

INK SLINGS.

Farmers who have sod to plow need a soaking rain before they can get it turned.

Young Mr. LaFollette, who aspires to succeed his father as Senator in Congress from Wisconsin, is very ambitious. Ambition is a laudable trait, but there are times when the public should be warned against "fresh paint."

As we have remarked annually at this date: We can't understand why the miners don't do their striking in the spring instead of putting it off until they are able to use the yawning coal bin as a club to beat protest out of the public mind.

When we go to Congress we are going to amend the law so that an alien seeking naturalization must agree to have his final papers revoked and be deported if he violates any of our laws within ten years after the papers are granted.

Several weeks ago we assured the public that the quickest way to kill a thing is to stop talking about it. By way of proving our assertion may we ask what has become of the young Mr. Scopes, who was front page stuff only yesterday. And—do you remember just what town in Tennessee it was that thought it was getting on the map when it staged his trial?

After four days of "towering" eastern Pennsylvania and part of New Jersey in a Ford, we have arrived at two conclusions: The immigration bars will have to be let down if there is to be hope of keeping up the supply of help for the lunch counters and filling stations that are springing up along the highways. The bars will have to be built higher if there is to be hope of saving the pure American from becoming as extinct as the dodo.

Henry Ford is now advocating the manufacture of synthetic milk. Synthetic milk is possible, but it would hold about the same relation to the lactical fluid of the cow that synthetic gin does to the product of Mr. Gordon. Government experts are pool-poohing Henry's idea and asking what we will do for cheese when we stop keeping real cows. Evidently it didn't occur to the specialists that we might have some difficulty in getting beef should we stop keeping real cows.

Time was when all of Centre county, south of the Alleghenies, traded in Bellefonte. Today the country stores are as good as those in Bellefonte were then. Those in State College, Millheim, Howard, Centre Hall, Milesburg and Pleasant Gap are real competitors. The population of the county has actually decreased within the last two decades. Bellefonte has grown no larger, yet she has one hundred and eleven stores and shops today whereas eighty sufficed twenty years ago. In the light of these facts it would look as though Bellefonte needs more potential buyers if investments in its business places are to continue profitable.

Word from the summer White House, at Swampscott, is to the effect that the President will keep his hands off the anthracite coal situation in Pennsylvania. Having had his picture taken with a "buck-saw" in his hands and stood for the story that he was laying in the winter's wood for his aged father we infer that we are to take the hint from Cal. that we'd better lay in wood. It's all very pretty, but where are we going to get the wood? Also, if Pap Coolidge is to be kept from freezing next winter with the wood that his son permitted himself to be pictured sawing he'll look like a Columbia river salmon ready for export by the time spring comes.

There is no accounting for what man will do. Witness: Within the week G. L. Smith, of Atlanta, Ga., admitted that he robbed houses on week days and led Christian Endeavor meetings on Sundays. Rev. J. N. Talant, Baptist minister of Macon, Ga., punched an elder of his church in the eye because he had called him a liar. Ernest Levy, a New York Jew, paid the debt of a protestant church in Long Branch, N. J., and saved it from sheriff's sale. Rudolph Althaus, bald headed citizen, of East Elmhurst, Pa., permitted the family cat to lick his pate and discovered that cat spit is a better hair restorer than the Seven Sutherland Sisters ever dreamed of making.

"Boys will be boys," said eighty-nine year old Thad Hamilton after he had kissed the first good looking woman who stepped off an arriving train, only to discover that she was not the daughter-in-law he had gone to meet. Our admiration for Thad increased wonderfully when he admitted that he had osculated with a woman he had never seen before because he believes in gettin' while the gettin's good. Because we believe Thad has the right idea, you'll understand why we had such an urge to plant a shoe on the west end of councilman Cunningham as he was eastward bound on High street Wednesday evening. A beautiful young woman, with arms outstretched, eyes aglow and utter abandon of joy flung herself at him and what do you suppose he did? Ah! Mitchell Cunningham isn't the fast worker that Thaddeus Hamilton is. He held her at bay until he discovered that she was a niece whom he hadn't seen for a long time. We're of the Hamilton type. We'd have taken the offerings first and looked for the reason after the joy of it.

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Governor Pinchot Exposing Machine.

If Governor Pinchot improves his own political estate by exposing the iniquities of the Republican machine he is not only entitled to but deserves the advantage. The people of Pennsylvania are acquiring information of corruption in government, under the sanction of the party leaders, which ought to turn them against the organization responsible for the crimes. Of course this newspaper and other Democratic newspapers have repeatedly admonished them against these traffickers in vice. But our exposures were treated as party propaganda and entering one ear passed out through the other without effect. But Governor Pinchot is a Republican and acting with knowledge speaks the truth.

Every thinking man in Pennsylvania has known for years that the charity of the State has been prostituted to serve the party purposes and personal uses of machine politicians. Every man and woman in Pennsylvania, capable of reasoning, has known for years that the revenues and resources of the State have been systematically "farmed out" for the benefit of those machine politicians. But for one reason or another no serious protest has been made. The rich acquiesced because of favors bestowed and the poor have consented in the hope of some time getting a share of the plunder. It was useless for us to protest. But Governor Pinchot is among the "anointed" and speaks with full understanding.

But unfurling his sail to the breeze of public favor Governor Pinchot has not taken the right "tack." If he would tell the whole truth and expose the worst side of the political machine he would take a deep dive into a vast sea of popular approval. He knows full well that it is impossible to get honest government from officials who have been elected by fraud with the understanding that they would serve the machine rather than the people. He knows equally well that officials thus chosen are "mortgaged to their masters" and bound under penalty of ostracism to do as they are told. Knowing these things it is his duty as an honest man and faithful public official, to expose them to popular execration.

In failing to condemn fraudulent voting and false return of votes Governor Pinchot compels doubt as to the sincerity of his professions of reform. But as we have said before, there may be a reason for his failure to denounce the greatest of all crimes against the people. That is, he may be under obligations to the machine managers for such sinister service to himself. If Bill Vare, in Philadelphia, and Max Leslie, in Pittsburgh, had not put in operation their corrupting machinery at the election of 1922, he might not have become Governor and if "Buck" Devlin had not been deceived by somebody's promises he might not have been nominated. Possibly those corrupt politicians are "tying his tongue."

With five candidates for Judge and five for tax collector Bellefonte ought to have a little excitement on primary day. By the way, few people realize that being tax collector of Bellefonte is not so far from being almost as good a job as being Judge of the Centre county courts. The term isn't as long, of course, but since all of the women have been gathered in as taxables the office pays in the neighborhood of four thousand dollars a year. Very few of the county offices pay that much.

The big Williams family reunion will be held in the John Q. Miles grove, near Martha, on Saturday of next week. Following on the heels of the Granger's picnic it will be the last big picnic in that section of the county, while the Odd Fellows gathering at Hecla park, on Labor day, will end the picnic season.

Probably General Anderson yielded to the petition of Senator Pepper for the appointment of Major Murdock out of respect for his high standing in church circles.

Governor Pinchot has resumed his tour of inspection of State institutions and incidentally his denunciation of the Republican machine.

Congressman Vare wants a big registration this year. He imagines it will be a valuable asset at the primary election next year.

If it be true that German chemists are able to make gold the reparations problem ought to be simplified.

It is perfectly safe to say that Commodore Peary never reached the North Pole. Peary is dead.

"Cell-shock" is a new malady invented for the benefit of rich criminals.

There Ought to be a Remedy.

Unless conditions in the anthracite coal region change over night the mines will be idle for an indefinite period after tomorrow. We own to disappointment at this result. Labor disputes in the anthracite coal fields have become more a political than an industrial problem. Originated as a rule by collusion between the organization officials and the mine owners for mutual profit it has become the custom in recent years for the leaders of the Republican party to intervene at the psychological moment to adjust the differences and share with the other beneficiaries in the accrued benefits. Unless the signs are misleading that page in the history of the coal industry will be repeated.

At that, ours is an optimist's view of the situation. If a settlement is effected on the basis of past experience the miners will get an increase in wages, the mine owners an increase in profits and the political machine an increase in prestige and votes. On the other hand if the differences are not adjusted the miners will stand to lose vast sums in wages that can never be restored, the mine owners will lose only the cost of keeping their plants in order, which is comparatively little. The coal measures will not run away or evaporate but the wages of the miners are gone as completely as the "water that goes over the dam." Meantime the public suffers greatly and in various ways.

Organization has worked great advantage to labor in the past. It has compelled employers to pay fair wages and yield improved conditions in industry. But its victories have been acquired by unselfish and sincere efforts of labor organization officials. Recently offices in labor organizations have been employed as stepping stones to political preferment. The welfare of the working man has been submerged in the ambition of organization officials. That is the principal reason for the practical failure of recent labor strikes. The officials of labor organizations and employers of labor have conspired to squeeze wage earners and the public. There ought to be a remedy.

The esteemed Philadelphia Bulletin finds much comfort in the fact that Pennsylvania still leads in the production of anthracite coal. As it is the only producer this is encouraging.

Good Fight for a Good Cause.

With the assembling of the new Congress the Republican party will face two vexed questions. The first is the World Court. That public sentiment is largely in favor of entrance into that tribunal has been clearly revealed. The proposition has been pending in the Senate committee on Foreign Relations for three years. During all that time Senator Lodge, with the help of Senator Borah, has been able to prevent favorable action. When Senator Lodge died a hope was created that the issue might be brought to a successful end. Senator Pepper, another obstructionist, was easily forced into line by the administration but Senator Borah remained obdurate. He is still unreconciled.

The second problem which promises serious trouble is that of tariff taxation. The cost of living continues to increase in menacing proportions and the principal beneficiaries of the tax are forcing a reduction of wages. The President is under obligations to maintain existing schedules and hopes to fool the people by promises of reducing the taxes on incomes in which process the rich reap nearly all the advantages. But the agriculturalists of the middle west are not as gullible as they used to be and threaten revolt. They realize that income taxes have little influence on the cost of the necessities of life and protest that reducing the tax on a big income doesn't decrease the cost of farm implements.

With Senator Borah as chairman of the Finance committee of the Senate, and Senator Norris, of Nebraska, "dead set" against the tax reform which only benefits the rich, the party is up against grave danger of demoralization. Most of the Democrats in the Senate are favorable to the World Court proposition and may carry it through, notwithstanding Mr. Borah's opposition. But the administration policy on the tax question will get no help from the Democrats and the present indications are that tariff tax reform will have stronger support than the administration scheme to save money for the millionaires who bought the last election for Mr. Coolidge. It is a fight for a good cause.

Belgium wants sixty-two years in which to pay her war debt but it will take a long time to find out whether or not she means to pay.

While the cost of living continues to rise it will be hard to force wages down.

Manufacturers' Club for Pepper.

Senator Pepper has enlisted the influence of the organized manufacturers of Pennsylvania, or else that formidable force in politics has grown tired of the domination of Joe Grundy and the methods of Congressman Vare. This is plainly indicated in a report submitted the other day to the Manufacturers' club by a committee of that body on the subject of taxation. It not only recommends a tax on the capital stock of manufacturing corporations but censures the General Assembly for defeating the Ludlow bill at its last session. Mr. Grundy's life-long fight has been against taxing capital stock of manufacturing corporations, and Mr. Vare was responsible for the defeat of the Ludlow bill.

The committee groups its recommendation under four heads. It declares that the first essential is to simplify and unify assessments on real estate, to which most men will freely assent. It proposes to abolish the four-mill tax on personal property and substitute a tax on personal incomes. It endorses the gasoline tax and would increase it, and finally "reserves consideration of the inheritance tax pending action by the federal government." In support of the proposition to tax manufacturers the committee expresses the belief that exemption from that tax is not the principal allurements of manufacturers to Pennsylvania, as long contended by Mr. Grundy and those who have followed his leadership.

As Mr. Grundy and Mr. Vare have been violently opposed to Senator Pepper this action of the Manufacturers' club committee is interpreted as a movement in support of the Senator. For many years Mr. Grundy and the Vares have been bitterly antagonistic to each other. At the organization of the last session of the Legislature they "pooled their issues" and the "unholy alliance" was construed as the beginning of a movement to prevent the re-election of Pepper. Unfortunately for the success of their enterprise they blundered so stupidly and frequently that their conspiracy became an asset rather than a liability to Mr. Pepper. The action of the Manufacturers' club strengthens this view.

Some colored voters are complaining that they don't get their share of important offices. But such complaints are only by force of habit. They will continue to support the G. O. P. as long as cash payments are prompt.

Memorial to William Jennings Bryan.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record proposes a nation-wide movement to create a fit memorial to the late William Jennings Bryan, on lines that are certain to meet the approval of the friends of that popular leader. Any local or sectional memorial would be inadequate and the proposed plan would invite persons of all creeds, faiths and beliefs to participate. Mr. Bryan had ardent admirers in all political parties, religious organizations and civic societies. Men and women who disagreed with his opinions on one subject cordially endorsed his views on others and all should have opportunity to share in tribute to his memory.

The plan suggested contemplates an organization to direct the movement and nominates the Hon. Joseph Daniels, of North Carolina, as its leader. A fitter choice could not have been made. Mr. Daniels was a close political and an intimate personal friend of Mr. Bryan. They were associated together as members of President Wilson's cabinet for a period of two and a half years. Mr. Daniels, as Secretary of the Navy during the world war, earned and won the implicit confidence of the people of all parties and sections, and his name at the head of the organization will inspire faith in the sincerity of the undertaking.

Of course the widow and the children of the great Commoner will finally determine the action of the country on this question. But nobody will question the wisdom or the expediency of the suggestion. It means the erection by popular voice of an appropriate memorial to a man who had long and faithfully served the people to the full limit of his splendid ability and according to his understanding. Many men and women of Centre county will cheerfully join in this benevolent purpose. No community more generously admired the eloquence and sincerity of Mr. Bryan than this, and none will more freely honor his memory.

Between the pests and the politicians the farmer has "a hard road to travel."

The subsidy mongers are now striving to get a bounty out of the air.

Debts and Armies.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The European press has been strongly intimating that during the war-debt discussions with the United States the subject of debtor nations' military establishments has been touched upon. This has caused no little excitement in France, and Italy is said to have laid it down as a principle that there must be no question of reducing her army or navy.

Whether the issue has been seriously broached or not, the raising of the point by the United States would be no more than natural. America asks the debtors to pay what they can, no more. But an expensive military establishment would certainly affect in no small measure a nation's "capacity to pay."

On their part the debtor nations can point out that their war budgets form only a small proportion of their total expenditures and that they have been reduced to what they were in 1913, or even below. The answer is, of course, that it is not the first cost that counts, but the extremely expensive activities to which a large military establishment often leads.

Every European nation is firmly convinced that big armies pay dividends in trade. They will never be convinced to the contrary in any predictable future.

But the American project for reductions and limitations all around has a secure economic basis. Making all military establishments proportionately smaller would not be likely seriously to disturb the balance and would constitute a general benefit.

An armament conference which succeeded in bringing this about would certainly affect the debtor nations' "capacity to pay." In this sense there is a direct connection between armies and debts—a connection which the United States is fully justified in maintaining.

Time for Light On It.

From the Pittsburgh Post. New Englanders are always wanting to know what is wrong with the coal industries of other States. The question is indeed one of general concern, but there probably is no more mystery in it than there is in that other one of what is wrong with the textile industry in New England. With the coal situation again under investigation, the call for an inquiry into what is wrong with the textile works in New England seems in order. Time and again the country has been told that what the New England industry needs is a more protective tariff, and again and again Republican administrations have raised the rates for it. The textile industry is especially favored under the Fordney-McCumber tariff act. But in New England it has not brought the prosperity promised. Not only are there many idle in the district, but there has been complaint all along by organized labor of wage reductions. Now leaders of organized labor are preparing to look into the situation to see if they can find why so highly protected an industry is marked by idleness and wage cuts.

Whatever the cause there should be light on why there has been so much trouble in the textile industry of New England.

Death Car Driving.

From the Pittsburgh Post. An end must be put to death car driving, with drunken individuals at the wheels. No abuse of legal technicalities should be permitted to moderate the case of a man who dashes upon the public roads with a high-powered car while he is in an intoxicated condition.

An ordinary manslaughter charge is not enough to prefer against an individual guilty of drunken death car driving. Attempting to drive an automobile while in an intoxicated condition should be viewed as wanton recklessness. Public safety demands that such view be taken.

A Scientific Experiment.

From the Los Angeles Times. A Detroit bandit explains that he held up people because he was a student of psychology. He reviewed the reactions of his victims while they were being robbed. Possibly many of our criminals are really scientists with a passion for research. The man who blows up the bank safe is really a worker in the domain of high explosives and the forger is a chirography expert with a passion for investigation. It might be a good idea for Uncle Sam to hang a bunch of murderers to illustrate the operations of the law of gravity.

Save Their Own Skin.

From the Norfolk, Virginia Pilot. "Reichstag deputies in fist fight over religious issue."—Berlin dispatch. In America the Legislators are wiser—they slip over a law and let the people fight.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Three new fish hatcheries are to be erected in the State within the ensuing year.

Fred Diegel, of Farmers valley, McKean county, struck a blade of grass in his eye while cutting hay a few days ago, inflicting a wound that made the removal of the eye necessary. His condition is serious.

Dr. C. H. Brislin, Lewistown school physician, has recommended the purchase of 15,000 iodine tablets for the treatment of children with goitre tendencies. This ailment is found to considerable extent owing to the lack of iodine in the water supply.

The second big gas well struck within a week in the McKean county gas belt blew in last week near Clermont, thirty miles from Kane. The new well, which started with a million feet a day, is the property of Fred Anderson, who has two other small wells on the lease.

When Robert Burns, veteran chief of police of Muncy, was called to Montgomery on official business one day last week, the first robbery in four years took place. Chief Burns said he would use every effort in running down the robber who had broken the borough's police record.

Thrown from an automobile when it collided with a telephone pole in the highway near Tyrone, on Wednesday of last week, Mrs. Fred W. Pentz, of Gramplan, aged 53 years, was fatally injured, dying before she could be taken to the Altoona hospital. Five other passengers escaped with slight injuries.

Thirteen Negroes who were taken into custody in a raid conducted by federal narcotic agents and the police in the Negro quarters are being held by the police to determine whether or not they are dope addicts. The raid marks the beginning of a crusade against peddlers and addicts in Altoona. No dope was found.

Sarah Louise Gerhard, aged 6 years, died at the home of her grandfather, Isaac Kramer, of Jefferson township, Berks county, from terrible burns sustained when she was accidentally sprayed with burning liquid stove polish as it exploded in the hand of Mrs. Henry Platt, who was doing housework for Mr. Kramer.

When Cornett, hotel proprietor at Mount Carmel, went to the kitchen to fill an order for two strangers on Monday, the men walked out with the cash register and disappeared in an automobile. They left a felt and straw hat with a Hazleton trademark in them so that Hazleton police expect to learn the identity of the thieves.

The State Department of Labor and Industry has issued a small digest of general requirements for theatres, motion picture theatres and general places of public assemblage in which special attention is given to definitions in very clear language. Just what is meant by aisle, fire tower, scenery, ordinary construction and fire escape is set down in plain English.

B. A. Knight, an engineer of the State Forestry and Water Commission, who has been in charge of the survey made in Lock Haven and vicinity in connection with plans for the prevention of floods, completed the field work last Tuesday after being engaged at the task daily for the past six weeks. A series of small dams in the Susquehanna river it is believed will solve the problem.

A mother lynx with two young whelps is ranging the woodland north of Kane. Several residents of that section reported seeing the animals while going to their work about the oil wells of the region. The lynx resembles a wildcat but is somewhat larger and has a short tail and tasseled ears. It is not native to Pennsylvania, being found usually farther north. They are not welcomed in a game section as sportsmen fear they will attack the deer which abound in McKean county.

Returning home late on Saturday following a week's vacation, W. E. Ralston, of Wilkingsburg, found that thieves had broken into his house and ransacked every room, obtaining loot valued at \$1,000. Entrance was gained by breaking a front window. Among the articles stolen were two pearl bar pins, two watches, clothing, a platinum chain and other jewelry. County detective Harry Cochran found that one of the intruders had left his hat and wore away a hat owned by Ralston.

Seven cows were buried under 1,500 bushels of oats when the second floor of a barn on the Patrick farm, in Clearfield county, collapsed last Tuesday. One of the cows was killed and another injured. The day had been spent in threshing oats and 1,500 bushels proved too heavy a weight for the floor. The cows were quartered on the lower floor and were caught under the load. Henry Ruslink, who lives on the farm, had just left the structure a few minutes before the collapse of the granary.

The office and storage buildings of the J. C. Edmondston Importing Co., at Tyrone, were totally destroyed by fire on Monday, with a loss of approximately \$10,000. The fire started in the basement of the frame stock room and rapidly spread to the other parts of the building. The building, which is owned by the Wainwright Estate, of Philadelphia, is a total loss. The property was situated at the entrance of Tyrone from the P. R. R. station and negotiations have been under way for the purchase of the property by the Tyrone borough for the purpose of converting it into a park.

A young, modestly dressed woman is being sought as one of the three slayers of an unidentified man who was found lying face downward in the middle of the State road, near Bristol Pike, in Bucks county, early last Friday. He was shot through the neck at close range, detectives said. The alleged slayers escaped in an automobile after a thrilling fifteen mile chase. Detective Crawford and a group of constables fired scores of shots at the fleeing machine. They believe they wounded the man sitting in the rear seat. The car bore Pennsylvania license No. 10,107, which officials aver belongs to a Pittsburgh man.

The board of Game Commissioners has let contracts for the construction of game refuge keeper's houses on two tracts of land purchased for game refuge and public hunting ground purposes. Announcement of the purchase of these two tracts of land was recently published. One of the houses will be built on State game lands No. 33, located in Rush township, Centre county, and the other on State game lands No. 34, in Girard township, Clearfield county. The board has adopted a standard type of plain but substantially built houses for refuge keeper's headquarters, which is two and a half story frame construction, to provide warm, comfortable headquarters for refuge keepers and their families.