

INK SLINGS.

Vote for William H. Noll. Send William H. Noll to the Legislature and be sure of having a man in Harrisburg who has no strings tied to him.

If you would like to have this District represented in Congress by a real representative and not one who does only what a machine tells him to do, vote for Edward R. Benson.

A one man band appeared in Philadelphia Tuesday night. It didn't create much of a sensation because it is not a novelty in Pennsylvania. It was only Giff blowing his own horn.

It is altogether probable that many of those volatile ones who were burning German text books seven years ago helped to oversubscribe for the German bonds offered this country.

Butler has announced that he has spent over a million dollars already in his campaign to elect Coolidge and Cal is so silent that he can't tell the public whether Butler is keeping within his budget.

Edward R. Benson was in the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1913 and every one of his votes were for the people. Send him to Congress and give him a chance to vote for you as against the crowd that is trying to milk you.

In the years 1918, 1919, and 1920, under Democratic administration there were twenty-five thousand commercial failures in the United States. In the years, 1921, 1922, and 1923, under Republican rule, there were sixty-two thousand failures. Knowing this ask yourself which party is the one of real prosperity.

John W. Davis is neither radical nor silent. He is as far above either Coolidge or LaFollette as Mars is above the center of Earth. He is the one candidate in this fight who seems to understand that the art of government rests on getting people who are unlike in most things to understand each other and work together. That is the reason he hasn't been afraid to talk plainly to the voters. That is the reason he is 100% American.

Reading the Christian Advocate has always brought spiritual comfort to us, but it is the last place we would ever have thought of looking for political consolation until it came out with the statement that every time election day has fallen on November 4th, since the election of Jefferson to the present, a Democrat has been chosen to the Presidency. Election day, this year, will fall on November 4th, so Davis must be the man if the Democratic charm is not to be broken.

Don't believe the bunk about the danger of the election being thrown into Congress. That is only being spread about to scare the credulous into voting for Coolidge. The present Congress, not the one that will be chosen next month, would act if a choice is not made in the Electoral College and in the present Senate and House, leaving out all the Democrats and radical Republicans, there is a conservative Republican majority of five. If the choice goes there and Coolidge is not chosen it will be because the stalwarts know him to be more incapable than they are admitting now.

Several people, among them Mr. Holmes, himself, have questioned our repeated statements to the effect that he had pledged himself, in the event of election, to support any legislation suggested by Governor Pinchot. We have, on file, a letter from an officer of what was called the Centre County Citizenship Conference, under date of February 12th, stating that a committee authorized by it had visited Mr. Holmes and after the interview it was satisfied that he stood for all Governor Pinchot might suggest. We haven't an idea what Giff might suggest but whatever it is to be the Laird of State College evidently committed himself in advance to support it. Do you want a Member in the Legislature to vote for you or do you want to send one there to blindly vote the way he is told by men who have only a speaking acquaintance with Centre county?

Really Joe Grundy's last letter to the "suckers" is a peach. We use the word "sucker" advisedly as applicable to the mental delinquents on his mailing list who look upon his fulminations seriously. Waiving discussion of the very debatable question as to whether Joe hasn't more money than brains we want to ask him, right here, whether the South hasn't as much right to "be in the saddle" as New England? The South's greatest offense is that it is Democratic and the South is Democratic because it has ever produced statesmen who think of the country and not of the pampered few that Grundy caters to and preys upon. In the same mail with his letter begging "for liberal contributions in substance and energy" came the Philadelphia Public Ledger, a Republican organ, in which the national Republican committee announced that up to October 1st it has raised and used \$1,095,000. What explanation does Grundy have to make of expenditures of such colossal sums? If Coolidge's election has to be bought it is for only one purpose: That is to take money out of the pockets of the masses and put it into those of Grundy's parasites. But the Ledger tells us that Coolidge is certain of election and Grundy tells the credulous that more money is needed to make the certainty a fact.

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Grateful for Small Favors.

The Republican newspapers and the leaders of that party are voluminous and vociferous in expressions of satisfaction at the declared attitude of Senator Borah, of Idaho, who has been nominated for re-election by both the Republican and LaFollette parties. Senator Borah, like Couzens, of Michigan, and Brookhart, of Iowa, was nominated by the Republicans of their respective States because they couldn't be defeated, and there was grave doubt in the minds of the party managers as to whether he would remain in the party to fight it, as Couzens is doing, or get out to fight it as Brookhart did. In a speech at Idaho Falls, the other day, he announced that he would follow the example set by Couzens.

But beyond that bare announcement Mr. Borah, who shows more concern for the prosperity of the Mormon church than the Republican organization, gave the party managers scant reason for rejoicing. In his carefully prepared speech he mentioned the name of President Coolidge just once and then only to say "he is a clean man." John W. Davis, who is the principal candidate against him, has said that much and William Jennings Bryan and other Democratic speakers have said the same thing. But they have invariably added that he is a reactionary and represents the party which has despoiled the government, plundered the people by excessive and iniquitous tariff taxation and perverted the powers of government to the basest uses.

Now listen to what Borah says on that subject: "The men who have compromised if not imperiled the Republican party, who sent hundreds of thousands from its fold, who have placed it tonight in a position of defense," he declared, "who are crying 'regular, regular,' have defended Lorrism and Newberryism, have piled taxes upon the people in order to create offices for slavish henchmen, have tolerated in the departments of government the miserable spawn of broken down political machines—these are the men who, while crying 'Lord, Lord,' have trampled under foot and blasphemed every great principle upon which the party was founded. I despise them all. Politically I would dynamite the last one of them."

Who could Senator Borah have had in mind while preparing that just and literally true indictment of the Republican leaders? When stupid, if not actually venal Denby, offered to resign his seat in the cabinet Mr. Coolidge urged him to remain in office and assured him of support. When Senators Pepper and Lodge implored the President to get rid of Daugherty, Coolidge refused to grant their request. When the tariff commission asked that the excessive tax on sugar be reduced Coolidge turned a deaf ear to their request. The best sugar growers are taking fifty million dollars a year from the housekeepers of the country and contributing liberally out of the loot to the Republican campaign fund. They must be held in good humor at any cost.

Obviously Senator Borah had Coolidge in his mind when he said the words above quoted. But he said Coolidge is a clean man. That is the comforting qualification of a severe condemnation. While the blood of Caesar was dripping from the murderous blade of Brutus it was declared that "Brutus is an honorable man," and inferentially honorable men do not commit murder. Clean men don't plunder and pillage the public but they may be unfit though clean. An accessory to the basest crime may conceal his part in the transaction and be culpable. Coolidge has never been charged with personal uncleanness but his affiliation with crooks has been sufficiently long and intimate to unfit him for President, or popular favor of any kind.

The Republican managers have reason to be grateful, probably, because Borah adopted the course of Couzens instead of that of Brookhart. Another blow like that administered by the Iowa Senator would certainly prove fatal. It can hardly be claimed, however, that Borah was influenced to his decision by a desire to help Coolidge. Borah likes his job and the Mormon church, so dominating in Idaho, would not consent to the election of any other than a Republican Senator in that State. The polygamist churchmen are a grateful group and the Republican party has done much for their religious organization. It is not unlikely, therefore, that Borah was practicing "safety first" in declaring his position.

If "Mugsy" McGraw had his car on the ground during the contest for the baseball pennant he probably found out that neither he nor his team is popular with the fans of the diamond.

Mr. Grundy is having a hard time in getting the boys to "get the money."

The Value of a Strong Minority in the Legislature.

On November 4th the voters of Centre county will have opportunity to select a Member to represent them in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania for the two year term, 1925 and 1926.

Waiving discussion of the fitness or the personality of either of the candidates in the field for the honor we want to suggest a thought that should have thorough consideration in the mind of the voter before casting his ballot.

Pennsylvania is a Republican State, overwhelmingly so. Every session of its Legislature, with the exception of two, since before the Civil war, has been completely dominated by Republicans. Up to sixteen years ago the Democrats had had enough representation in the body to constitute a check on Republican legislation. In other words there was a minority party of sufficient voting strength and virility to furnish a threat to those who undertook to exploit the Republican majority for selfish, personal ends. It was a wholesome condition.

Of late years the minority representation has dwindled until it has become practically negligible. And this in face of the fact that everywhere it has presented candidates of the highest type in the hope that their superior character would have an appeal to Republican voters who might be tiring of voting for mediocre men presented by their own party because of the apparent certainty of their election.

There is only the remotest possibility of Pennsylvania's having a Democratic Legislature for years to come. There is a very urgent need of a strong Democratic contingent in that body. Radicalism and Socialism would not now be raising their dangerous heads, as they are, if the license of Republican adventurers had not been so unbridled for the last quarter of a century.

This is the time for a good citizen to give this thought very serious consideration. A strong minority representation in the next Legislature will have a steadying effect that would go far toward calming the present feeling of unrest in Pennsylvania and forestalling the activities of those who are moving for a radical party in the State.

In Centre county the Democrats of former William H. Noll, of Pleasant Gap, for your consideration. Surely he is a man of the highest type and his selection would go far toward re-establishing what Pennsylvania needs most, just now, a capable minority party representation.

—Billy Swoope has the Republican, the Socialist and the Prohibition endorsement for Congress. Of course Billy stole the Socialist and Prohibition opportunities on the ticket, because he is neither. Up in Bradford, some time ago, a lady asked him where he stood on the Prohibition question and he replied: "I am TRYING to obey the law."

—The world's series in baseball turned out exactly as we had hoped. Washington won and old man, Walter Johnson, came back, after two defeats, to prove to youth that it is never well to figure that experience, begotten of age, isn't valuable.

—The women "get-out-the-vote" crusaders may not have greatly influenced the result of the election but they had "a halcyon and vociferous" trip through the State.

—The real Sherlock Holmes was "thin, wiry, dark and had a high nose." We make this announcement so that nobody need be deceived in him.

—There are just two reasons why Coolidge isn't making any speeches and they are: He has nothing to say and, if he did have, he couldn't say it.

—The anthracite coal tax is likely to be repealed by the next Legislature. But it is not likely that the price of coal will be reduced.

—Now that the world series is ended the investigation of charges of crookedness in baseball ought to be resumed.

—My, O my, how Republican hearts bleed for the constitution.

Republican Leaders in Panic.

In their frantic appeal to voters the Republican bosses admit that they have been deceiving the public in two important particulars. They have been constantly asserting that the LaFollette party is drawing from the Democrats in much greater proportion than from the Republicans and the election of Coolidge is certain. If the first proposition had any basis of fact the abuse of LaFollette would have been avoided and his efforts to draw from the Democrats encouraged. If the second proposition had legs to stand on there would be no reason to fear that Governor Bryan might become President because of the failure of the House of Representatives to elect either Davis or Coolidge.

The strength of the LaFollette party is greatest in States that have been surely Republican in the past and every electoral vote which LaFollette receives will be cast in States that are necessary to Republican success in the November election. LaFollette will get a good many votes in Pennsylvania. He may carry Pennsylvania or so divide the Republican strength as to enable Mr. Davis to carry it. But if LaFollette were not a candidate there is no doubt as to which candidate would get the electoral vote of Pennsylvania. It would go to Coolidge by a vast majority. That is the real reason why Republican newspapers and speakers are so vehemently condemning the LaFollette party.

In the event of failure of the electoral college to elect a President the present House of Representatives would make the choice, each State having one vote determined by the majority of the delegation. In twenty-five States the Republicans have a majority and in twenty States the Democrats would control with tie votes in three States, Maryland, Montana and Nebraska. With a candidate of sufficient force of character to chloroform their National convention as Coolidge did Republicans ought not to be afraid to go into a contest in the House of Representatives with such odds in their favor. But they know that Coolidge has no force and that he is a mental pigmy unable to direct his own mind.

—For a usually super-confident leader Republican chairman W. Harry Baker is showing a good deal of nervousness.

Pinchot's Rebuke to Clement.

Governor Pinchot was everlastingly right but not altogether happy in his letter accepting with "genuine satisfaction," the letter of resignation of Samuel M. Clement Jr., as a member of the Public Service Commission. The Governor's statement that the retiring Commissioner "had anticipated by only a few hours" a letter of dismissal sounds like "baby buncombe," and his complaint of delinquency in office was too long delayed to appear genuine. Nevertheless the public, being highly gratified that Clement is out of the Board, will cordially endorse the rebuke which is expressed in the Governor's letter. It exposes the hollowness of Mr. Clement's profession of sensitiveness.

When the Public Service Commission bestowed upon the Philadelphia Street car corporation the right to increase the rate of fares without first hearing time and opportunity for a full hearing of the side of the patrons of the corporation, the Governor ought to have summarily dismissed the entire board. Instead of that he waited several weeks until after a local court had affirmed the right of the Board to do what it had done because of the language of the law and finally, after one of the Commissioners had thrown a harpoon into him, he answered in spiteful tone that he intended to remove him anyway and left the other offenders secure in their seats. There is neither good form nor dignity in such a performance.

The Public Service Commission has been from the beginning almost unanimously the servile creature of corporations. With the exception of Mr. John S. Killing not a member has raised a voice in the interest of the public. Probably it was because of Mr. Killing's willingness to speak in the interest of the people that he was dropped from membership at the expiration of his term, though he was the only Democrat on the Board and it was intended to be non-partisan. But Gifford Pinchot has such an aversion to Democrats that he never appoints one to office if he can avoid it, and he can in all cases in which the law is not actually compelling. In this matter he has done a good thing in a bungling way.

—Elect Democratic Congressmen. President Davis will help to put his beneficent policies in force.

—The "Perfect Lover" has been divorced. He was probably "too good to be true."

Why is Grundy Frantic?

Mr. Grundy's latest appeal to the Republican electorate of Pennsylvania is warm enough to melt a heart of stone. Four times he has taken his pen in hand and outlined as many glowing pictures of the Utopia to which admittance is to be gained by a contribution to the G. O. P. campaign fund. He has played successively upon the greed, gratitude and fear of his clientele. He has demonstrated that they are indebted not to Providence, but to Protection, for the material blessings they enjoy; that income in prospect is to be measured by the proportion of their party's plurality; and that failure on their part to purchase the wares he offers will be the precursor of dire calamity. With what result?

O, generation of vipers! The pampered plutocrats and wet-nurse workmen who have failed to come across, will you send all you can? Will you send it at once? Will you send it at once? Will you send it at once?

Well, now, why all this urgency? Why, "our country, our government, our institutions and industries are in peril." What kind of peril? "It's Coolidge or Bryan, and Bryan will have to pay his indebtedness to LaFollette!"

No wonder Mr. Grundy fails to understand the obduracy of those to whom his fervent appeals have been addressed. Mr. Grundy has made notable sacrifices for the good of the cause and continuation of tariff favors for the industry in which he is particularly interested ("We are all making sacrifices," he says, and yet he seems to have failed to touch a responsive cord; that is to say, the purse-string).

Is it possible that any considerable number of Pennsylvania Republicans regard Mr. Grundy's letters as bunk, and believe that he is trying to collect funds the use of which in the purchase of legislative favors at the expense of the general consumer will contribute to his own further enrichment? Can it be that, confronted with the terrible alternative of "Coolidge or Bryan," the voters intend to save their money and cast their ballots for John W. Davis?

Why is Mr. Grundy Frantic?

He's a Human Being, Too. From the Rock Island Argus. One generation of people has about the same problems as another. As a sample: The high cost of living is an eternal problem. They had it thousand and years ago, just as much as we have it now. And they tried about the same remedies—such as laws against profiteering, fair price lists, etc. The reason our economic problems remain unsolved, century after century, is because they are considered as cold-blooded scientific problems instead of human problems.

The trouble begins in our schools. We teach the rising generations all the truths, sophistries and bunk propaganda of economics. But we give them very little training in human decency—kindness, fair play, the Golden Rule. Quite naturally, men who have not been trained in christian principles do not practice these principles when they get power over the necessities of life.

Take the problem of the farmer, who has been getting less than his share of prosperity. This "problem same, for the most part, has been considered as old-bloodedly as if it were a surgical operation. Politicians and economists and writers have come forth with numerous solutions, based on statistics. Their arguments usually wind up with the plea that, if the farmer's buying power isn't restored to him he cannot buy city-made goods.

That's true. But there's more to it than the selfish or material side. It's more than an economic problem. It's a human problem. The farmer is a human being. He has a right to a fair share of general prosperity. If he doesn't get it, he suffers—so do his wife and children. His children, in particular, suffer by not getting an even chance in education and inheritance. But most of this is ignored.

The talk runs to law of supply and demand, cycles, prices, balances, etc. Some day this is going to be a mighty fine world to live in—but not until people realize that the only solution for most material problems is spiritual—Golden Rule, decency, tolerance, Christianity. Material suffering is the result of violating spiritual laws.

—Republican papers tell us that Democrats are going over to Coolidge but give no names. This is like the candidate of their party, a myth.

—Burning prisoners confined in local "lock-ups" might be construed as "cruel and unusual punishment."

—Hell 'an Maria Dawes refuses Senator Brookhart's request that he withdraw from the ticket.

—The trouble about consolidating railroads is that each unit wants to be the main trunk.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Using the kitchen stove as a bank proved expensive for Mrs. Samuel Troutman, of Norristown, when \$200 savings of herself and son, went up in smoke of a blazing fire. Some days ago Mrs. Troutman placed a box containing the money in the stove for safekeeping. Last Thursday when a fresh fire was built, she forgot the hiding place.

All the employees of the maintenance division of the State Highway Department of Fayette county have been laid off indefinitely. This includes all highway foremen. Exhaustion of the appropriation for highway maintenance is said to have been the cause of the action. While many roads are in need of repairs, the work probably will have to go over until spring.

Investigations of original grants of land for highway purposes is being conducted in several Central Pennsylvania counties, which desire to widen the roads. Where the grants called for a fifty-foot highway the counties will be saved damages in the proposed widening programs. Other than the principal roads, the grants usually called for a thirty-three-foot width of roadways.

John H. Baker, 21 years old, of Gettysburg, committed suicide by hanging himself in the garage of John Shindler-decker, in that city. His body was found dangling beside his automobile on Monday afternoon by his grandmother, Mrs. George S. Baker. When he did not return for the noonday meal his grandmother went in search of him, finding his body suspended from a rafter in the garage.

On the first raccoon hunt of the season in Scotch valley, Blair county, fire inspector Harry E. Chamberlain and son Harry, Arthur Keckler and James Powkes, of Altoona, captured a ten pound specimen. When the coon was disclosed from the tree it was found to be wearing a leather collar, indicating that it had been a pet in some family and probably escaped. The law forbids keeping a coon in captivity.

Ralph Shadel, youthful farm hand, was found guilty of murder in the second degree by a jury in the Snyder county criminal court last Friday for the slaying of Harvey C. Willow, his employer, last December. The jury deliberated two hours. Shadel was sentenced on Saturday by Judge Foster to imprisonment in the eastern penitentiary for not less than ten years nor more than twenty, the maximum punishment for the crime.

Mrs. Catherine Baker, of Clinton county, celebrated her ninetieth birthday anniversary last Wednesday. Mrs. Baker, who is one of the oldest residents of that county, is busily engaged, she says, all year. In addition to weaving and dyeing old-fashioned rag rugs, she makes her own garden, planting flowers and herbs from which she makes a salve. She has had two husbands and says if she had a little more time she would like to get married again.

Truck watchman Angelo Domastro, 42 years of age, for nearly eight years an employee of the Pennsylvania railroad, was called to the door of his residence at Huntingdon, last Wednesday morning and slain by an unidentified assassin. Hearing three gun shots, "V. F." tower operator called foreman Samuel Miller, who found Domastro lying dead in his own doorway. His face and head were riddled with shot. A shell was found in his clothing.

Boarding a train on the Clearfield and Indiana railroad in a dense thicket about four miles from Colver, Cambria county, at 9:20 o'clock on Saturday morning, five unmasked bandits killed James Garman, aged 65 years, of Ebensburg, shot wildly at another guard and several passengers and escaped with a small safe containing \$33,054.64, the payroll of the Colver mines of the Ebensburg Coal company, a Philadelphia corporation, headed by B. Dawson Coleman, of Lebanon.

A former Williamsport resident, now an inmate of the eastern penitentiary, has requested a transfer to the Lycoming county jail in order to expand a business enterprise which he started in the State prison. In requesting the transfer he said he desired to employ other inmates in the jail, paying them for their work. The young man is said to be a model prisoner, makes certain pullers and window edges and has turned out 18,000 in one year. Sheriff Little has acquiesced to the transfer, declaring the prisoners will be glad for the opportunity to do some kind of work.

Chief of police Thomas Gray and his officers in Downingtown, are investigating a crude effort at counterfeiting which has reached large proportions there. For a week or more merchants have been receiving coins, apparently dimes, from Italian children and have accepted a large number of them. It was discovered that the supposed dimes were pennies plated with silver. It was declared by the children that the coins had been given them by an Italian woman of Joppatowne and that they were given a percentage for all they passed. Chief Gray has reported the matter to the federal authorities in Philadelphia.

The life of C. H. Ditzer, aged 47 years, of Hollidaysburg, was saved on Saturday night by the stoutness of Mrs. Jennie M. Etter, 45 years of age, also of Hollidaysburg. They were returning from a visit to Ditzer's chicken farm at White Bridge, below Frankstown, in a small auto truck, when they missed the road and went over a forty-five foot embankment. Mrs. Etter was killed, but Ditzer was not seriously hurt. The truck turned over twice and when it came to a halt, Ditzer and Mrs. Etter were under it. Mrs. Etter was large enough to keep most of the weight of the car off Ditzer, but he was held prisoner by the tangle at wreckage for seven hours before being released.

A confession in which he alleged that, with Mrs. Annie Salmon, of Beech Creek, he had planned to burn numerous barns and garages and otherwise get revenge on witnesses who had testified against Mrs. Salmon in a court trial, was made by Grant Reeder, of Beech Creek, when he was arraigned before alderman T. M. Brungard, of Lock Haven, on a charge of arson. Reeder is a one-armed man about 58 years of age, for twelve years employed by Mrs. Salmon as a "man of all work," was arrested recently as he returned to the Salmon home after setting fire to a barn on D. Mark Johnson's farm, three miles from Beech Creek. Johnson, who had been one of the important witnesses against Mrs. Salmon in her suit to recover heavy damages in a civil suit involving a charge of defamation of character, suspected that his barn was fired for revenge and telephoned to friends at Beech Creek to watch the Salmon home. They caught Reeder as he ran toward the house, and he confessed the next day.