prince has "no kick coming." A man who can wash dishes well is a prize while most Princes who marry in this country are paupers.

At the evening dance Most every one knows The better the shape, The scarcer the clothes.

The Open Door.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The United States has a perfect right to insist at the second Lausanne conference on the maintenance of the open door in the Near East. It has long been our national policy to insist on equal opportunities for all nations in the backward countries which are dependent upon the Western nations for their development; "exploitation" is the common term with people who would leave barbarians and semi-barbarians in undisputed possession of a large part of the earth's surface. The term is not justified; the backward countries cannot develop their own economic resources, and they are benefited by the application of Occidental capital and skill. We have insisted on the open door in China, and we have the greater claim to opportunities in Turkey because we are one of the nations that won the world war.

We would be glad, however, if our government showed as much interest in humanity as it does in kerosene. When it has been urged to press upon the Allies the fulfillment of their promises to this country in regard to the Turks and their victims, the Department of State asks sarcastically if this country is expected to make war on Turkey. Why should it not be asked in turn if its message about the open door means that it is ready to make war upon England and France and Turkey, any, or all of them? Why should the Department of State be so pronounced about the open door for money-making purposes, and so profoundly and cynically indifferent to the massacre and deportation of almost the entire christian population of Turkey, and even discontinue on June 30 the aid the American Red Cross has been giving to Greece in the care of a million refugees from Turkey in that small and impoverished country? Is the Department of State under Mr. Hughes interested in nothing except the opportunities of American syndicates to make money?

And what has curdled the milk of human kindness in French and Turkish bosoms? From the time of the peace conference down to a few weeks ago France was acting as the next friend of Turkey. In the language of a Frenchman who has lived in Turkey for 25 years the French have shown the Christians of the Near East to the beasts, and they have on several occasions strained their vitally important relations with Great Britain nearly to the breaking point in their effort to secure for the Turks the status of one of the victors of the world war. And now the Turks are massing troops on the Syrian frontier, the French have warned them against acts of belligerence, and have sent one of their most eminent commanders to Syria. Is it the French policy that the door should be opened to French interests, but not to American interests? And is Mr. Hughes going to make war for petroleum which he would not make for humanity, not even calling upon the Allies to keep their promises made to us in January, 1917?

Italy Goes to Work.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Benito Mussolini, Italy's "Black Shirt" Premier, may be the arch flourisher of the world, as his enemies charge, but he has been good for what ailed Italy. He has put that nation of some 40,000,000 souls back to work and taken the Italian mind off some of the Italian troubles.

In the early autumn Italy was about half-minded to go along with the "Bols." The "old gang" of officialdom was drifting, cowed, afraid of revolution, afraid of its own shadows. Italian labor was refusing to work for the "dirty capitalists." Italy's farmers had got into their heads the notion that it would be a smart thing to let the shop-keepers and "white collars" starve, so they let their crops waste in the fields and the fruit rot under the trees.

Italy had been in a bad state for better than three years. Messrs. Lenine and Trotzky, Kameney and Krasin had high hopes of Italy.

Then along came Signor Mussolini, a pop-eyed, little "reformed" Socialist, with the Italian version of the old Captain John Smith doctrine that the man who does no work shall not eat. He and his "Black Shirts" were a minority, but there were plenty of them to throw the "old gang" out and tell Italy a few wholesome truths.

"Only hard work can redeem us," was one of these truths. Another was "Every man has a right to work but no man has a right to strike against the interests of the nation." Capital was reminded that it could not get along without labor and labor that it could not get along without capital. Benito Mussolini had much to say about work and precious little to say about special privileges for anybody.

Strange to say, Italy took this curious little man at his word. Workers are offering extra hours of labor and turning in the extra wages for "the good of the State." State employees, and that is a shining miracle, are following the lead of dock workers, tobacco workers, railroad employees, metal workers and a hundred other trades and crafts in increasing production, lengthening their hours and turning over to the State these extra earnings and services.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSSTONE.

—Anna M. Smith, of Norristown, has been awarded damages for the death of her husband, Isaiah Smith, who was killed by a car of the Reading Transit and Light company.

—The Lycoming and Clinton county Commissioners, at a joint session, have let the contract for the construction of a three-span concrete bridge over Pine creek, connecting the two counties, to Whitaker & Diehl, of Harrisburg, at their bid of \$86,467.

—Every article of furniture in the home of the Rev. Reese F. Thornton, pastor of the All Saints Methodist church, of Pittsburgh, was removed by thieves during the absence of the minister, the police reported Saturday night. The lot, which included a piano, was hauled away in a wagon, neighbors said.

—John Garrett, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Garrett, of Mifflin county, was painfully burned upon his face, arms and ankles Friday afternoon, when he fell while carrying a bucket of hot tar in the construction department of the Viscose company. He stepped on a stone, which turned, causing him to fall and spill the contents of the bucket upon himself.

—Thomas Casey, a car builder employed at Bloomsburg, was working on the inside of a box car, while a fellow workman was on the outside. Casey was standing along the side of the car when his fellow workman drilled a hole through. The drill entered Casey's leg and drilled a hole into the rail before he could get away. The drill passed between the two bones in the leg.

—Mrs. Dillington Shaffer, of Sunbury, and Elmer R. Hall, of South Danville, were married in the First Baptist church at Sunbury, on Sunday, by the Rev. T. Carson Hanna. Six weeks ago Miss Shaffer was waiting at her parents' home in Middleburg to marry Hall, but he did not turn up. He said he forgot he was to be married, and at the hour set for the event was in church at Danville.

—Mrs. S. C. Jack, of Hazleton, who recently celebrated her eightieth birthday and is spending a few months at Providence, R. I., has enrolled as a student at Brown University and is taking a course in French. Mrs. Jack is the mother of the Rev. Robert Bonner Jack, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of Hazleton, and is the widow of a minister who was prominent years ago in the Lehigh Presbytery.

—Harry V. E. Hager, of Johnstown, Pa., a stockholder in the Cambria Steel company, has asked Common Pleas court, of Philadelphia, to appoint three persons to appraise the damages incurred by consolidation of the company with the Bethlehem Steel Products company. Mr. Hager is one of the few minority stockholders of the Cambria Steel company who refused to surrender their shares at the time of the consolidation.

—Roy Richards, of DuBois, now about 45 years old, and unable to hear a sound since he was 20 months old, was able to hear radio programs from Pittsburgh, Newark and Schenectady one night last week, through head phones. The radio was turned in on second stage of amplification, and Mr. Richards' face showed great joy as he listened to the music. They were the first sounds he had heard in more than forty years. He would motion with his fingers as the sounds grew dim or louder.

—The bursting of a flywheel weighing seven tons, last Thursday, caused a loss estimated at \$100,000 at the plant of the West Chester Cold Storage and Ice company. The engine room was wrecked, but all the employees escaped injury. Sections of the wheel weighing 500 pounds were hurled in every direction. One piece tore a huge hole in the roof. Another was hurled over a stack 100 feet high and in descending wrecked two furnaces in the engine room, while another was found 300 feet away at the plant of the West Chester wheel works.

—J. H. Conway, chief of police of Malvern, is in the Chester county prison charged with shooting William Mitchell, a negro student in Malvern High school. Mitchell is in the Chester county hospital in a critical condition. William and his brother Harvey were waiting at the railroad station for their mother, when Conway opened fire on them. According to state police the prisoner was drunk. Conway attempted to draw his revolver when Corporal Lewis, of the state police, went to arrest him. Lewis covered the man with his revolver and took him to jail.

—Two arguments in two coal mining towns in Fayette county, on Sunday, cost three lives. Fred Douglas engaged George Nelson in an argument at the Douglas home. Shots followed and Douglas fell dead. Police are looking for Nelson. The shooting occurred at Bevers. At Edensborn, William Joyner and Chester Ingram became involved in an argument. Guns were pulled and Joyner was shot through the breast. He died almost instantly. G. F. Riley, special officer, was shot and fatally wounded when he attempted to arrest the two men, both of whom escaped.

—The body of Harold F. Van Dermark, a Bucknell University senior, who was drowned in the Susquehanna river at Lewisburg over three weeks ago when a canoe capsized, was recovered at Blue Hill, on Sunday, seven miles below the scene of the drowning. Wesley Rowe, a track walker for the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, who was patrolling his beat along the shore, saw the body floating face downward. He pulled it ashore with a pole, secured it with a wire and notified the crew of a passing train. Van Dermark's body was sent to his home at Nanticoke, where the funeral was held on Tuesday, with a group of college friends in attendance.

—James S. Zerbe, 28 years old, bridegroom of three weeks, last Friday confessed responsibility for a shortage of \$8400 in his accounts as assistant cashier of the Dalmatia State bank, after it had been discovered by Blake Harper, a state bank examiner. "It all comes from having a good time," said Zerbe, who recently married a daughter of Charles Deppen, one of the richest men in Northumberland county. Deppen made good the shortage as soon as he learned of it. Zerbe received \$135 a month. Although the bank has lost no money, officials of the state banking department at Harrisburg indicated to F. A. Witmer, Zerbe's lawyer and a director in the Dalmatia bank, that they would prosecute him. Zerbe waived a hearing and gave \$10,000 bail for the May term of Northumberland county court. His father-in-law filed the bond. Zerbe is said to have helped friends out of difficulties through his peculations, which lasted over a period of eight years.