

INK SLINGS.

In any event the jokesmiths can't have fun with the name of our candidate for President.

This was a bad year for college graduates. The political conventions absorbed too much public attention.

We await with considerable curiosity the announcement of who is to direct the La Follette-Wheeler campaign in this county.

It costs nothing and every one can give it. It affects every sphere of life, so why not, always, when some one asks you a question, give a civil answer.

Bellefonte officers are enforcing the traffic regulations and already a number of violators have been haled before the Burgess. What the effect will be remains to be seen.

It seems to us that there was enough of tragedy in the end of poor old William Musser, without adding to it the unchristian quibble over a place in which his body could rest.

It's queer reasoning that concludes that the loss of one United States Senator is more blasting to Democratic hopes than the defection of a half dozen or more Senators is to the Republican cause.

Having sewed up the Olympic games championship for 1924 the American athletes will proceed to break training and load up with a lot of stuff more liquid than laurels. They can get laurels at home.

Just now, when things are a little dull about Harrisburg, Governor Pinchot might stir the animals up a bit if he were to tell us whether it is still his intention to seek Senator Pepper's seat in the United States Senate.

There isn't a State that is normally Democratic that Senator Wheeler can take from Davis. There are six States that LaFollette and Wheeler, combined, might take from Coolidge. We should worry about the party that put the wheels under Wheeler.

Three weeks ago when every one was discouraged and thought the hay and grain crops were destined to rot in the fields, the promise that "seed time and harvest will come," seems to have been forgotten. Better weather for hay making and the grain harvest than we have had during the past ten days has rarely been known.

Headquarters for the work the Democratic women of the State are expected to do in the coming campaign have been opened in Williamsport. Inasmuch as Mrs. R. Fleming Allen is the vice-chairman in charge, we look for much activity and enthusiasm among the women. Mrs. Allen has the ability and personality to arouse both.

Council is acting like it intends to do something for Spring street. Not having the slightest thought that the agitation the "Watchman" started in this prospective improvement some time ago had anything to do with the consideration that august body has given the matter we rise—not to pat ourselves on the back, but to thank council for its evident intention to do something for a hard worked thoroughfare neglected too long.

We don't always agree with what the gentleman who writes the advertisements for the First National bank of this place, that appear in other columns of the "Watchman," has to say. Very rarely do we refer to such matters in this column, but we want you to turn to page six, of this issue, and read in four inches, more good, sound "horse sense" than the average writer can "get over" in six columns. Besides being a very exceptional banker Corp. McCurdy occasionally qualifies as a very exceptional writer.

Of course Persia regrets the killing of the Vice Consul of the United States at Teheran. To make amends Persia is perfectly willing to execute every one Uncle Sam wants to bump off in the public square. Aside from the fact that a public execution of one of their number is as much of a delight to the average Persian as a Harold Lloyd film is to the average American kid and that Persia's war resources are as a child's toy pistol to Uncle Sam's "Big Bertha," the situation is without serious diplomatic consequences. The little matter of the life of Maj. Robert Imbrie, its value to his family and posterity doesn't seem to have entered the equation at all.

Mr. Clinton W. Gilbert, the gentleman who makes a double column mirror, about six inches long, reflect Washington in the Philadelphia Ledger every day, has a little of the silver scraped off the back of his glass. We see clear through his efforts to make it appear that Coolidge is more progressive than his party. Coolidge isn't anything; either conservative, reactionary or radical. He is merely "Silent Cal," an accidental note in the elephants' trumpeting for votes. Setting the police strike in Boston got him a Vice Presidential nomination and some knowing citizens of Massachusetts say he was away from his desk when that settlement was effected—the untimely end of Warren G. Harding made him President and the failure of a Republican Congress to function in such a manner as would give any hope of election to any of the really able men in his party made him its nominee for a full term. The "Silent" prefix to Cal. was invented to give the impression that "still water runs deep," but everybody knows that lots of still water is very, very shallow.

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John W. Davis, Progressive.

Senator Wheeler seems to have been influenced by impulse rather than reason when he wrote his letter accepting the nomination of the LaFollette party for Vice President. Otherwise he couldn't have said that the Democrats in convention selected as the standard bearer of their party "an attorney who represents these (Wall Street) interests, who lives and associates with them and who typifies all that big business stands for, just as much and just as truly as does the Republican nominee." If that means anything it casts an aspersion upon the legal profession. Mr. Wheeler testified before a Congressional committee that he had become counsel for an oil speculator of doubtful reputation in Montana. Is it to be inferred that he was in sympathy with all the enterprises of his client?

John W. Davis began the practice of law in West Virginia about 1895, and soon afterward became an assistant professor in the law school of the University of Virginia. A few years later he was elected to the House of Delegates of West Virginia and served one term, having declined a re-election. Resuming the general practice of law at Clarksburg, he remained there ten years. In 1906 he was elected president of the State Bar association and assigned to the committee on uniform State laws. In 1909 he was elected to Congress in a district overwhelmingly Republican and became a member of the Judiciary committee, serving two terms. Then President Wilson appointed him solicitor general, in which position he defended all the progressive legislation enacted during Wilson's first term, including the eight hour law.

He argued the case against the Harvester trust, the Steel trust, the anthracite coal cases involving the constitutionality of the income tax, the railway mail pay, the pipe line issue involving the validity of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and Chief Justice White appraised him as the ablest lawyer who had occupied that office in all the long period of his service on the bench. In his practice in West Virginia he defended "Mother" Jones and Eugene Debs, and until his official duties called him to Washington was leading counsel for the coal miners in their frequent controversies with the mine owners. Upon the death of Ambassador Page President Wilson appointed him Ambassador to London from which service he returned in mid-summer of 1921 and located in New York. If that record has made a corporation monster it got quick action.

It was hardly necessary for those Chicago fiends to confess. Everybody knew they were guilty.

Factional War Resumed.

Governor Pinchot, having returned to Harrisburg after his summer vacation, signs of the resumption of factional war in the Republican party of Pennsylvania are appearing. Last week the Game Commission threw a harpoon into the gubernatorial anatomy by naming one of the State Game preserves after John M. Phillips, of Pittsburgh. Mr. Phillips had been president of the Commission for many years, but the Governor refused to re-appoint him for one reason or another, presumably because he was not in full sympathy with some absurd conditions established by Mr. Pinchot in relation to the activities of the Commission. The honor conferred upon Mr. Phillips is interpreted as a rebuke to the Governor.

Other evidences of a renewal of the quarrel between the Governor and the machine leaders are present. In the planning of the campaign for President the Governor has been entirely ignored. Chairman Baker, Senators Pepper and Reed, Congressman Vane and others have held conferences with the President in Washington and among themselves in Philadelphia and at the seashore, but Governor Pinchot has not been invited nor even consulted. He may be permitted to contribute to the campaign fund later on but that is likely to be the limit of courtesies extended to him. Meantime the Governor is quietly moving in his own way to build up a machine for use when his successor is to be elected.

That the Governor will not relinquish control of the State government to the old machine is certain. He intends to name his successor in office, if possible, and has already picked out the man for the place. The present Secretary of the Commonwealth is his favorite and unless his expectations are disappointed will be named as the Republican candidate for Governor in 1926. The appointment of Robert L. Patton, to the office of Coroner of Philadelphia, was made with this object in view and within a short time other appointments will be made which will shock the machine leaders. The present row over the tenure of office of General Butler, director of public safety in Philadelphia, is part of the program.

New Democratic Organization.

The selection of Clem L. Shaver, of Fairmount, West Virginia, as chairman of the Democratic National committee, will be cordially endorsed by the Democratic men and women of the country. He is a lawyer of ability and a political manager of experience. He was selected by Mr. Davis and is a life-long friend of the candidate. The executive committee of the party is composed of men equally well qualified for the service. Cordell Hull, of Tennessee; George White, of Ohio; Vance C. McCormick, of Pennsylvania; and Homer Cummings, of Connecticut, each having served as chairman of the committee, and Daniel C. Roper, of New York, will guarantee an energetic as well as an efficient campaign.

Probably the least known of this group of earnest working Democrats is Mr. Shaver, the new chairman. But he is intimately known to and thoroughly trusted by John W. Davis, and Cordell Hull said of him "I am greatly pleased to know that my successor as chairman of the committee is an exceptionally able man with much successful political experience. The management of the campaign could not be placed in abler or safer hands." Mr. Shaver was chairman of the West Virginia State committee while Mr. Hull officiated as head of the National committee and their joint efforts gave Republican West Virginia a Democratic United States Senator. It may be expected that the same co-ordination this year will yield a Democratic President.

No national campaign ever opened more auspiciously. With a ticket that commands the admiration of every fair minded man and woman in the country, who has given the subject thought, and an organization entirely capable, absolutely honest and sincere, and thoroughly in earnest, the Democratic party, standing as it does for "a government of the people, for the people and by the people," ought to win and will win. Within a period of less than four years the Republican party has prostituted a government of high ideals into a gang of pirates who have looted the treasury, dissipated the resources of the country and outraged the most sacred rights of the people.

The memory of voters is proverbially short but the oil scandals will not be forgotten before election day, as Republican chairman Butler hopes.

Senator Wheeler's Candidacy.

While it may be widely regretted that Senator Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana, has accepted the nomination of the LaFollette party for Vice President it has caused no surprise. Senator Wheeler has been in sympathy with the ultra-conservatives for some years, and though he owed his elevation to the Senate to the Democrats of Montana he was more the candidate of a fusion party than of the Democratic organization. Montana had fallen under the domination of a group of foreign corporations that controlled the Republican party and Wheeler, who had been appointed United States district attorney by President Wilson, was agreed upon as the candidate of the opposition and elected.

In justice to Mr. Wheeler it must be said that he is a man of considerable ability as well as of unquestioned integrity. In his conduct of the investigation of Attorney General Daugherty he revealed a high order of legal ability, and because of the attempt of the administration to "frame up" charges against him acquired an unusual measure of distinction. Possibly this fact implanted in his mind an ambition that was disappointed. At least it was whispered among the delegates at the Madison Square Garden convention that he had aspirations for the Democratic nomination for Vice President. He attended that convention as an enthusiastic supporter of William G. McAdoo.

Senator Wheeler is entirely within his rights in accepting the nomination and tendering his support to the LaFollette party as Senator Brookhart, of Iowa; Norris, of Nebraska; Ladd, of North Dakota; Sterling, of South Dakota, and LaFollette, of Wisconsin, Republicans, are in their efforts for that ticket. Unlike the Republicans pursuing that course, however, Senator Wheeler will do his former party little or no harm. The only States the LaFollette party can hope to carry are such as would have given their electoral vote to the Republican ticket if there had been no other third ticket in the field. In common with other Democrats we regret Wheeler's diversion but feel that good may come of it.

New York wants a Republican National convention likely for purposes of comparison.

The Brazilian revolution is having a hard time to keep itself on the front page.

Paramount Issues of the Campaign.

The Democratic platform adopted by the New York convention not only invites but urges a comparison of the record of eight years of "unsullied Democratic administration with that of the Republican administration which succeeded." The Republican Congress which assembled in December, 1919, instituted fifty-one investigations in the expectation of revealing some sort of fraud in the conduct of the war. These "smelling committees" covered all Europe and America and spent millions of dollars in futile search. But not a single fraud was discovered and finally the present Republican candidate for Vice President drove them out of existence with his "Hell-an'-Maria" denunciation of the policy.

During the last session of Congress several investigations were begun and conducted by committees dominated by Republican majorities. "These investigations," the Democratic platform declares, "sent the former Secretary of the Navy to Three Rivers in disgrace and dishonor. These investigations revealed the incapacity and indifference to public obligations of the Secretary of the Navy, compelling him by force of public opinion to quit the Cabinet. These investigations confirmed the general impression as to the unfitness of the Attorney General by exposing an official situation and personal contacts which shocked the conscience of the nation and compelled his dismissal from the Cabinet."

These investigations accomplished other results which should be kept in the public mind. The shameful abuses in the conduct of the Veterans' Bureau, "with its fraud upon the government and cruel neglect of the sick and disabled soldiers of the world war," the fraudulent oil leases and various other inequities perpetrated under the eyes, if not with the sanction of the Republican party managers, combine to form campaign issues which ought to not only defeat the party but force it out of existence. This is the real issue now before the people. It is a question of honesty and efficiency in administration as exemplified under Wilson or fraud and corruption as revealed by the Republican administration.

A party of Pennsylvania railroad officials touring the State for the purpose of looking up present business conditions and the outlook for the future, were in Bellefonte last Thursday and interviewed the heads of the various limestone industries in this section. They also made inquiries regarding the Bellefonte Central railroad but were uncommunicative as to the company's attitude regarding the recent announcement of Bellefonte Central officials that they will be compelled to cease operations unless the Pennsylvania can in some way arrange to absorb a portion of the switching charge from the various limestone operations along the line. In the meantime officials of the Bellefonte Central have taken no further action toward the abandonment of their road, but the switching rates now charged are probably one reason for the curtailment of operations at the limestone quarries up the branch, as they have reached almost a standstill.

Secretary of the State Hughes imagines he can fool the British lawyers by his story that the administration at Washington has no authority to act with other nations in the interest of permanent peace.

Some esteemed Republican contemporaries are asking for reasons for the nomination of Governor Bryan. One of them will be made clear when the election returns of Nebraska come in.

It is said that one of Clem Shaver's hobbies is "breeding hounds." Maybe his kennel will produce an animal that will run the rogues out of Washington.

Mayor Kendrick, of Philadelphia, is between the good citizenship and the crooks very much as another was between "the devil and the deep sea."

When de Valera was released he resumed delivery of the speech that was interrupted by his arrest a year or more ago.

The Cleveland convention threw LaFollette out of the party and it looks as if he is taking most of the party with him.

Jack Dempsey's right arm was injured in an automobile accident the other day but the strength of his jaws is unimpaired.

There were nearly as many ballots at the Democratic convention as there were blunders at the Republican convention.

HOME MAIL A HAPPY EVENT.

Interesting Incidents in the Life of Mr. and Mrs. North in China.

Chengtu, China, January 27, 1924.

Dear Home Folks:

Tonight has been a riotously happy time for me. Foreign mail just came in (the first good foreign mail in about three weeks) and I received fourteen pieces of mail from the United States; two letters from you, one from Daddy, written at Ellimspott, one from Berenice, a Christmas card from the Whitings, and the rest of the mail was from friends to whom I had sent Christmas cards. Most of them wrote me nice long letters, so I have spent most of the evening reading my mail. Now I want to get a letter off to you, for I am ashamed to say I have not written a letter for about three weeks. I don't know where the time goes, but it certainly does fly.

Of course, five days in the week we spend in Language school, and by the time we reach home at about 4:30, the best part of the day is gone and we don't feel much like writing letters. Then, we're always being invited out somewhere in the evenings and by the time we reach home it is bedtime. The social life here is very strenuous. It is not so in most mission centers, but there is an unusual large foreign population here, mostly missionary, so that there is always something going on. I get very tired of it sometimes, but we have come so recently that we feel we must accept invitations or run the chance of not being invited in the future. Bill is always very anxious to go and, of course, I have to go along with him.

Last week-end we spent out in the country, or what we call country. It is really just that region outside the city gates where the University is located and where many of the foreigners live. We went out Saturday afternoon, had dinner with the Brace family, (Canadian Methodists) and spent the night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Larkin, a young couple of our mission. I did something last Sunday afternoon which you wouldn't have hired me to do at home—sang a solo in church. We have foreign church here every other Sunday, one Sunday in the city, and the next time in the country and almost the whole community (foreign) was present. I had to sing to an organ accompaniment and it was pretty hard, but they tell me I did very well. I don't want to do it again soon, though, for it is too hard on my nerves. I had a cold to begin with, and was afraid my voice would break on a high note, but nothing like that happened. Bill also sang, in a men's quartette. So you see our family was well represented.

I enjoy going out to the country. It is lovely out there and you hardly know you are in China, but every time you go out there for an evening's fun you have to spend the night, and I don't like that. I hate to sleep in my own nice bed. I guess I'm getting to be an old woman. But here in China all places are not as nice as we think we have things here in our home. For instance, out at Larkin's we had to dress in a cold room, no fire at all in their guest room, and we had to wait for the servant to bring warm water in the morning. Here in our own bed-room we have a little stove which is always lighted by the servant about a half hour before we get up so that we have a warm room to dress in and we keep a teakettle full of water on the stove all the time, so that when we have fire, we always have good hot water. To be sure, our teakettle is made out of an oil can but it answers the purpose beautifully.

What do you think we have to eat out here in the wilds of China? Ice cream! I! Honest to goodness—ice cream! Think of it. And they told us we would never have it. We've had it twice this winter, all we could eat of it. There are several ice cream freezers among the foreigners here in Chengtu, and every once in a while a group of people go together and send a coolie to the mountain (about a four day's trip) for ice. He brings back enough to make about three big freezers of ice cream. We have been fortunate enough to be invited to two different places to eat it. It certainly was delicious and the only fault I could find was that I couldn't eat more. We also had another big treat recently. Dr. Freeman, who lives in our compound, just returned this month from a trip to Shanghai, and brought with him a box of Oregon apples and some lemons. He gave each member of the mission an apple and gave us a lemon. We had a delicious lemon pie. They do not grow lemons here at all and the apples that you get in the summer time are about as big as green apples at home. You can make very good sauce from them and can eat it, but they are not good eating apples. Bill and Miss Aster and I shared our apples with our servants.

(Continued on page 4, Col. 2.)

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The life-time savings of the family of George W. Main, of Gettysburg, stolen last October, were returned with interest when a package containing \$325.50 was found lying on a bench in the shed at the rear of their home.

A crow shooting contest will be held this fall under the auspices of the Clinton County Fish and Game association. Two prizes of high-grade 22 caliber rifles will be offered to the individuals who shoot the largest number of crows. The dates for the contest have not been decided.

The plant of the Elk Window Glass company, at Punxsutawney, which has been shut down for some time, has secured sufficient capital from stockholders to enable it to resume operations as soon as minor repairs are made. About seventy-five persons will be employed at the start.

The Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron company, owner of the blast furnace at Punxsutawney, operated by the Punxsutawney Furnace company, will spend about \$400,000 for repairs and modernizing the plant. The plant will not be enlarged, but will be equipped to turn out a larger amount of work.

Falling a distance of sixty feet into the sand screen of the Belmar Sand and Gravel company, at Belmar, Franklin county, on Sunday, Clem Boyer, of Knox, received injuries from which he died in the Franklin hospital later. Boyer was leaning on the guard when it broke and fell with the falling into the screen.

Attempting to adjust the motor of an electric washing machine at his home in Marion Hill, Beaver county, John Billie, 28 years old, was electrocuted. He and his wife felt a shock as they stood on the damp floor of the basement not far from the washing machine, and he moved to adjust the motor. He placed his hand on it, then straightened up, walked about ten feet and toppled over dead.

A three-inch scarf pin was removed from the stomach of Jeanne Schneider, 2 years old, of Erie, by surgeons at Hamon hospital last week, and the child is expected to recover. The child managed to reach on to a dresser in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Schneider, and obtained the pin. Her mother discovered her with the pin in her mouth just too late to prevent it being swallowed. An X-ray revealed the scarf pin lodged in the stomach.

Joseph Jago, of Mt. Carmel, a member of troop A, Pennsylvania State constabulary, under instruction at Hershey, is suffering from a severe fracture of the right leg between the ankle and the knee which was the result of his lying with his feet out of the window of passenger train No. 506 while it was passing a freight train just east of Dauphin early Monday morning. He was taken to the Harrisburg hospital where it was found that his injury is of a serious nature.

Probably the largest oil storage tank in northern Pennsylvania is being constructed at Rixford, McKean county. The tank when completed will hold 55,000 barrels of crude oil. Its size may be judged when it is recalled that large tanks with which most persons in the oil fields are familiar in that section are of 25,000 to 30,000 barrel capacity. The mammoth tank is 150 feet in diameter and 40 feet in height. Its cost is \$90,000. The tank will be finished August 1st.

Harry Close, pilot, and Ray Dorr, of Smith Mills, were killed last Sunday afternoon when the airplane owned by Mrs. Ella J. Mountz, of that place, took fire in midair and crashed to the ground. Close was burned to death and Dorr died as he was enroute to the Phillipsburg hospital. The big plane was recently purchased by Mrs. Mountz, and after instructing Close how to run the machine the pilot departed. On Sunday Close and Dorr, a nephew of Mrs. Mountz, had the plane out for practice.

Purchase of a number of tracts for the establishment of more State game refuges was authorized by the Board of Game Commissioners at the recent meeting. Many tracts of land have been offered for auxiliary game refuges not only by large landowners of the State, but also by a number of individuals clubbing together and offering their lands in a block for refuges and public hunting grounds. The creation of a number of these refuges has been authorized and will be announced as rapidly as completed.

While P. F. Malone, of Pittsburgh, was splashing in his Sunday bath, he felt a sudden blast of heat and heard an ominous crackling. Turning he discovered that a small gas stove had set fire to woodwork and that the flames already were leaping threateningly. Malone had no time to dress and dashed dripping to the street, where he created a sensation as he yelled "Fire!" Malone then dodged into a sheltering alley, where police later rescued him by skillful draping of their coats. In the meantime firemen had extinguished the blaze.

Fear of the consequences of an automobile accident for which he regarded himself responsible is believed to have been responsible for the suicide of Stephen Commence, of Woodland, Clearfield county, whose lifeless body, with a bullet wound in the head, was found in the woods near his home, Saturday. Commence, aged 19 years, figured in an automobile collision Thursday evening in which Harry Goss, of Spring Valley, suffered injury to his neck which required twenty-four stitches to close. Commence disappeared soon after the accident.

A modern Rip Van Winkle came to life at Wilkes-Barre, last Tuesday, when Joe Birkan, of Hilldale, appeared before the police of that town and asked for assistance in locating his wife, three children, the greater part of his house furnishings and \$4,000 in cash, which he had saved. Joe, at the suggestion of his good wife, took a much-needed rest that day. He went to the second floor of his home in the morning and went to sleep. When he awoke later in the day he found that his entire family had deserted him and had taken with them the furniture and all his savings.

That an unsatisfied mortgage for 1250 English pounds, that is 132 years old, holds up the purchase of a plot of land on the west side of the Susquehanna river near Sunbury for a \$5,000,000 Pennsylvania power and light company power development was indicated by title searchers last Wednesday. The property is the James H. Hummel estate and Wade H. Kruse, Allentown, has the option. Plans call for the super-power generators to take current to Harrisburg, Reading and Philadelphia. Sunbury was selected because water necessary for rolling the big generators is at all times available in the Susquehanna at this point.