

INK SLINGS.

A cloudy sky is all that saved us from a frost Wednesday morning.

Wheat has dropped in price to \$1.40. Last week local mills were paying \$1.50 for it.

The Philadelphia primary election was a scandalous affair but the people of that city will ratify it by the usual majority.

According to a recent survey made by the State Agricultural Department Centre county has 3595 sheep on its various farms.

In view of the evidence thus far obtained it will be a hard job to fasten the blame for the Shenandoah disaster on Commander Lansdowne.

Some charitable people imagine they have done their share toward a good cause when they ask their neighbors to subscribe to the fund.

Some of the bureaucrats who are now pounding Colonel Mitchell may be getting rich selling his forthcoming book on a commission basis.

Say what you will about former Governor John K. Tener's attempt to set the political stage for a "comeback" The Pennsylvania State College has reason to remember with gratitude the unexpected friendliness of its administration toward that institution.

Much as we admire John S. Fisher, of Indiana county, we are inclined to the belief that he will be a far happier man if he persuades his friends that they had better abandon hope of making him Governor of Pennsylvania, at least until the P. R. R. and the N. Y. C. make their interests mutual in this State.

Governor Pinchot can bawl his head off about the Welfare Departments' being divorced from politics, but if it were to develop the greatest expert known his head would be off in less time than it takes to tell it if he took the slightest exception to any of the ideas that are rattling around in the Giffordian head.

It isn't always the most experienced and profound lawyer who makes the best Judge. We once thought it was. That's why we so strenuously fought the election of the late Judge Quigley, ten years ago. His record on the bench showed us how groundless was the argument we had used in opposition to his election.

God forgive us. We didn't know what we were doing to Hardman P. Harris when we suggested that he would be a good man to elect as Burgess. Already we have heard the ladies planning enough troubles for the prospective chief potentate to drive him to putting himself on "the cooling board" before he has served three months.

The dinner that the Williamsport Chamber of Commerce tendered Governor Pinchot on the occasion of his visit to Lycoming county on Tuesday threatened to be a "frost" until enough anti-Pinchoists could be persuaded that it is better, sometimes, to dine on crow than affront the man who ladles out the soup for local institutions and State roads.

Gasoline is selling at fourteen cents in Oklahoma. The last we bought cost twenty-two. What the Harrisburg Telegraph calls a robber held up a filling station in that city on Wednesday and got away with twenty-one dollars. Did the real robber get away or is he mulling around on some of the estates assessed in the name of John D. Rockefeller?

What do the political crooks of Philadelphia have to fear as a result of their scandalous action in the recent primaries. Eighty per cent. of the voters down there who are now rolling their eyes and throwing up their hands in righteous (?) indignation will step up to the polls in November and vote to further prostitute the judiciary so that they may be treated with leniency.

We've abandoned the "Afaletics." We gazed in the crystal for hours, but couldn't see them parading under the American League pennant. We didn't believe the crystal was as dependable as our own ivory. Now we know better. Experience is a great teacher and "the crystal" tells us that State is going to beat Pitt in their first meet on the new Pitt stadium and we believe "the crystal."

We know enough about Mr. Walker's reputation as a practitioner to guarantee every one that when he gets to be Judge of the courts of Centre county all legal procedure will be right up to the minute. His motto has always been "never let the sun set on an unfinished job." He is anathema to dilatory lawyers, but for the same reason he will be a great worry and expense saver to those who have business in the courts.

Gossip, conjecture, speculation to the contrary notwithstanding, Judge Dale is put and he's going "to stay put." He will not side-step the call of his Prohibition friends. He is going to lead their fight for the bench and that means that brother Keller's short, fat legs are going to have some job keeping up with the more lengthy and attenuated members that furnish motive power for his two rivals for the honor. Mr. Keller has much power in low, but he's in a race with two candidates who are in the habit of stepping on the gas when they start doing things.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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"Satan Rebuking Sin."

In a speech delivered at Carlisle the other day Governor Pinchot said, "gang politics is always at its worst in the big cities. No where could you find a more perfect example of this truth than what happened in Philadelphia on Tuesday. It was nothing to the gang that Judge Renshaw had won the respect and confidence of the whole city. It was nothing to them that his record was of upright fearlessness and even-handed impartiality. He refused to take orders from the gang. Therefore the gang laid its unclean hands on the judiciary and raided the court to drive from office an honest and competent official and replace him with an order-taking follower of the machine."

Every word of this arraignment of the Vare machine is literally and shamefully true. The Municipal court of Philadelphia has been from its creation a prolific fountain of corrupt patronage. Thus far, however, it has not yielded to the pernicious power of the Vare family. After the district attorney's office had capitulated the contractor boss concluded to make a clean sweep by seizing the Municipal court and set up a machine candidate against the jurist in commission who stood between him and the coveted prize. To accomplish his purpose he had his criminal henchmen perpetrate the most glaring frauds both in the casting and return of the vote.

But wicked as this outrage against the integrity of the primary is Governor Pinchot has no license to protest. Great as the crime against the people of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Gifford Pinchot is accessory. Two legislative sessions have been held since he became Governor. During the first session, owing to his skill in the use of patronage, he was able to get any legislation he wanted. He knew of the corrupt practices at elections in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh because he had profited by it but he refused to even recommend legislation that would remedy the evil though importuned to do so by a large number of citizens who had supported him for Governor.

Before the assembling of the General Assembly of 1923 the late Senator William Flinn, of Pittsburgh, had prepared a series of measures intended to prevent electoral frauds or at least to minimize them. Senator Flinn knew that 50,000 or more fraudulent votes had been cast for Mr. Pinchot in Philadelphia and 20,000 or upward in Pittsburgh. But he believed that notwithstanding this help to his ambition the Governor would be honest enough to guard against such frauds in the future. A considerable number of the influential newspapers of the State urged the Governor to include this legislation in his program for the session. But Gifford Pinchot refused to consider the subject.

He repeatedly pleaded for prohibition legislation; he continuously urged legislation that would multiply his power as executive; he frequently demanded freak legislation of one sort or another but never opened his mouth to protest against debauching the ballot or wrote a line asking for legislation to prevent a recurrence of the electoral crimes which had served his purpose in the past and might promote his ambition in the future. "Good government in Philadelphia suffered a dangerous set-back" by the conduct and result of the primary election last week but the responsibility rests quite as heavily on Gifford Pinchot as on Bill Vare. Each had his part in the scandal.

Mr. Walker Appreciates the Support He Received.

In the course of an interview with W. Harrison Walker Esq., who has been given the Democratic nomination for Judge, he expressed himself as highly gratified with the honor conferred on him by his party.

Mr. Walker is deeply sensitive to the responsibility that is his and has authorized us to say that he will make an intensive campaign for the office, being mindful always of the dignity that should characterize aspiration for such a position.

He wishes to thank those who so loyally supported him and hopes that those who preferred others at the primaries will now find it desirable to rally to him as their party's standard bearer.

Nine times out of ten the things that are on sale at low prices are in communities a long way from where we live.

Quick Vengeance on Mitchell.

The vengeance of the bureaucrats has been prompt in pursuing Colonel Mitchell for exposing their delinquencies. He has been deposed from active duty in the service. In issuing the order General Hinds, commanding the Eighth Corps area of the army, has given no reason, but it is presumed that insubordination is the charge. Colonel Mitchell revealed facts which reflected upon the intelligence and patriotism of his superior officers, and that has been appraised as "detrimental to the service." His obvious purpose was to improve the service and there are many reasons to believe that his exposures will ultimately have that effect. But under the system a subordinate has no right to suggest improvements.

The air service of the army and navy has been either a ghastly tragedy or a cruel joke. Colonel Mitchell, who is an expert air man, discerned the faults of the organization and wanted to correct them. In pursuance of this purpose he told the truth, as he understood it, to a Congressional committee investigating the subject. For that he was demoted from the rank of Brigadier General to that of Colonel and admonished to say no more unless his opinions were approved by his superior officers. In the remote station to which he had been deported he kept silence until the costly tragedy of the Shenandoah aroused his emotions and he violated the orders. His practical dismissal from the army is the penalty.

Napoleon invited suggestions from subordinates and rewarded them according to their value by promotions. His achievements have come down through the channels of history as marvels of military genius. The stock broker at the head of our War Department and the lawyer who controls our naval activities have a different idea of the subject. They penalize suggestions for improvement before the value of them has been measured. Possibly a subservient Congress, influenced by the adroit use of patronage, will approve this policy but it is a safe conjecture that the American people will not concur. Equal and exact justice is an inherent principle of good citizenship, and Colonel Mitchell is entitled to it.

The nomination of Henry C. Niles, for the office of Judge by the Democrats of York county, is an honor to the party, a service to the public and a just tribute to an eminent lawyer.

Max Leslie's Surprising Defense.

Senator Max Leslie's "affidavit of defense" in the action to recover \$75,000 on notes due the Carnegie Trust Company, of Pittsburgh, puts a new face on the relations of John A. Bell to the politicians of Pittsburgh and other sections of the State. The general impression had been that Mr. Bell was the obliging "angel" for all the impecunious politicians. It was known that he "helped" a number of that type of citizens by advancing money or credit for adventures in business. It is generally understood that he had agreed to pay large sums for an appointment to the office of United States Senator and gave freely to slush funds.

But Senator Max Leslie indicates that Mr. Bell was less the "angel" than the dependent of politicians. In other words he states under oath that his notes held by the Carnegie Trust Company were not given in consideration of money borrowed from the bank but in consideration of friendship for Mr. Bell. That is, he alleges that the notes are simply "accommodation" evidences of debt given to the bank to help Bell in a financial emergency and that none of the proceeds of the transaction went to him but all to Bell. He protests, therefore, that the receivers of the bank have no claim on him.

The ways of the politicians are devious and sometimes sinuous but it is a safe guess that the defense of Senator Leslie threw a great surprise into a vast majority of those who were familiar with the operations and activities of both gentlemen. If Mr. Leslie can establish his claim that Mr. Bell rather than himself got the money on the notes many other creditors of the bank may set up the same defense and thus reduce the assets of the bankrupt bank to a shadow. Of course Senator Leslie will have to account for the worthless collateral he is said to have deposited with the notes as security.

Aside from other considerations the Philadelphia board of registration is somewhat to blame for the electoral frauds this year, and Pinchot appointed the registrars.

It may be said that after a single woman passes the age of thirty she won't object to the "obey" or any other word in the marriage ceremony.

Tener's Hat in the Ring.

Former Governor John K. Tener, whose present home is Charleroi, has announced that he is a candidate for the Republican nomination for that office next year. There had been rumors to that effect floating about in political circles for some time but as he has not been a conspicuous figure in the political gossip of recent years, little attention was paid to them. His announcement, made in Philadelphia, on Sunday, removes all doubts on the subject. His hat is in the ring and for the present at least, he has the field to himself. There will be other candidates, of course, but if there is any virtue in the adage that "the early bird catches the worm" he has something on his competitors.

In his announcement the ex-Governor declares that he has not "become a candidate at the behest of or to serve any man or set of men or any particular group or faction." In view of recent and present political conditions this fact provokes considerable speculation. The Republican party is so distinctly divided into factions that it is difficult to imagine a man entering a contest without the assured support of one or another of these groups. In 1910 Mr. Tener was the avowed candidate of the late Senator Penrose, with the friendly interest of Senator Oliver, then the potent force in the western end of the State. That combination composed a formidable force.

During his term of office he was not in cordial relations with the Vare contingent though Senator Ed. Vare in expressing disappointment at some action of the Governor declared that 40,000 fraudulent votes cast for him in South Philadelphia were responsible for his election. But the present head of the Vare clan doesn't always adhere to the traditions, as was shown by the recent alliance between Vare and Grundy, and it is not impossible that the Philadelphia contractor boss is behind the ex-Governor. "Nobody knows where the hobo goes" and it is just as difficult to follow the sinuous movements of Republican politicians these days. Senators Pepper and Reed may have brought Tener out.

According to the Governor's estimate of achievements he has not only cleared the political atmosphere but painted the sky blue during his administration.

Pinchot Makes a New Charge.

In his speech at Lewisburg, on Monday evening, Governor Pinchot asserted a new and somewhat serious charge against the Republican machine of Pennsylvania. He stated that "in the old days bucket shops and stock swindlers cost the people of this Commonwealth \$100,000,000 and because the political gang protected them they did it with impunity. Although in 1922 some of the largest stock swindling schemes blew up only one of the promoters went to jail and he was a little one." This is a grave charge but lacks definiteness. The Governor ought to have told who was responsible for the obvious failure of justice.

The Governor did go into details somewhat. He said that a United States Senator and a member of the President's Cabinet had visited the bureau of securities and urged a concession "to sell to the people of Pennsylvania \$5,000,000 worth of stock in an alleged steel corporation in the middle west. It was found to be worth \$170,000 less than nothing. Investigation by the bureau of securities showed that most of the \$5,000,000 of which it was proposed to defraud the public was to be divided among the promoters themselves." The United States Senator concerned in this transaction was from another State but the Cabinet member involved is not located.

In thus protecting the "rubes" of Pennsylvania the bureau of securities of Pennsylvania has performed the service for which it was created. If the habit of the bureau has been to accept bribes or grant concessions to swindlers through favoritism, the improvement in morals and methods indicated in the Governor's statement is commendable. But the reform has not gone as far as it might or else the Bell bank scandals might have been averted. Still it is worth while that one bureau of the Department of Banking is alert and incorruptible. But the bureau was created before Gifford became Governor.

Sunday was one of the hottest and sultriest days of the summer season but the temperature dropped on Monday and Tuesday morning was down to thirty-nine, within one degree of the frost line. Of course there is little in the gardens or on the farms now for frost to kill.

Mr. Keller is Grateful.

During the course of a recent conversation with Harry Keller Esq., the Republican nominee for Judge of the courts of our county, we discovered that he is immensely gratified with the result of the recent primaries. Mr. Keller expressed his gratitude to the voters of his party in the following language:

"I want to avail myself of this opportunity and privilege to say that I appreciate greatly every vote cast for me at the primary election on September 15th. I am naturally very much gratified in being chosen as the nominee of the Republican party for the high and responsible office of Judge of Centre county. It was particularly pleasing to me that my home town, where I have always lived, and where so many persons know me best, gave me such a flattering vote of confidence and endorsement. But most pleasing of all to me is the fact that the nomination came to me from not merely a few sections but from all parts of Centre county. This is in keeping with my conception of the responsibilities of the office to which I aspire, for a Judge should be, and I certainly want to be, the Judge for all of the people of the county. That is the type of Judge I want and expect to be, if I am elected, and I expect to be elected."

At the recent primary election it was the privilege of all Republicans to aspire, for a Judge should be, and I right and proper that the members of our party should have such an opportunity for a free, open expression of their preference. My campaign for the nomination was conducted in the spirit of refraining from personalities of any kind. My campaign for the election will be conducted along exactly the same lines. Now that all Republicans have had the opportunity to express their choice, I appeal to not only those who voted for me, but to all who voted for my opponent, to accept the decision of the majority and accord me their loyal, united support at the polls in November.

I am placing my candidacy in the hands of the people of Centre county, because as I have stated, I want to be the Judge for all of the people of the county, regardless of race, creed or color."

Official Returns of the Primaries.

The county commissioners, with Miss Marie Doll and Miss Rachel Lambert, as clerks, began computing the vote cast at the primaries on Tuesday last week on Friday afternoon and completed the job on Monday. While there were no important changes from the totals published in the "Watchman" last week, we publish the total vote as a matter of record:

Table with columns for DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, and PROHIBITION, listing candidates and their respective vote counts.

Cost of Primary Election in Centre County.

County Treasurer J. O. Heverly paid out to election officers in the sixty-four voting precincts of Centre county, last week, the sum of \$3,309.87, which was \$144.71 less than the cost of the primaries in 1924. Election supplies this year cost \$343.07, which was \$63.50 less than last year. As all the bills for the printing of the ballots are not yet in it is not definitely known how this expense will compare with last year, when the bill was over \$700.

Lightning Knocked Horns off the Cow.

George Reed, who lives on the old Markle property beyond the borough home, had his cow out in pasture last Friday. To keep her from wandering away he had her tied by a chain to a big stone. During the hard rain storm, last Friday morning, a bolt of lightning shivered the stone into hundreds of small pieces and knocked both horns off the cow. The cow, released from her anchor, walked to the stable, a distance of about 150 feet, and dropped dead.

The new Pine street bridge in Philipsburg, erected mainly through the efforts of the American Legion of that place, was formally opened to the public on Monday evening.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE

Circulation of counterfeit \$5 notes was discovered by Hazleton banks.

Miss Bertha Cornwell, of New York, has been selected as superintendent of the Lewistown hospital.

Masked bandits held the night watchman of the Jewel Oil company's service station at Mt. Carmel at the point of a gun while they helped themselves to forty-two dollars in the cash register.

Frank Ritchel, aged 22 years, a Shamokin, millionaire, cheated death by a few inches, at Sunbury, on Saturday. He drove his car over a grade crossing and a fast express took off the tail light.

Struck in the back of the neck by a piece of a circular saw which broke while he was operating it, Ralph Boyd, 28, of Danville, was so badly injured that he died on the way to the hospital late on Monday. Boyd was employed in the carpentry department of the Danville stove works. His mother and only child died within the last six weeks.

Thomas Lynch, a prisoner in the Lycoming county jail, is earning money which he employs special counsel by operating a restaurant and laundry within the prison. He takes the orders of inmates who desire more varied meals than those on the regular jail menu and prepares them in his cell. In the evenings he washes clothes for several prisoners.

After serving a term in the Lancaster county jail for passing a bogus check, David Hinkle, wanted on three similar charges in York, was lodged in the York county jail last Thursday to await hearing before two local aldermen. He is alleged to have given checks in order to raise money to buy a wedding ring and to pay for his wedding dinner at the Columbia hotel.

Calmly giving directions as to what hymns should be sung at his funeral, William B. Augst, aged 41 years, car repairman at the Hollidaysburg shops of the Pennsylvania railroad, whose left leg was crushed and the left side of his face badly mangled after a shift engine ran into him while he was underneath a car, Friday afternoon, died on Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

While his parents looked helplessly on, 17 year old ReRoy Thurau, of Oil City, was drowned in the Allegheny river at Walnut Bend at 10 o'clock Sunday morning. While swimming in 15 feet of water he was seized with cramps. His cries for help brought his father and brother to the rescue in boats but they reached the spot after the youth had gone down for the third time. The body was recovered four hours later with the use of grappling hooks.

The Susquehanna county jail at Montrose was raided Saturday night by two state troopers and a constable in a search for liquor and beer. The troopers searched the cells of W. W. Walsh and M. J. Dempsey, Scranton lawyers, who are serving six months for Volstead law violations, but found nothing in them. In another cell the troopers said they found five bottles, one of which contained a table spoonful of fluid believed to be liquor. No arrests were made.

Criminal information against twenty-eight mutilators of monuments at the Gettysburg battlefield, were filed with Federal Judge Albert W. Johnson, at Scranton, last Friday, by United States district attorney Andrew B. Dunsmore. The alleged offenders live in scattered cities in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and Rhode Island. The list also includes several residents of Washington, D. C. All of the offenders will be asked to appear at the October term of court.

Charged with taking money from C. O. D. packages, Carl A. Hiles, 32 years of age, Mount Union letter carrier, was held in \$500 bond by Commissioner Samuel Lovin, at Harrisburg, on Friday. Postoffice inspector MacMinn arrested Hiles several days ago and testified at the hearing that the man had taken about \$48 from C. O. D. packages. Hiles brought no defense. He was furnished bail by his father when it was decided that he should be held for United States district court.

After five months' idleness, the factory of the Penn Shirt company, at Altoona, which ceased operation last April, will reopen September 29. It is intended to start with a large working force. Louis Parish, of Saxton, a former resident of Altoona, has purchased full interest in the company from Jacob Saltzman and Harris Dembert, who had operated the place for several years. A number of improvements have been made in the plant and new machinery has been installed by the new owner.

Ralph Walsh, age 28 years, of Lock Haven, was seriously burned on the body and limbs Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock while engaged in opening a drum of acid at the plant of the American Aniline Products, Inc., of which he is an employee. He was burned on the entire back, neck and both arms and legs and about the right eye, when the cap flew off and the acid drenched him. He was removed immediately to the Lock Haven hospital where his burns were found to be of a serious nature. Whether the sight of the burned eye is destroyed cannot be ascertained for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dry, of Spring township, Berks county, have brought suit against Dr. Gordon F. Borneman, a Boyertown dentist, for \$5,222.10, because of the death of their son, Warren, 26 years of age. It is alleged that the son was treated by the defendant and that in the course of performing dental work on October 16, 1924, a "root file fell into his mouth and he swallowed it." The instrument lodged in his intestines, an operation was necessary for its removal. The parents ask support for the loss of maintenance and support and \$222.10 for funeral expenses. Another suit was filed by them against Dr. Borneman for \$829.54, for hospital bills and medical services arising out of the surgical operation.

Albert Kumites and Joseph Koslanski, both aged 25 years, of Beaver township, Columbia county, were committed to the county jail at Bloomsburg, on Sunday, after they had been identified by Millville residents as two of the trio who on September 11 were killed in an attempt to hold up the First National bank in that town. The car used by the bandits was also recovered on Sunday, being found hidden in the brush along Black Run. The police are hopeful of arresting the third member of the party soon. The men have been suspected of a number of crimes in the last two years, and it is just possible that they were implicated in the robbery of the C. Y. Wagner Co. mill in Bellefonte, a job pulled off on the night of September 10th.