

INK SLINGS.

We'll have two day's rest for Labor day this year but the first doesn't count. It's Sunday, September 5.

The "Big Interests" must be thoroughly satisfied with Coolidge. Otherwise there would not be so much talk of a third term for "Silent Cal."

The Grangers are gathering for their annual outing at Centre Hall. This Grange picnic is a proverbial rain-maker, but the heavens must be squeezed dry by this time and, on that theory, we rise to prophesy that they are going to have fine weather this year.

When Marie, Queen of the Rumanians, visits us she is coming not incog, but as her royal self, probably thus to avoid the annoyance of the "climbers" who would insist on entertaining her. As a royal person she can not accept an invitation from individuals.

To the little ladies in this vicinity who are so busy with their composes that they haven't time to help their mothers wash the dishes let us say that the "Charleston" is passe. They must dance the Valencia now if they would continue their futile struggle to get a man.

With some of the ablest Republican Senators in Congress announcing their intention to stump Pennsylvania for William B. Wilson, Democrat, we have only the smile of pity for those Republicans who declare they can't stomach Vare, but will have to vote for him to maintain their party regularity.

A tariff, except for revenue, is all bunk. All this talk of protecting American industry from low priced foreign labor is apple-sauce. Get this into your head and let it soak. We exported, last year, two billion dollars' worth of manufactured articles to foreign countries that pay far less wages than are paid here.

Only ten of the thirty million wage-earners in this country are employed in tariff protected industries and the two-thirds are expected to keep their mouths shut, pay fictitious prices for what they need and vote the Republican ticket for the benefit of the one-third. That's a fine example of the beneficence of a democracy, isn't it?

We know that if this particular pencil point could speak it would be saying to us right now: Guide me to express the hope that Gene Tunney will knock the block off Estelle Taylor's husband when they meet in the Sesqui stadium next month. You will note that the inanimate graphite used the word "hope." We fear it is a forlorn one, however.

Not since George Washington crossed the Alps has there been so much of a sensation in Bellefonte as was caused by John Eckel, when he purchased the Centre County Bank building. And since all the sensation is really curiosity as to what he wants it for the "Watchman" makes another prophecy. John might be going into the circus business and, you know it was what everybody thought was a white elephant that made Barnum rich.

The death of the Hon. Robert McAfee, of Pittsburgh, will bring sorrow to the hearts of the older politicians of the State, Republicans and Democrats, alike. "Bob" McAfee was the best political diagnostician of his day. He was an unassuming and likeable gentleman, but his clear vision of possible party exigencies made him a potential factor in all Republican conferences in Pennsylvania for years. It was McAfee who brought forward Tener and McAfee who accomplished his nomination for Governor.

When they can show us that a farmer gets as much for every hour he works as a railroader, a bricklayer, a plasterer, a carpenter or barber then we will agree with those who think the farmer has no problem to solve today. Two decades from now, when the population of the country has increased to the point that its food source becomes a matter of concern, the urban part of it will begin to realize that even if it does live out of cans it can't live long without the fellows who grow the stuff that fills them.

Away back in 1916, it seems to us, a certain bombastic strutter now reported to be sawing wood at Doorn, smiled contemptuously at the suggestion that Uncle Sam's little army might be drawn into the fracas. Well, it was. And Uncle Samuel's boys multiplied by millions over night and got so gay that they over ran France and actually tried catching Germans with their hands. Why did they do it? The answer is simple: You know what they've got. They all have it and that's what saved Lieut. Bettis, U. S. A., who is all smashed up and lying in our hospital today. With a broken leg, two double jaw fractures, a broken nose and an eye that he couldn't have known was good or gone, he crawled three miles rather than give up the fight, as most of us would have done. His was the grit that caused the flight of the German war lord in 1918 and his is the grit that prompts us to assure you that Uncle Sam's little old army still has an eye on the torch that was flung down on Flanders Fields. God saved and God be praised for such men is Lieut. Bettis.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 71. BELLEFONTE, PA., AUGUST 27, 1926. NO. 34.

Democratic Campaign Opened Auspiciously.

In a down-pour of rain that would have drowned the enthusiasm of all except ardent believers in the philosophy of Jefferson, the Democratic party of Pennsylvania opened the campaign of 1926 on Saturday in Community park, near Allentown. Three notable speeches were delivered on the occasion. Judge Eugene C. Bonniwell, the nominee for Governor, Hon. William B. Wilson, the candidate for Senator in Congress, and Representative William B. Oldfield, of Arkansas, chairman of the National Democratic Congressional committee, united their voices in a plea to the people of the State to rebuke the corruption of the primary election and restore the government of the Commonwealth to the people who pay taxes and create the prosperity of the public.

In opening his address Mr. Wilson, former Secretary of Labor in the cabinet of Woodrow Wilson, said: "No scandal is attached to the nomination of any Democrat in Pennsylvania from Judge Bonniwell, who is the gubernatorial candidate, down to the humblest nominee on the list." That cannot be said of the Republican nominees. It is on record that \$800,000 was expended by the Republican nominee for the Senate and his running mate, and no one believes that all the money expended by Vare and his colleague has been uncovered. When black satchels and strong boxes are utilized it is difficult to trace the amount of money that was spent in the campaign. Vare's opponent, Senator Pepper, and his running mate, according to the record, expended \$1,800,000 to secure the nominations.

Judge Bonniwell said: "We are approaching the most ominous hour in the civil life of Pennsylvania. The Republican party, defiant of public opinion as the result of thirty-two years of control at the recent primary election so transcended all bounds of decency as to compel an outraged Senate to formally inquire into the unparalleled corruption which the primary election disclosed. There was expended on behalf of William S. Vare, for the nomination for United States Senator, an admitted total of \$700,000. There was expended in the campaign in the interest of John S. Fisher, candidate for Governor, an admitted total of \$1,700,000. It is not admitted nor is it doubted by any observers conversant with the facts that the figures spent on behalf of these candidates were double the sworn amounts."

Both these eloquent orators referred to other issues of the impending campaign and Representative Oldfield tore the absurd economy claims of the Republican party and President Coolidge into tatters by showing that the greatest reductions in the public debt after the war were made by the Wilson administration between the periods of the armistice and the expiration of his term of office. He also made plain the fact that all the tax reductions were forced by the Democratic minority in Congress and that in tax reduction the Republican party and the Coolidge administration invariably tried to benefit the rich taxpayers at the expense of those less fortunate. But the question of corruption in public life and the purchase of nominations are paramount in this campaign.

H. G. Wells says that "the modern university or college is worthless as a means of imparting real education." Mr. Wells must have depended on college education for the information upon which he wrote his history.

Helen Wills, the tennis champion, is "flirting" with professionalism and the young American girl who recently swam the British channel, is willing to give exhibitions for pay. "Whither are we drifting?"

The Sesqui-Centennial managers are determined to offend the "truly good." First they decided to operate on Sunday and now have introduced prize fighting as an attraction.

The head of the leading mail order house of the country assures the President that the farmers are prosperous, but says nothing of the local merchants.

It's a long, wet season that drowns hope entirely. Farmers who have oats still in shock might get a crop of oat-hay if it keeps on growing.

An esteemed contemporary wants carrying a dog on the running board legally defined as "cruelty to animals."

Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Wide Interest in Our Campaign.

The Pennsylvania campaign this year enjoys a nation-wide interest. The Democratic Congressional committee proposes to send to every voter in the State the salient points of a speech recently delivered on the floor of the House by Representative Garrett, of Texas, entitled "An Appeal to the Patriotism of Pennsylvania." In that speech Mr. Garrett said: Pennsylvania has now reached that position where it is the open shame of this Republic. If this were a mere State matter, if the nation were not involved, I should not mention it here and that great Commonwealth might be left to stew in its own juice of corruption. But the interests of the nation are involved."

Senator Norris, Republican of Nebraska, said in a speech delivered in the Senate: "No free people will stand for the election of members of the United States Senate by methods that were used in the Pennsylvania primary. Those methods shocked the National conscience. The evil results from the expenditures of such huge sums in the election of a United States Senator are contrary to the fundamental principles that underlie every free government. If the special interests are willing to spend \$3,000,000 to control one vote in the Senate, what can be expected from the highest law making body in the land when its membership depends upon the wishes of those who expect to get financial favors from national legislation and are willing to pay for it in advance in cold cash?"

Senator Norris will make a number of speeches in Pennsylvania during the campaign and other distinguished orators from outside the State have signified a desire to be heard. Congressman Oldfield, of Arkansas, will speak at the opening meeting of the campaign at Allentown to-morrow, and Mr. Garrett, of Texas, will speak at several points. It is believed that Senator Borah, of Idaho, Republican chairman of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations, will address an open letter to the Republicans of Pennsylvania protesting against the slush fund methods employed in the interest of both Vare and Fisher, and admonishing the public of the danger of letting such methods go unrebuked.

Less than half the voters in Pennsylvania voted at the primary election in May, and most of those who voted were office holders.

Vare in Amiable Frame of Mind.

Mr. William S. Vare, the Republican nominee for Senator in Congress, by cash purchase, has returned from Europe in an amiable frame of mind. He was particularly pleased, according to an esteemed contemporary, "with the manner in which 'Big Tom' Cunningham resisted the Senate investigating committee's effort to ascertain where he got the \$50,000 Cunningham contributed to the slush fund." That is a source of temporary happiness to a number of politicians in Pennsylvania. If Cunningham had divulged others might have been called on to tell where they got it with startling results to the candidates. Mr. Vare thinks Cunningham ought to have been put on the campaign committee as a reward.

This cordial appreciation of "Big Tom" is not the only token of amiability revealed by Mr. Vare on his return from abroad. He has determined to yield complete and servile obedience to the Mellon organization during the campaign. As he himself states it, "I am going to place myself entirely at the disposal of the State committee. Whatever programme the State committee plans for me will be satisfactory." This indicates that chairman Mellon or his understudy, Mr. Eric Wood, of Pittsburgh, has had a word with him. Mr. Vare is not usually so tractable and years of undisputed control in Philadelphia in some measure justified his confidence in his title to command.

But this concession to the State committee puts Mr. Vare's solitary campaign issue in a rather doubtful attitude. In the primary campaign he declared that modification of the Volstead law so as to permit the sale of beer and wine was his sole and only purpose. Now it is well known that the Republican candidate for Governor and the Republican State committee are "bone dry," and if Mr. Vare yields entirely to the State committee he will be obliged to accept the dry programme of the committee. To the average man in his position this would be an embarrassing situation. But to Mr. Vare it probably means nothing. His attitude on the question was a false pretense.

Supporting Fisher and opposing Vare on account of the slush fund is like "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel."

Both Candidates Marked for Defeat.

There is something more than careless gossip in the current rumors of a divided house in the Republican organization. The story goes that the candidate for Governor, John S. Fisher, "who has a good reputation," is averse to forming intimate relations with Vare, whose record is not such as Caesar required in a wife. Of course the slush fund has nothing to do with this feeling for the Fisher slush fund was three times that of Vare. But Fisher is a banker and his affiliations have been with men of affairs while Vare has developed from a political contractor to a party boss of disreputable methods. Primarily the difference is a matter of caste, and like an ulcer on the body it grows.

There has never been any genuine sympathy between the supporters of Fisher and those of Vare. During his service in the State Senate Mr. Fisher was always a servile follower of Joe Grundy, who forced him upon the Mellons as a candidate for Governor in order to defeat Beidleman. Grundy is a political Hessian ready to align with anybody who can promise success. The Mellons wanted Pepper returned to the Senate as most servicable for them and though Grundy hated Pepper he was willing to adopt him in consideration of the Mellon support of Fisher. The election of Fisher would be worth millions to the interests represented by Grundy. The election of Pepper would be worth as much to the Mellon group.

But the defeat of Pepper by Vare and the defeat of Beidleman by Fisher created a fissure which it seems impossible to close. There is probability in the rumor, therefore, that the friends of Fisher refuse to co-operate with the friends of Vare in the conduct of the campaign. Vare has publicly stated that "he is in the hands of the State committee," organized exclusively in the interest of Fisher, and that he will obediently follow orders. But this lip service doesn't seem to satisfy the friends of Fisher, who declare that "if they attempt to talk for Vare the only result will be to hurt the Fisher candidacy." This palpable lack of team work is practically certain to defeat both candidates.

Now that the Democratic campaign is formally opened in Pennsylvania let us hope there will be no let up before the polls close in November.

Colonel Roosevelt Denounces Slush.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, of New York, assistant Secretary of the Navy in the Harding administration, addressed the Republican club of that city, the other evening, and took occasion to express his detestation of the slush-fund methods of his party in Pennsylvania. After declaring that "the Pennsylvania and Illinois primaries were a burning disgrace" he added: "It makes little difference whether 'great sums of money' are raised from big corporations or levied as the price of protection on illegal operations such as gambling, dope peddling, bootlegging or the adulteration of milk. When public office is for sale to the highest bidder, democracy will cease to exist in the United States."

This is an arraignment of both the Fisher and Vare organizations. The nomination of Fisher was purchased with money contributed by Grundy and the Mellons, representing the big corporations and financial interests under an implied pledge that the donors would be reimbursed in the event of Fisher's election through the medium of special privileges and tax discrimination in their favor. The nomination of Vare was bought with money presumably obtained by levies on gamblers and bootleggers under an implied promise of immunity from penalties in the future. There is no moral difference between them except that Fisher was "counted in" after the polls closed by manipulation of the ballots in Pittsburgh.

This statement of Colonel Roosevelt expresses the aroused conscience of the country in protest against the orgie of corruption which obtained at the Republican primaries as well as the enlightened apprehension of the public if these practices are continued. As the Locomotive Engineer's Journal, from which we quoted last week says, the only way to stop it is "by defeating Vare, the corrupt Philadelphia gang leader for the Senate, and Fisher, the tool for the big manufacturers for the Governorship." If the purchased result of the primaries is ratified by the people in November by the election of these candidates, it will be interpreted by the rich bosses as license to continue the system.

No wonder it rained on Tuesday. Our colored brethren held their annual picnic at Hecla park that day.

Germany's Colonial Demands.

From the Philadelphia Record. Admission of Germany to the League of Nations, with a permanent seat in the Council, is generally regarded as a necessary move toward reconstruction and reconciliation in Europe. It will not be accomplished, however, without friction; already the issue which is to be determined at a meeting in September, has led to threats of withdrawal by Spain and Brazil.

Another disturbing complication is the undisputed purpose of Germany to make her League membership a means of recovering her lost "place in the sun." In order to make the campaign impressive "Colonial Week" is being celebrated throughout the country, with imperialistic parades and flag-waving demands for complete restoration of the overseas possessions surrendered after the war.

The leaders of the movement have adopted the strategy of claiming everything in the hope of getting something. They declare that Germany's colonies were "stolen in hostile greed, and demand that full restitution be made, not only as a measure of economic justice, but in acknowledgment that Germany was guiltless of responsibility for the war. This is a large order. Under the treaty of Versailles the colonies were taken as legitimate prizes of war, representing a substantial part of reparations due. Moreover, they were formally distributed among the Allies under mandates from the League of Nations, to be administered primarily for the benefit of the inhabitants.

Vast areas and populations are involved in the German claims. Some of Togoland and Cameroon went to France, but in greater part they added to the British dependencies of Nigeria and the Gold Coast. The Union of South Africa conquered German Southwest Africa and holds it under mandate. Most of German East Africa is now Tanganyika Territory, in the British Empire, while the rest is Belgian. German holdings in New Guinea went to Australia, German Samoa to New Zealand. Japan administered the Marshall, Caroline and Ladrone groups in the Pacific. Kaiochau, the section of Shantung seized by the Kaiser, was captured by Japan, but later restored to China.

Any extensive change in these settlements is unlikely. France and Belgium, in particular, will be wholly disinclined to relinquish any part of the territories which they regard as reparations payments. On the other hand, some British publicists urge that Germany's colonial claims should have recognition. Probably she will find them valuable chiefly for bargaining purposes in seeking other modifications of the war settlement.

Farmers as Automobile Owners.

From the Pittsburgh Post. The prosperity of Pennsylvania farmers is thrown into rather striking contrast with the complaints of those in other parts of the country in figures issued recently by the United States Department of Agriculture showing the average earnings of the tillers of the soil and the report of the State Department of Agriculture on the ownership of automobiles in the rural sections. It offers an explanation for the fact that cries for farm legislation and "farm relief" come from the western and southern States, not from this part of the country.

The Federal report gives the average return of the farm family from labor and management in the past year as \$648, which indicates that a vast multitude of the dwellers in the rural regions barely made a living and the majority had little money available for anything but the necessities of life.

But in Pennsylvania last year 80 per cent. of the farmers had motor cars. Trucks are not included in the compilation. The machines referred to are passenger automobiles. Of course, they are used to a large extent by the farmers for business purposes; but it is significant that there should be such a large ownership of vehicles not suited to heavy work or for carrying crops to market. The farmers evidently have money to spend for pleasure.

Even in the Pennsylvania counties which are poorest in agricultural resources a large percentage of the farmers have cars. Cameron county, which is at the foot of the list, reports 40 per cent. in Allegheny county 90 per cent. own automobiles.

As the building of good roads progresses and pavement is extended to farms which can be reached at present only over rough unpaved highways, the proportion of farmers with cars will increase. There are thousands of farms still on which automobiles can not be used to great advantage because the roads are a sea of mud in spring.

Motor cars, making possible frequent trips to town and to the homes of neighbors, play a part in making Pennsylvania farmers contented.

The rainy weather of the past two weeks has interfered with many farmers in Centre county getting their oats into the barn, and much of it is growing in the shock.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

A Balmey, of Mt. Pleasant, caught a 32-inch silver carp in Bridgeport dam, Westmoreland county.

Betty Glick, 19 months old, of Latrobe, was severely scalded when she pulled a pan of hot water off a table.

Elder Henry, 17 years of age, of Lewistown, lost the middle finger of his left hand while examining an "unloaded" revolver.

John K. Stern, of Manheim township, 92 years old, was arrested on complaint of his better half, charged with non support. He protested against being arrested after dark, saying he had never been accustomed to going out after night, and, while he may have been somewhat indifferent about supporting his wife, he sure did remain her "steady company."

Dr. J. W. Mitchell, a former member of the General Assembly from Mifflin county, is at the Lewistown hospital suffering from blood poisoning of the right hand. The doctor had a silver of hard skin along the quick of the index finger, right hand, which was removed by one of the family with a pair of ordinary shears in daily use. The injury became infected.

Committees will be named by the State Forest Commission to draft a policy for conservation of the natural resources in all State forest reserves. The resources are now being inventoried and it is believed there is considerable natural gas. For years the State has been selling not only its timber when matured, but clay, coal and other products, deriving considerable revenue therefrom.

Peggy Lykens, a young white woman, is recovering in the Chester hospital from the effects of a dose of poison which she swallowed at her boarding house, in Chester, on Sunday. Allen Harper, said to have been with the woman at the time, was taken into custody by the police. He said the woman told him she was going to commit suicide and that he attempted to knock the bottle from her hand. He was discharged from custody.

An alleged plot against game wardens looking for illegal fishermen along Penn's creek, near Mifflinburg, is reported, but details including the name of a man who narrowly escaped death are not given. According to the story, a small platform along the creek had been undermined and three sticks of dynamite placed under it. These were attached to a battery with a contact under one of the boards. When a board was found misplaced and an investigation made, the explosive was discovered.

Sergeant H. R. Jacobson and Corporal Walter J. Lyster, attached to the Greenburg barracks of the Pennsylvania State police, and former chief of police Fred Lytle, of Crosson, who were convicted at the March term of Cambria county court on a charge of manslaughter growing out of the death of Tony Missoura, of Washington township, were sentenced last Thursday by president Judge John E. Evans, in four counts to three years in the county jail. An appeal, however, was granted and the men were released on \$3,500 bail each.

What is regarded as an extremely delicate operation was successfully performed on Sunday at the Jefferson hospital, Philadelphia, by Dr. Louis H. Clerf. It was the removal of a bullet from a man's lung by means of a bronchoscope, egress being made through the mouth. The patient was conscious all the time. It was performed on Teofil Covaleskie, aged 34, of Mount Carmel, Pa., a member of troop A of the state mounted police, located at Greensburg Barracks, Pa. Covaleskie was formerly a member of the Mount Carmel police force, and at one time was located in Centre county.

What is said to be the highest State road in Pennsylvania is under construction through Nine Mile, Tioga county, where an elevation of 2,442 feet above sea level is reached. The next highest point on a state highway is said to be on the Susquehanna Trail, near Blossburg, where the elevation is 2,140 feet. The State Department of Highways has notified township authorities in Potter county that the road between Brookland and Sweden Valley will be abandoned as a state route. This section originally was a part of the Roosevelt highway but the route was relocated through Nine Mile, where about twelve miles of highway are under construction.

The entire family of Walter Yackel, a prominent tea merchant, of Shenandoah, consisting of father, mother and three children, were taken critically ill on Saturday, suffering from ptomaine poisoning and had a narrow escape from death, caused by eating canned sardines. John, the 8 year old son, first took sick while accompanying his father on a trip to his customers and before he could get his son home the father was stricken, and on entering his home, his wife and the other children were found writhing in agony, caused by the poisoning. Dr. A. J. Berkheiser, a well-known specialist, was summoned, together with the family physician, and after treating the victims for hours, finally brought them out of danger.

Jack Rose, night clerk at the Leister hotel, Huntingdon, disappeared from the hotel and town Monday morning shortly after 2 o'clock, and James L. Stewart, proprietor made the startling discovery that \$678 had also disappeared. Rose, with his wife and baby went to Huntingdon from Somerset two months ago, and took up housekeeping at Mifflin and Fourteenth streets. Two weeks ago he obtained employment at the hotel. For several nights past he had been telling the porter his wife was sick, and at 2 o'clock Monday morning asked the porter to look after his work while he went up home to see his wife. When he had not returned at 6 o'clock the porter notified Mr. Stewart and it was then the shortage was discovered.

Johnny Hesselbein, manager of the Johnstown Chamber of Commerce, has sent out a warning to the public to be on guard against a man using the name of Thomas Pulver, and claiming Pittsburgh as his home. Pulver was arrested in Johnstown as a short change man and released when he paid \$200 and costs rather than serve 60 days. His method follows: Pulver presents a \$20 bill in payment for a small purchase of merchandise and then after the change has been handed him, to confuse the clerk, asks for the return of the bill saying he will give a bill of a smaller denomination. During the transaction he usually manages to slip a portion of the money given him as change into his pockets and makes a hasty exit before the clerk discovers she has been short-changed.