

INK SLINGS.

—Anyway, after tomorrow we'll be rid of that fishing itch for eight months at least. —Durkin, the sheik gunman of Chicago, got thirty-five years in the pen, but that won't bring his victims back to life. —The National Guardsmen have been having a hot season in camp but they escape the cooties of the trenches. —Possibly the coming Presidential contest has something to do with General Wood's return from the Philippines. —It takes more than a morning bath and ten dollar an ounce perfume to make the morally dirty smell sweet as most of them think they do. —France might have saved the franc had she started in, years ago, to do something more than set the styles for the world of fashion. —The Sunday opening of the Sesqui-Centennial being approved by the court the baseball managers are thinking of going up against the blue law. —If France would work half as hard to pay what she owes as she is working to dodge the just debt, her greatest problem would soon be solved. —Since Tom Cunningham recognizes the authority of the United States Senate it may be reassured that "the government at Washington still lives." —Do you suppose that the swat-the-fly campaigns have been responsible for the comparatively few flies we have these days? If they have been, let's keep them up. —Having gotten rid of most of the land gamblers Florida is said to have settled down to a hopeful, healthy development. There is still money to be made there, but not over night. —A Philadelphia moonshiner bought a goat and kept it in his yard so his neighbors wouldn't smell his still when in operation. They did smell the goat, however, and complained to the police. —And Senator McKinley, of Illinois, appears to have had no ambition to be in the piker class. He, personally, gave three hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a renomination that he didn't get. —The season closes tomorrow but Tuesday night made it for us. We got one fourteen inches long and we hooked him on a sixteen fly and landed him with a three ounce rod. That, we should say, was thrill enough to do anyone until next April. —Texas is evidently through with "Ma" Ferguson. She was beaten in the recent primaries by the youthful Attorney General of the State—and before the contest she said she would resign as Governor unless she was re-nominated. Whether she will or not remains to be seen. "Ma," of course, has the woman's prerogative, the right to change her mind. —Those European demonstrations against American tourists are merely gestures at cutting off one's nose to spite his face. Give the American tourists a chance and they will give Europe more money than she owes the United States and, this, in spite of the fact that not one-tenth of them has seen one-tenth of the country that gave them the money to friction away abroad. —"Big Tom" Cunningham, Philadelphia ward leader, is in Chicago this week testifying before the Senate investigating committee. The portly politician gave fifty thousand dollars to Vare's campaign fund and said it was his own business as to where it came from. By the time Senator Reed gets through quizzing him he'll have a very different idea about whose business it is. —The medical director of a leading life insurance company is authority for the statement that bachelors die sooner and are more prone to insanity than their married brothers. The gentleman being an authority we shall not question the statement; only grope for an explanation. And the one that comes to mind is that without a woman or offspring to make life worth while they either want to die or become goofy because they don't. —Mussolini has just issued a stern order to members of his party in Italy. He has directed that they cease quarreling among themselves. Musso points a way to Joegrundy, of Pennsylvania. Joe has the Republicans of this State just about where Musso has the Fascisti, that is, he might soon control all the patronage and in that event he can tell them to be good or they won't get anything. Will he? He will, like the old woman kept tavern out west. —The Sesqui is in need of nearly four million dollars with which to pay construction bills already incurred and as yet unprovided for. Had the Sesqui been ready at the time it was opened the gate receipts would have helped along a lot. But the public knows there is no exposition there even yet and it is not going to spend money to see a lot of carpenters, stucco artists and painters at work. Philadelphia has made a miserable bungle of the show, but maybe it can be gotten ready in time to save the big financial loss that now seems almost inevitable.

"Big Tom" and His Little Troubles.

"Big" Tom Cunningham, of Philadelphia, a small fish of inferior quality away from home, had a tedious time waiting to be called to testify before the Senate committee investigating primary election expenses now sitting in Chicago. No notice was taken of him at all as he entered the federal court room in that midwestern city and when chairman Reed was asked when he might be called replied: "I can't say. Anyhow we will get him for his testimony sooner than we get him with our subpoena." This was unusual treatment for "Big Tom." In Philadelphia and certain sections of Florida he usually gets obsequious attentions. Maybe that is why he confines himself to his home city and adopted pleasure ground. Mr. Cunningham, who holds a \$15,000 a year job, contributed \$50,000 to the Vare slush fund and Senator Reed expressed a curiosity to learn where he got the money and how. With that purpose in view a subpoena was issued by the Senate committee for his appearance to testify. For several weeks Big Tom had the sport of his life dodging the subpoena server and laughing at the futility of the Senate. He probably imagined that the investigation would end before he was served and the Senate committee would thus be made the butt of ridicule of the Philadelphia gang for a long time. But unfortunately for "Big Tom" there is no time limit to the life of the investigation and in despair of perpetual escape he surrendered and was subpoenaed to appear in Chicago on Monday. At this writing he had not been called to testify and as we have said before his evidence is not likely to be of great value. He will say again, as he did before, that it was his own money and it will be hard to prove the contrary. The members of the Senate committee and everybody else who gives the matter thought will think that the money was collected from the bootleggers and public officials of Philadelphia and unless his income tax return for last year is appealed to or some of the real contributors will reveal the facts it is difficult to imagine how the truth may be dug up. But Senator Reed will give him some unhappy moments while he has him under cross examination, beyond question. —It is to be hoped that the charge that liquor has been freely dispensed on board the steamer Leviathan will not be proved. It would be embarrassing to padlock or confiscate a vehicle owned by the government.

Fisher as Unfit as Vare.

It is impossible to measure the operations of a mind of man or woman who condemns William S. Vare for irregularities, not to say crimes, perpetrated in the recent primary election and condones the part which John S. Fisher took in the same proceedings. Of course Mr. Vare is mentally unfit for the office to which he aspires and by habit, association and environment disqualified to represent Pennsylvania in the Senate of the United States. But so far as political morals go Mr. Fisher is culpable in a far greater degree than Vare in the iniquities revealed by the investigation of the Senate committee. He not only profited by the profligate expenditures but through frauds in Pittsburgh. John S. Fisher became the candidate of the Republican party for Governor under an implied agreement with Joseph R. Grundy, president of the Manufacturers' association of Pennsylvania, that if elected he will defeat legislation to tax corporation shares. Mr. Grundy admitted this fact in his evidence before the Senate committee when he said that he contributed \$400,000 to the Fisher campaign fund because he believed that Beideman might favor such a tax. The Mellon contributions were mainly intended to help Pepper but under the terms of their coalition were used for the benefit of Fisher so that nearly twice as much money was spent to nominate Fisher as was disbursed for the benefit of Vare. The profligate use of money in nominating candidates for office works a subversion of the principles of the government. It excludes from competition for offices of honor and emolument all but the very rich men, or, as Senator Reed, of Pittsburgh, stated it, "men whose friends are willing to contribute the necessary funds." Mr. Fisher understands this as well as any other man but permits selfish persons to buy a nomination for him on conditions that obligate him to reimburse them in the event of his election. Because of these facts he is as unfit for Governor as Vare is for Senator and both ought to be defeated by such majorities as will prevent a recurrence of the crime.

Judge Maxey Joins the Boodlers.

The defenders of boodle politics have enlisted another more or less conspicuous recruit to their ranks. Senator Reed, of Pittsburgh, was the first to justify the profligate expenditures in the recent Republican primaries and admitting the evil of it declared it was necessary. Secretary of the Treasury Mellon followed with a similar qualification and John S. Fisher, the principal beneficiary of the orgy, added substantially that "any expenditure necessary to win is legitimate." Judge C. W. Maxey, of Scranton, supplements that sinister view with a statement that "it is the business of nobody except the man who is foolish enough to spend the money." Judge Maxey, who is a politician of considerable activity and influence, overlooks the fact that "any candidate or any friend of a candidate who wishes to spend \$500,000, or any other large sum to have that candidate's portrait painted on every barn and bill board in the State" deprives every candidate and the friends of any candidate who is not able to meet such expenses from equal opportunity to contest for political favor. The political contests in such circumstances would degenerate into a public auction with the highest bidder practically certain to "bring home the bacon." Neither fitness for the service nor merit of the aspirants would cut any figure in the selection of public officials. No candidate for office who is "honest and fit" will spend more for a nomination than he ordinarily will receive as recompense for the service and a reasonable value of the honor will afford. No man of means will contribute more to procure the nomination of a favorite than he may hope to get back in one way or another. In the recent primary one group contributed to the nomination of Fisher because its members imagined they would be reimbursed in tax discrimination and another gave to the Vare fund because they imagined the money or its equivalent would be returned to them in some way. Fitter candidates were defeated in both cases because neither they nor their friends were able to compete. —Practically all the grain in Centre county is now on shock and farmers generally aver that it will not be over a fifty to sixty per cent. crop. While the wheat is well headed and filled most of the fields were light on the ground, likely the result of dry weather at the time it was stooling out. Oats and barley, however, promise good returns. Both the latter are now beginning to turn and oats harvest will be next in order. —"Ma" Ferguson ran for Governor of Texas to vindicate her husband who was impeached from that office. She won and the old man was vindicated, but she has lost her chance to succeed herself by being defeated in the recent primaries and unless there are some little Fergusons to come along and vindicate "Ma" the family will probably never be heard of again. —"Big Tom" Cunningham may have had his fun with the Senate investigating committee when he evaded its summons to go to Washington and testify, but the shoe is on the other foot now that the committee has him in Chicago. "Tom" is the boss of the 10th ward, Philadelphia, but when it comes to bossing Senator Reed—well, you know, the Senator is from Missouri.

The New Protection.

The Iowa Republican convention was a love feast at which the President and Brookhart and Cummins were heartily commended, and there were no threats about deserting the cause of protection, as there were in the corn belt conference. But there was a new theory of protection enunciated which will bother the National Republican convention, and if President Coolidge has further political aspirations he may find it inconvenient to deal with. It is the following paragraph in the platform: The Republican party of Iowa is united in its demands that the Republican policy of economic equality of agriculture with other industries shall be carried into effect by the enactment of legislation which will permit the establishment of an American price level for agricultural products above the world price level, just as the protective tariff accomplishes that result for manufacturing products. We rejoice in the prosperity of industrial America and insist upon the justness of our demand that equal opportunity for prosperity shall be extended to agriculture. This is an entirely new thing in Republican literature. The Republicans have generally denied that the tariff raised the price of protected articles; their usual argument has been that it simply kept the home market for domestic producers and that the competition between them kept prices down. When American manufactures began to be sold abroad the Republicans at first "denied the allegation and defied the allegation." When the proof became overwhelming they defended the practice of a higher level of American prices. Now it is demanded by Iowa that there shall be a higher level of food as well as of manufactured articles. Small surpluses of manufactured goods might be thrown on the foreign markets at a loss lest the domestic market should be broken, but the amount of our manufactured exports is so vast that it can't be explained on this theory. We must be manufacturing for export, although the protective tariff rests upon the assumption that we cannot do so. In 11 months ending with May our exports of fully manufactured articles amounted to \$1,526,385,000, and the partly manufactured articles amounted to \$591,953,000 besides. In 11 months the wholly and partially manufactured articles were a good deal more than two billions. Yet our manufacturers protest that they cannot meet foreign competition. Iowa farmers are making money; the evidence from Iowa is conclusive of that. But they see the manufacturers getting favors and they demand a "divvy." The original theory of protection was simple and reasonable, and within limits justifiable. It was that this was an agricultural country, that 97 per cent. of the population was rural, and that manufacturers couldn't get started without special help. Ours is now the greatest manufacturing country in the world, and its manufactured products go out by billions to all quarters of the globe. Yet the protective tariff is not only in existence, but it is raised every few years. Now there is a demand that agriculture shall be artificially elevated. With the coming of peace Iowa land has gone down somewhat in value, and food is to be garnered so that it shall be as high as it was when all the world was at war. The cost of living is artificially enhanced now, and it is proposed that it shall be artificially enhanced a great deal more with the special purpose of making food more expensive. On top of this comes a demand for an American merchant marine, with payments from the Treasury. The argument is that Americans won't do the carrying trade at the rates Europeans will do it for, and therefore the taxpayers' money must be paid to them to keep them in that business instead of some other that would pay them better, for nothing explains the American desertion of the sea except the higher profits and wages to be made on land. Thus we are to make ourselves prosperous by taxing ourselves for manufacturers and farmers and ship-owners, and we are to increase the cost of living still further—very much further—and a fools' paradise is to be created by taxing everybody we can get hold of for the sake of everybody who can get hold of Congress. —Our Policy Toward Russia. From the London Referee. Refusal to recognize a government which does not observe the obligations of all civilized States has had no injurious effect upon American trade. The Russians buy American goods because they want them, and do not deny themselves because the Government of the United States has the dignity and the courage to refuse to have any dealings with a gang of thieves and cut-throats. Here is proof positive that we can do what we ought to do and withdraw our shameful and dangerous recognition of the common enemy of civilization without in any way endangering our trade. As is always the case, there is nothing to be afraid of in doing right.

—Mrs. Orrie Kitchen, of Flemington, suffered a badly burned left foot, on Monday, when she caught her sleeve in the bail of a canning kettle and pulled the boiling fruit over on her foot. Screaming with pain, she dropped a small pan of boiling water on the same foot, inflicting a serious burn. —Happy with his first fishing rod. Charles Dewalt of Milton, aged twelve, went to the Susquehanna river near that town on Saturday to try it out. A fish nibbled at the bait and he raised the rod but the tip touched a 2500-volt electric wire and the lad dropped dead, electrocuted. —While the heads of the Luzerne and Wilkes-Barre fire departments were unable to agree as to who should take charge of fighting a fire in the Freedman block, at Luzerne, on Tuesday, the building and contents were damaged to the extent of more than \$75,000. It took five hours to finally extinguish the flames. —Missing his 2-year-old daughter Helen, whom he had left playing in the back yard at his home in Huntington, last Thursday, Carl D. Wilson, after a search, found the child at the bottom of a 22-foot well containing five feet of water. Sliding down the pump stock, he rescued the child, who was clinging to the side of the well. She escaped without a scratch. —Approval of the incorporation of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Federation, a corporation not for profit, has been announced at the State corporation bureau. The organization was incorporated "to promote, protect and represent the business, economic, social and educational interests of the farmers of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to develop its agriculture." —There's a dancing judge in Philadelphia who will do a step or so in his court if the occasion warrants. Magistrate Carney waltzed with a girl witness when a 76-year-old defendant struck up an accord. Then the magistrate passed the hat and collected \$50 to send John McMullen, who is blind, back home to Kirkwood, W. Va. John was in court for failing to pay a taxi driver. —Despite the fact that lightning hit his home, tore a hole through the roof, knocked plaster from the ceiling of his bedroom and damaged a chimney, Joseph Ryder, of Spring City, slept so soundly on Sunday night during a thunder storm that he knew nothing of the commotion. After considerable effort he was aroused by people on the street who thought that the house was on fire. —The body of a stunt aviator who fell to his death from an airplane at Cannonsburg on Sunday, has been identified as Emory Chamber, of Johnston, Pa. The identification was made by a brother, Joseph Chamber, who went to Cannonsburg and arranged to send the body to Johnston for burial. Chamber had been flying under the name of Earl Franz. An inquest was held on Monday afternoon. —William B. Kauffman, aged 65, a member of the Blair county board of road viewers, and a resident of Morrisons Cove, drowned himself early on Sunday morning in a water trough at the dairy farm of Redmond Baumgardner, near Curryville. He had formerly lived there. The recent tragic death of a granddaughter, which left him despondent and brooding, is supposed to have prompted the act. —Police and detectives throughout the State have been asked to assist in the search for Ruth Cartwright, 14, daughter of William B. Cartwright of 6201 Baum boulevard, Pittsburgh, who disappeared from her home Saturday, July 17. The girl is said to have been enticed into leaving by two men who were canvassing the neighborhood selling magazines and household utensils. With the men was a woman about 45 years of age. —Harvey Miller, 45, of Lewistown, gave himself up on Friday and was committed to the State Hospital for the Insane at Harrisburg. Miller had been in ill health for some time and Monday of last week locked himself in a third floor room at his home with a rifle and revolver, throwing the door knobs away. He had neither food nor drink until he climbed through the transom on Friday and submitted to the service of a writ in lunacy. —Thomas Clayton, 34 years old, of Altoona, an employee of the Beldman and Polli circus, was seriously injured near Jeannette on Sunday afternoon when he was jolted from one of the circus cars. He was found unconscious beside the tracks by Pennsylvania railroad employees and taken to the Westmoreland hospital where it was found that he was suffering from fractures of the right leg and shoulder and lacerations of the head and body. About a week ago an employe of the same show was killed in a similar accident near Torrence. —Norman C. Moore, recently assistant paying teller in the Ardmore, Pa., National Bank and Trust company, was arrested in New York, on Monday, as a fugitive from justice in connection with the disappearance of \$5,050 from the bank May 6. Police suspicions were aroused by the liberal spending in Broadway night clubs of a man who lived in a furnished room on the upper West Side. The man used an alias and when arrested denied he was Moore until he was told he would be held for the arrival of department of justice agents to identify him. —M. M. Bricker, Daniel Brought and W. A. McNitt, directors of the poor of Mifflin county, have made the first move in complying with the order of Dr. Ellen Potter, secretary of the State Welfare Department, which decrees that the Mifflin county almshouse shall be closed and the fifty inmates taken care of in other institutions of Mifflin county. District Attorney John T. Wilson has applied for lunacy commissions in five cases which will have to be sent to the State hospital for insane, because in their feeble condition of body and mind no other institution is willing to take them. —Frederick E. Bedale, Greensburg, has been appointed manager of the State Workmen's Insurance Fund to succeed G. H. Moyer, Lebanon, who resigned July 1, according to an announcement on Monday from the Governor's office. For several years Mr. Bedale has represented the fund on the executive committee of the Pennsylvania Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau. The new manager is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State College and before taking charge of the coal mine section of the Workmen's Insurance Fund in 1917 was mine insurance inspector with associated companies.