

INK SLINGS.

—Well, the lines are drawn for the big battle in November.

—The frost is on the pumpkin, but we haven't noticed much corn in shock.

—If the Governor of Oklahoma lives through his fight to oust the K. K. K. it will be a wonder.

—The navy was about as keen to go chasing rum runners as was the army, some years ago, to build the Alaskan railroad.

—If saying nothing really means that a man is saving wood President Coolidge must have an awful pile of it ranked up somewhere in the White House.

—Centre county is going to redeem herself in November. She is going to make good her obligation to the soldiers by electing Dick Taylor sheriff.

—The striking anthracite miners went back to work on Wednesday, the 19th. We need a few more special days in order that we have excuse for doing no work at all so why not have a Pinchot day and make September 19th it?

—"Coolidge brown" having failed to affect the modes of women like "Taft pink" and "Alice blue" did aunt Mary has come forth with a recipe for making mayonnaise that may keep the family name fresh in the minds of the new voters.

—We note that it has been a quarter of a century, on Monday, since Findlay Douglass won the national golf championship at Morristown, Pa. How time do move. The first game of golf played in America seems to us to have been only yesterday.

—All of the newly elected Republican members of the Irish Parliament are in jail. Without discussion of the justification of their incarceration we rise to remark that we Democrats would have a snit if we could only get rid of Republicans over here like they are doing in Ireland.

—Think of it! Dempsey and Firpo fought for just three minutes and fifty-seven seconds in New York, on Friday night and the former received nearly half a million dollars and the latter one hundred and fifty-six thousand. The rest of us fight all our lives and scarcely ever get more than a lemon.

—Now that the primaries are over we want to notify all the good women and all the good men of Centre county who want to help us clean out the court house that the date set for the job is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. And it will be none too early to begin preparing for it today.

—While Germany's floating debt, expressed in marks, runs into so many trillions that we don't know how to express it, measured in American dollars it is only twelve million and a little over. This being so it looks as though it ought to be easy for Berlin to hock enough of something to buy twelve million American dollars, pay off all of her debts and start all over again.

—Putting it low Bill Brown has already taken down \$33,000 for services to Centre county. If he is elected sheriff he will have grabbed off \$45,000 and then he will try for treasurer to run the grand total of his pickings up to \$61,000. Some Bill! As an easy money getter Jack Dempsey's the only fellow who has anything on him.

—Geographically Schuylkill county is not half so far away from Pike as it seems to be politically. Pinchot from Harrisburg and Bill Leib from the eastern penitentiary joined hands in the effort to can the Hon. Charles "Pickles" Snyder, but pickles is pickles in Schuylkill and the Pinchot-Houck-Leib combination got nothing but the brine.

—Governor Pinchot was in the Schuylkill county primary fight to help the Houck-Heaton combine against State Treasurer Charley Snyder. Schuylkill being the center of the hard coal region the miners were urged to rally to the Pinchot-Houck-Heaton ticket because Pinchot had settled the fight favorably to them. Of course every consumer of coal knows he settled it favorably to every other interest than that of the consumer, but they didn't expect the Governor to admit it.

—Take it from us, what the east precinct of Snow Shoe voted for is what the real, underground power in the Republican organization in Centre county wanted. The ticket was Brown, Burkett, Sasserman, Mrs. Tuten, Harnish and Yarnell, and Love. Rees carried east Snow Shoe, but that was a personal matter. All of this ticket carried Phillipsburg, split about even in the Rushes and got away with College township in every case but that of Sasserman who lost to Rossman in Chairman Mayes' home precinct.

—Senator Capper, of Kansas, advises farmers to quit the soil in order to stimulate the price of wheat. Young Mr. Roosevelt advises them to combine and hold their products out of the market until scarcity forces higher prices. Neither Senator Capper nor the son of "Strongheart" are farmers. Both, however, are Republican politicians who are concerned about holding the rural vote for their party and measured by such a motive their advice is worthless, even if either one of them knew anything about the problem they are volunteering to solve.

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Disappointed in the Governor.

The independent Republican voters of Dauphin county are greatly disappointed in Governor Pinchot, according to the Harrisburg correspondents of Philadelphia Sunday newspapers. The issue between the old Baker-Beidleman machine and the followers of Pinchot in his contest for nomination a year ago was clearly defined in the campaign for the nomination of candidates for local offices, and the Governor was appealed to for help by those who helped him. But he turned a deaf ear to all supplications. He refused to utter a word that would contribute to the success of his friends of last year or the confusion of his enemies. He is secure in his title and emoluments of office and entirely satisfied.

During the several administrations previous to the inauguration of Mr. Pinchot the Baker-Beidleman machine had been sedulously working to create a compact party force by the use of official patronage of the State government. It is estimated that at the close of the Sproul administration at least two thousand followers of the Baker-Beidleman machine, residents of Harrisburg and vicinity, were on the State pay roll with little to do except repair political fences. Notwithstanding this substantial entrenchment the independents put up a great fight and came very near carrying the county for Pinchot. Naturally they expected this work would be fitly rewarded by a transfer of the spoils of office from the defeated to the successful forces.

But nearly a year has gone by, and comparatively little has been done toward a change. The Governor was imperturbed to act but failed to respond. The Baker-Beidleman followers continued to draw the pay envelopes on the recurring pay days. Then the more hopeful independents focused their expectant eyes upon the local offices feeling confident the Governor would help them to undermine the machine by taking away these powerful supports. They organized a league and invited the Governor to co-operate. They knew that the right word from the executive chamber is worth the two thousand votes. But the word did not come. The Governor hid himself in his Pike county retreat and left his followers in the cold.

—Well, Well, Well! Our predictions as to the strength of the Leslie crowd in Pittsburgh did come true. They have taken a good share of the county office nominations from the Oliver-Magee-Flinn combination and gained a majority in council in the city. Friends in Centre county will be pleased to know that the Hon. John Francies ran away with the nomination for Clerk of Courts. He was on the "Combine" ticket, but he sort of had the pass word for the "Regular" camp too.

Coolidge and the World Court.

It has been semi-officially announced in Washington that President Coolidge "will not undertake to dominate" the action of Congress. This may be accepted as a concession to the opponents of the world court. It was generally understood at the time that President Harding's trip to Alaska was in part to "create atmosphere" in favor of the court, and his first speech of the trip delivered at St. Louis confirmed that idea. But his successor in office, if rumors correctly express his purposes, intends to let the subject die out. That is precisely what the "bitter-enders" desire, but it is hardly carrying out the policies of President Harding, who was committed to the court project.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington, published on Sunday, states that "the question of American participation in the world court is regarded at the White House as one still pending before the Senate for such action as it may decide to take upon it. Inquirers have had their attention directed to the fact that President Harding submitted the matter to that body last February and have been told that in the circumstances there remains nothing for President Coolidge to do, at least for the present." Since that the Sixty-seventh Congress has expired by limitation and all unfinished business pending at the time died with it.

That being the case there is something for President Coolidge to do if he is in agreement with his predecessor in office in the matter of entrance into the world court. He must re-submit the proposition in the original or modified form. Having done that he may urge the Senate in oral or written address to adopt it or silently watch the Senators in their process of emancipation or crucifixion of that paramount Harding policy. In his St. Louis speech the late President revealed signs of a willingness to recede on some important points. But that speech did not reflect the sincere desires of Mr. Harding. It was an expression of his tendency to compromise rather than assert himself.

Misunderstanding of Governors.

The Governor of Wisconsin is opposed to the plan of the Governor of Pennsylvania as expressed in the settlement of the local strike. The Pinchot plan is to increase the wages of the miners ten per cent, add to the profits of the operators and distributors about a dollar a ton and compel the consumers of the product to "pay the piper." In answer to an invitation to the Governor of Wisconsin, sent by the Governor of Pennsylvania, to join in a conference to carry out the plan, the Governor of Wisconsin replies that a scheme must be devised which will exempt the consumer from payment of the proportion of the cost which the Pinchot plan provides. But he fails to point the way.

We are in full accord with the Governor of Wisconsin on this subject. We have no objection to the increase of ten per cent. in the wages of the miners but Mr. John Hays Hammond, chairman of the National Coal Commission, states that the profits of the operators are large enough to absorb all the expense which the increase will involve, and if that be true there is no just cause for taxing the consumers to pay what the operators ought to pay willingly and cheerfully. More-over if the profits of the operators are sufficient to absorb this increase in the wages of the miners, and the profits of the carriers are as great as Mr. Hammond says they are, the cost of coal to the consumer ought to be reduced rather than increased.

Obviously, however, the Governor of Wisconsin hasn't correctly interpreted the purpose of the Governor of Pennsylvania in inviting him to conference. The Governor of Wisconsin seems to imagine that the Governor of Pennsylvania wants to relieve the coal consumers. As a matter of fact what the Governor of Pennsylvania wants is to be helped out of the hole into which he fell in increasing the wages of the miners and the profits of operators at the expense of the consumers. It was expected that the terms of settlement would not be understood by the public and be accepted as a benefaction. But he has discovered that the people do understand and resent the attempt to fleece them in the price of coal.

—It happened just as we surmised it would when Ira Burkett came out. While the rival factions of the old organization were dividing up between him and Gehret the Pinch-hitter, Hev-erly, slipped in.

Mr. Sproul's Foolish Notions.

Former Governor Sproul, who made such a "mess" in Pennsylvania during the four years of his administration as executive, has been in Europe for some time and availing himself of every opportunity to get into the lime light. In Paris, the other day, he managed to get himself interviewed and reiterated his opposition to the League of Nations. "One of the outstanding things I have gathered from my Democratic friends who have been observing," he stated, "is a quiet but none the less fervent admission in some conspicuous quarters that they believe that the United States was fortunate in escaping the League." The admission must have been exceedingly quiet. Probably it was a dream.

The Senators and Representatives who have been in Europe as "observers" recently are mostly Republicans who were opposed to the League from the beginning, mainly for the reason that they represent constituents interested in the manufacture of war materials and favor frequent and destructive wars. The exceptions are Underwood, of Alabama; King, of Utah, and McKeller, of Tennessee, who sailed only a few days ago. Senator Underwood has returned more than ever persuaded that the League of Nations is the only agency which will guarantee speedy readjustment of world commerce and industry. Senator King expresses strengthened faith in the League and McKeller has not spoken, but no doubt agrees with his colleagues.

Governor Sproul may have absorbed some of the ideas of Hi. Johnson and Senator LaFollette, whose confused notions of state craft are much in accord with Mr. Sproul's practice of the science while Governor of Pennsylvania. But we question the accuracy of his statement of the views of any Democratic "observers," at home or abroad, on the subject of the League of Nations, and in any event he will not have much influence in shaping the platform of either of the parties for the next campaign. With the end of his term as Governor Mr. William C. Sproul slipped into an oblivion so deep and dense that absurd interviews, however frequently published and industriously circulated, will not rescue him.

—Swabb and Searly will be the next Commissioners of Centre county, not alone because the public wants a cleaning out in the court house, but because there is luck in alliterations.

Senators Reed and Pepper Issue a Threat.

After a visit at the White House Senators Pepper and Reed have come to the conclusion that "they found it unwise for the present to express any preference between Mr. Coolidge and Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, for the Republican nomination for President." This action indicates that the President has not met the expectations of the Senators in the matter of patronage. It will be recalled that a similar disagreement arose between the Pennsylvania Senators and the late President Harding some time ago. The Senators called a conference at Atlantic City and issued a similar statement whereupon the late President is said to have yielded to a satisfactory compromise.

Pennsylvania Republican leaders are gluttons for patronage and our Senators are brutally frank in their demands. But we fail to see any reason for President Coolidge to be scared at the present threat of opposition. Congressman Vare has already assured Mr. Coolidge that Pennsylvania Republicans are for him and unless history reverses itself that settles it. Brother Bill is the potent power behind the Pennsylvania Republican machine. He has forced Governor Pinchot to do exactly what he wants both in legislation and dispensing favors. What the Senators say or think may seem important to them but is of no consequence to the public. Mr. Vare is the head and front of the force that determines.

Of course the Senators will trim their sails to the breeze at the proper time. After Mr. Harding had placated them on the previous occasion referred to another conference was called at the summer retreat of Congressman Kiess and an "oath of allegiance" was taken promptly not only by the Senators but by all the Congressmen of the State. This time the declaration will be fealty to Vare instead of to the President but it will serve the purpose. The patronage mill will be set in motion and the Pennsylvania delegation to the next Republican convention will be "Solid for Mul-Loy." It is the way things are done and will continue to be done so long as plunder instead of principle rules.

—At a trial of a Ku Klux leader in Georgia one witness testified that he had been flogged for eating his lunch at restaurants and another declared that his offense was taking a drink of whiskey. The Kluxers down there seem to be easily provoked to violence.

—Sasserman ran strong in Phillipsburg because once a Moose is always a Moose over there. Not so in Bellefonte where each one of the other local candidates carried his own ward by impressive majorities.

—If you failed to get a nomination for the office you were after on Tuesday it was probably not because your successful opponent was a better citizen. He was merely a better vote getter.

—The big black night crawlers were in evidence on Wednesday morning, following the rain of Tuesday night, which is a sign of warm weather, according to old-time weather seers.

—An esteemed contemporary expresses the opinion that if all the laws to which anybody objects were repealed there would be greater respect for law. Most people will concur in this view.

—If Trotsky had died as reported and Lenin had induced Senator LaFollette to take his place the law of compensation would have been functioning properly.

—Brown got forty-one-ninety-fifths of his vote, or nearly fifty per cent. in Bellefonte, Phillipsburg, College township and the east precinct of Snow Shoe.

—The primaries being over to the satisfaction of the successful candidates the work of laying the lines for the real battle will begin.

—The anthracite miners have resumed work and the coal consumers will work harder than ever to pay the increased price of coal.

—There is an epidemic of saxophone stealing in New York and a strong suspicion that outraged neighbors are responsible.

—Senator LaFollette is due for his return from Russia and it is a safe bet that he will expect to hold the first page for a week.

—The present problem is to locate the blame for the coal strike rather than to place the credit.

Kings and Autocrats.

From the Philadelphia Record. The times change, and Kings change with them. If they don't change, the thrones are tipped over and they are dumped out. George V seems perfectly secure, and there is every chance that Baron Renfrew will succeed him; but it is only because the British throne has become a revolving chair, and the King faces any direction that the House of Commons does. The Vicar of Bray could not change his opinions more quickly than His Majesty of England can.

The King of Italy and the King of Spain are still on their thrones because they joined the revolutionists instead of trying to suppress them. Mussolini attained supreme power by the methods of a revolution that only stopped at the throne, and stopped there because the King was willing to go with the crowd. A similar revolution has just occurred in Spain. A Captain General and a good part of the army mutinied. The Ministry asked the King to authorize them to suppress it. Probably the King did not believe they could do it, and the result of attempting would be the demolition of the throne. The Ministers had nothing to do then but to resign and flee. The King invited the leader of the revolution to form a Ministry. Primo Rivera accepted the invitation, beginning with martial law over the entire country, and the pursuit of the recent Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Kings of Spain and Italy saved their titles and their civil lists by submitting gracefully to the revolutionists. Both are figureheads; both are puppets in the hands of revolutionists whose success may be presumptive, but is certainly not conclusive, evidence of popular support. The man with a gun may not be resisted, but he is not necessarily an exponent of government by the people, and of the people, and for the people.

Evidently autocracy has not gone out of style. Hereditary right may not be much esteemed, but it is not replaced in Latin countries by anything that we can recognize as democracy. Mussolini and Primo Rivera appear to be military despots who achieved power by force, and who would, like Napoleon Bonaparte, put crowns on their heads if crowns were not rather out of date.

At this distance not much is known of Spanish politics, but two or three facts stand out conspicuously enough to be visible across the ocean. The industrial population of Barcelona is Socialist when it is not Communist, and it is largely the latter. Repeated insurrections have occurred there, and they have generally been comprised; no Spanish government ventures on drastic measures in Catalonia. The army is tired of being sent to Morocco, where it is generally poorly supplied and badly led, and has been repeatedly and disastrously defeated by the Moors. There have been a great many mutinies, large or small, troops ordered to Morocco having frequently refused to go and killing some of their officers before they could be overpowered and driven on board the transport. We may assume that Primo Rivera will let the Moors alone and keep the army in Spain, where it is safe and comfortable and near its family.

Disgrace to the State.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Judge Gordon's characterization of the York county jail as "a disgrace to the State," following the hearing in which the conditions under which the prisoners are compelled to submit were revealed, will strike most humane and civilized persons as perhaps the mildest term that could have been used in connection with the case. For the appalling fact is that the York county jail is only one of many in like condition. For the filthy condition of the institution and the slops the convicts are compelled to eat are the direct fruits of a vicious system which must be totally abolished before there can be any hope of improvement.

That system puts the prisoners at the mercy of the sheriff who is dependent upon fees and upon what he can save out of the sums allowed him for the maintenance of the prisoners for his livelihood. Or if not for his livelihood, for the profits which the average county politician of the level from which sheriffs are usually chosen looks for as the inalienable perquisites of the job. Under these conditions, it is pretty hopeless to look for any real reform to result from scathing judicial rebukes such as that administered to the sheriff of York county in the present proceeding relative to the custody of the convicts transferred from the eastern penitentiary. The absence of any intelligent oversight of the jails by the county commissioners and the element of personal profit that ordinarily blinds the jailer to every consideration of humanity or decency are obstructions that will yield only to drastic reformatory legislation.

Who Gets the Difference?

From the Washington Star. The farmer and the city dweller have not yet held a conference to investigate why wheat is so cheap in the field and so dear after it comes out of the baker's oven.

—It is predicted that the "lobby" will be in great form and full swing in Washington during the next session of Congress. The lobby is just recovering from the frost it got during the Wilson administrations.

SPAWL FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Charles Rubsr Jr., aged 5 years, of Monessen, was killed by an ice cream truck in front of his home.

—The Blair county Tuberculosis society has been formed, with Charles E. Torrance, of Altoona, president.

—O. P. Rockefeller, of Sunbury, sold the Montour house, at Danville, to H. S. Williams, of Berwick, for \$43,000.

—More than 25 per cent. of the jurors summoned to serve during the third week of the September term of court at Uniontown, are women.

—Murder trials in Allegheny county are being held up by the lack of sleeping quarters for jurors. G. W. Connor, clerk in the district attorney's office, announced on Saturday. Until new quarters in the jail building are provided, they will be omitted from the lists.

—Automobile accidents resulted in deaths of 548 persons in Pennsylvania during the first six months of 1923 according to records of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, announced recently. There was a total of 18,385 deaths during the six months period and 113,191 births.

—The contract between the city of Williamsport and the Locomotive Edison company, providing for the construction, maintenance and operation of a system of underground boulevard street lighting, has been approved, the public service commission announced on Saturday. The contract runs for a ten-year period.

—A car load of merchandise on a switch at the Tloga junction of the Erie Railroad was broken into one night last week and every last thing stolen except a large tobacconist. The burglars must have had a sweet tooth, for among the plunder was 3500 pounds of sugar consigned to an Arnot grocer. A case of oil stoves was taken to forestall any oil strike.

—Burgess Haines, of Sayre, recently vetoed the measure to reduce his salary from \$400 to \$100, and his reasons for doing so were read at a meeting of the borough council, but seven members of the eight present voted to again pass the measure. The ordinance fixing the burgess' salary at \$100 a year was declared carried over the veto of that official.

—Thomas Burns, of Erie, shot and seriously wounded Mrs. Erny Hill, his sister-in-law, and then turned the weapon on himself dying instantly, Monday afternoon at the home of the young woman's mother. The shooting resulted when Mrs. Hill refused Burns' attentions, according to the police, who said Mrs. Hill had previously married the man's brother but was divorced.

—Announcement was made on Monday of the merging of the Wilbur Coal Mining company, the Knickerbocker Smokeless Coal company and the Somerset Mining company under the name of the former with a capitalization of \$1,200,000, effective September 1. The company will have its offices in Johnstown. All the operations of the merged corporation are in Somerset county.

—Two bodies found within a few hours of each other at Chester, Pa., has caused the authorities to believe they are those of two stowaways who leaped overboard from a vessel at Marcus Hook some weeks ago. Both dead men, according to Coroner Drewes, were Germans. One had 70,000 marks in his pockets and the other had 40,000. They were buried on Saturday in Potter's field.

—Ezra Yoder, 60 years old, a farmer residing in the Kishacoquillas Valley, suffered serious injuries on Sunday when rolled between a telephone pole and an automobile. Yoder was walking home after attending an Amish church service near Belleville, when he mounted the running-board of an automobile driven by the Rev. Jonas D. Yoder, who looked back to see if his passenger was safe, it is said, and the car collided with the telephone pole.

—With the closing down of the Claire blast furnace at Sharpshills there are now only six of the thirteen stacks in that district in operation. There is every indication that the plate company, at Farrell, will work steadily throughout the remainder of the year. Books are well filled with orders and the mills running at capacity. The Carnegie Steel company is also operating all departments at Farrell. Independent steel companies are running their plants at near capacity.

—A Hefflinger, for seventeen years president of the East End Trust company, of Harrisburg, shot and killed himself on Friday in the basement of the bank building. Mr. Hefflinger was 68 years old and had been ill since April. The death of his friend, City Commissioner W. H. Lynch, several days previous, weighed heavily on his mind. State banking officials confirmed announcements by officials of the Trust company that its funds were intact, and there were no financial difficulties.

—Attracted by a man leaving the Milady Hat Shop in Pittsburgh with a sledge hammer over his shoulder, early Sunday morning, patrolman Paul Moore, gave chase and arrested the man. Returning to the shop they found the safe cracked and empty. Miss E. Benstead, manager of the store, said she had placed \$1,100 in it Saturday night. The man gave his name as Wilfer Wiltman, and his wife, who was also taken into custody, said he was employed as a waiter at a local hotel.

—It has long been the custom of the good housewives of McEwensville, just before retiring, Saturday night, to place on the front porch or stoop milk buckets with money sufficient to pay for the quantity of milk they desire the peddler to leave on his early morning rounds on Sunday, when the village usually sleeps a trifle later than on other mornings. Some thief, learning of this practice, last Sunday morning took advantage of it and stole all the buckets with the entire village's milk money. He discarded the buckets in an alley, where they were found later in the day.

—Renewed efforts to extinguish a coal mine fire near Mauch Chunk that has been burning for nearly five years are in progress at the site of the old mine. Holes are being drilled and these are to be filled with culm in an effort to smother the flames. The mine, which is located on Summit Hill mountain, was found to be on fire early in 1850 and frequently since then efforts have been made to extinguish it but without success. The mine has been flooded with water, holes have been drilled and filled with culm and water and trenches have been dug and barriers erected, but all attempts have failed. Although the seat of the flames is within the veins of coal beneath the surface, the fire occasionally makes its appearance, sometimes in blazing jets of gas and again in smoke and steam, shooting from fissures in the ground. How it started is not known, although various stories have been told as to its source.