

INK SLINGS.

Centre county was not among the five leaders in production of any of the regular farm crops during 1923.

Spring is here. Notwithstanding the parade of straw hats that the girls have been making for the past month the real thing didn't arrive until today.

Centre county has given millions to take care of the rest of the world. The hospital drive is now on and we are wondering whether she is going to give a tenth of one of these millions to take care of herself.

For goodness sake, don't embarrass the President by asking why he hasn't issued a proclamation urging a clean-up week. In the language of Epic Peters this is the time when Cal. wants to do everything in the way of clean up—including his own nomination—but Daugherty.

There are three stages of success. The first is attained by those who recognize and take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself; the second, by those who see the opportunity only occasionally and the third by those who never see it until after some one else has grabbed it up.

The thing that Mr. Common Peepul will probably hope for in vain is a denial from their Secretary of State, Charles Evans Hughes, that he witnessed a showing of the films of the Dempsey-Carpentier fight when he knew that the law had been violated when they were transported to Washington.

Since the price of anthracite has forced Bellefonte into being what might be called a soft coal town builders would be well advised if they were to have a greater care in the construction of flues, use slate or metal in preference to shingles for roofing and use coal that makes a dusty, granular soot rather than the flaky, greasy stuff that holds fire so long when the chimney burns out.

When all is said and done the unprejudiced mind can not fail to ask: "What does Coolidge owe Daugherty?" The fact that he remains in the cabinet, notwithstanding the protest of Republican Senators and orthodox Republican papers all over the country, gives rise to the inference that the President is afraid to call for his resignation and such an inference isn't inspirational, to say the least.

The House has passed the soldier's bonus bill. The Senate will likely change it some, then pass it on to the President. What will the President do in the circumstances? In his first message to Congress he declared his opposition to any kind of bonus legislation, so that he must either reverse himself by signing it or say that a country that owes its soldiers so much owes them nothing, by vetoing it.

General Daugherty may or may not be personally involved in the oil scandals. However that may be there is scarcely any explanation he can make that will account for Jess Smith, a private citizen, having had a desk in the Department of Justice and for Ned McLean's, a Washington newspaper publisher, having been in possession of the Government's secret code. They are two violations of trust that cannot be excused or explained away.

A French scientist declares he has found an effective cure for habitual drunkenness in the simple method of injecting the patient's own blood under the skin of the nose. Not only will the patient immediately shun alcohol, but the lurid probois will pale into its pristine color. If the cure should prove efficacious the fellow who likes to "get it up his snoot" every once in a while had better be careful that he gets a prescription and not an injection when he asks his doctor to help out a little.

Governor Pinchot's open letter to the public was released yesterday. After fourteen months in office he declares that the three important pledges he made to the people are either carried to completion or so well along that fulfillment is certain. He refers, of course, to his promise to drive the saloons out, to put the State on a pay-as-you-go basis and reorganization of the government. We won't detract a bit from the Governor's glory, so we leave it to each one of you to appraise his service. As for our opinion: We are still so warped over the way he settled the coal strike that we are not competent to pass on the results of these latter achievements he claims.

In talking with a friend a few days ago, about the \$100,000 hospital drive we expressed the thought that it ought to be easy for Centre county to go over the top in a movement that means so much, possibly, to every man, woman or child in the community. We stated that the sum was trifling when compared with the millions we gave in the Liberty loan drives. "Oh," said he, "that wasn't giving. That was an investment." "Was it," we inquired. "Are we not now paying taxes to pay ourselves back when the bonds mature?" That is exactly what we are doing. When we have paid enough into the treasury to lift our bonds Uncle Sam will pay us back with our own money—and all we will really have left of our original subscriptions is the trifling interest the bonds may have earned in the meanwhile. An investment of \$100,000 in the hospital will pay a far greater interest than the Liberties.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 69. BELLEFONTE, PA., MARCH 21, 1924. NO. 12.

Fight Against Pinchot Strengthened.

The fight against Governor Pinchot's election to the honorary office of delegate-at-large to the Republican National convention has been greatly strengthened within the past week by the exposure of the present condition of the State charitable and penal institutions. With the purpose of creating a reputation for economic improvement his prospects of advancing to the Presidency, the Governor cut the appropriations for charity and benevolence to the bone. He inherited from the profligate administration which preceded him a large treasury deficit and conceived the notion that if it could be wiped out within the period of his tenure of office his political future would be assured. It was a purely selfish idea.

When Mr. Pinchot was inaugurated as Governor there were 116 tuberculosis dispensaries in operation administering free service to poor victims of the deadly "white plague." As an esteemed contemporary states, "they were manned by experts in the treatment of tuberculosis and sent nurses through the various communities giving treatment or sending the patients to sanitariums for scientific treatment." In pursuance of his policy of economizing the Governor decided that these institutions were a needless burden and cut out the appropriation for their maintenance. Prominent physicians familiar with the subject declared this act "the worst crime ever committed against the public." But it served Pinchot's scheme to pose as an "economic administrator."

Continuing its criticism of the Governor's policy the newspaper already quoted adds: "The Mount Alto Sanitarium is a shining example of the havoc that has been wrought to hospitals and a variety of other institutions since Mr. Pinchot decided it would be good political capital to wipe out a \$29,000,000 State deficit in two years instead of spreading it over a longer period." That great institution, a model of its kind has been practically closed. The Soldiers' Orphan school at Scotland, Franklin county, which has been the pride of every patriotic heart in Pennsylvania has also been crippled almost hopelessly by the policy. Orders issued from Harrisburg to "reduce expenses \$1000 a month" has left the wards of the State victims of under-nourishment.

But while these economies with their evil consequences have been enforced against all the charitable and penal institutions, it is noted that there has not been even an attempt to economize in the executive office at Harrisburg or decrease the cost of enforcement of laws in which Governor Pinchot has set his heart and based his ambitions. The pay roll for February 1924 is nearly \$4000 a day higher than that of February last year. Neither have taxes been reduced for the records reveal the fact that more than \$15,000,000 of new taxes were created by the Legislature of last year which was under the complete domination of the Governor. These facts are being assembled and exposed now as reasons why Gifford Pinchot should not be further honored.

If Coolidge throws Daugherty out of the cabinet he will have to withdraw that endorsement of the Attorney General as delegate-at-large to the Cleveland convention.

Hunting for Oil in Clinton County.

Clinton county has no teapot dome but a syndicate of Pittsburgh capitalists have faith to believe that there is oil to be found beneath its stone encrusted surface. As evidence of this faith they have taken leases on seventy-nine different farms and tracts of land lying between Plum creek and Kettle creek, totaling ten thousand acres. Rental payments range from twelve to eighteen dollars a year with contracts for one-eighth royalty in the event of oil or gas being tapped. Operations in sinking wells must be started on each tract within a year.

If Harding hadn't been elected there would be no oil scandal so it may be charged that the Republican party is responsible for the investigation.

An esteemed contemporary asks "who started the oil lease investigation and why? Senator LaFollette started it and the testimony shows why."

The Democrats of Missouri appear to have shown Senator Reed something he didn't want to see.

If Ford fails to get Mussel Shoals he will never forgive himself for his recent boost of Coolidge.

The friends of Hiram Johnson are beginning to think that his boom has been lost.

Daugherty Adopts Wrong Course.

Attorney General Daugherty is disingenuous in his statements concerning the evidence of witnesses before the Senate committee investigating his administration of his office. He imputes to them all sorts of evil purposes and accuses them of all kinds of immoral practices. Yet he admits that they were until recently his friends and associates. Men of high character do not employ criminals or associate with dissolute women. Miss Roxie Stinson was once the wife of his closest friend and an intimate of Mr. Daugherty. Gaston B. Means was a confidential investigator of the department of justice and others whom he denounces were intimates. To call them criminals now doesn't help him.

Miss Stinson told a straight story of the relations of her former husband with Daugherty and of certain transactions between her late husband and the producers and distributors of certain films forbidden by law. Her statement was corroborated almost completely by the evidence of Means and further supported by the testimony of Fred C. Quimby, producer of the films. Mr. Daugherty protests that the evidence of Miss Stinson would not be admitted in a court of law. Probably that is true for the reason that rules of court are exacting on those points and Mr. Daugherty is lawyer enough to guard against evidence that would be admitted in court. Neither he nor Smith ever allowed witnesses to their transactions or conversations.

The case of the people of the United States and Harry Daugherty is not being tried in a court of law. It is before the greater tribunal, the court of public opinion. The niceties which courts of law require in taking testimony are not considered in this greater court, but justice is much more certain. The people are not all fools. They interpret both law and facts and because the rules of evidence are less exacting in the court of public opinion the verdict is more certain and just. Mr. Daugherty will not help his case by maligning the witnesses. That is the method of petty foggers in courts of law but fails of effect in the higher court. Mr. Daugherty may not be sent to prison but will be punished.

It makes a vast difference whose ox is gored. Four years ago the Republicans in Congress wanted to investigate everything and now they are convinced that all investigations are "political bunk."

Mayor Kendrick is Penalized.

Two weeks have elapsed since Mayor Kendrick, of Philadelphia, who had been slated by the machine managers as one of the seven delegates-at-large in the Cleveland convention, announced his declination of that highly esteemed honor, yet the real reason has not been given. It was said at the time that some provision of the Philadelphia charter made him ineligible but a scrutiny of that rather ponderous and somewhat ambiguous instrument refuted that pretense. Then it was suggested that such a party service would work an impairment of the dignity of the office of Mayor. In the face of the fact that Governors of States and members of the President's cabinet aspire to the office that excuse is fishy.

Our first conjecture on this subject was that Mayor Kendrick did not voluntarily relinquish his practically assured seat in the National convention of his party but was shoved off. The reform operations of General Butler, who was imported by Kendrick to serve as head of the Department of Public Safety, have so incensed the ward bosses of the city that the party managers are alarmed for the safety of the organization, and Kendrick was given the choice of dismissing Butler or disappointing a frankly declared ambition to sit in the convention as a delegate-at-large. It was impossible to dismiss Butler. Even "corrupt and contented" Philadelphia would have resented that action on the part of the Mayor.

The Republican machine of Philadelphia is so completely dominated by the criminal element that any movement toward improvement in methods and morals is impossible. Mr. Kendrick was chosen for the office of Mayor of Philadelphia because it was believed that he would allow the lawless element absolute freedom in their operations. He was respectably connected and generously affiliated. He had never uttered a protest against abuses and seemed entirely content with conditions. But when he signified a purpose to keep faith with the better element he invited the opposition of those who had bestowed upon him the official favors he enjoys. Now he is paying the penalty by ostracism.

In any event the Democrats of the country will not allow the Republican machine to select their candidate for President.

Reason for Retaining Daugherty.

During a discussion of the investigation of the Attorney General the other day Senator Caraway, of Arkansas, said: "Every one knows there would be a quick change of Attorney Generals if Coolidge were not a candidate for re-election. I am not criticizing the President in this connection," he added, "but it is certain he doesn't dare to let Daugherty go simply and only because of political reasons." No doubt the keen visioned Arkansian is accurate in his conjecture. Many Republican leaders have an exaggerated opinion of Daugherty's power as a political manipulator. They believe he procured the nomination of Harding in the face of impossibilities and can achieve wonders at will.

As a matter of fact Mr. Daugherty had very little part in the nomination of Harding. The chief operator in that affair was Senator Penrose and Daugherty wasn't even one of the instruments employed in the work. Senator Watson, of Indiana, and Mr. Grundy, of Montgomery county, were his confidants and they would probably have failed if the oil interests had not intervened through Senator Fall, of New Mexico, subsequently Secretary of the Interior and directly responsible for the sacrifice of the navy oil reserves at Teapot Dome and in California to Sinclair and Doheny. But it suited Harding and the others concerned to ascribe the result to Daugherty who was a rather remote Ohio lawyer.

It may be and probably is true, however, that Coolidge retains Mr. Daugherty in his cabinet "for political reasons." When Senators Lodge and Pepper asked Coolidge to dismiss Daugherty the Attorney General responded with a threat which completely silenced the whole bunch. "If I am forced out of the cabinet," he declared substantially, "I will go to the public." In other words if President Coolidge would consult his own wishes and dismiss Daugherty that gentleman would reveal secrets that might wipe the Republican party out of existence and send scores of its present leaders to prisons. That may be the reason why Daugherty remains in the cabinet and it is certainly political.

If it is true that the Literary Digest is spending a million dollars of its own money conducting its propaganda for the Mellon tax bill it must be the fool that soon parted with his money.

Not a Thorough House Cleaning.

Upon his arrival in Washington, presumably within a few days, Curtis D. Wilbur, of California, will become Secretary of the Navy. His predecessor in office retired on the 10th instant and the department has been without a head since. But it has gotten along fairly well during the interval. The retiring official wasn't much of a secretary at best. As a resident of Detroit he was probably familiar with lake crafts and could tell a mud scow from a naphtha launch with one eye closed. He retired "under a cloud" but not under charges of venality. The worst that has been said against him was that he was abnormally stupid. The other "best minds" about the administration "played him for a sucker."

Judge Wilbur ought to be a great improvement over Denby as Secretary of the Navy. He is a graduate of the Naval Academy, at Annapolis, and is probably familiar with the technique of the service. He is a lawyer by profession and his elevation to the chief seat in the highest court in his State would indicate an alert mind. It is said that he has not been very active in politics but it is altogether likely that whatever he has done in that line has not been in the interest of Senator Hiram Johnson. His selection was probably influenced by the expectation that Coolidge rather than Johnson will be helped in the impending primary in that State where lines are being sharply drawn between those two.

Taking one consideration with another" the change in the Navy Department will meet with widespread popular approval. But it doesn't fulfill the public expectation of a thorough house cleaning. If there were any real culpability in the department it wasn't Denby. Assistant Secretary Roosevelt is said to have been appointed at the request of Harry Sinclair. While negotiations for the lease of Teapot Dome were pending Mr. Roosevelt had his brother appointed to a lucrative job by Sinclair, and both Roosevelt and his wife owned shares in the Sinclair oil properties. Denby may have been a boob but nobody accuses Roosevelt with being a dummy. A real house cleaning would have dumped the bunch.

If the income tax continues to increase one of Secretary Mellon's reasons for opposing the bonus will be futile.

Need of a Clean Sweep.

From the Philadelphia Record. We need not wait to have all the testimony adduced at Washington sifted and verified in order to reach the most important conclusion, and the one of the widest public interest. Perhaps nobody will be convicted of crime. The prison population may not be increased by the disclosures. But the imperative need of a clean sweep politically has been demonstrated.

So long as Congress and the Administration are Republican we cannot be sure that the bottom has been reached in any of the several directions where borings are going on. Of course, the Republicans have made every possible effort to cover up matters and carry their wounded off the field. Unless a Democratic Administration shall be elected this year, we cannot be at all sure of getting at the whole truth of the scandals that have been flourishing rankly since Mr. Wilson went out of office.

But the clean sweep is needed not merely, or chiefly, to secure the punishment of the crooks; it is needed to prevent further crookedness by men who have not been exposed yet; who may perhaps have done no wrong yet because the chance had not come to them. If the Republican party shall remain in power these men, who are only waiting for an opportunity, or longing for temptation to assail them, will be kept where they will encounter their temptation and promptly succumb.

Consider the class of men who have been brought into public life by the calamity of the 1920 election. Some are better and some are worse. But a large number among them have been open to corrupt proposals of one sort and another. One member of the Harding Cabinet got what he was after and resigned during Mr. Harding's life. A second resigned under compulsion recently. A third ought to have resigned a long time ago; he ought never to have been appointed; he is sufficiently thick-skinned to hold on to his office, in spite of the storm that is raging about him, merely because the President does not demand that he get out. A fourth member of the Cabinet has been reflected on by some of the testimony.

Was there ever such another Cabinet? And the discredit of the Cabinet discredits the President. He took over the whole Harding Cabinet because he thought it would facilitate his nomination if he had the whole Harding contingent with him. His purpose was to succeed to Mr. Harding's second term as well as to his first. He made a calamitous mistake, and there is no reason why he should escape punishment for it.

The country will have no assurance of a thorough political housecleaning unless the Republican party shall be deposed and the Democratic party installed in power. The Republican party has been convicted, and it should be put out, even if a Republican Administration and a Republican Congress save a lot of individuals from their deserts.

Cleaning Up Politics.

From the Hartford Times. It is depressing to those of us who still have hope in Democracy to find that so few people really care whether their country is looted and cheated or not. They read the headlines and call the exposure of sin and corruption "just politics." It is disagreeable and disturbing. But investigations aren't half so disturbing as the conditions which make them periodically necessary. \* \* \* Men like Mr. Fall get into public life and so nauseous is the consequent stench that even the party in power cannot ignore it. There has to be a liberal sprinkling of chloride of lime. When such a cleanup becomes necessary, why cannot all persons who believe in good and honest government read what has happened to their country and resolve to insist for the future in higher standards for public office instead of sneering at the efforts of the committee and talking about "investigation fever" and "the return to muck-raking?"

Wheeler Outclassed.

From the Johnstown Democrat. Wayne B. Wheeler after all is something of a piker in comparison with our old friend Harry Sinclair. Wayne, with all his charming arts, has never been able to get the White House to call out the marines to enforce his demands on an unwilling and perverse public.

And How to Get There.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "Do not go west without money," a Californian warns easterners. Will he please go ahead and tell us just where a person who has no money should go?

Spring begins today, according to the calendar, and while we are sure to have plenty of cool days and nights before the weather settles let us all hope that winter will not linger long in the lap of spring. Taken as a whole it has been as mild a winter for this climate as anyone could wish for. While we had a few days of extremely cold weather there were only two snows of any great depth and neither one lay any great length of time. This fact enabled game birds to get through the winter without suffering for want of feed and should result in an abundance of game next fall.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Her dress catching fire from an electric curler, Mrs. Frederick Haas Sr., of Sunbury, was badly burned before she plunged into a bathtub and extinguished the flames.

Within 504 feet of the discovery well that opened the gusher field, near Tidoute, one year ago, Charles Cranahan has drilled in a well that is producing 100 barrels per day. The oil was struck at a depth of 1100 feet.

William Bradford, who for some time past has been manager of the Williamsport office of the Bell Telephone company of Pennsylvania, has been transferred to Altoona as district manager. The territory over which Mr. Bradford will have supervision contains offices in Altoona, Bellefonte, Clearfield, Huntingdon and Ridgway.

Carbon monoxide was the cause of the death of Malcolm W. McIntire, of Williamsport, who was found dead in his closed garage by a neighbor who was attracted to the building by the sound of McIntire's running motor several hours after he had been seen driving into the garage. He was 27 years old and had been married only a few months.

A charge of dynamite set off near the Weatherly reservoir during Sunday night was taken by people of that town as a warning from the Ku Klux Klan to a "marked" man to reform or stand the chance of being tarred and feathered. The Klan is quite strong in that section of the State, and its members, clad in white robes and hoods, have held parades, burned fiery crosses on the outskirts and visited churches.

A husband who slept with a revolver under his pillow and who frequently "whetted" his razor against her face and throat proved too much for her, Mrs. Marianna Foti, an Italian bride of 17, told Judges Landis and Haesler at Lancaster on Saturday, in her suit against her husband, Carmelo, for non-support. Foti testifying in his own behalf, admitted his wife's allegations, but asserted that he merely tried to frighten her.

A large plate glass display front at the motorcycle garage, in Lewistown, was demolished, Saturday when an automobile tire and rim came off the car of Carbon Leuder, of Milltown, as the car was approaching the garage. The car, of its own momentum rolled over the street about 100 feet and did not stop until it crashed through the large window and demolished a radio set, three hydrometers and three batteries on display in the window and garage.

Harry P. Albright, of Altoona, who last week entered a plea of murder in the second degree, in the Blair county court, was sentenced on Monday by Judge Thomas J. Baldrige to serve from nine to eighteen years in the penitentiary. He killed his wife in a quarrel January 22nd. Dominick Nagison, convicted of involuntary manslaughter, in stabbing Benedette Lapore, in Altoona, January 14th, was sentenced to serve from six to twelve years in the penitentiary.

Mrs. Alice I. Weaver Longacre would rather be a milliner than live the life of a farmer's wife, and her husband has just been granted a divorce by the Chester county court because she refused to live on his farm. She now is in Harrisburg conducting a millinery establishment. She was married to Samuel W. Longacre, of Coatesville, in 1888, and lived for a time at Berwyn, later at Coatesville and then at Wallingford, but tired of married life in 1920, and is alleged to have left him. The couple have several children.

Eleven pallbearers were required last Thursday to carry the casket containing the body of Albert K. Walker, of Chester, who weighed 525 pounds at the time of his death. His funeral was held that afternoon from an undertaking parlor, as the casket was too large for the parlor of Walker's home on Victoria place. The casket was six feet six inches long, thirty-five inches wide and twenty-nine inches deep. In addition to its extra size, the casket was reinforced with metal. Interment was made in the Chester Rural cemetery.

Fines totaling \$1417.50 were paid by five residents of Jersey Shore and one Brookside resident on Saturday, after they admitted ownership of a number of grouse, woodcock and portions of deer which were seized by State agents, who found it in storage in the Jersey Shore creamery. The men fined are Dr. W. H. Handie, B. J. Grasso, George L. Nevin, S. W. Neff and E. S. Mohr, all prominent Jersey Shore men, and Charles Gullinane, of Brookside. In addition to the fine thirty-seven trout were seized and turned over to the State Fish Commission for action.

Fire, which broke out in the business section of Carlisle early on Monday, completely destroyed several stores and a number of dwelling apartments with a loss estimated at \$250,000. Fire companies from Harrisburg and Mechanicsburg answered the four Carlisle companies' calls for aid. The fire was discovered in the rear of the Colonial apartments in the center of town shortly after midnight and is believed to have spread through the building by sweeping up an unused dumb waiter to the roof. Fanned by a high gale, the fire threatened to destroy the entire business section.

Two armed bandits on Friday held up the Saucon Trust company, at Hellertown, and escaped in a green automobile with more than \$19,000. The bandits, each about 25 years old, walked into the bank fifteen minutes before closing time. Elmer Funk, cashier, and Thomas Pfeffer, assistant secretary, were the only persons in the bank at the time. After covering the two employees with pistols and backing them into a rear room the bandits ran in to the big iron vault, where they snatched up bundles of \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. Warned that they would be instantly killed if they raised an outcry, the two officials were thrown to the floor and tightly bound with rope, where they lay while the robbers escaped.

Irwin W. Rohrbach, employed in the blast furnaces of the Bethlehem Steel company plant at Bethlehem, met a tragic death on Monday when he was overcome by gas fumes when trying vainly to close a door. The young man, who was only 18 years of age, was employed as a stove tender less than a month. According to a report of the accident, he was instructed not to open a door, but simply pull a plug on the furnace. In pulling the plug, it is believed, a key was released and the door opened, permitting the gas to escape. He reported the facts to his foreman and was instructed to stay away; that the door would be closed with the aid of gas masks. The young man failed to heed these instructions and returned. His body was found only six feet from the door.