

INK SLINGS.

—Two things that we hope for a lot are to see both the Giants and the Yanks pushed out of first place.

—Probably Coolidge will authorize Senator Watson, of Indiana, to speak for him on the Ku Klux question.

—If, as candidate Wheeler says, there is hope of his ticket carrying Pennsylvania, what is to be left for Calvin.

—So long as Slemm remains at his elbow the influence of Fall and Daugherty will not be far from the President's mind.

—As part of an administration that has been notable chiefly for uncommon scents Coolidge just naturally suggested one of common sense.

—If Giff would really like to be President the cost of sending Cornelia down to Texas to get a few lessons from "Ma" Ferguson might be money well spent.

—Possibly if the narrow way were wider and the primrose path narrower Bellefonte and other communities would not be so frequently shocked by domestic tragedies.

—Judging from the successes of Mrs. Ferguson, and former Governor Walton, it would appear that the K. K. K. has been making more noise than votes in Texas and Oklahoma.

—The Governor's proposed swing around the Pennsylvania circle to tell the people what he has done seems like "hauling coals to New Castle." Most of them feel already that he's done enough.

—General Dawes may say that he doesn't feel free to talk, but that doesn't convince any one that he isn't. "Buck" is free enough. His trouble is probably a lack of a vocabulary that would express in polite terms what a candidate for Vice President might have to say.

—A Columbus somnambulist is alive after walking out of a third story window and landing on his head on a concrete pavement. And, the head lines say, he has frequently had similar experiences. It might be added that he must have an ivory bean as well.

—Next week the Grangers will picnic. After that there will be a few fairs to attend and then Indian summer and then the furnace fires will be lighted and we'll commence to count the days until Christmas. Isn't it awful how tempus fugit after one has passed the meridian of life?

—The great grand children of Miss Leonora Cahill, of St. Louis, if any there shall be, are already assured of something to brag about. A half a century or more hence they might be telling that their grandmother danced eleven times in succession with the Prince of Wales.

—Anyway John W. Davis starts his first western trip with everything to gain and nothing to lose. The corn belt country is said to be prejudiced and apathetic to his candidacy, but it doesn't know him. When it meets and hears him it will know why he is the country's best bet in the Presidential race.

—Fifty million Russians are facing famine because of a short grain crop and the Soviet government of that country is planning to export grain with which to secure credits on which to buy uniforms for its red army and finance propagandists who are urging you to try Russia's panacea for freedom and happiness.

—In Philadelphia, the other day, contributors to a political campaign fund received checks refunding the unused portions of their contributions. In Philadelphia, mind you, this happened. It is up to Mr. Grakelow to get this news to Mr. Root, for it is not too late for Elihu to revise his opinion of the "corrupt and contented" politics of that city.

—The Berengaria will arrive at quarantine off New York, this afternoon. Ordinarily the arrival of a boat at New York is only a passing incident, but as this one happens to carry the Prince of Wales, it's different. And we hope the Prince takes quarantine seriously. He needs inoculation if he would be immune from flapperitis while in this country.

—The American Society of Teachers of Dancing, in session in Chicago, have put the ban on all check-to-check, shivering and wabbling forms of dancing for the reason that "they are twisting young bodies out of shape and displacing their internal organs." Are we to infer from this that modern dancing is begetting generations of floating kidneys, dislocated livers and galls jammed up into the place nature made for brains.

—As for us, we don't regard the great Middle West as the real battle ground in the presidential campaign. All this talk of Davis' weakness west of the Mississippi is wish rather than fact in the first place and, in the second, he won't need any of those States to be elected if the Republican reason for his being weak there has any substance. If Davis can't carry any western States because he is a great corporation lawyer and allied with big business—and big business, as Corp. McCurdy says—is only Bonfatti's banana stand grown into the United Fruit Co., then he has a good chance of carrying New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. With these States, the South and the advantage of the three that LaFollette is almost certain to take from Coolidge he is surely sitting about as pretty as any candidate could hope to.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 69.

BELLEFONTE, PA., AUGUST 29, 1924.

NO. 34.

Lust for Spoils a Potent Force.

The Republican factions of Pittsburgh have signed an armistice until after the November election, according to current political gossip. Max Leslie, head of the hostile forces, and Mayor Magee, boss of the other crowd, will pull together this year just as they did four years ago in the interest and under the hope of spoils. Magee appraises Leslie as a political bandit capable of any and all of the crimes in the calendar. Leslie estimates Magee as a political pirate willing and anxious to perpetrate any atrocity that will promote his own selfish interests. Neither of these political crooks would believe the other on oath and those who know them well concur in their opinions of each other.

For many years Max Leslie and William A. Magee have been leaders in the political underworld of Pittsburgh. Most of the time they have been partners in the work of looting the city, each taking his share in the sinister activities. Some years ago, however, a quarrel between them over the division of spoils ensued, and since they have been bitter rivals for control of the sources of plunder. The conflicts have been intense but the forces are so evenly balanced that neither has been able to acquire mastery. At present Magee controls the city and Leslie the county patronage and the plunder is about equal. For nearly a year both have been laying lines of battle for the municipal contest next year.

After the Civil war one of the northern carpet baggers, having satisfied his cupidity, left the South with the purpose of settling down to a life of ease in his old home when another implored him to return for the reason that "there are two years of good stealing left in this State." In the face of danger these Pittsburgh bosses came to an agreement to submerge their comparatively trifling differences for a time in order that the opportunities for bigger piracies may not be impaired. After the election in November the hostilities will be resumed with infinitely greater chances for spoils because of the mutual agreement for temporary peace. Lust for spoils is a potent force among men.

—President Coolidge admonishes his campaign managers to avoid debts. Harry Sinclair may not be able to make up deficiencies in future.

The Ku Klux Klan Problem.

Such a statement as that made by John W. Davis, in his Sea Girt speech, upon the Ku Klux question was inevitable. That sinister subject was injected into the campaign for the purpose of diverting the mind of voters from the real issues to be determined at the November election. The Ku Klux organization, whatever its original purpose may have been, has been perverted to a great evil. Of uncertain proportions and favored by the Republican managers of certain doubtful States it was skillfully dodged by the Republican National convention in the expectation that the Democratic convention would be equally evasive and thus made to absorb popular attention to the exclusion of greater matters.

The Ku Klux Klan is the illegitimate progeny of the Know Nothing organization which flourished for a brief period during the last quarter of the first half of the last century, with added wicked propensities. It aimed to proscribed citizens of foreign birth and religious faith. The Ku Klux Klan goes further and makes race prejudice a party policy and employs unlawful and even criminal processes to enforce its dogmas upon the public. It required a high standard of courage in a candidate to publicly declare his opposition to such an organization, but fortunately the Democratic candidate for President has the stamina to meet the condition, and in his Sea Girt speech expressed himself clearly.

Whether Mr. Coolidge follows his example or not is now of little consequence. General Dawes, his associate on the ticket, has condemned the hooded organization with reservations. It is a wicked and vicious force in the country, he admits, but justified in its activities when labor troubles are in progress and its energies are directed against the wage earners. That is precisely what was to be expected of the originator of the "Minute Men" enterprise. Any misuse of authority is to be encouraged and supported when striking laborers are contending for their rights. But this attitude of the Republican party will not serve the purpose of diverting the public mind from the questions at issue.

—It is a singular fact that only those who favor good government neglect to vote.

—When Giff "takes the stump" it may be expected that the Mellon will be cut.

Butler Fearful of Pinchot.

Governor Pinchot's announcement that beginning early in September he will make a speaking tour of the State has created considerable alarm among the Republican campaign managers. The Governor has assured national chairman Butler that "he will bespeak support of the candidates named at the Cleveland convention" is not satisfying. The Governor is not always sincere in his declarations of fidelity to party requirements. During the primary campaign he had the State leaders "buffaloed" almost up to the last moment when they discovered that he was clandestinely working with Senator Couzens to expose the false pretense of the administration in the matter of prohibition enforcement.

It is known that he has recently renewed his activities on this subject. Last week he held a conference with the various district attorneys and urged them to greater earnestness in enforcement of the prohibition laws, State and national, and it was immediately following this event that he came to the conclusion to stump the State. There has never been much cordiality in the relations between the Governor and the President and the national party leaders are fearful that the delinquency of the national administration will be the principal theme of his speeches en tour. It is wisely reasoned that after a vigorous denunciation of the President's delinquencies before a prohibition audience a half hearted request to vote for Coolidge would accomplish little.

Andy Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, is obviously "the power behind the throne" of the Coolidge administration. Mr. Mellon is the head of the federal organization for the enforcement of prohibition legislation and an attack on that weak point before a prohibition audience by a prohibition Governor could hardly fail to work damaging results to the Coolidge ticket. Chairman Butler, of the Republican National committee, is mortally afraid that Governor Pinchot contemplates just such an attack in his speeches during his tour of the State. We do not share this apprehension with chairman Butler. Governor Pinchot is for Gifford Pinchot and ambition rather than conscience will guide his tongue.

—Even if Mrs. Ferguson, of Texas, is elected Governor it can hardly be said that she will be the first woman to exercise the authority of that office. There is Cornelia, for example.

Pinchot Approves with Reservations.

Governor Pinchot approves President Coolidge's "mobilization day" enterprise with reservations. That is, he loves peace and hopes the time will come when war will be declared a crime by international law, and of course that will be the end of war just as burglary and bootlegging have been stopped by legislation. But so long as war is legal and therefore encouraged by law "it would be folly for America to be wholly unprepared," the Governor believes, and that probably makes it unanimous. Until war is legally made a crime, however, "such small force as the people of the United States and the several States elect to maintain should be the best of their kind," he sagely adds.

Besides, the Governor has great respect for the office of President as well as a lingering but probably diminishing hope of attaining the distinction, and he feels that it is "his obvious duty to comply" with any suggestion coming from that source. "Accordingly," he adds, "I have in accordance with the President's desire, directed that the National Guard of Pennsylvania shall assemble on that day," meaning the 12th of September. He has not indicated where the guard shall assemble. Presumably they will meet at their several armories. It would cost a considerable sum of money to mobilize the whole force at a given place and no appropriation has been made for the purpose.

But the Governor draws the line on the mobilization of industrial resources as contemplated in the plans of the President. The President is commander-in-chief of the military establishment and under existing law the National Guard is a unit in the "land and naval forces of the country." But he exercises no compelling authority over the industrial life of the country and therefore highly as Mr. Pinchot regards the President he is not willing to stop work on the farms and in the factories because the President wants to impress upon the minds of the rulers of the world that the government of the United States has the men and the money to take care of itself should any emergency arise.

—If Dawes had shown the text of his Maine speech to Coolidge in advance of delivery that detour to Vermont might have been avoided.

—Experience is a good teacher but sometimes it costs too much.

No Cause for Worrying.

Some of our esteemed Republican contemporaries are worrying their lives out with the fear that in the event of the election of the Democratic ticket Mr. Davis will die before the expiration of the term and thus elevate Governor Bryan to the office of chief magistrate of the country. There is no reason for worry on that subject. John W. Davis is young enough to justify the expectation that he will live long beyond the period of a term in the Presidency, and if this expectation should be disappointed Governor Bryan may be depended upon to meet the requirements and discharge the duties of the office with perfect satisfaction to the people. He is not a wild man by any means.

Charles W. Bryan, the Democratic candidate for Vice President, is a man of high intellectual attainments, wide experience in business and thoroughly familiar with problems of government. As mayor of the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, he worked some improvements in government which impelled the voters of the State to elect him Governor. As Governor he introduced greater reforms. The gasoline monopoly undertook to fleece the people there as it did in other sections but he stopped it by establishing supply stations at convenient points and furnishing gas at fair prices. He also prevented extortion in the coal supply and forced dealers in that household necessity to deal justly.

In all these movements for the benefit of the people Mayor and Governor Bryan held himself safely within the lines of the law on his side and compelled obedience to the law on the other side. Those who were disappointed in their expectations of unearned and excessive profits may be unwilling to take even a remote chance of making him President of the United States. But no rational minded man or woman in the country who is willing to take only what is justly coming to him or her, or has, any reason to be afraid of Mr. Bryan becoming President. He is fitter for the office than either the Republican candidate for President or Vice President. Besides Mr. Davis is the candidate for President.

The western penitentiary at Rockview has recently been in the limelight because of escaping prisoners, and now it is to be made the basis of mandamus proceedings instituted by Attorney General Woodruff to compel Auditor General Lewis to pay for work done under contracts made prior to the adoption of the administrative code. The outcome of the proceedings will be of considerable interest, as a favorable decision will mean increased building activities at Rockview.

Firemen to Get Death Benefit.

At the annual convention of the Central Pennsylvania Firemen's association, held at Patton last week, the constitution and by-laws were amended to provide for the payment of a death benefit insurance of fifty dollars, and an insurance fund of \$500 was created.

Houtzdale was selected as the place of meeting next year and the following officers were elected: President, John Miles, Houtzdale; first vice president, Charles Ammerman, Philipsburg; second vice president, J. R. Musser, Barnesboro; third vice president, S. Boyd Smith, Clearfield; secretary, John E. Johnson, DuBois; treasurer, H. B. Scott, Philipsburg.

All hope of permanent repairs to Spring street through State-aid seems to be gone until 1926, at least. The county commissioners made no application for Centre county's share of the last appropriation and as there will be no more funds available for such purposes until the 1925 session of the Legislature makes further appropriations hope of repairing the street, unless the borough bears the entire cost, has been abandoned.

Common sense is all right as a rule but may be variously interpreted. Fall imagined he was exercising it when bartering the resources of the country for his own enrichment.

—Farmers who have any doubt as to their corn maturing should hold out enough of their old corn to be sure of having good seed for next spring.

—The alleged "dog days" ended last Friday, which probably accounts for the more reasonable weather we have had since that time.

—An analytical mind might form an opinion that the Coolidges are capitalizing their recent bereavement for campaign purposes.

—Almost the last of August and there is still some oats to cut in Centre county.

—When you see it in the "Watchman" you know it's true.

As to Republican Revolt.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The effort on the part of Republican newspapers of the East to minimize and misrepresent the revolt in the Northwest continues, notwithstanding the space given to Senator LaFollette by Mr. Dawes in his speech of acceptance. It was adopted as a policy two years ago by responsible party leadership at Washington, and at that time readers of Republican newspapers in this part of the country only learned the facts of a great political revolt when the election figures came in, and not before. The big popular vote for Harding in 1920 had given the Republican leaders unwarranted assurance, and their views found reflection in the columns of their newspapers.

The elections of 1922 revealed a situation of grave party danger to the eyes of discerning observers, particularly after the death of Mr. Harding and when President Coolidge sought to assert his leadership in Congress, with very discouraging results. The purposes of the Coolidge Republicans were thwarted at every turn by the group under the guidance and direction of Senator LaFollette, as an independent Republican.

Now that LaFollette enters the Presidential race with trumpets sounding and with banners flying the people of the East are told by the regular Republicans that LaFollette's strength in the Northwest is falling off and that his followers are deserting to Coolidge, in all the surrounding States, and even in his home State of Wisconsin. But while they are concocting these stories and explanations, a little incident occurs that is illuminating as to the nature and extent of the Republican revolt.

In North Dakota LaFollette Republicans have named four out of five of the Presidential electors on the regular Republican ticket, so that if Mr. Coolidge carries the State he can at best get only one vote out of five. The LaFollette organization is not, however, satisfied with picking up four electoral votes in North Dakota. Against this ticket it has put forward another ticket of five LaFollette followers. Such an anomalous situation has never existed in any previous election. If it is a true measure of LaFollette's strength in North Dakota, what is it in Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota, not to mention Iowa and other States in that section which in recent years has voted consistently against New England policies? Such a formidable defection does not augur well for Mr. Coolidge.

Why Radicalism Thrives.

From the Milwaukee Journal.

Radicalism is going to thrive as long as General Dawes and his party refuse to clean their own household. To be sure, the Republican nominee denounces "the stealing on the part of candidates of the habits of a conservative party for election purposes, and then, after election, the betrayal of that party to those arrayed against fundamental principles of the Constitution." Yet these are but empty words. Mr. Dawes' party did not cast off Senator LaFollette, but took him into regular membership when the party needed his vote to organize the Senate. It is notable now fighting Senator Brookhart. It might lose Iowa. It is not asking the Republican voters of Nebraska to defeat Senator Norris, who rebuked President Coolidge on the matter of turning over Muscle Shoals to Henry Ford as few Presidents have been rebuked. It did not cast off Senator Couzens, of Michigan. To stand up and fight these men for principle might hurt the party.

This is the insincerity of General Dawes' ringing words. He claims the World Court for his party, and the World Court was rejected by his party. President Coolidge favored it, but the party inside the Senate was against it. Does General Dawes call for the defeat of the Lodges and the Peppers? Does he call for the driving from public life of the men within his party who have turned government in Washington into a stalemate by their quarreling? He does not. The phrases that come from his tongue are those of the ordinary politician, willing to ignore fundamental ills in government for the sake of winning an election. It is the sort of straddling and political trickery that has sown the seeds of discord within the Republican party, and has given LaFollette and his followers power and prominence.

The Stay-at-Home Vote.

From the Boston Post.

All sorts of ways to get out the absentee vote have been suggested. It is so important a problem that there will be considerable sympathy with the plan suggested by a prominent woman of New Jersey, who would have negligent voters fined \$100 for each offense. It would bring out a big vote. But the idea of voting by coercion is not palatable. It is questionable whether a vote cast because of fear of a heavy fine is the sort of vote that we want to see cast. Moreover, the man who votes under compulsion is less apt to vote his convictions than his irritations. The absentee vote is a weakness in democracy, but will conditions be improved by substituting the compulsory vote?

Secretary Slemm has been named head of the Republican strategy board as the price of his humiliation by chairman Butler at the Cleveland convention.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Thieves early on Monday broke into the Reading railway station at Meyers-town and stole a number of mileage books and small coins. The place was thoroughly ransacked.

—James P. Kline, of Sunbury, 91 years old, has been made defendant in a divorce suit brought by his wife, Mrs. Fannie Kline, 64, to whom he has been married for forty-two years.

—The tallest fireman in the State is connected with the Sharon fire department, according to A. G. Dolby, local fire chief. He is Irving Turk, who stands six feet, nine inches in his stocking feet and is a recent appointee to the Sharon department.

—Returning for their first reunion since the government closed the famous Carlisle Indian school at Carlisle, hundreds of graduates of the institution will gather in connection with old home week, to be held October 19th to 25th, the general committee in charge of the affair has announced.

—One of the features of the annual picnic of the Modern Woodmen to be held in the Seven Mountains, Saturday, August 30, will be an old-time log-rolling contest on the Thompson mill dam. Some of the old-timers who used to raft timber down the West Branch of the Susquehanna are expected to participate.

—Recommendations will be made to every city and borough in Pennsylvania to adopt standard traffic rules drafted at the eleventh annual convention of Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police at Reading last Thursday. Copies of proposed rules adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police will be printed and distributed to all communities.

—Knocked down and trampled by an enraged cow on his father's farm, Russell, 9 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Warner, of York, was so severely injured that he is in a serious condition in a hospital. Russell, in company with a hired helper, had gone into a field on the Warner farm to bring in a cow and her new-born calf. The cow became angry and charged the boy, stepping on his head.

—Leo J. Cain, of Kane, is completing arrangements for starting a fox farm in the McKean county mountains next month. He was a former resident of Charlotte Town, Prince Edward Island, where silver fox farming is common, and he is confident that the foxes with the valuable pelts can be successfully raised in this climate. Capital assembled in his home community will be used to finance the stocking of the farm.

—Closing up the business of the first State-wide pure-bred ram sale which was held at New Castle last week, officials announced that the average price paid for the thirty-one selected rams was \$35.50. The top price of the sale was \$80, paid by Treedale Farm, of Mars, for a Hampshire lamb consigned by A. R. Hamilton, of Johnstown. The sale was so successful that the management plans to make it an annual event.

—Harry Young, of Erie, attempted to escape from the Clinton county jail at three o'clock Wednesday afternoon. He succeeded in getting out of jail, but landed in the Lock Haven hospital with a broken leg. Young, held in jail six weeks on a larceny charge, scaled a drain pipe and climbed to the roof, which communicates to the wall. He walked to the rear of the jail and dropped from the wall, but made a bad landing, suffering a bad fracture.

—A bid for \$277,000 for assets, liens and mortgages of the Keystone Auto Gas and Oil Service company, was offered at a meeting held in Pittsburgh last week. The bid was divided, \$211,000 for the company property and \$66,000 for liens and mortgages. This amount is sufficient to pay all preferred creditors with a slight possibility of having a small surplus to divide among common creditors. One of the Keystone service stations is located in Bellefonte.

—Mrs. Oden Lauver, 21 years old, committed suicide Sunday at her home in Richfield, Juniata county, by placing the muzzle of a double barrel, 12 gauge shot gun against her left side and leaning over pulled the trigger with a yard stick. The charge of small shot tore a ugly gaping wound in her left side and the entire charge entered her heart killing her instantly. Mrs. Lauver had never made any threats of self destruction and the only cause that can be assigned for her rash act is ill health.

—Alleging that she was kidnaped from her home at Cresson, a week ago, forced into a marriage at Cumberland, Md., and held prisoner on a farm near Elizabeth, Allegheny county, by Patsy Drubis, of Homer City, Lucy DeBana, 20 years of age, was found by officers late last Friday afternoon. Drubis and an alleged accomplice, Vincent Buchelle, were placed under arrest and lodged in the Indiana county jail. A formal charge of kidnaping has been placed against both men by the girl's father, Samuel DeBana.

—Repairs at the plant of the Pennsylvania Brake Beam company, at Danville, are being rushed preparatory to the starting of work on a million dollar contract for the manufacture of an automobile gear shifting device which was recently secured by E. M. Applebaugh, manager of the company. The last of the large stacks for the new furnaces at the plant have been placed in position. The contract for the gear shifting device calls for the production of 100,000 within the shortest possible time and 10,000 are to be completed within the next six weeks.

—Dressed in the garb of a western ranch girl, Mrs. Peggy Searing, alias Rogers, came to grief on a Lancaster county highway early last Thursday morning when she was run down by an automobile shortly after she attempted a holdup, the occupants say. She is the "bobbed hair" bandit police have been looking for for some time, as several hold-ups were reported in that section. She had figured in several episodes, the police say. She is in a Lancaster hospital with minor injuries. Montana is her home, she claims, although she has been living near Lancaster for some time.

—Damages of \$11,135 are asked from the Altoona and Logan Valley Electric Railway company by Miss Amanda M. Harvey, of Altoona, in a suit filed last week in the Blair county courts. Miss Harvey alleges she was injured while a passenger on one of the company's cars on July 10th. In the statement filed with the suit it is alleged that Miss Harvey was standing on the platform of an Eighteenth street car waiting to alight when the door was suddenly opened before the trolley had stopped, throwing her to the street. One foot was thrown under the wheels with the result that three toes had to be amputated it is claimed by the plaintiff. Other injuries are also said to have been suffered.