

INK SLINGS.

We had just approved a contribution from the National Bureau for the Advancement of Music, last Monday morning, and sent it to the copy hook when we opened a communication, signed, "Two Devout Readers of Ink Slings." The contributions were so diametrically opposed that we publish them on page four, column five of this edition and urge all readers of the column to read them, as well as this confession—which they have dragged out of us.

It is coming Christmas time. All the world is atune to the spirit that brings out the best there is in it. So a discussion of music, precipitated by an anonymous contribution, seems peculiarly appropriate, and we shall devote this column to it.

All we know about the technique of music, as artists construe it, could be expressed in one word—nothing. We do know that in our soul something has tried to find expression and nothing has ever come as near to releasing the pent-up tide as rhythmic harmony.

We have memories of the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, and Patti singing with a flute—when we couldn't tell when the flute stopped and the Diva went on or when she stopped and the flute carried the melody. We have sat in the critic's gallery in the Metropolitan opera house, N. Y., when Damrosch was directing, and Nordica and the DeReskes—Edouard and Jean—were singing. We have heard DelPuenti, Caruso, Calve, McCormick, Werinrath and all the rest of them sing. We have heard every grand opera—that is recognized as grand. We have heard every band that has been a real band in the U. S. A.—Gilmour's, Sousa's, Pryor's, Heckers, of Elgin, Ill., Diaz, National band of Mexico, the band of McCook, Neb., and Johnny Fagan's, of Coleville, and of all of them the band of McCook, Neb., played to us the sweetest because it was the first to thrill us with that glorious old time interpretation "The Georgia Campmeeting."

We have sung in the chrous and leads in comic opera. We have sung ballads and been on the end in minstrelsy. We have directed a ten piece orchestra and a fourteen piece band—planned, staged and directed the only amateur vaudeville show that this or any other town ever put on for a full week at "ten, twenty and thirty." We organized and led the first Christmas carolling on the streets of Bellefonte. We have sneaked away from roistering pals in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York and spent many a clean afternoon under the sway of a great symphony orchestra. All of this—and we don't know one note from another.

We marshal these experiences not for a parade of the ego, but more to show that music strikes a chord in our soul so responsive that tears well and we sit a-quiver often under its inexplicable charm. We love music. We adore it. And while we know nothing of its technique we do know what it is.

There are only four persons in Bellefonte who could have written such a communication as the one we want you to read in this issue. We want you to read it because it is an intelligent presentation of a subject all should be interested in. Especially, since there is now much talk of a definite contribution to the world of music by America.

Our "Devout Readers" intimate that Whiteman might be on his way to a place among the immortals. And, possibly they're right. Certainly he tickled the toes of the boys at State last week, but did he start anything fine and pure and ennobling vibrating in their souls? We think not. The bedlam that broke loose after each number was not that kind of an expression. Old Jim Fiske's Williamsport orchestra of twelve pieces, playing "Dream of Heaven," by Hermann, "Andalusia," by Waldteufel, or the "Blue Danube," by Strauss, right on the same stage with Whiteman would have left them listening to a small, clean voice within them, rather than thinking of shaking a mean hoof in a Charleston with a girl clothed in little more than a brassiere and a step-in.

Whiteman and his band are artists in execution, but as we said last week, abominations in interpretation. We say this not in criticism; rather as an expression of our utter failure to react to their music. It awakened no memories of lovely, chaste girls, it lulled us into no dreams or castle building, it thrilled us never once. To us it was a musical cacophony.

Mr. Whiteman gets seventy-five thousand dollars a year for directing that band. "Red" Grange gets almost that much for playing football for an hour. The newspaper sports-writers made the iceman and we have a notion that soulless flappers made Whiteman.

So we have to tell our two "Devout Readers" that we can't reconsider our evaluation "of this type of music" and that it is too late for us to start, with Kipling, at our beginning and never breathe a word about our loss. Rather do we feel like the friend who was with us to hear Whiteman. When we had left the auditorium and were almost half-way home he said: "My God, how a band like that might have played 'My Old Kentucky Home.'"—And there, if America is to give a contribution to the world of music, is a type with a soul—and not a passion.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Russia and United States Prevent Peace.

The United States will be invited to participate in the conference soon to be held under the auspices of the League of Nations to bring about world disarmament, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Geneva, and if information which comes from Washington may be relied on President Coolidge "is in full sympathy" with the purpose of the conference. The members of the council of the league realize that no world disarmament is possible unless both the United States and Russia are in concurrence with it. The military possibilities of either of these countries would render any agreement futile that is not supported by both of them. The temptation to conquest would be too great.

The President recognizes that difficulties may stand in the way of American participation in any movement under the auspices of the League of Nations, but he also realizes that the proposed conference is so pregnant with opportunities of achievement that he feels that some way ought to be found to promote rather than retard its purpose. The crying need of civilization is enduring peace and the only instrument of accomplishing that result is through the activities of the League. If he had been less hasty in committing himself to the preposterous idea that the League of Nations is dead, he would have no trouble now in placing the United States in its proper position as the leader in the movement for world peace. It occupied that position in 1918.

No European power would take a chance of cutting its armament down to the bone, as the pending proposition contemplates, while the United States or Russia continued to maintain its defensive facilities at the present standard. Such a course would simply invite warfare. If the defensive strength of Great Britain were reduced to a minimum an invasion and conquest of Canada would be a matter of small expense and little time. No power contiguous to Russia would dare cut its armament considerably while Russia maintained its present military equipment. Every right minded man and woman desires reduction of armament and most powers are willing. But Russia and the United States stand in the way.

When Pinchot meets Mellon then will come a tug or a thug on prohibition enforcement.

Perplexed Republican Leaders.

The Republican leaders of Pennsylvania are in a state of confusion. All efforts to confer have proved futile. The wisest heads feel that something ought to be done in the direction of "ironing out the differences but are afraid to 'start something.'" A conference might make matters worse. One of the leaders is quoted as saying that "delay may tend to soften asperities between individuals and modify the bitterness of factions." Another expressed the opinion that hope lies in letting "the situation work itself out to solution at the polls." There is hazard in either course. Pinchot won the nomination by delaying the conference too long. The Governor is still the uncertain quantity.

The organization places its faith as well as its expectations on President Coolidge. It would make fidelity to the President the paramount issue. Pinchot will not subscribe to this program. He has openly denounced the President, quarreled with Secretary Mellon and is unfriendly to Senators Pepper and Reed. He has long been in favor of making prohibition enforcement the issue and has recently been converted to the view that ballot reform is a popular measure. Philadelphia and Pittsburgh party leaders "shy" at ballot reform. Congressman Vane and State Senator Leslie are equally dependent upon ballot frauds for success and the organization is dependent upon Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

During the past several weeks the "breaks" have all been in favor of the Governor. His efforts to settle the coal strike, the exposure of ballot frauds in Philadelphia and the continued delinquency in prohibition enforcement supply all "water to his mill." It is expected that within the next few days new developments will be made equally to his advantage. The extra session of the Legislature is practically certain and with it will come all sorts of trouble for the machine. No Senator or Representative in the General Assembly who aspires to re-election will dare vote against ballot reform and with effective ballot reform legislation the end of the Republican machine will come into view.

The President seems to think because he was raised on a farm the farmers ought to be satisfied.

Sixty-ninth Congress in Session.

The first session of the sixty-ninth Congress assembled on Monday in a frame of mind which indicates a period of turbulence. The scant Republican majority in the House of Representatives was not only able to elect its candidate for Speaker but to restore the autocratic power of the Speaker, Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, which upon his own motion was relinquished, as a tub to the independent whale, two years ago. The vote on the Speakership was Longworth 229, Finis J. Garrett, Democrat, 173, and Henry Allen Cooper, Insurgent, 13, a majority of 43. The vote on the change of the rules reduced this majority to 12, the Wisconsin Representatives voting with the Democrats against the change.

The Senate session was brief and uneventful. In caucus previous to the meeting the Republican Senators invited young Mr. LaFollette to join with them which he declined, thus forecasting an attitude of opposition to the administration policies during the session. Williams, Missouri, and Robinson, Indiana, new Senators, were admitted to membership and the claim of Nye, of Nevada, was referred to the committee on privileges and elections, for investigation as to eligibility. Williams and Robinson are Republicans and Nye an insurgent of the LaFollette type. The question is upon the authority of the Governor to appoint. The real point is probably an effort to coerce LaFollette into obedience.

The administration tax bill, it isn't called by that name this year, was the first bill introduced and its sponsor, chairman Greene, of the House committee on Ways and Means, expects to railroad it through in record time. In the Senate the dominant issue will be the question of joining the World Court, which is scheduled for consideration on December 17. As the Democrats are particularly unanimous in favor of the proposition and the Republicans are being dragged into acquiescence, it is reasonably certain to get the necessary two-thirds majority, though considerable time will be given to debate. President Coolidge sent his message to Congress on Tuesday.

Evidently the time isn't ripe for the Methodists—north and south—to unify. The Methodist Episcopal church—south, has failed, by nineteen hundred and fifty votes, to give the necessary three-fourths endorsement of the get-together movement. Of course they are all heading for the same objective, but by different routes.

Secretary Davis Bumps the President.

In his report to the President the new Secretary of War, Dwight F. Davis, hands an appropriate bump to the Coolidge economy program that is likely to make a strong impression on the public mind. The national defense law of 1920 puts upon the War Department certain obligations requiring large expenditures of funds. Some time ago the President served notice on the department to make a considerable cut in the budget, and the Secretary informs him that it is not only impossible to comply with the order but that unless the budget is considerably increased "the situation of the regular army is extremely serious." In other words the department will not be able to meet the demands of the Act of Congress.

In presenting the matter to the President Secretary Davis states that the cost of national defenses is not estimated by either the War Department, the general staff or other military bureaucracy. It is determined by Act of Congress and apportioned among the several agencies of disbursement by Congress, with the approval of the people. Among the expenses are maintenance of army posts, pay of officers and men, hospitalization, coast defenses and protection of the Panama Canal. All these obligations cost money and must be met promptly. If they are neglected the service lapses into a state of inefficiency that is not only dangerous to the safety of the country but expensive to make repairs.

In this presentation of facts the Secretary of War is not only accurate but fully justified. The President has for one reason or another made economy a hobby, but in his processes he, has shown a lack of understanding. The people of the United States want economy but not at the expense of efficiency or under conditions that involve danger. The President seems to have imagined that the army is unpopular and that curtailment of its appropriations would meet with public applause. It may be true that the army is not in enjoyment of the highest popular approval but that fact is not ascribable to a desire to check its useful activities. It is because of conditions revealed in the Mitchell court martial.

Election Frauds in Philadelphia.

Last week in a Philadelphia court an entire election board was put on trial for permitting or perpetrating ballot frauds. The accused testified that the return sheet was signed at noon of election day; one of them confessed that he had been absent from the polling place nearly all day; it was proved that a fight had taken place in the voting place during the voting period and that a constable had been called in to remove one of the members of the board. It was shown that the judge of the election refused to allow other members of the board to see the ballots as they were counted and that a number of uncreased ballots were found in the ballot box after it was opened.

It must be admitted that the evidence of violation of the election laws was cumulative and overwhelming. Yet the jury which heard the evidence deliberated twenty hours and then reported to the court that it was unable to agree on a verdict. It is small wonder that the Judge who presided at the trial remarked: "I cannot resist saying that I am surprised you were unable to agree in the case. In view of such numerous and gross violations of the law, it seems but one conclusion could be reached and that of deliberate and conscious fraud by these defendants." With this comment the jury was discharged and the case set for a future hearing. The record doesn't show the customary thanks to the jurors.

Upon taking their seats in the jury box each of the twelve persons who composed the jury took a solemn oath to render a just verdict according to the evidence. As the judge declared the evidence showed that "deliberate and conscious fraud" had been perpetrated and that each member of the jury who failed to find them guilty committed deliberate and conscious perjury. It may have been impossible to determine which of the "twelve good men and true" thus violated their oaths. One of the newspaper reports stated that eleven of the twelve voted for acquittal from the first ballot. In any event the disagreement of the jury reveals a moral degeneracy in the community which is appalling.

The defence lawyer in the Carnegie Trust case, in Pittsburgh, says Mr. Bell was a victim of a "book-keeping mirage." Wrong. He was a victim of a mismatched marriage of politics and banking.

Sense of Proportion Lacking.

On Tuesday morning of last week Judge James Gay Gordon, Jr., presiding in a quarter sessions court in Philadelphia, expressed to a jury sitting in judgment upon a group of election officers, charged with various forms of ballot pollution, the opinion that the crime of which they stood accused is one of the gravest in the calendar. "Corrupting the ballot is striking at the very foundation of free government," he said. On Wednesday another group of election officers pleaded guilty to a charge of having debauched the electoral machinery of the city by falsely registering non-residents of the district in which they sat and children and dead men in order that pollution of the ballot might be accomplished.

Judge Gordon presiding, sentenced these self-confessed ballot thieves to imprisonment in the county jail for periods ranging from four months to a year. That would indicate that the judge is deficient in the sense of proportion. If the crime of which the accused confessed guilt is "striking at the very foundation of free government," and one of the "gravest in the calendar," the punishment inflicted by the court was inadequate. Possibly the fault lies in the law rather than in the court. But for one reason or another the delinquent officials got off with a punishment that could not be considered severe if they had confessed to a charge of the most trifling character.

A sentence of four months or even a year in the county jail for padding the registry of voters with the deliberate purpose of facilitating fraudulent voting is neither a corrective nor a deterrent of crime. Men who will commit such offences against "free government" are without shame, and if the corrupt officials who have profited by their sinister operations will supply them with money while in prison they will be ready and willing to repeat the offense the moment they emerge from the prison. If the courts of Philadelphia really want to check the crime of ballot pollution they will impose sentences on convicted or self-confessed criminals that will make an impression.

It may be true that sometimes "absence makes the heart grow fonder" but it frequently makes the mind ramble along "the primrose paths of dalliance."

What Do They Think of Themselves?

From the Pittsburgh Post.

Abandonment by the government of the last of the so-called war fraud cases that Harry M. Daugherty was going to prosecute while he was Attorney General draws attention again to the senselessness and injustice of a lot of the criticism of a war administration. Republican politicians eager to get something on the Wilson regime conducted more than fifty investigations through Congressional committees into the war management. Although lacking the manliness and the justice to say so themselves, the result of their work was really a notable tribute to the war administration. With more than 100,000 officials having discretion in expenditure of funds for war purposes and in the making of war contracts, and with a total expenditure of some \$18,000,000,000, there was not found one case of graft or peculation on the part of responsible officials. That was in striking contrast with the "embalmed beef" and other scandals that marked the management of our part in the Spanish-American war. However, after Daugherty became Attorney General, war frauds were to be unearthed and those involved in them punished. No more came from that talk than from the work of the congressional "smelling committees."

The truth was indicated in General Dawes' famous Hell'n Maria speech in which he cut loose on the swivel chair critics who strained at flaws in emergency expenditures and overlooked the great victory won. When a member of the family is taken sick suddenly does the head of the household sit down and figure out how he can get medical service at the minimum cost? No. He gets all the help he can and takes up the question of cost afterward. Dawes, who was chief of supply procurement for the American army in France, snapped back at the critics: "Sure we paid. We didn't stop to dicker. Why, man alive, we had to win the war. It was a man's job. We should have paid horse prices for sheep if the sheep could have pulled artillery to the front. Oh, it's all right now to say we bought too much vinegar and too many cold chisels, but we saved the civilization of the world."

Although Dawes some years afterward was elected Vice President, he was the fame of that speech, the 1920 Republican campaign rang with abuse of the Democratic administration on the charges of war frauds. The Republican administration could find no evidence of them. Now the last of such attempted prosecutions has been dropped.

What do those heated critics of 1920 think of themselves now?

Heavier Penalties for Various Crimes.

From the Philadelphia Record.

A grand jury in New York, in a presentment addressed to Governor Smith and members of the State Legislature, asks that "because of the prevalence of violent crimes," the provisions of the penal law relating to the punishment for the crimes of burglary and robbery, in the first degree, be amended so as "to permit life imprisonment to be imposed as the maximum punishment therefor." There is little likelihood that the present law will be so drastically amended, and yet something surely will have to be done to check the modern crook. There are some jurists in this country who will not even be averse to a return to the old English law that imposed the death penalty upon forgers and robbers of all sorts. It was only a little more than a century ago that that law was repealed. At that time also, horse stealing was a hanging offense here in Pennsylvania.

Henry Ford and His Hoopskirts.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Henry Ford is becoming a voracious collector of antiques. Perhaps it is a natural reaction from the manufacture of that very modern article, the cheap motor car. He has already got beyond the old furniture stage. He bought at Doylestown, on Saturday, relics of early farm life among the Pennsylvania Dutch, including a large number of hoopskirts.

Few people would have thought of these as having any particular interest. As part of his collection at the Wayside Inn they seem rather grotesque. His purchase of the fine old tavern made famous by Longfellow was resented by many at the time. If he makes it a miscellaneous museum he will quite destroy its historic atmosphere. The hoopskirts would be more appropriate in the birthplace of the tin Lizzie.

Enroll Aliens.

From the Wilkes-Barre Record.

An enrollment of all aliens in the country would enable the authorities to determine who among them came in legally and who came in illegally, and at any time those who could not show registration papers would be subject to deportation. For that reason alone enrollment should be provided.

There are signs in view that indicate Joe Grundy is "losing his grip." The Manufacturers' Association, of Berks county, is arranging for a reception for Senator Pepper.

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Meyer Gross, of Harrisburg, reported to the police on Sunday that burglars had entered his place of business on Saturday night and stolen 17 pounds of butter, a crate of eggs and 700 pounds of lard.

As a result of burns received recently when her clothing ignited from a gas stove, Ella May Johnston, 14 years old, who lived in Johnstown with a sister, died on Saturday. She was a daughter of Earl Johnston, of Phillipsburg.

Names of famous men were bandied about recklessly before magistrate A. S. Stover, at Chambersburg, on Monday, when George Washington, colored, was charged with larceny of a watch, and named Henry Ford, colored, as his principal witness. Washington was held for a hearing and in default of bail was placed in jail.

Judge W. Bush Gillan, of the Franklin county courts, on Monday began the last session of court at which he will preside, after twenty years on the county bench. At the beginning of the new year his term will expire and Watson R. Davison having been elected to succeed him, Judge Gillan will retire to private life.

Walter J. Cartwright, negro known as the "Hooded bandit" who terrorized the Oakland and Shady Side districts, where he entered scores of homes, was sentenced last Thursday to serve from 18 to 36 years in the western penitentiary. Cartwright pleaded guilty to 54 charges of burglary and one of carrying concealed weapons.

A jury in criminal court, at Pittsburgh on Tuesday found John A. Bell, banker and coal operator, guilty of embezzlement and misapplication of more than \$200,000 of funds of the closed Carnegie Trust company, of which he was president. The jury reached its decision on the first vote after thirty-five minutes deliberation. Four women were on the jury. Application will likely be made for a new trial.

Theft of \$500 by a man who posed as a lawyer seeking to obtain information from them about an estate of which they were the beneficiaries was reported to the police by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Baker, of Bloomsburg, late Thursday night. The man remained with them over night and several hours after he left the house on Friday morning the loss was discovered. Mr. Baker described the man as about 55 years old.

A turkey and an automobile colliding on the macadam road, near Freehold, Pa., resulted in damage to the machine of Luther List to such an extent that he had to abandon his car and get another to complete his trip. The turkey, which was a young gobble, weighing about 16 pounds, was flying across the road when the automobile struck it puncturing the radiator. The turkey is none the worse from its experience.

Charles Vandevander, indicted at Franklin, Wednesday, for the murder of Mrs. Ada Hammer, at a tent religious meeting on September 9, has submitted an appeal for a change of venue, alleging feeling prejudicial to a fair trial, when a motion to continue the trial until next term was overruled by the court. Arguments on the motion were set for December 16. Senator M. M. Neely appeared as one of the counsel for Vandevander.

Mrs. Isabel Wolf, 74 years old, of Mt. Pleasant township, Columbia county, was burned to death in her home Sunday night, while attempting to extinguish a fire on the roof, started by sparks from the chimney. The charred body was recovered several hours later. Mrs. Wolf, a widow, and who lived alone, went to the attic to put out the fire. The flames spread and cut off her escape, and when neighbors arrived they were unable to save her.

While hundreds of persons were discussing what a good fellow "Hen" Luttmner was, after a report had been circulated that Luttmner had been found dead in the Laurel Hill mountains, near the Rolling Rock Club, Westmoreland county, Luttmner walked into Latrobe with the word that he was unable to find a deer. Members of his family, police, undertakers and others had received a report that Luttmner had been shot dead by a stray bullet.

J. C. Seibert, of Hollidaysburg, has brought suit asking for \$10,000 for damages on account of slanderous statements alleged to have been made by G. P. Hepner and G. H. Reed, who are charged with having said he was a "scab" in the employ of the Huntingdon and Broadtop Railroad during the strike in 1900. The statement he says, caused his rejection when he applied for admission to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Frank Herry, an employee of the Berney Bond glass factory at Clarion, is in a critical condition from burns as the result of a practical joke. The young man had worked two shifts of eight hours each and, lying down near his machine, he fell to sleep. Fellow workers thought he was only feigning sleep and called him. When he did not answer they lighted a handful of oil waste and threw it on him. His oil-soaked clothing caught fire and he was burned about the face and body. Herry started running at the same time trying to subdue the flames, then dropped exhausted. No action has been taken against the jokers.

Michael Deloza, of Pittsburgh, a jewelry salesman, reported to state police at Greensburg, on Saturday, that a sample case, containing jewelry valued at thousands of dollars had been stolen from his machine while passing through Youngwood. A detail of officers was rushed to the scene and located the sample case in New Stanton, where it had been taken by the driver of a truck who had found it on the highway. The officers took the case containing rings, necklaces, stick pins and other jewelry, to the Point Lookout barracks where it was held for the owner. The driver of the truck was trying to locate the owner of the sample case when the officers arrived in New Stanton.

Charged with voluntary manslaughter State policemen A. R. Jackson and Walter J. Lyster, of Greensburg barracks, and chief of police Fred Lytle, of Cresson, were held for court by Alderman Turner, of Johnstown, on Saturday. The arrest of the officers grew out of the death of Anthony Misoura, a Cambria county farmer, who it is alleged, they clubbed during a liquor raid. A blanket bond of \$6,000 for the release of the policemen was furnished by Lieutenant J. L. Marshall, of the state police. Judge McCann accepted the bail. Misoura's widow testified that the officers brutally beat her husband and that when she appealed to them not to kill her husband Corporal Jacobson struck her twice in the face. Lyster is the state policeman who, while located in Bellefonte last March was charged with beating up J. Cleveland Packer, of Boggs township.