

INK SLINGS.

—Anyway, "Hell an' Maria" ought to be for Dawes.

—After the election General Dawes will probably change it to "to hell with Maria."

—When the Grangers begin to advertise their picnic at Centre Hall we always feel that fall is not far off.

—Here it is the 20th of June and some farmers have not planted their corn, while there are a few who are not entirely through with their spring plowing.

—Anyway the Democratic National convention has so much splendid material to choose from that it can scarcely make a mistake in the selection of a standard bearer.

—The Pennsylvania Military College at Chester is to confer a degree on Gen. Smed Butler. The underworld of Philadelphia is hoping, of course, that it will be the Third.

—As for us we feel that he won't make the rifle, but we believe Oscar Underwood to be the ablest of those who are in the open as candidates for consideration by the New York convention.

—Already the Republican dope spreaders are showing their lack of faith in the Coolidge ability by singing the praises of Dawes vociferously. The only impression made by this effort is that of conviction that the tail is to wag the dog in the coming campaign.

—Having led the first College yell for Edwin Erle Sparks as "Prexy" of our alma mater we want to here say that not a moment since that night in the Fort Pitt hotel, in Pittsburgh, to the moment of his sudden passing have we felt that he brought anything other than honor to the institution that honored him later by the call to become its president.

—With such perfect attention to detail as his exploiters would have us believe he gave to the procedure of the Cleveland convention it is a fair question to ask. Did the President say who should be on the committee to notify him that he has been nominated and did he send the spokesman a skeleton of what he should say? Cal. is supposed he had done everything else and we would like to know whether he did that too.

—Just so the old timers will know it: Those who thought a train could not come into Bellefonte until they had helped congest the station platform, let us tell you that the idol of the days when you knew nothing about stepping on the gas is gone. "Kit Carson"—Carson Smith—the passenger engineer who slid into Valley stations so smoothly and made the rail hot with his speed between them, is gone. He ran into the Valley of the shadow of death last week, at his home in Brockwayville.

—The United States Steel Co., reports the lowest amount of unfilled tonnage orders that it has reported in a decade; the textile mills of New England are at a stand still; agriculture is headed straight for the demitison bow-wows and everything else in business is going from bad to worse—all under a Republican President and a Republican Congress. Cheer up, joy killer. Along about October, when the Coolidge boomers think they have convinced the country that its only salvation is in his election business will be made to "perk up" a bit and then we will be told that it is discounting the re-election of a Republican President and Congress.

—Governor Pinchot isn't getting a column of space in this paper in which to show the public how much the operation of his code has saved the Commonwealth. A few lines would serve the purpose better and be more convincing to the average mind. He could do that in four lines, if he were to fill in the figures as follows:

Grand total of all State receipts during last year of Sprout administration \$.....?.....
Grand total of all State expenditures during same period \$.....?.....
Grand total of all State receipts during first year of Code operation \$.....?.....
Grand total of all State expenditures during first year of Code operation \$.....?.....

Let him fill in the amounts above. The people would understand that and not become as suspicious as they do when columns of subterfuge are sent out for them to ponder over.

The very latest edict from Paris sends the corset into the old hair trunk in the attic where the hoop-skirt and the bustle lie awaiting their occasional use for masquerade parties. To be in vogue the ladies must wear clinging, sleazy, stuff that will display their figure—as nature made it—and not be bound by any stays at all. Some will and some won't. It all depends on the amount of modesty they have or the figure with which nature has endowed them. Though we own failing vision we have seen enough to convince us that the latter class have so little that hasn't been on parade already that the new mode isn't going to be interesting at all. Circuses and carnivals are supposed to have cut out the Hootchy-Cootchy dancers because of the vulgarity of the performance. That is the play they are making in their advertising but it isn't the real reason at all. Patrons got tired paying to see something that they see every day on the streets and that's why there are no more "bally-hoos" to entice you to give up a dime to see a female torso wiggle.

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A Voice from the Middle West.

The Kansas City Star, unquestionably the leading newspaper of the "middle west" and a journal of wide influence, is not enamored with the results of the Republican National convention. It says: "The keynoter, Burton, of Ohio, was the leader of the fight against the improvement of western waterways—an improvement which would reduce the transportation charges on farm products. Mondell, of Wyoming, permanent chairman, was one of the bitterest of the standpatters in the Roosevelt fight of 1912. He was a champion of Ballinger, he was against the Roosevelt conservation policies, he was a member of the credentials committee that made up the fraudulent roll call of the Chicago convention that put Taft over."

Our mid-western contemporary is equally "ferminst" the other conspicuous figures of the convention. The nominator of Coolidge is unknown in politics and is passed over as unimportant but the chairman of the committee on platform is roundly condemned as "a standpat member of the National committee of 1912. McKinley, of Illinois, head of the committee on credentials, was a Taft manager in 1912 although from a State that had voted overwhelmingly for Roosevelt in the primaries. These are the westerners who are expected to lure the disaffected farm vote to the Republican ticket next November. These are the men who are expected to get the millions of Progressives of the middle west to throw up their hats."

This is not the complaint of a sore-head or disappointed politician. The Kansas City Star is not a political organ dependent upon the favors of a political machine. It is a great newspaper, thoroughly independent and fearless and represents the views, hopes and aspirations of a vast clientele covering Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Iowa. It is the potent force which made Missouri a doubtful State in several campaigns in which Roosevelt was concerned, and while not partisan as a rule, it is and has been for many years the mouthpiece in the middle west of Theodore Roosevelt and the things he stood for in public life. If the Star adheres to its present attitude that section will be against Coolidge.

The Philadelphia Ledger says the Republican convention might have looked high and low, it might have gone into the highways and by-ways in search for a candidate for Vice President. That's precisely what it did do and finally cornered Dawes in a dark alley.

Republican Demoralization Revealed.

Mr. Frank B. Kent, the widely experienced and capable political correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, in a survey of the proceedings and results of the Republican National convention, draws some interesting inferences and conclusions. In the first place he estimates that because of the preponderance of strength in the pivotal States with big electoral votes, the Republican party does not have to be 100 or even 50 per cent. efficient. That fact, he continues, "covers a multitude of sins, gives a wide margin for mistakes, and, except where the other side makes a perfect score, renders 30 per cent. efficiency enough to prevent Republican disaster."

This result is the more inexplicable and inexcusable in Mr. Kent's opinion because the friends of the President "had all their own way in the convention." They had complete control and "every chance not only to settle every vital point so as to pluck full political profit, but to consider and arrange every detail." Yet they bungled everything they laid their hands on and finally so disgusted those concerned in the prosperity of the party that it became difficult to get a man to accept the nomination for Vice President. After the nomination "had been definitely, indignantly and curtly declined by two men and a third had written to his friends refusing to permit his name to be presented," Mr. Kent writes, "the thing became a joke all over the convention hall."

These facts lead this widely known appraiser of political conditions to believe that in the Cleveland convention the Republican party fell to a level below the thirty per cent. in efficiency necessary to save the Republican party from disaster. But it is not an altogether surprising result. "All that can be said of it," Mr. Kent continues, "is that it is entirely in line with the kind of leadership Mr. Coolidge has shown during the six months he has had Congress on his hands. As a leader he simply does not function. It just is not in him. The politicians of his own, as well as those of the other party, know this and they make no secret of it."

The only really "dry" spots in Cleveland during the Republican National convention were the speeches and the platform.

Plain Duty of Wage Earners.

If the nomination of Coolidge and Dawes means anything it implies a direct challenge to organized labor, and if the labor leaders of the country are wise they will promptly accept the challenge and advise wage-earners to waste no votes on side issues or hopeless candidates. In his veto of the legislation providing for a just and reasonable increase in the wages of postal employees President Coolidge disclosed his attitude on the wage question. The bill passed both branches of Congress by practically unanimous votes, and would have passed over the veto if there had been time to give it consideration. But the veto message was delivered late on the last day of the session.

It is said that General Dawes takes great pride in his record as an uncompromising opponent of trades-unionism, and while the railroad shopmen's strike was at its crucial stage he headed a committee of bankers and railroad officials in an invasion of the White House to terrorize President Harding into a hostile movement against the strikers. With characteristic vehemence and profanity he declared that the military force of the government ought to be turned against the men who were striving in that expedient way, because there was no other way, to secure what they believed to be just recompense for their labor. As a matter of fact he almost frightened Harding into such action.

No matter who the Democrats nominate for President and Vice President at their convention in New York next week the obvious course of organized labor is to strive for the defeat of Coolidge and Dawes and they are not promoting that result by supporting the candidates of any third party. Either the Democratic or the Republican ticket will be elected next November, and the interests of organized labor will be conserved by the defeat of the Republican candidates. No argument is needed to convince intelligent men and women of this fact. The record of the Republican candidates is actual and substantial proof. Wage earners will waste votes cast for third party candidates.

It may safely be predicted that neither Senator Pepper nor Senator Lodge will go into ecstasies over the world court plank in the Republican platform.

Pinchot Juggling Figures.

It may be that figures will not lie but it is certain that they may be juggled. In a statement frequently made by the State Treasurer within the past six months it is alleged that the administration of the State government under the Pinchot code has cost upward of a million dollars more than that of any previous administration within the same period of time. This statement appears to be sustained by the fact that taxation has been increased twelve or fifteen million dollars and the treasury balance is no greater now than it was at the time the code became operative. If there has been no increase in expenditures what has become of the proceeds of the added taxes?

The other day Governor Pinchot issued a statement in which he asserts that the expenses of the State government have been materially decreased during the year since the code became effective, and he gives figures as evidence. A "reduction in payrolls in Harrisburg employees alone," he says, "amounts to nearly one million dollars in one year." This would be concrete evidence if it were true. But it is simply juggling figures. As a matter of fact it is the result of paying out of special funds, such as the highway fund, the game commission fund, the fund for bounties on noxious animals and other resources instead of out of the general fund which has been the source of supply heretofore.

If anything were needed to prove that Governor Pinchot is an arrant hypocrite the false pretense expressed in this claim of economy in administration supplies it. His pretense of reverence for the constitution is made ridiculous by his appointment of Representative Fowler, of Scranton, to the office of registrar in that city. He knows that Fowler is disqualified by the provision of the constitution which forbids the appointment of any Representative in the General Assembly to any civil office during the period "for which he has been elected." The Governor is under oath to "support, obey and defend the constitution," and this act shows that he has a little respect for his oath as for the honor of the Commonwealth.

The promise of fine weather would be more heartening if it were not for the probability of an increase in the automobile fatalities.

The real optimist is the Philadelphian who still believes there will be an adequate Sesquicentennial there in 1926.

New Type of Campaigning.

Having nominated a man without a record of achievement for President, and "lassoed" a wild man from the west whose record is limited to a degree in profanity, the Republicans have decided to adopt a new form in campaign publicity. This line is drawn from the tone of the speech of Professor Burton, of Michigan, in presenting the name of Mr. Coolidge to the Cleveland convention. He stressed the exaltation of the New England character. As an esteemed contemporary puts it "what he is rather than what he has done is to be the keynote, for the Coolidge achievements as a leader and as an executive are not such as to create any marked enthusiasm in the country." They don't strike the spark.

Some of the Republican managers are resourceful, and if they are able to reconcile wide differences already developed and threatening, this "moral fiber" stuff dwelt on so persistently by Professor Burton might work confusion in the minds of weak men and women and make them forget the delinquencies, not only of the New England character, but of the man they have set up to represent it. But the majority of voters are likely to look at the practical side of the question and summon available records, which show that the New England character is a precarious asset for a candidate for President or else that Mr. Calvin Coolidge is a poor exemplar of the virtues claimed for it.

For more than two years Mr. Coolidge, as Vice President, with the unusual privilege of a seat and voice in the cabinet councils, had opportunities to analyze and appraise the men who dominated the Harding administration and unless he is a very stupid observer he must have known something of the iniquities which have since been exposed by Senatorial investigations. Yet he retained Albert Fall in his official family until he voluntarily withdrew with a certificate of character in his inside pocket and cherished Denby and Daugherty until public opinion literally compelled him to turn them out. This course was hardly consistent with the "moral fiber" stuff now to be invoked.

Red Cross Nursing Service to be Discontinued After July First.

Owing to lack of funds, the Red Cross nursing service will be discontinued after the first of July. The nurse, Mrs. Merrill Hagan, is so deeply interested in the welfare of the hundred-and-three babies under her supervision in connection with the well-baby clinic that she has volunteered to continue the baby clinic through the months of July and August and it will be held, as usual, on Wednesdays, 2:30 p. m., in Petrikin hall, with Dr. LeRoy Locke as consultant.

The nursing service has been in successful operation for four years, under Miss Mae Peterman, Miss Mary Royer and Mrs. Hagan, and its discontinuance is greatly regretted by the Red Cross committee. An attempt was made in March to complete a survey of the community and learn if sufficient yearly subscriptions could be obtained to insure continuance of a nurse but the result was not satisfactory. The contribution of \$1700.00 to Japan last autumn, and the hospital drive have undoubtedly drained the community exchequer and, hoping that depleted purses may be re-filled by September, the Red Cross committee plans to then make another and more complete survey before abandoning the nursing service. No more laudable project could be launched by any organization than to assume responsibility for the support of a community nurse and it is hoped that the subject may be close to the heart of every one these two months and be brought to a happy fruition!

During the month of May Mrs. Hagan made 218 visits inclusive of 33 schools visited. In the schools visited, she gave 44 class talks, distributed 1,000 pieces of literature and inspected 233 pupils. Among the pupils inspected, she found defects of vision in 38, defects in teeth of 101, defects in nose of 40 and in throat, of 43. Total expenses for the month were: nurses' salary \$100.00, up-keep of auto \$9.90, office supplies \$2.65, janitor service \$9.50, laundry \$2.50, while the fees collected amounted to \$9.00.

Only four members showed up for the regular meeting of borough council, on Monday evening, but fortunately no important business will suffer because of the fact that there was no meeting. It passeth understanding, however, why some men are so anxious to be elected to council and when they get the office soon become lax in attendance. Of course, just now the "Watchman" editors are primarily interested in seeing Spring street fixed up, and the chairman of the Street committee has assured us that it will be done.

—Get your job work done here.

The Republican Keynote.

From the DuBois Express. Theodore E. Burton, masterful user of meaningless words, has evolved a keynote for the Republican party in its 1924 campaign. It is: Forget those ridiculously exaggerated stories you have heard of corruption in Washington—if there was recreancy to trust, it was due to war influences, anyway—and hold fast to Coolidge, for it is to him, not Congress, that the American people look to for leadership. Mr. Burton floundered a good deal, as was both natural and necessary under the circumstances, before he reached the keynote, but finally he sounded it bravely and becomingly.

All the Fallism, all the Daughertyism and all the Forbesism Mr. Burton ascribes unhesitatingly, almost vehemently, to the war. "Violent changes," he says, "have brought to light unworthy motives and grasping avarice. But the heart of the American people is sound, and the gross influences that accompany and follow every war will pass away. Our highest duty in the midst of all these iniquities is to punish the guilty, but at the same time condemn exaggeration and protect the innocent. It is an infamous crime to seek to destroy the confidence of the American people in the government under which they live."

Mr. Burton must have been fairly out of breath after this burst of righteous indignation, but he soon recovered and plunged right into an explanation of the congressional situation and into laudation of the President. "Much of the blame," he told the convention, "which is visited upon Republicans in the present Congress is not deserved, because on many major questions their party has not commanded a majority in either branch. Let us not for a minute forget the importance of a Republican majority in the next Congress, made up of members tried and true who will stand united. With some disappointment as one whose public service has been in a legislative position, truth compels me to say that by far the greater share of our citizenship looks to President Coolidge rather than to Congress for leadership."

The speaker's defense of Coolidge is somewhat illogical, but what does a keynote care for logic? "Much of the blame is not deserved," yet most of the criticism leveled at Congress arose from its failure to support the President, whose "leadership" Mr. Burton extols. Didn't Congress kick the Mellon plan to pieces? Didn't it override the presidential veto on the bonus bill? Didn't it come within one vote of approving the Bureau pension measure after Mr. Coolidge said he would have none of it? Didn't the Senate utterly ignore his world court proposal? Didn't the same body vote that Denby should go, thereby incurring the wrath of the executive? But Mr. Burton, holding fast to Coolidge with one hand and to the Republican membership of Congress with the other, says, the legislators are not to blame for hitting the President a knockout blow at every opportunity. Oh, well, there is no such thing as understanding these keynote speeches. They are not meant to be understood.

The Governor's Glass House.

From the Philadelphia Record. "The Record" agrees with Governor Pinchot in the belief that the Eighteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States is binding upon every citizen, and ought to be enforced.

We disagree with the Governor, however, in his attitude toward the Constitution of Pennsylvania as expressed by his official actions. The Governor does not seem to think that the Constitution of Pennsylvania is of much account. On at least three separate occasions he has violated its spirit, and on one of these occasions he openly and flagrantly violated its letter. His appointment to an office under the Commonwealth of a member of the General Assembly during the term to which said member was elected is indefensible. The fact that the Legislator has resigned one office to take the other does not alter the fact that the term to which he was elected has not expired. The Governor makes a scrap of paper of the Constitution. This is not an inconsequential matter, as some persons may imagine. The Governor, above all other citizens of the Commonwealth, should set an unimpeachable example of obedience to the laws. He is specifically sworn to do so. Even when he can find a way to evade them to serve his own political ambitions he should eschew the temptation and observe the intent of the law no less than its explicit phraseology.

We should entertain a higher opinion of Gifford Pinchot—and we believe he would stand better in the estimation of his fellow-citizens—were he frankly to admit the illegality of his latest breach of the Constitution, recall the unlawful appointment, and find some means of paying his political obligations to Mr. Fowler, of Scranton, without prejudice to his oath of office and without inciting others to disrespect for law. How can he castigate the scofflaws if he is one of their number? Shall the pot call the kettle black, and shall stone throwers take up their abode in glass houses?

The President's secretary, Bascom Slemm, will not resign if chairman Butler pays to him the deference he thinks he ought to have.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Orders totaling \$800,000, which will keep the Joy Manufacturing company, of Franklin, busy until fall, have been announced by the president of the company, J. F. Joy. The plant is working at capacity. The company makes automatic loaders for coal cars.

—The contract for the general construction of a Veterans' Bureau hospital, at Aspinwall, near Pittsburgh, has been awarded to W. F. Trimble and Sons company, of Pittsburgh. General Hines has announced. The bid was \$790,252. Two hundred beds are to be installed.

—Officials at the head of the Ku Klux demonstration, which was held near Uniontown on Saturday night, declare that nearly \$7000 was spent in arranging a lunch for the 15,000 visitors. The committee in charge furnished 3500 loaves of bread, 200 pounds of boiled ham, 800 pounds of cheese, 1000 cases of pop and 800 gallons of ice cream.

—Albert Spangler, a recent prisoner in police court, at York, informed mayor E. S. Hugenberger that he would rather spend forty years in jail than go home and kiss his wife. Spangler was arrested for fighting with his wife and the mayor promised that he would give him his release provided he went home, kissed and made up. This Spangler refused to do. He was given a suspended sentence.

—The Pennsylvania Power and Light company, of Hazleton, after months of preparation, started work last week on its \$8,000,000 power project at Hawley, in Wayne county. A lake fifty-one miles in circumference will be created to furnish power for the big power house to be built there. There will be more than 2000 men employed for the next several years in building the dam and the power house.

—Examinations of 248 applications for old age assistance, received by the State old age assistance commission, showed sixty-nine of the applicants owned their homes, ninety-nine had no person to aid in their support, sixty-seven had some money in bank and forty-eight were making insurance payments, mainly for fire protection on their properties, according to Abraham Epstein, secretary of the commission.

—Ebenzer Lookingbill, weather prophet of the west end of Schuylkill county, urges farmers to replant the crops that have been ruined by incessant rains. He says there will be no frost this year until November and all crops will mature. He agrees with Yeager, the Hazleton prophet, that the present wet weather will change with the turning of the moon this week. Lookingbill says there will be practically no winter the coming season.

—A forty-headed Klansman accompanied by a member of the state constabulary attended a picnic at Shrewsbury, York county, one night last week, and put a stop to numerous petting parties which were in progress. The Klansmen carried flashlights and used them to peer into secluded nooks. Several girls who were caught after their escorts fled precipitately, were taken before the other picknickers and compelled to take a pledge to reform.

—Frank Spanard, an umbrella fixer, of Frackville, near Mount Carmel, is missing \$800, his life's savings, but he doesn't know where it got to. He went visiting one night last week, and when he returned home, reclined on a couch to rest. He fell asleep, but was awakened a short time later by another boarder in the same house, who told him he'd better get to bed. It was then he discovered his loss. An exhaustive search failed to reveal the money.

—Russell Bashore, of near Liverpool, Perry county, began demolishing a desk which belonged to his late grandfather, Daniel Ward. It was said to be over a hundred years old. He removed several small drawers in the upper part and lifted off the front part of the frame that held them in place. Noticing an irregular hole in one end of the drawer, investigation disclosed a canvas bag concealed behind the drawer. It was filled with many rare coins.

—Walter Bird, 18 years of age, of Erie, who is making his home with relatives in Yatesboro, Jefferson county, had the splinter of a bone removed from his heart on Sunday in the Adrian hospital, and his chances of recovery are said to be very good. He started out to shoot mark, carrying a revolver. While traveling through the woods he tripped, and in falling the revolver was discharged. The bullet entered his left breast and drove a splinter of the bone into his heart. The attending surgeons say he has more than an even chance for recovery.

—Hipolit Sautowicz, proprietor of the Green House, at Milton, is on trial in the United States district court in Williamsport, charged by Mrs. Irene Dauberman, of Lewisburg, with selling her husband intoxicating liquor, which she claims was responsible for his being sent to the eastern penitentiary for shooting former sheriff Renner, of Union county. Mrs. Dauberman sues for \$25,000 damages for the loss of her husband. Dauberman was convicted of the shooting after he recovered from a self-inflicted wound, and was sentenced to serve from six to seven years in the penitentiary.

—Thirteen thousand volts of electricity went through a man's body and stopped the plant at McCall's Ferry, Lehigh county, thirty miles away. Walter A. Bailey stepped on a wire at a sub-station in Coatsville, Monday. A. C. Smith, the superintendent, shut off the power, saving the man's life. But Bailey is in a critical condition in the Coatsville hospital. Just a second before the accident Bailey and Smith were standing near the machinery, where the current is "kicked" in, discussing how dangerous it was to be working round such a station. "I'll tell the world I'm going to be careful of what I touch," said Bailey and the next instant there was a flash of light as he accidentally stepped on a live wire and his body became rigid with the action of the current.

—Five months after it had been buried, the body of Eckless Williams, of Kane, who was killed on December 28, last, was disinterred and an autopsy conducted to settle a dispute between Mrs. Williams and the Travelers Insurance company, over the payment of insurance under the workmen's compensation act. Williams died suddenly while at work for the Hanley Oil company. He was alone at the time, his body being found where he had evidently fallen in a faint. Compensation was refused by the insurance company, which set up a claim that he was subject to fainting spells and had died of natural causes. The autopsy revealed, however, that he had sustained a fracture of the nose and another of the neck. Mrs. Williams was awarded approximately \$3500 by an agreement between attorneys representing the contending parties.