

INK SLINGS.

—Look out for trouble. The President has broken his silence.

—Any way, we need make no apologies for any of the candidates our ticket presents.

—If patriotism is not to be forever a mockery in Centre county Dick Taylor must be elected sheriff.

—The Democratic nomination for Recorder did a lot of teetering before it finally decided to go to Sinie Hoy.

—The big question to be decided in Centre county next November is whether the people shall own the court house or whether it will continue to be the property of a little clique of office holders.

—The American Legion, as we understand its motives, is not a political organization and takes no part in politics, but it does want to know whether the public feels any real gratitude for its members.

—Just as we have been harping for years when it comes to tariffs and political settlements of strikes: The ultimate consumer always pays the bill. Anthracite coal is advanced a dollar a ton as a result of Giff's endeavor to keep in the limelight.

—Germany has finally capitulated. France has done what the Allies couldn't: Made the bully of Europe finally admit she is licked. The end of passive resistance in the Ruhr has been declared and the German people are ready to settle on the best terms possible.

—The organ in one of Bellefonte's churches having refused to pipe recently an investigation was made and a six-finger remnant of a quart of perfectly good liquor was found clogging up the organism. Always we have known that the choir is the war department of a church, but never before have we heard of members so faint hearted that they needed to liquor up a bit before becoming courageous enough to demand all the solo parts in the anthems.

—We notice that the county W. C. T. U's, in session at Centre Hall, recently, voted to hereafter support only "dry" candidates, irrespective of party. What a belated play of consistency. When the country was really wet and prohibition really an issue the Prohibitionists of Centre county endorsed, and many of them supported, candidates so soppy wet that they flocked on their trail like they did on the old bar-room table, just because they were Republicans. Now that the country is dry they resolve to support only dry candidates, no matter what their politics may be. They've got to show us, before we'll believe anything of the sort. They might intend to do it, but will they?

—Inasmuch as the advertising columns of this paper are open to any one who has something legitimate to advertise and the price to pay for it, several Republicans, who are candidates for county office, are displaying their wares to "Watchman" readers this week and probably will continue doing so for some time. Their's is a perfectly legitimate offering, but it puts us in a heck of a hole. Not because we don't relish the unique feature of having them advertise themselves on one page while we tear into them on another. That's not it, at all. We feel as guilty as if we were stealing pennies from a blind beggar's hat, because we're taking money from them when we know all the advertising any Republican can buy isn't going to get him a county office this fall. This is a Democratic year and, besides, the voters of Centre county want a change and know why they want it. They want a new crowd in the court house for a while. They want officers up there who'll uncover what has been covered up for so many years. They want to know who the brown really belongs to, whether Bill Brown, et al, owns it or whether it belongs to them. They want to see a county statement that actually states and they're going to have it from the only source there is any hope of getting it, viz: the Democratic candidates.

—After reading what Attorney General Daugherty told President Coolidge as to the enforcement of the Volstead act during the past year we are wondering whether any one really keeps it inviolate. There are so many ways that the law can be violated, and some of them so trifling and seemingly harmless, that if the truth were really known there would be a very small percentage of the population of this country able to hold up its hand and swear that it has not infringed, just a little, in some way or other. This will be the reason for an attempt in the next Congress to so modify the law that its restrictions may be less drastic in interpretation and application. As at present construed every farmer who makes cider for apple butter or vinegar is a violator in fact if not in principle, for cider gets more than half of one per cent. gys on the way to either apple butter or vinegar. The farmer knows this, but he goes on being a violator notwithstanding the fact that the rural districts always vote "dry" against a "wet" issue and, insidiously disrespect for the Volstead law and just as insidiously disrespect for other laws grows on him in face of the fact that he is the most law abiding type of citizen we have. Congress will have a big problem on its hands to modify without destroying the value of the enactment, but something must be done to save the other laws of the land from collapse through disrespect for the Volstead act.

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Coal Prices Begin to Soar.

The anthracite coal mine owners have increased the price of coal to consumers "at the pit" about a dollar a ton in pursuance of the settlement of the strike made by Governor Pinchot. In his exultant proclamation of settlement the Governor said that the ten per cent. increase of miners' wages would add about sixty-five cents a ton to the cost of coal production which would be absorbed by decreasing the profits of the mine owners, the carrying companies and the distributors. The carrying companies and distributors promptly declared that they would absorb no part of this increase. The answer of the mine owners is the considerable increase of the price of coal at the mouth of the pit.

The threatened coal strike and the alleged, not to say absurd, settlement, was a purely political enterprise. At irregular intervals in recent years, or whenever party exigencies require, a strike is threatened in the anthracite coal field. Conferences are called and a settlement agreed to which give the miners a small increase in wages and the mine owners, carriers and distributors a considerable increase in profits. This year the consumers, having surveyed the situation, revealed signs of impatience and no agreement could be reached. Neither side was willing to assume responsibility for a strike and appeal was made to the government at Washington.

At this stage of the game Governor Pinchot obligingly stepped in and the President willingly handed the case over to him. The federal government had no legal right to employ force in such emergencies but the Governor of the State in which the issue is drawn has. It was therefore expected that such measures would be adopted as would protect the interests of coal consumers. This hope has been disappointed, however, for the agreement provides for an increase of ten per cent. in the wages of the mine workers and permits any sort of an increase in the profits of mine owners, coal carriers and retail dealers. The mine owners have announced what they will take and all else is left to conjecture.

—Mrs. Belmont told some young ladies in Colorado that she wouldn't recommend marriage. If that is the general opinion in her family the numerous Belmont scandals are easily accounted for.

Consternation on "The Hill."

The job holders at Harrisburg are again in a state of panic. About a week ago each of them received a questionnaire requiring him or her to state for the information of the Governor who recommended his or her appointment. Naturally those who trace the favor back to old machine leaders fear that the reply will be equivalent to a dismissal, and curiously enough most of those in service are indebted to the old leaders for the favor. The more optimistic express a hope that the purpose is simply to induce them to work for a Pinchot delegation to the Republican National convention, but the majority take the opposite view of the matter. But the worst is yet to come. As our late friend Shakespeare wrote, "one woe doth tread upon another's heels." Before there had been time to fully study and analyze the questionnaire another notice was distributed among the employees to the effect that the work of classification of clerks, stenographers and others for the purpose of adjusting salaries is about to begin. Some of the salaries are to be cut and others raised, and it is left for those interested to speculate upon which will lose and which profit by the operation. Those who are said to be "on the inside" predict that the cuts will about balance the raises and the public purse will gain little or nothing in the end.

Of course the movement has created considerable stir among the employees and for nearly a week they have been scurrying around among the "higher-ups" to intercede in their behalf. A good deal depends upon the backing and some upon the ability of the employee to garner votes, and it will be surprising if the attitude of the friends of the employee in the campaign for nomination last year will not have weight. The Governor is long on professions of equal and exact justice but his standard of measurement is not always to be depended upon. In any event it may be said that between now and the next pay day there will be plenty of activity on "The Hill."

—President Coolidge asks the newspapers to let his boys alone, and the chances are that next year the boys will want them to "let up" on the old man.

—The worst thing for Pinchot is that the Presidential nominations will be made before the coal bills are forgotten.

Germany Ends Resistance in Ruhr.

The unconditional surrender of Germany in the Ruhr valley controversy ought to make for the speedy restoration of peace and re-establishment of order in Central Europe. It is a substantial sign of a changed attitude of Germany on the question of reparations. The failure of Germany to pay, not so much because of inability as unwillingness to meet obligations, led to the invasion of the Ruhr valley by French forces, under the Poincare interpretation of the Paris treaty. This invasion was resented by industrial paralysis in the section in the form of passive resistance and great economic loss to both sides. Now that Germany has changed her policy this waste will be ended.

World sympathy was divided on the questions involved in this controversy. Many fair minded people believed that the reparations demanded of Germany were excessive, and others equally just thought that the demands were within reason but that Germany was trying to evade responsibility for her own faults. To those of this view it appeared that the French invasion was justified. England and Italy seemed indifferent to the issue which encouraged Germany in her attitude and for a time danger of a renewal of hostilities was imminent. The surrender of Germany removes this war cloud from the horizon and it may be hoped that it will restore industrial activity and prosperity to that stricken region.

When successful Germany is excessive as well as inexorable in her demands. After the Franco-German war she adopted a policy similar to that pursued by France in the present case. Now that she has reversed her purpose to evade payment and expressed an inclination to meet obligations it will be up to France to make such concessions as will promise speedy and permanent peace. The whole world is concerned in the matter, for there can be no industrial and commercial adjustment until peace is restored in that part of Europe. That result accomplished trade relations of the world may be resumed and the losses of the world war recovered. It may be a slow process but it is certain.

—The Philadelphia gangsters are impatient. Having nominated their ticket they are now arranging for a seventy million dollar loan so as to provide money to spend after the election.

Fishing for LaFollette.

The sincerity of Senator LaFollette's professions will be put to a test in the near future, if reports current in Washington are well founded. "President Coolidge has decided to lift the patronage boycott that has obtained against Senator LaFollette for so many years," writes the Washington correspondent of an esteemed contemporary. "President Harding gave all the Wisconsin offices to Lenroot," continues the correspondent, "because of the senior Senator's opposition to practically all the administration measures, but according to Representative Lampert, one of LaFollette's men in the House, who visited the President the other day, there is to be a new deal." Party conditions are precarious.

President Coolidge has already declared that the first purpose of his administration is to restore harmony in the Republican party. Being a new England politician he thoroughly appreciates the value of patronage in the work of cementing party factions and believes in the ancient adage that "every man has his price." Senator LaFollette has been "a thorn in the side" of several Republican leaders in recent years, and many observers of his political activities imagine that the cause of his attitude lies in the fact that party patronage has been withheld from him almost from the beginning of his career in Washington. His intimate friends hold, on the other hand, that he is influenced by principle.

There are plenty of good reasons why Republican leaders should be anxious to reconcile LaFollette to their plans. He is easily the most powerful figure in the so-called "Borah" may be more imposing and have an advantage in legal learning, but he is less capable as a parliamentary manager and lacks in endurance and courage when compared with the Wisconsin radical. It is said that he has not responded cordially to the overtures thus far handed to him, but he has not resented the offer of spoils as a consideration for services as yet, and what he will do in the future remains to be seen. He is badly needed, however, and may get an offer that will win.

—It may be harder to sell six per cent. dividend stocks but they are safer to keep than the get-rich-quick variety and yield more in the end.

Farmers to be Fooled Again.

In the proposition to increase the tariff tax on wheat President Coolidge and the Republican managers who are in accord with him show scant respect for the intelligence of the farmers of the country. Two years ago the farm bloc in Congress was induced to consent to the then pending tariff measure because it levied a tariff of thirty cents a bushel on wheat. It provided for a vastly greater tax on farm implements and other commodities essential to agricultural endeavor than that on the grain. But the ornamental farmers in Congress either through ignorance or perfidy consented to the passage of the bill, and have since paid the penalty in higher prices for what they bought.

Now it is proposed to increase the tariff tax on wheat from thirty cents a bushel to fifty per cent. above that figure. The false pretense is made that "the differential between Canadian and American wheat about absorbed the thirty cents a bushel protection provided for in the tariff law." As a matter of fact the differential referred to has nothing to do with the price of wheat, either in Canada or this country, and if the tariff tax on imported wheat is raised to a dollar a bushel it will make no difference in the price in this country. The price of wheat is regulated by the supply in Europe and goes up or down accordingly as the surplus is small or great. Only our surplus is sold in Europe.

The thirty cent tariff tax on wheat was never expected by the proponents of the present tariff tax law to affect the price of wheat in this country. That provision was put in the bill to fool the farmers, and it may have served the purpose for a brief period of time. But the delusion has long since expended itself. The farmers of the country know quite as well as the lawyers and bankers that tariff tax has no influence on commodities that are not imported. The tariff tax on what the farmers buy increased the prices because it kept importations out and enabled domestic producers to sell in a scant market at whatever price necessity fixed in the absence of competition.

—Judge Singleton Bell was defeated for nomination for president Judge of Clearfield county by J. Frank Snyder, at the primary last week. Snyder has a tradition, or perhaps it has been only accidental, that a sitting judge shall never be re-elected so Judge Bell is out and Mr. Snyder will make the running with A. R. Chase, who secured the Republican nomination. Through his recent campaign for Congress Mr. Snyder became very well known in Centre county and has many friends who will wish him well in his present contest.

Testing Out the Lewisburg Railroad.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company is now testing out the Lewisburg branch as to its possibilities for increased freight traffic, especially as an artery for the hauling of empty freight cars west. On Tuesday night a train of seventy-four empty cars, hauled by one of the big Model F freight engines, better known in railroad vernacular as "Lollypops," was sent out from Northumberland over the Lewisburg division to Bellefonte, and from there over the Bald Eagle road to Tyrone.

The big engine pulled the train all right until it struck the heavy grade at Cherry Run. Being unable to navigate that grade fifteen cars were set on the siding and the remainder of the train, fifty-nine cars, came through to Bellefonte without a mishap. This was the first trip of the big Lollypop engines over the Lewisburg branch, as well as the longest train ever hauled over that road. While the purpose of the test has not been made public it is likely being made with a view of utilizing the Lewisburg branch to relieve the congestion of traffic on the main line.

—Ed Gehret, who has been the back-bone and sinew of the Republican effort in the South ward of Bellefonte for years, hasn't much to thank the leaders of his party for. If they had done half as much for him as he has done for most of them he'd be the fellow Lyman Smith's going to lick, and Jim Heverly would be saved all that unpleasantness.

—Running for nomination on the Republican ticket for District Attorney Arthur Dale carried 21 precincts and tied Love for 5 in the county. He won the nomination over Love on the Democratic ticket and if he can carry his Republican strength with him in November there is going to be a mighty pretty fight for this office.

—Having obtained millions from this country as a benevolence Japan is now willing to pay the expense of borrowing a few more millions and the chances are she will be accommodated.

Wall Street's Advice to the Farmer.

From the Wall Street Journal.

Let it be conceded that Wall street knows nothing about farming. The really intelligent farmer may not believe it. Wall street's knowledge of farming must necessarily be greater and more exact than that of all the farmers put together, in order to carry on its business. But let us concede that this is not so. The farmer, in return, will grant that Wall street at least knows something about credit. The farmer ought to know something about credit, and this is the time of year when he should be instructed. For some weeks to come he will be borrowing money at the bank, and it makes a vital difference to him how much he gets on his note and what rate of interest he pays.

He borrows from small bankers, who in turn are extended credit by larger bankers, together with advice and information on the state of the credit market. But these small bankers are at the mercy of popular rumor precisely as Wall street is, on occasion. It would be possible in Wall street to damage, and ultimately to ruin, the credit of the most solvent corporation. A dexterously conducted campaign of depreciation and false inference might easily make it impossible for the packers to carry on business, in view of the small margin of profit on their immense turnover.

It is possible to damage the farmer's business in the same way. It is possible to spread rumors about his financial condition which will so scare the small banker that he will lend the farmer less money and charge more for lending it. When, therefore, Senator Brookhart bawls all over the country that the farmer is broke, that he lost, by deflation, \$32,000,000,000, or more than half of the total value of all the farms in the United States and everything on them, he damages the farmer's credit everywhere. It makes no difference that his statement is not only exaggerated, but flatly untrue. Brookhart throws a successful scare into the small banker and the credit of every farmer in the United States is injured.

Observe how one of the commonest expressions current among farmers is turned to their disadvantage. The individual farmer may know Wall street men whose standards of honor are of the highest. But he listens to continual vituperation of Wall street and finally says that "what there is so much smoke there must be some flame." In the next few weeks, thanks to Senator Brookhart, Senator Cooper and other wretched "friends" of the farmer, the banker to whom he goes to discount his note will inevitably say the same thing to him. "You farmers may not all be broke, as Brookhart says; but where there is so much smoke there must be some flame."

Frankly, how will the farmer like that? It is not Wall street that has damaged his credit. It is the very men he returned to Congress, to smash the credit of Wall street, who have done him this ill turn. When the banker will only advance him 30 per cent. on his collateral instead of 50 per cent., charging the highest rates the law allows and making the most onerous terms for repayment, the farmer will know that he is dealing in a credit market demoralized by his own representatives from Minnesota and elsewhere.

This is addressed to the farmers of the United States in all good temper.

Kendrick for President.

From the Philadelphia Record. Kendrick was nominated by the Republicans for Mayor of Philadelphia by more than 200,000 majority on last Tuesday, and now some of his partisans—who, perhaps, are expecting patronage favors at his hands when he is elected and takes his office—predict that he will be accepted later on as Presidential timber. We read in The Buffalo Voice, which seems to be spokesman for a considerable portion of the State of Wyoming, a reference to "Kendrick—the man whom the whole West reveres," "a broad-minded, clear-sighted, keen-thinking man."

Does that seem to be a description of our Mr. Kendrick? Well, it isn't. It is the beginning of a boom for Senator John B. Kendrick, the Democrat who put Mondell out of the running. According to the Wyoming newspaper, the Democratic Mr. Kendrick is known as a cow boy "in the Rocky Mountain regions, from the southern boundary of Texas to the Canadian border; from the Mississippi to the Pacific ocean, who drove cattle for a big cow outfit from Texas to Wyoming when a mere lad. Days and nights he spent in the cold and the wet—and carried with him in an oilskin bag a few precious books, chosen for him by a college friend. Tall, lanky and shaggy haired, but with a keen eye and wit, well trained in the open spaces, he sat and read by the campfire light his well-chosen books, while his less ambitious companions were spending the long evening hours in the never-ending poker game." And yet "the never-ending poker game" did come to an end, for Kendrick got to be a State Senator, Governor of Wyoming and then United States Senator. Well may this Kendrick aspire to the Presidency. Many of our statesmen do.

—The probability that the "world series" will be between the two New York teams makes it a purely local matter of limited public interest.

SPAWL FROM THE KEystone.

—Charles F. Adams, prominent candy manufacturer, who died at Lancaster last week, left an estate estimated at \$500,000. There was no will.

—Mrs. Ethel Ross, of Mount Union, who shot and killed her husband while he was beating her with a club, was freed by the grand jury, who ignored the charge of murder against her.

—Struck on the head by an unknown man with a brick at a workmen's camp, at Klappertal Sunday morning, Anton Gass, 38 years old, is in a hospital at Reading with a possible fracture of the skull.

—Reports from the southern tier of townships in Schuylkill county show the late potato crop will be good, the yields of scores of farms running from 400 to 1,200 bushels per farm. The price is \$1.00 per bushel.

—One great-grandmother and two grandmothers had their hair bobbed in Sunbury this month, according to G. E. Starnes, a master barber there. He also declared that if all the plaited hair he cut off in bobbing heads in the last month were laid end for end, it would make a ribbon three miles long.

—Abraham Erlanger, executor of the estate of Miss Rosetta Uiman, of Williamsport, who bequeathed \$50,000 to the Williamsport hospital, and \$25,000 to the Home for the Friendless, this week announced creation of a trust fund of \$72,000 out of the Uiman estate to be administered by the social service bureau for the purchase of fuel, milk and ice for the poor of Williamsport and for the relief of worthy aged men and women.

—Paul Short, who jumped off a bridge into Mantaway creek near Pottstown, last Friday, and left the impression that he had committed suicide, does not now think that it was such a good joke. He had to pay a fine of \$10 to Burgess Klunk. After leaving his hat on the bridge and plunging into the water Short swam up the creek and went home to bed. There officer Laughhead, who, with others had searched the stream, found him.

—Dragged into the path of an oncoming automobile by his air-dale dog, which was pulling the little master on a cart, William Vovnickle, 11 years old, was struck by the car driven by Daniel King, of Oil City, at Shippensburg Saturday evening. The lad died half an hour later without regaining consciousness. Another boy on the cart rolled out of the way of the wheels. King, a Pennsylvania railroad conductor, was exonerated by the coroner.

—Prof. J. J. Gibson, 70 years old, of Lancaster, well known as a pianist and a campmeeting leader, died as he finished singing "Beulah Land" on Friday night, prior to the opening of revival services in the Bethel Methodist Episcopal church at Union, Lancaster county. Irving H. Mack, of the Hall-Mack Publishing company, Philadelphia, caught Professor Gibson as he fell and carried him outside the church. He died before he could be taken to a hospital. Heart disease was given as the cause of death.

—Miss Eva Gruver, 19 years of age, daughter of Elmer Gruver, a Northampton county farmer, is in the Easton hospital in a critical condition as the result of being shot accidentally Friday morning by Russell Hoadley, aged 22 years, employed on the farm. The girl and her mother were cleaning a room occupied by Gruver and they found a revolver on a chair. The girl called Hoadley to come and remove the bullets from the revolver. As he took the gun from the holster it discharged and the bullet went through the girl's shoulder.

—Colonel Sanford C. Lewis, 76 years old, one of Franklin's best known citizens, shot and killed himself Sunday afternoon in his residence in Liberty street, following a long illness. He had been talking to his daughter, Mrs. S. G. Allen, and Dr. H. F. McDowell a moment before. Colonel Lewis had served as mayor of Franklin, as Governor Hastings and as an officer in the National Guard. His first wife, Helen Gardner Lewis, committed suicide October 18, 1916. His second wife, Anna Hayes Lewis, died suddenly in New York last January.

—The site of the massacre of the Bedford scouts, at Cannan station, Allegheny township, Blair county, in 1781, is to be marked with a monument by the Blair county Historical Society. Prof. T. S. Davis, superintendent of the county schools, has been appointed chairman of the advisory program. The marker committee is composed of Colonel Henry W. Shoemaker, Senator Plymouth Snyder and Henry A. Wertz. A group of soldiers had been sent from Fort Getty, near Hollidaysburg, during the Revolutionary war, for reconnoitering purposes and were ambushed by Indians, seventeen being slain.

—As a result of injuries received in an automobile accident at Vail station on Friday morning, Mrs. W. V. Patton, of Tyrone, died early the same evening at the Altoona hospital. She had suffered a fracture of the skull and body bones and abrasions. Mrs. Patton, her son Edward, two daughters and a grand-son were en route home from a drive when the accident occurred. Mr. Patton, who was driving the car, stopped at a gasoline supply station and was pulling out into the road again when another car rammed into the side of the Patton machine, throwing Mrs. Patton from the car onto the concrete road.

—Four Mount Carmel business houses were victimized by a clever check forger Saturday when he either ordered or purchased goods and gave checks for greater amounts than the purchase price and received cash in change to the amount of more than \$100. Checks were issued on E. C. Rodgers, of Sunbury, and made payable to L. A. Clement. He stated he was a railroad conductor and had sold a car to Rodgers. The checks were on a Sunbury bank. When orders or goods were taken out for delivery it was found that Clement did not live at any of the houses and police were notified. The stranger is six feet tall, and wore a black suit and hat.

—Running amuck, swinging a hatchet, Charles Gilbert, 28 years old, cleared streets and sent neighbors into their homes behind locked doors at Pottsville, on Sunday morning. His father, James Gilbert, 56 years old, who was injured, died the same night. Gilbert demanded a sum of money from his father, and when he was refused grabbed a hatchet and chased the family from the house. Outside, his father, in trying to disarm him, received a deep cut in the shoulder which entered the lung. Gilbert then barricaded himself in an outbuilding and held police at bay for three hours. They finally captured him by cutting down part of the building and throwing a rope over his head.