

INK SLINGS.

Possibly, if we had less worry over tomorrow we might find more pleasure in today.

In Illinois a bee stung an auto driver and caused a serious wreck. In Harrisburg a bee stung a child and caused tetanus.

The session of Congress just ended was a failure for Vice President Dawes. He didn't make a dent on the rules.

Bossard will continue as a member of the tariff commission until the President finds a man in favor of higher tariff rates.

Senator Reed admits the cost of the Republican primary in Pennsylvania exceeded \$3,000,000 but only half has been revealed.

The boy who has just graduated from high school is justly confident that he is able to solve the most difficult problems of life.

The Helen Willis visor caps that are so popular now will not appeal to the fellow who hasn't enough hair to protect his pate from the sun.

The trouble with the weather man this summer has been failure to get the hot and cold water spigots to work together, instead of separately.

The "Afaletics" are edging toward the top again and, if the "Yanks" should crack, the Sesqui might have the additional attraction of a world's series game.

A burn't child dreads the fire and for that reason the President has announced that he has no plans for helping Senators and Congressmen who will be up for re-election next fall.

A school of five hundred whales held up a trans-Atlantic liner for twelve hours on Monday. It was said to be headed for Atlantic City, but we don't believe it. Atlantic City is the Mecca of suckers and lobsters, not whales.

Of course the tax payers will be only casually interested in the announcement that the Congress just closed spent four hundred and seventy million dollars more than its predecessor. He has forgotten that the present Congress was elected to revise the cost of government downward.

We note that the President caught only five trout on Monday and he fished in a privately stocked stream at that. As we caught seven on the same day on a stream that has more fishermen than fish we rise to remark that in piscatorial skill we have something on even the President of the United States.

If the life saving demonstrations that are to be given next week are really to be a school of instruction for our police and fire departments there is going to be a great show. We want to be a spectator when officer Howley and some of our hefty firemen are being taught to drag drowning boys and girls out of McCoy's dam.

We notice that Supt. J. K. Johnson's most recent contribution to contemporary literature is a brochure entitled "Vision, a Potent Factor." After reading it with much interest we are numbed with the feeling that our friend is slipping—not in virility of body or mind—but out of the channels of practical railroading into the realm of philosophy.

The meeting of the Democratic State committee in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, was a bitter pill for those political buccannars who are trying to cram Vare down the throats of the Republican voters of Pennsylvania. All was harmony and determination to win. The much imagined unpleasantness between Wilson and Bonniwell, our leading nominees, couldn't be detected with a microscope.

The Governor has directed attorney General Woodruff to start an investigation of the recent primary campaign with a view to prosecutions under the corrupt practices Act. Since the Hon. Gifford spent no mean sum, himself, the Attorney General might be well advised to sweep before the gubernatorial door ere he starts probing other expenses. In other words, a prosecutor should come into court with clean hands.

The Centre County hospital board has discovered that mere promises will never complete the institution they are in charge of, so they have decided to take legal steps to collect all unpaid subscriptions. There will be a lot of talk about this, of course, but what else can they do? The building program was started in good faith and has been kept within the pledges made to carry it through. The thousands of dollars already expended will remain practically useless until the balance is paid to complete the work.

Republican organs of the State are trying hard to manufacture a fight between the two important candidates on our State ticket. Of course the effort is in the interest of the Vare candidacy for the Senate and is being made with the hope of driving a wedge between Wm. B. Wilson, our nominee for the Senate, and Judge Bonniwell, our gubernatorial candidate. It will not succeed because Mr. Wilson is too broad a man to get "miffed" at little things and his earnest purpose to save Pennsylvania from Vare cannot be thwarted by stories of strife that have no foundation in fact or bearing on the real object of the campaign.

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The President's Fourth of July Oration.

In his Fourth of July oration delivered at the Sesqui-Centennial President Coolidge was more interesting than usual. Probably the environment had something to do with it. He appeared before an audience of 50,000 in the great Sesqui-Centennial amphitheater and upon an occasion of rare historical and emotional value.

The new nation was born on the day and year recorded in history but the new principles had been forming in the minds of men for many years. They are expressed in the Declaration of Independence in the language that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

The President may be pardoned if in tracing the inspiration to the new government he gives the weight of evidence to New England and invests Massachusetts with a glory that might be shared with Virginia and North Carolina. No doubt the Rev. John Wise, of Massachusetts, exercised a wide influence on the public mind of his day and generation and that Jonathan Edwards and George Whitfield, "had aroused the thought and stirred the people of the colonies in preparation for this great event."

Henry Ford may retain his former opinion that history is bunk but he is trying to break into the ranks of the philosophers.

Pepper a Victim of Palpable Fraud.

The Senate committee on senatorial expenditures has been bestowing too much importance on Magistrate O'Connor, of Philadelphia. He is apparently a plain liar and should be dismissed as such. If false evidence delivered before the committee is perjury O'Connor ought to be turned over to the district attorney of the District of Columbia and prosecuted under the evidence of Senator Pepper and the newspaper correspondents to whom he told the wild tale of Vare's offer to bribe him.

The fact of the matter is that O'Connor was engaged in a fishing enterprise with Senator Pepper as his victim. Unused to the methods of politicians the Senator fell an easy victim to the pretenses of the magistrate. O'Connor wanted money and told Pepper that Vare had offered him an absurdly large sum for his support and Pepper, believing that Vare knew the value of support, agreed to pay a considerable but smaller sum than the Vare bogus offer. In that way O'Connor got at least \$40,000 of Pepper money for services that Vare would probably have regarded as exorbitant at \$1000. When the fraud was exposed Pepper was indignant because he had been defrauded.

Senator Pepper never was adapted to the work of practical politicians and though he paid the penalty of credulity in various ways and at sundry times it is difficult to work up sympathy for him. O'Connor got \$40,000 from him under palpably false pretenses but he invited the fraud by giving heed to such a preposterous story as O'Connor told in view of the magistrate's reputation as a politician of the mercenary type. Ward heelers are not so valuable as to be rated at six figure prices and when O'Connor told Pepper that Vare was willing to pay \$125,000 for his support, the absurdity of the statement ought to have afforded its refutation.

A lost temper is never improved by absence.

Mr. Cunningham Surrenders to the Government.

Mr. Thomas W. Cunningham, clerk of the courts of Philadelphia, having come to an understanding that dodging subpoena servers of the United States Senate was doing more harm to Vare than to the government, revealed himself on Saturday and permitted the service of a subpoena on him at his Atlantic City residence. He was in a joyful frame of mind and expressed surprise that searchers had been looking for him for several weeks. He also expressed freely his intention to give full and frank evidence to the committee as to his contribution of \$50,000 to the Vare campaign fund and explain why he paid the money in currency rather than in a check, the customary method.

It is not likely that the committee will get much valuable information from him when he appears before it in Chicago on the 26th instant. He will acknowledge the generous contribution and may add, as he boasted on Saturday, that he could have given \$100,000 if that sum had been needed. But he will not shed any light on the source from which the fund was drawn or as to why he paid cash. There is a strong suspicion that the money was taken from the saloon interests of Philadelphia in part, at least, and that some of it might have been obtained by assessing public officials in the city. But Mr. Cunningham will be silent on these subjects unless chairman Reed, of the committee, is able to worm information out of him.

In his statement on Saturday Mr. Cunningham declared that he has been engaged in some exceedingly lucrative business for some years and that a matter of \$50,000 is liable to be in his office safe at any time. It is a custom among Philadelphia politicians to keep large sums on hand for emergency uses and Mr. Cunningham may be able to show that he held this amount. But chairman Reed may develop a means of revealing how it accumulated. For example, if it came from legitimate business operations his income return ought to show it, for income returns if honestly made show balances whether in bank or in private vaults. It might be a good idea to inquire into his income returns.

If Mussolini succeeds in making potatoes as popular as spaghetti in Italy he will deserve his title as dictator.

The Safe and Sane Way.

The statement of both the Republican candidates for Senator in Wisconsin that in the event of their election they will vote against the admission of William S. Vare, in case a majority of votes are cast for him in Pennsylvania, is a fine expression of resentment against a grave national scandal. The expenditure of over a million dollars in the primary creates a suspicion of fraud so strong as to need no direct evidence. It is true that it also creates a presumption that Vare will be defeated at the general election. It is hard to imagine a constituency so indifferent to shame as to elect a Senator so tainted with fraud and corruption as Vare stands to-day.

The record makes it easy for Republicans of Pennsylvania to repudiate the purchased nomination of Mr. Vare. During the primary campaign not only all the leading Republican newspapers but the leading Republican statesmen condemned him as unfit for the office to which he impudently aspired. The Philadelphia Public Ledger declared his election would be a disgrace to the State. The Philadelphia Inquirer was equally strong in denunciation of him. Senator Pepper urged that Vare be thrown into the river and declared that whatever is discreditable in the organization is ascribable to Vare. For these reasons the task of getting rid of Vare is made easy and safe.

But it should not be left to the uncertain action of Senators of other States. Senator Lenroot and Governor Blair, of Wisconsin, may mean all they say in regard to voting against admitting Vare but they may change their minds. Political exigencies may have a stronger influence on their minds than moral obligations. Therefore the right way to prevent the disgrace of Vare sitting in the Senate is to vote for William B. Wilson. He is eligible by every consideration of the subject and will reflect honor rather than disgrace on the Commonwealth. Mr. Wilson is a Democrat but more a patriot than a partisan, so that any Republican who is opposed to Vare may vote for him without impairing his party record.

Yes, the weather is plenty hot for the average man these July days.

Fisher, the Million Dollar Lad.

At a public meeting held in Pittsburgh, a few days ago, for the purpose of celebrating the victory over Beidleman, Mr. John S. Fisher, the Republican nominee for Governor, declared that any expenditure necessary to achieve the result is legitimate. Senator Reed had previously justified the million dollar slush fund on the ground that an iniquitous primary system made it necessary. Secretary of the Treasury Mellon justified the Pepper-Fisher expenditures on the ground that Pennsylvania is a big State and it takes a lot of money to reach the people with propaganda. But Fisher has gone a step farther and asserted that any expenditure necessary to win is legitimate.

According to Mr. Fisher's reasoning the expenditures of a campaign ought to be regulated by the value of the office to those who are buying it. Upon that estimate Mr. Grundy, on behalf of the Manufacturers' association, ought to have contributed the full amount of the fund. Mr. Fisher was pledged to oppose the taxation of corporate shares during his term in office while Beidleman was committed to such a tax. It is conservatively estimated that a small tax on corporate shares would yield a revenue of \$10,000,000, so that in four years the election of Fisher was worth \$40,000,000 to the interests represented by Mr. Grundy. In view of these facts Grundy's contribution was a piker's mite.

Of course Mr. Mellon had little interest in the question of taxing corporations and was comparatively indifferent to the success of Fisher. But measured on the standard which Fisher asserts his interest in the success of Pepper would have justified a very much larger contribution than that reported by him. For example, if the question of reducing the tariff tax on aluminum comes up in the next Congress Pepper's voice and influence in the Senate might be worth three or four times the amount of money that was spent for both Pepper and Fisher in the campaign. If the Fisher philosophy comes to be written into the policies of the new Mellon machine future campaigns will be worth billions instead of millions.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, indulges in no illusions as to the Senatorial situation in this State. He advises all decent Republicans to vote for William B. Wilson in the interest of party respectability.

2500 Attending Penn State Summer Term.

More than 2500 men and women, over 2100 of whom are on the college campus, are now attending the six weeks summer session of the Pennsylvania State College. About 400 are enrolled in branch sessions at Altoona and Erie. According to Dean Will Grant Chambers, director of the summer session, the enrollment is greater than in any previous year except 1922 when over 2600 were registered.

Three special institutes which feature this year's summer school have capacity enrollments. These are the institute of French education with 80 students; the institute of music education with 75; and the institute of English education with 98. The special work in music and English is being offered for the first time this year, while the French institute has featured two former summer sessions.

While the great majority of those taking the summer work are women, most of whom are school teachers, there are more men than usual this summer, according to Dean Chambers. All of the college dormitories are filled to capacity and the remainder of the summer student body is quartered in fraternity houses and private homes in the adjoining town of State College. The session will close on August 14th.

State College Creamery Has Big Production.

In connection with the training of students in dairy manufacture at the Pennsylvania State College agricultural school, the college operates a creamery which has just completed a record year for production of various commodities. The output for the year included the making of 227,000 pounds of butter; 36,000 gallons of ice cream mix; 25,000 pounds of cheese; 250,000 quarts of milk and 32,000 quarts of cream retailed. The creamery is supplied by the college herd of 70 milking cows and received milk from 300 farmers in Centre county.

Tyrone will entertain the Central district Firemen's Association on August 11 and 12. It will also be made the occasion of an old home week celebration and our neighbor is making elaborate preparations for it.

President and Congress.

From the Philadelphia Record. Sitting before a log fire in Pine Camp and with pleasant recollections of the capture of a pike weighing three pounds—the trout failed to do their duty by the Chief Magistrate—the President talks sweetly of the patriotism and intelligence of Congress. The executive and the legislative branches of the Government dwell together in a unity that recalls "the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments."

It was not thus two years ago. Then Congress did about everything that the President didn't like, and it studiously refrained from doing the things that he wanted. Yet the voters who had elected the Congressmen and the Senators were quite uninfluenced by the opposition of Congress to the President and elected delegates to the national convention that were pledged to give Mr. Coolidge four years in his own right, after serving out the remainder of President Harding's term.

The President having been triumphantly nominated and elected after repeated conflicts with Congress, and his relations with Congress now being of the most fraternal kind, the natural inference is that Congress has learned how dangerous it is to monkey with the buzz saw in the White House. Yet this inference may not be warranted. It is true that both branches of Congress turned their deaf ears to the corn belt and passed the bill to provide "pink pills for pale people" which the President had prescribed. Congress did not send any pension bills to the President to be vetoed in the interest of economy, retrenchment and reform. Some expensive bills fell by the wayside rather than were sent from the Capitol to the President, and that would have some tendency to soothe the President's feelings.

But while there was little effort in Congress to try conclusions with the President there was very little indication that he could defy Congress because he had the people on his side. Two years ago he was antagonized by Congress, but he had the people strongly behind him. Now he is on amicable relations with Congress, but the people, so far as they have shown their disposition, are against him.

Senator Dale, of Vermont, having shown that he was no puppet to be operated by strings running to the White House, the law partner of the Attorney General was induced to announce himself as a candidate for the Senate who would do anything the President told him to do. He has just discovered that his health will not permit him to remain in the field. It is suggested by some of the President's coterie that Senator Dale has promised to be good, and therefore Mr. Stickney has been pulled off the track.

We are very doubtful about that. What has happened in half a dozen States is that the Senatorial candidate who had the reputation of eating out of the President's hand was badly beaten. In Wisconsin it was impossible last year to stop the junior LaFollette. This year Mr. Watson, who is not especially intimate at the White House, was renominated in Indiana over a man whom the Administration would have preferred. In this State the candidate who was especially vouched for by the Secretary of the Treasury as the choice of the President, and in whose interest \$1,304,733.25 was spent that has so far been proved, was beaten. In Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota and Oregon the man whom the President delighted to honor the voters would have none of.

We suspect that Mr. Stickney's impaired health is due to his discovery that even in Vermont the good will of the President is too great a handicap to be overcome. If the President has any aspirations for that third cup of coffee he will find again in 1928, as he found in 1924, that it is better to have the voters on his side than to have a friendly Congress.

Unselfish Service.

From the Altoona Tribune. An American economist named Jeremiah Smith, of Boston, was asked two years ago to go to Hungary and reorganize that country's finances. He has now completed his work. The Hungarian government has found it satisfactory and given him \$100,000 salary, which is probably no more than the job was worth. It may be worth many millions to Hungary.

Mr. Smith turns right around and presents that \$100,000 to the Hungarian people. All he wants for his two years' services, he says, is the friendship and appreciation of the Hungarians.

That is all that Americans in general want from the Old World. Thousands of our people are willing to give their time and money to help stricken nations out of their troubles, asking for nothing more than friendly appreciation. Dozens of our leading citizens are now engaged in such public-spirited work abroad. Our philanthropists have poured out money like water to alleviate foreign conditions. Yet the idea persists abroad that the sole pursuits of this nation are dollar-chasing and pleasure-seeking.

If Parker Gilbert can't do something with the French Franc it is a hopeless case.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Amas G. Cole, a native of Bellefonte, has been re-elected chairman of the Mifflin county Republican committee.

Mrs. Carrie J. Dayton, of Monroe, was appointed a member of the Susquehanna county board of trustees of the Mothers' Assistance fund.

John Kashack, prominent in United Mine Workers' circles, has been selected as chairman of the Democratic party in the First Luzerne Legislative district.

The newest thing in the bootleg business among the fairer sex up at Stroudsburg is the "bootleg petticoat." The fashion was set by pretty Mildred Curtis, but a State trooper caught her and she is under \$1000 bail for court for illegal sale of intoxicants.

The will of Uriah T. Hungerford, owner of a wire cloth factory at Hungerford, in York county, as well as many other factories in the eastern part of the country, makes many bequests, including one that every employee of over five years' standing shall receive outright one-half of his annual salary. He specifically names 192 employees in his factories, each to receive from \$500 to \$5000.

Daniel Wildermuth, 72, of Mann's Narrows, was fatally injured on Saturday when he was struck by a trolley car on the tracks of the Lewisistown and Reedsville Electric railway. The aged man had crossed the tracks but is believed to have stepped back from the highway as an automobile approached and then to have been hit by the trolley. The accident occurred at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning. He died at 11 o'clock that night.

Married women are being ousted as school teachers all over Schuylkill county. The bureau of education has been informed that several more school boards have drawn the line on this class of instructors. School directors say they are informed that it would be useless for high school graduates to take normal courses hereafter if married women are allowed to monopolize positions. The Pottsville school board has refused to employ any married women hereafter.

Discovery that he had swallowed disinfectant by mistake for medicine was believed by Coroner Ira Bowser to have been the cause of the suicide by shooting of Walter G. Simpson, a Jefferson county coal operator and lumberman, at his home in Punksutawney. Simpson's body was found in his bedroom on Sunday with a bullet wound through his heart. A pistol with one empty shell was beside the body and a half-filled bottle of disinfectant was found on a chair nearby.

In a habeas corpus hearing at Ebensburg, on Monday, Frank Coutereaux, 19 years old, of Patton, held for the murder of Mary Elizabeth Bogan, also of Patton, who died of a broken neck while on a joy ride on June 17, was denied bail. Coutereaux was remanded to jail for trial at the September term of criminal court. Robert Simmons, step-brother of the Bogan girl, and Frank O'Brien, both of Patton, who were with Coutereaux the night of the tragedy, are also held in jail on a charge of murder. No attempt has been made to gain freedom for them.

The bald pate of Harry Risher, auto mechanic of Uniontown, flashing in the moonlight furnished a "victim" for a big owl which makes its home in a tree in the rear of the Risher home on the New Salem road. Risher went to the rear yard about 10 o'clock and had hardly stepped into the moon's glare before a whirling, whirring mass of feathers and flesh was on the top of his cranium digging in talons and tearing at his skull with a sharp beak. After a battle of a few seconds Risher managed to drive the owl off, but not until his head had been badly lacerated.

Carried over four miles of rough mountain trails by Boy Scouts, to a waiting ambulance, 14-year-old Thelma Carns, of Latrobe, was taken to the Latrobe hospital on Monday, suffering from acute appendicitis. The girl was found on a night while at a Girl Scout camp on a mountain ridge, four miles from Darlington. An ambulance was summoned, but could get no further than Darlington because of the roughness of the trail into the mountains. Boy Scouts in camp in the Ligonier valley then carried the girl on a stretcher to Darlington, over trails at times almost impassable.

The will of the late Mary Turner McCullough, who died at Lewisistown on July 5, at the age of 94 years, the last of her family, left \$5,000 to the Lewisistown hospital, \$5,000 to the Lewisistown Y. M. C. A., \$5,000 to Miss Ida Wagner, a maid who had been in her employ for 33 years, \$5,000 to Wilson college, Chambersburg, \$5,000 to the Old Ladies' Home of the Presbyterian church located at Hollidaysburg, \$5,000 to Miss Eleanor Wilson, \$5,000 to the missions of the First Presbyterian church of Lewisistown, \$500 to Kathryn Talbot, and the residue to the First Presbyterian church of Lewisistown, to be used in the improvement of the Sunday school room.

While Jesse Perri was giving himself a shave in the bathroom of his boarding house at Lock Haven, one day last week, a sudden bolt of lightning descended through the ceiling and caused his mirror to explode, threw his safety razor out the window and tossed Jesse himself, lather and all, into the bathtub. A heavy electric storm was in progress at the time and two "shots" of lightning entered the house, the home of Mrs. Helen Fornoff. The glass of the mirror was shattered into tiny fragments, many of which were imbedded in the opposite wall of the bathroom. Mr. Perri sustained deep and painful cuts on his face and chest and was unable to be at his post as crossing watchman.

A check fraud involving a woman assistant bank cashier and five business men and the melting of more than 25 banks in Cambria and Somerset counties has been uncovered by Paul A. Hines, Jr., special accountant of the Department of Justice. The six people said to be involved in the scheme are awaiting trial at the next term of United States District court on charges of conspiracy, misapplication of federal bank funds and false certification. Mrs. Martha V. Jones, assistant cashier of the First National bank of Benson, at Holsopple, Somerset county, is under \$50,000 bond, it being charged that she misapplied funds of the bank to the amount of \$20,000 and by issuing false certificates of deposit made it possible for the check fraud to be conducted on a large scale. She is the daughter of A. E. Casler, a former president of the bank, and is the wife of William J. Jones, a Somerset county coal operator.