

INK SLINGS.

—And this is the Glorious Fourth! —Many farmers are making hay, while some just finished planting corn last week. A strange seasonal condition, indeed.

—LaFollette wisely declined the nomination of the St. Paul convention but when a real third party nomination is offered he will be perfectly willing to accept.

—A good many moonlight stills are being destroyed, according to official statements, but from other sources it is learned that a good many are also being "found."

—Former Secretary of the Interior, Albert B. Fall, says he welcomes his indictment by a federal grand jury. Albert is only whistling to keep up his courage as he passes into the political grave yard.

—Rumor has it that as he approaches the thirtieth anniversary of his birth the Prince of Wales has decided to look around a bit with a view to making some girl a Princess. Better do it, old top, or you'll fool around until you will be making her an old man's darling.

—Our district delegates were divided in their votes during the early balloting in the convention. John F. Short, of Clearfield, voted for Smith and R. M. Foster, of State College, voted for McAdoo. Mr. Short voted to insert the plank denouncing the Ku Klux Klan by name in the platform and Mr. Foster voted against its insertion.

—The insult to our flag flying over our embassy in Tokio was an unpleasant incident and one for which Japan will speedily apologize for as an act of irresponsibility. It will be seized upon by the jingoes, however, as a far more serious matter. Of course the jingoes always want to fight with some one providing they can incite others to do the fighting for them.

—There'll not be another edition of the "Watchman" published until Friday, July 18th. Instead of taking this week off, as usual, we decided to work this and next in order to get the final report of the National convention to you. As it looks at this hour, 10 o'clock Thursday morning, we might have to wait until September for our convention to make a choice so we are going to press now in order to get in to the mails so the paper won't be held up by the rest from deliveries that the postmen have today.

—It's a little tough on the Klan, but more power to George Grise, of Pittsburgh, if he gets it over. Grise is an expert stereotyper. The peak of his earnings in that capacity was eighty-five dollars a week. That was too small, so he projected a Klan newspaper for Pennsylvania, had himself voted a salary of sixteen thousand and hired Samuel D. Rich, a Pittsburgh promoter, who is the King Kleagle of Pennsylvania, to sell the stock in the new enterprise. Everything was going fine for Grise until the State Securities Bureau called a halt on selling stock of a concern that had no other visible asset than Grise's ability as a stereotyper.

—We admire William Jennings Bryan today more than we ever did before and we loathe those who hissed and booed him in Madison Square Garden Saturday night when he was making what will probably be recorded in history as the greatest speech of his life. Well might Bryan have used the words of his Master and turned on the hooting galleries with: "God forgive them! They know not what they do." "The boy orator of the Platte" with his "crown of thorns and cross of gold" never rose to such heights as he did when he—a Presbyterian—bent under the derision yet fought to finish his plea to save his party and the country from the menace of making political issues of religious creeds.

—As we sit writing this paragraph, Monday, the reports of the explosion of cannon crackers—or whatever they are called these days—come from three directions. Two weeks ago we published the order of the Burgess that the Fourth of July is the one and only day on which such patriotic demonstrations are permissible. A few weeks before that we noted that council had raised the salaries of our policemen to very desirable figures. Now there are sticking up, all over our town, notices of a new public nuisance ordinance, which is, in effect passed. We rise to inquire what the Burgess and the policemen have to say about the evident contempt there was of their court. Of course today, the lid is off, but why all the laws and no enforcement before?

—We don't think for a minute that any delegation to our party convention in New York had the slightest idea of injecting religion into politics when it took sides, for or against, the committee's plank that failed to denounce the Ku Klux Klan by name. They were all playing politics, but, unfortunately too dull to realize that the weapon they were using was a two-edged sword. Until hot-heads are suppressed and others are given brains enough to see the danger of injecting religious feelings into politics in this free country God preserve it. The christian's greatest obligation is to his God, his government comes next and last of the three is his church. Always we will have a God, for both Protestant and Catholic to worship, but we might not have a government or a church.

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THE BATTLE OF BALLOTS GOES ON.

In Its Thirteenth Session the Democratic National Convention was Balloting Away Yesterday Morning Without an Indication of Who will be the Final Choice.

Table showing ballot counts for candidates: McAdoo, Smith, Cox, Harrison, Underwood, Davis, Ralston, Glass, Ritchie, Robinson, C. W. Bryan.

The Democratic National convention finally got its platform made and adopted late Saturday night, amidst a scene of wildest confusion and discord. Minority reports of the Resolutions committee were carried to the floor of the convention on both the League of Nations and Ku Klux planks.

Wilson's Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, made a most impassioned and dramatic speech pleading for the adoption of a plank that would commit the party to support of the League of Nations had hoped it would.

Mr. Baker threw himself so utterly into his effort that when he had concluded he collapsed and had to be helped from the platform. His effort was without avail for the convention voted, 742 to 353, to adopt the majority plank of the resolutions committee which favors American membership in the League of Nations after there shall have been a popular referendum favorable to such action.

The thrill of the argument on the League of Nations fight was intense because it was so masterfully presented, but it was as nothing when compared with the scenes that were enacted while the defense of the minority report on the Klan plank was being made. Even William Jennings Bryan, idol of a large element of the party since 1896, was hissed, booed and drowned out of hearing while he was pleading with the delegates not to drag religion into politics.

High Lights in the Platform. The platform is so long that it would take up two full pages of this paper so that we cannot publish it in full. It is a splendid document covering all the principles for which Democracy stands in forceful language and without recourse to pussy-footing on so many issues as did the one adopted at Cleveland two weeks ago.

Thursday Morning Little Change. The convention was opened Thursday morning with a fervid prayer for wisdom and decision in the choice of a nominee. It was 9:45, our time, before the delegates had been seated and chairman Walsh started the roll call of States for the thirteenth consecutive session of the convention.

Balloting for President. Sixteen candidates had been presented in nomination last Friday, but turmoil over the platform prevented a start of balloting for them until Monday.

League of Nations. The Democratic party pledges all its energies to the outlawing of the whole war system. We refuse to believe that the wholesale slaughter of human beings on the battlefield is any more necessary to man's highest development than is killing by individuals.

It is of supreme importance to civilization and to mankind that America be placed and kept on the right side of the greatest moral question of all time, and therefore the Democratic Party renews its declaration of confidence in the ideal of world peace, the League of Nations and the World Court of Justice as together constituting the supreme effort of the statesmanship and religious conviction of our time to organize the world for peace.

Further, the Democratic Party declares that it will be the purpose of the next Administration to do all in its power to secure for our country that moral leadership in the family of nations, which in the providence of God, has been so clearly marked out for it.

There is no substitute for the League of Nations as an agency working for peace; therefore, we believe that in the interest of permanent peace, and in the lifting of the burdens of war from the backs of the people, in order to establish a permanent foreign policy on these supreme questions, not subject to change of party administrations, it is desirable, wise and necessary to lift this question out of party politics, and to that end to take the sense of the American people at a referendum election advisory to the government to be held officially under act of Congress, free from all other questions.

Tuesday's Balloting Showed Little Change. All day Tuesday the convention caucused and balloted. All to no purpose, it seemed, for when mid-night came and the tired assemblage adjourned there had been no change in the showing of strength of the candidates such as would indicate a possible break in any one of them.

Republican Inefficiency and Corruption. Never before in our history has the government been so tainted by corruption, and never has an Administration so utterly failed. The Nation has been appalled by the revelations of political depravity which have characterized the conduct of public affairs. We arraign the Republican party for attempting to limit inquiry into official delinquencies and to impede, if not to frustrate, the investigations to which in the beginning the Republican party and leaders assented, but which later they regarded with dismay.

These investigations sent the former Secretary of the Interior to Three Rivers in disgrace and dishonor. These investigations revealed the incapacity and indifference to public obligation of the Secretary of the Navy, compelling him, by force of public opinion, to quit the Cabinet. These investigations contemned the general impression as to the Attorney General by exposing an official situation and personal contracts which shocked the conscience of the Nation and compelled his dismissal from the Cabinet. These investigations disclosed the appalling conditions of the Veterans' Bureau, with its fraud upon the government and its cruel neglect of the sick and disabled soldiers of the World War.

Such are the exigencies of partisan politics that Republican leaders are teaching the strange doctrine that public censure should be directed against those who expose crime rather than against criminals who have committed the offenses. If only three Cabinet officers out of ten are disgraced, the country is asked to marvel at how many are free from taint. Long boastful that it was the only party "fit to govern," the Republican party has proven its inability to govern even itself. It is at war with itself.

Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Press. The Democratic party reaffirms its adherence and devotion to those cardinal principles contained in the Constitution and the precepts upon which our government is founded, that Congress shall make no laws respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances; that the church and the State shall be and remain separate, and that no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office of public trust under the United States. These principles we pledge ourselves ever to defend and maintain.

Beyond Human Nature. A Massachusetts court rules that a pedestrian is not obliged to jump out of the way of an automobile. Maybe—but it takes a lot of faith, hope and stubbornness not to. —It's all in the "Watchman" and it's all true.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Thieves forced an entrance to the Sunbury Barber Supply company establishment, at Sunbury, early Saturday morning and escaped with merchandise valued at \$250. Among the loot were five dozen imported razors, a hundred pairs of shears and a quantity of clippers and combs, some of the articles being found in different places in Sunbury.

—Although she has a fortune in her own right, Miss Mary Cameron Packer, granddaughter of James C. Packer, millionaire lawyer and horseman, who died several years ago, at Sunbury, will become a trained nurse. Miss Packer will enter the Presbyterian hospital, Philadelphia, September 1st. She has been a student at the fashionable National Park school at Washington.

—Mrs. Daniel Cave, while shopping in Sharon, last Friday, admired a diamond ring in a 5 and 10 cent store. She paid the clerk a dime for it and presented it to her mother, Mrs. George Clayton. It was later discovered that the ring, valued at \$800, was accidentally dropped in the store the day previous by Mrs. Lloyd Thompson, of Hot Springs, Arkansas. The ring was returned and the purchaser liberally rewarded.

—The State conscience fund was enriched \$25 on Monday by a contribution from Seth E. Gordon, secretary of the Board of Game Commissioners, who received the money from a man who said he shot and cooked a ring neck pheasant out of season in 1921. The letter accompanying the money declared "The Lord has laid it on my heart to make it right. I prefer to withhold my name." The letter was post-marked Altoona.

—Sue for \$20,000 for breach of promise of marriage was filed in Blair county court on Monday by Pasquale Cerullo, 22 years old, against Lucy Mirabaldi, aged 18, of Altoona. He alleges they obtained a marriage license November 22, last year, but when he was unable to buy a home the engagement was broken. Cerullo also alleges he gave the girl a diamond engagement ring, breastpin, necklace, clothes and perfume. The clothes were returned.

—All the Protestant churches of Hazleton last Thursday night joined in a community service at Trinity Lutheran church to celebrate the golden jubilee of that congregation and also that of its pastor, the Rev. John Wagner, who organized it and has been its only minister. Tribute was paid to the long career of Doctor Wagner as a leader in the religious and civic life of the city. Local pastors associated with him in church activities made brief addresses.

—Warren Grubb, aged 19 years and married, ringleader of a trio of youths, who, a week ago stole \$300 from the safe in the office of the A. S. Kreider Shoe company at Lebanon, on Monday was sentenced by Judge Henry to Huntingdon reformatory. LeRoy Snyder, 18, was sentenced to four months in the county jail and Robert Peiffer, aged 14 years, was paroled. Grubb admitted he knew the combination of the safe, having been formerly employed by the Kreider company.

—John K. Delevan, an organizer for the Ku Klux Klan, pleaded guilty to embezzlement of \$4200 of the Klan's money, in the Indiana county court last week and was sentenced to from two and one-half to five years in the western penitentiary. Delevan, while working in Indiana county, obtained the money from candidates desirous of joining the Klan. He was too much money for Delevan, and he skipped out, deserting his family. He was arrested in Louisville, Kentucky.

—A murder mystery confronts Somerset county police following the finding of the body of an unidentified man in a farmhouse dam, near Somerset. Three bullet holes were found in the body and a rock weighing about 150 pounds was tied to the legs. The pockets in the man's clothing had been rifled, and all marks of identification had been removed. Dr. H. S. Kimmel, county coroner, said the man probably had been dead ten days. He estimated his age as 32 years and said he appeared to be an Italian.

—Former Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh has sold his home in Germantown, and will leave that city to become president of Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pa., it was learned Friday. He is an alumnus of the institution, which is operated by the Church of the Brethren. Governor Brumbaugh purchased the Germantown residence in 1912. The present sale price was \$40,000. His acceptance of the presidency of Juniata College marks the former Governor's return to the pedagogical field, since from 1906 until his election as Governor in 1914 he was superintendent of schools in Philadelphia.

—Charles Pitello, former Mount Carmel mail carrier, who is under bail for a \$12,500 theft from the pouches has been held in \$1000 bail before Federal Commissioner Engle of Sunbury, on a charge of bootlegging. At the same time John Rocco, a friend, was held in \$1000 bail as an accomplice in the mail theft. According to the commissioner, the bootleg charge followed the finding of a large quantity of whiskey, gin and wine in the Pitello cellar. Pitello denies knowledge of the theft, says he never made a confession, and avers that he was put through the third degree by state cops and government employees for five days.

—Walter J. Herman, the nine year old son of Henry E. Herman, of Lock Haven, was fatally injured when struck by an automobile driven by Russell Snyder, of Mill Hill, about 7:30 o'clock on Saturday evening. Snyder and Albert Bowman, owner of the car and who was in the machine with Snyder, were arrested after the accident but were released when it was definitely established that the accident was unavoidable. The lad, who was playing in the street, ran in front of the machine, which was declared to be traveling at a moderate rate of speed. The injured youth was picked up and started to the hospital but died before that institution was reached.

—Resignation of the Rev. C. L. Hunter as pastor of the First Baptist church, at Huntingdon, because a number of his congregation objected to his being a member of the Ku Klux Klan, was followed Sunday night by a Klan demonstration in which more than 1000 hooded men from Altoona, Johnstown and other western Pennsylvania places participated. The hooded gathering was addressed by Hunter from the steps of the church, after which there was a parade and band concert. "I resign for the good of the congregation," Hunter said, "but I shall still preach wherever I am needed and shall remain here to work for the Klan cause." A big Klan demonstration is scheduled to be held in Huntingdon today.