

INK SLINGS.

The oyster is in the soup again, but it still takes a magnifying glass to locate him.

The young Hindu theosophist, Jiddo Krishnamurti, may be lacking in some essentials as a world teacher but he has plenty of nerve.

Valentino being dead, who is there to challenge the claims of all the ladies who are claiming they were engaged to the departed Sheik.

It is announced that "Eva" Duncan, who was injured in an automobile accident recently, may dance again. This relieves a heavy strain on the public mind.

Bascom Slomp, the famous Virginia office broker, is confident that Mr. Coolidge will be re-elected. There must be some federal patronage available now or soon in Virginia.

The merchants and miners in the Philadelphia coal regions just naturally smile every time there is another prosperity message from the President's retreat at Paul Smith's camp.

A German baker has beaten Gertie Ederle's channel-swim record by over an hour. Needing the "dough," here is probably a quicker way of getting it than kneading it. Smart baker.

The Proportional Representative League is uncertain as to who had a majority for the Republican nomination for Senator, and intimates that William B. Wilson ought to have the majority in November.

Gertie Ederle is among others who have discovered that the nerve to do a thing isn't all that is requisite. Nerve to stand up under what one has done is also something to be considered as a desirable asset after the fact.

The kids are all railing about having to start back to school next Tuesday yet they would be dead with mental exhaustion if they had to devise amusement for themselves for another month of separation from their books.

If, as Dr. Fuloep-Miller, the German writer, says: the ultimate aim of Bolshevism is the utter wiping out of religion then the thing for those who don't care to go back to the cave-man state of social relations to do is start in to utterly wipe out Bolshevism.

Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, is for cancellation of the obligations of our foreign debtors. While we admit that Newt's most recent setting for a come-back isn't being very enthusiastically received on this side it might be better to forget it than have to start another war to get it.

The tariff as a political issue gets the gillies, but as a prosperity maker it is all the bunk. When somebody proves to us that wages are not higher and living conditions better among employees of industries not protected by a tariff than they are in those that are protected we'll devote this entire column to admission that we don't know what we're talking about.

As for being somewhat of a weather prophet didn't we say, last Friday, that the Grangers would have good weather for their picnic at Centre Hall this week. Of course the weather yesterday was not exactly the picknick kind and because it was "the big day" at camp we presume the Grangers will forget all about the five lovely ones that preceded it.

It is natural that Governor Pinchot should defend the primary system. If it had not been for it he would never have been Governor of Pennsylvania. Gifford could never have landed a nomination in an old fashioned party convention in this State. An uninformed electorate conferred an honor on him that its most astute counsellors would have been fearful to have done had the job been theirs.

Marconi has announced the perfection of a new loud-speaker that can be heard ten miles and the papers are full of the wonderful invention. Lord, how little the world knows. The local lodge of Red Men, years ago, had a loud-speaker calling off their square dances who could be heard thirty miles and most of the people within his wave lengths, instead of exploiting him, have been hoping that some Justice would give him thirty days.

The Bell Tel's proposed new long distance rates sound to us much like "applesauce" when they have to be justified by the statement that they "may save the public three million dollars a year." Who ever heard of a corporation interested more in the public than it is in itself? The scheme is to reduce considerably the rates to points to which people rarely want to talk and increase slightly the rates to points to which they talk most. Its just the old army game in another form.

During recent perigrinations we have discovered a prolifically laden wild grape vine. We feel that, later, a few pheasants might be "potted" there. We know, also, that something with more kick than a shot gun grapes could be made out of those grapes. Either possibility would be a sneaking undertaking. We know that barbed-wire pheasant is the ne plus ultra. We have heard that wild grapes crushed and let alone for awhile are wonderfully potent. What would you do if you had both a shot gun and a maul?

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Principal Issue of the Campaign.

The principal issue in the present campaign in Pennsylvania is the "slush fund." As an esteemed contemporary has said, "all the party questions and all the questions which run across party lines can be settled at another time." The ratification of the \$3,000,000 slush fund, by the election of John S. Fisher to the office of Governor of the State, and William S. Vare to that of Senator in Congress, would be a crime, not only against the people of Pennsylvania but against the people of the country. It would be registering approval of a policy that degrades our elections to the level of the auction block and excludes all except the very rich or hopelessly venal from public life.

In the campaign to nominate John S. Fisher for Governor more than one million dollars, contributed by selfish interests under an implied promise that they would be reimbursed by discrimination in taxation at the expense and to the prejudice of farmers, merchants and wage earners of all kinds, was spent. The nomination of William S. Vare for United States Senator cost \$800,000, which is alleged and believed to have been contributed by law breakers and outlaws who expect to be reimbursed by protection in their future criminal operations. The election of these men would not only serve to approve of this infamous policy but it would convey license to those who profited by it to continue the practice.

In the face of such a condition of affairs what difference does it make whether the opposing candidates are prohibitionists or indulge liberal views on that subject? The prohibition question will be settled and settled right in the course of time. The protective tariff has been a source of party contention for many years but it may safely be laid aside this year in order that the greater questions of the integrity of elections and the equality of opportunity in public life may be re-established in this Commonwealth and this country. This is the essential issue before the people of Pennsylvania and it must be met and determined this year, and the battle ground is Pennsylvania.

Clemenceau threatens to write another letter to the people of the United States on the war debt question. Well, the old tiger is amusing, anyway, if he accomplishes nothing else.

One Practical Lesson Enough.

The Patriotic Order Sons of America, with a membership of 125,000 in Pennsylvania, in a convention held in Philadelphia last week, set its face sternly against the prostitution of the ballot as practiced in the primary election by the opposing Republican machines. In opening the session Gabriel H. Moyer, State president of the fraternity, said: "When men and women, employed ostensibly as watchmen, sell their souls for five and ten dollars, then this convention feels that it must act. I want some kind of legislation by American-born men and women in Harrisburg that will give us the desired result." This declaration was enthusiastically applauded by the members in attendance.

Judge Albert W. Johnson, of Lewisburg, president of the United States District court for the Middle district of Pennsylvania, who was elected to succeed Mr. Moyer as president of the order, said in his inaugural address: "We have come to an epochal period in the nation's history, perhaps I should say the world's history. There are tendencies of which we have become cognizant but which have been neglected in recent years. We now see them clearly and know that it would be dangerous to keep on drifting as we have." He was referring to the same subject that provoked Mr. Moyer's protest. The inference to be drawn from his remarks is an urgent appeal to the membership to rebuke the guilty party.

Secret and industrial organizations do not always live up to their professions or prove faithful to their fraternal obligations. Favors or promises of favors held out to conspicuous or persuasive members mislead bunches of voters. But the positive and emphatic declarations of the past and present presidents of this particular organization, dedicated to the splendid work of improving the moral standard of our citizenship, justifies the confident belief that its membership will this year ignore partisan sympathies and prejudices and vote at the coming election against the candidates in whose behalf and for whose benefit the slush fund crimes were committed. One such lesson will be enough.

In the matter of variety the weather man is doing his best to please.

Crusade for Honest Government.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, is not the only distinguished Republican outside the State who will plead with Republicans within the State to repudiate the slush fund candidates of their party in Pennsylvania, and vote for the candidates of the Democracy. Senator Norris is a veteran in his party and for many years has helped to frame its policies and create its traditions. The others who have expressed an intention to join him in the work, which they regard as a patriotic service, are Senator Nye, of North Dakota, and Senator LaFollette, of Wisconsin. These distinguished gentlemen will tell the Republican voters of Pennsylvania, in a series of speeches, the evil of transplanting Newberryism here.

It will be strange, indeed, if the arguments of these eminent and eloquent Republicans from the West fail to arouse the consciences of their party associates in Pennsylvania. They represent intelligent constituents, and, as a Washington correspondent states, are "the unpurchasable and uncompromising foes of the group of money interests seeking to control the Congress of the United States." Their first contact with the people of Pennsylvania will be in Philadelphia, and after that they will visit and speak in various cities under the auspices of an independent Republican organization now in the process of organizing. The dates and places of subsequent speeches have not been fixed.

This movement which may be justly characterized as a crusade in favor of honest government, and equal opportunity for official service is not a Democratic partisan enterprise. It was conceived in the minds of a number of independent Republicans of the State. On their arrival in Philadelphia the Senators will be received by a committee of Republicans who are opposed to the slush fund method of buying nominations and feel that greater public service will be rendered by defeating the candidates who were chosen by such methods than maintaining a partisan majority in the United States Senate at this time. The better element of the Republican party in the State concurs in this opinion and will vote accordingly.

It may now be safely said that the Ferguson, of Texas, are eliminated from the politics of the Lone Star State.

Governor Pinchot's Best Speech.

Governor Pinchot's speech at the Sesqui-Centennial, on the occasion of celebrating Pennsylvania day, was easily the most important as well as the most forceful he has made since he began activities in the politics of the State. He fittingly eulogized the achievements of the State in industrial, educational and economic progress. But the salient feature of his discourse was his arraignment of the people for their delinquency in civic obligations. "Millions default in their duty at every election," he declared, and as a result they "leave the door open to combinations composed partly of selfish financial interests and partly of sordid politicians to obtain control of the government."

This is a literally true statement of the conditions revealed in the Republican primary election on the 18th of May. The selfish financial interests contributed upward of a million and a half of money to secure the nomination of John S. Fisher, for Governor, and the sordid politicians, equally anxious but a trifle less liberal, dumped nearly a million dollars into a slush fund to nominate William S. Vare, for Senator in Congress. If the voters of the State had fulfilled their civic obligations even this deluge of tainted money would have failed of its purpose. In fact it is fairly well understood that the nomination of Fisher was accomplished by manipulating the ballots after the polls closed.

But isn't the Governor somewhat delinquent in his civic duty in his failure to go a step further in treating this subject? The selfish aim of the financial interests is shown in the implied agreement between Mr. Fisher and Mr. Grundy to discriminate in tax levies of the future in favor of the manufacturing corporations of the State, and that of the sordid politicians in the presumed pledge of protection to the bootleggers, burglars and pickpockets in their future operations. That being true Governor Pinchot ought to have appealed to the conscience of the State to rise in full force and defeat the candidates who are thus mortgaged to selfish financial interests and sordid politicians.

"It's an ill wind which blows no man good." The recent rains greatly benefitted the flower exhibit at the Sesqui-Centennial.

"Shall Legislation be Sold?"

"Shall Legislation be Sold," is a pertinent and practical question put to the voters of Pennsylvania by the esteemed Philadelphia Record of recent date. In his testimony before the Senate slush fund committee Mr. Joseph R. Grundy admitted that he contributed \$300,000 and assumed responsibility for an additional \$180,000 to the boodle campaign in behalf of John S. Fisher, candidate for Governor, for the reason that he was afraid Fisher's principal antagonist would favor a tax on the capital stock of manufacturing corporations from which he collected or expected to collect the money. Such a tax would cost Mr. Grundy and those he represents in the Manufacturer's association \$10,000,000 a year.

The Mellons, of Pittsburgh, contributed with equal liberality to the fund in behalf of George Wharton Pepper, who was a candidate for Senator in Congress. They are alleged to own a controlling interest in the Aluminum trust and the importance of having officials in power who are friendly to that corporation is shown by the fact that a lawsuit is now pending, instituted against that monopoly since the primary election, for \$45,000,000. Both these contributions were made with the purpose of "buying" legislation. Grundy aimed to prevent the levy of a just tax on property in which he is largely concerned and the Mellons hoped to secure legislation by Congress that would avert such lawsuits as that recently begun.

There has been a long standing personal friendship between Mr. Grundy and Mr. Fisher, based largely on a common selfish interest. During all the time Mr. Fisher served in the General Assembly he voted for and spoke in behalf of the interests represented by Mr. Grundy. But that friendship was hardly strong enough to draw upward of \$400,000 in good money out of the pocket of Grundy to feed Fisher's ambition. Plainly the inspiration to generosity in this case was a desire to control legislation that directly affected Grundy's investments, and the election of Fisher will simply be an approval of that sinister purpose by the people of Pennsylvania and license to continue the malign practice.

Another reason for the failure of labor organizations may be found in the fact that the president of the miners' organization in Illinois has abandoned his comrades and gone to work for a mining company at \$25,000 a year.

Coolidge Economies Begin.

President Coolidge, like the late Artemus Ward's kangaroo, is "a amoo-in' little cuss." The President has a mania for economizing and whenever time hangs heavy on his hands he invents some story of saving public money from a rapacious Congress. It is a comparatively easy matter to put such things over on the public. All that is necessary is to have the heads of departments submit exorbitant estimates and then by executive order pare them down to the extent of a hundred millions or more and collect the applause by radio or otherwise that invariably follows such an announcement. It is a simple process and capable of indefinite repetition.

The other day Brigadier General Lord, director of the budget, paid a visit to the President at his summer camp and submitted the budget for the next Congress. Immediately the President took his pen in hand and cut \$99,000,000 out of the total and the press agent promptly reported it as a fine achievement in economies. But it turns out that after deducting the \$99,000,000, which the President cut from the budget, there remained \$55,000,000 more than was appropriated and spent last year. In other words the Coolidge economy is a purely imaginary quantity. It cuts from a possible total far in excess of a sum needed and provides for a vast increase of expenditures.

The truth of the matter is that the expenses of government have increased regularly since Mr. Coolidge became President. In 1925 the actual expenditures amounted to \$3,529,000,000. In 1926 it was \$3,618,000,000 and in 1927 it increased to \$3,953,000,000. In each of these years the press agent paraded figures to show that Coolidge had a hand on the safety valve holding down appropriations. The estimates for 1928 were generous enough to allow the customary Coolidge cut and leave an excess of \$55,000,000 over the high figure of 1927. Meantime the House committee on Ways and Means will determine the amount of the appropriations. All Coolidge can do is exercise the right of veto.

The tide of popular favor did more harm to Gertrude Ederle than the tides in the British channel.

The Wilson-for-Senate Movement.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

The announcement of a field day to be held by the churches in the Pittsburgh district early in October in the interest of the candidacy of William B. Wilson for the United States Senate against William S. Vare gives an idea of the rapidly gathering force for that campaign. It is stated that 107 churches will join in the demonstration. It is but a reminder that none of the forces for prohibition or for election law reform can be for Vare. Prohibition could not fare worse in Philadelphia than the election laws. Again and again the Philadelphia machine has shown itself to be a menace to the cause of honest elections. The forces of good government generally are challenged by the Vare candidacy.

The head of the Philadelphia machine is very far short of representing the Republican majority of the State. He had a majority in only one of the sixty-seven counties. With Philadelphia excepted, the combined Republican vote of the primary was against him in every county of the Commonwealth. The only county outside Philadelphia in which he received a plurality was Dauphin. The combined Republican vote against Vare in the primary was more than 200,000 greater than he received. He was promptly repudiated as the Republican candidate by hosts of the members of that party, thus being assurance of a wide Republican revolt against him this fall.

It is fresh in mind that both the Pepper and Pinchot forces declared that the election of Vare would cause the State to hang its head in shame. They described him as representing the lowest form of politics. And their combined vote was something like 800,000 to his less than 600,000. Who could expect many of the Pinchot supporters to turn in now for Vare? Who can figure out where the Pepper adherents owe any loyalty to Vare, whom they described as taking a mean advantage of the situation "to grab the Senatorship" without having any qualifications for the office? One of the 800,000 who so talked against Vare and so voted against him, it is but logical to assume that most of them will vote against him this fall. Some have gone so far as to place the minimum estimate of the number of Republicans who will vote against Vare in November at 500,000.

There is no more faithful vote in the country than that of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania. With practically no patronage to sustain its organization, often almost leaderless and frequently torn by factionalism, it yet has maintained an average State-wide vote over a period of more than forty years in excess of 428,000. With only men voting in 1916, it cast 521,784 votes for re-election of President Wilson. In 1922 it cast nearly 600,000 for its candidate for Governor. It was credited in 1925 with an enrollment in the State of practically 700,000. United for William B. Wilson—no Democrat in the State would run against him for the Senatorial nomination—it is but logical to assume that it will give him its maximum vote.

Bear in mind that usually more of both parties vote in the general election than in the primaries, and that in addition to this an increase in registration and enrollment is expected this fall.

The maximum Democratic vote for Wilson under the circumstances might easily be 650,000. The great opportunity this presents to the Republicans who believe that the election of Vare would cause the State to hang its head in shame is obvious. If they unite with the Democrats, as their fathers did in the election of a Democratic Governor, Vaireism will be crushed. It would present a party of more than 1,000,000 against the Philadelphia machine candidate. In addition a number of minor parties are likely to endorse Wilson.

There is nothing fanciful about it. It has been done before. Such a combination, as pointed out, twice elected a Democrat to the Governorship, and in 1905 it elected a Democrat to the State Treasurership. It is absolutely the only way to defeat Vaireism. The Anti-Vare forces have the votes overwhelmingly. Victory for them is just a matter of their using their strength intelligently—in combination.

The movement has started strongly. Let every opponent of Vaireism join promptly in adding to the impetus. The people who in 1882 and 1892 elected a Democratic Governor and who in 1905 elected a Democratic State Treasurer can in 1926 elect a Democrat to the United States Senate. They owe it to themselves, to their State and to their Nation to do it.

Pinchot Returning to Form.

From the Clearfield Republican.

New York wired out the story Wednesday evening that Governor Gifford Pinchot had sent his request to Tex Rickard for 200 reserved seats at the Dempsey-Tunney fight in Philadelphia November 23. Also, that he violated all precedent of officialdom by sending his check along for the price of the seats. Thus again does Gifford offer concrete testimony that he is fast returning to old time human form, same as he always carried around before he permitted his ambition to submerge his better self and lined up with the nuts, bugs and imagined super species of human kind.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

A warrant was issued last Saturday for the arrest of R. H. Taylor, cashier for the last twenty years of the Milroy Banking Company, Milroy, Pa. Examination of the bank's books indicate a shortage of \$15,000.

Second story men broke into the parochial residence of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church at Erie and carried out a safe which they smashed in a yard in the church, finding \$500 in bonds and a pearl necklace, the property of Miss C. Cauley, a niece of the pastor of the church.

Miss Minnie Schenk, for many years a servant in the employ of Mrs. Agnes Kelly, formerly of Renovo, is bequeathed the bulk of the estate of her late employer in a will probated in the Lycoming county courts. The estate is estimated at \$75,000. In addition to a home and furnishings in Williamsport, Miss Schenk is given \$50,000 of which \$5,000 is in Liberty bonds.

Because he claims Fritz Krause, Sr., of New Kensington, deprived him of the affections of his wife, Henry Krause has filed suit asking \$20,000 damages. Krause claims his father began to pay special attention to his wife about June 15, 1923, presented her with money, flowers, candy, silk hosiery and other things, and took her to social functions, as a result of which, Mrs. Krause deserted her husband March 26, 1925.

Rainy weather that previously prevented clothes from drying was responsible for trapping a clothes thief at Berwick. When Peter Lynn hung out an exceptionally large number of clothes to dry last Thursday three women called the police and identified the clothing as theirs. It had been stolen, they said, from the lines on Monday night, the rain preventing the clothing from drying. Lynn was committed to jail in default of \$900 bail.

During a party on Monday afternoon, at the Martinezzi boarding house in Nant-y-Glo, Cambria county, John Chiappini, aged 23 is alleged to have kissed Mary Martinezzi, aged 14, daughter of the boarding boss. Paul Valentino, aged forty, pulled his gun and shot the kisser, according to witness, with a bullet lodged in the abdomen, Chiappini is in a serious condition at Memorial hospital, Johnstown, where he admits having kissed Mary.

Curiosity cost John Tarneski, 23, of near Wilkes-Barre, \$10 and costs when taken before Alderman Ruddy Saturday night, on a charge of disgraceful conduct. Tarneski, who has left his wife twice during the ten months they have been married, met her on Public Square and accused her of wearing "rolled down" stockings. He insisted on investigating in public. The defendant said he considered it improper for young women to "roll their own."

Harold B. Wood, of the State Health Department, has notified H. E. Petroffer, Lewisstown health officer, that the recent near epidemic of typhoid fever was due entirely to "bottle infection." The health officials believe they have traced the infection to Mrs. Lee Keel, one of the three dead in the outbreak. They say Mrs. Keel visited friends in a small town in Lancaster county where there was an epidemic of typhoid, and became infected with the germs of typhoid.

Caught beneath a slide of earth at a flint quarry on a farm in Perry county, on Friday, Daniel Brownawell and John Salsburg, both of Oak Grove, were buried under the mass of earth and rock and died shortly afterwards. The two men were loading a wagon with stone for use on a road nearby when the ground gave way and threw the wagon on them. Harry Boyer, roadmaster, escaped with an injured leg. Brownawell is survived by a widow and five children. Salsburg is survived by a widow.

Being hit by a Pennsylvania railroad freight train didn't do anything to Charles Sanforth, 84 years old, Homestead, but scare him a bit. The accident happened at the Anity street crossing, Homestead. Sanforth was rolled twenty yards by the force of the blow from the engine. He jumped up, bewildered and excited, and ran away. Friends found the man later and took him to a physician's office. All that the physician could find was quite a large quantity of fright in the man's system. Sanforth said he didn't see the train.

Suit for \$37,000 has been filed in Montour county court by Mr. and Mrs. David Thomas and daughter Elizabeth, of Scranton, against H. Reese Edmondson and daughter Elizabeth, of Danville, as an aftermath of an automobile accident last Memorial day on the Danville-Northumberland road, when the Thomas and Edmondson cars collided. Miss Edmondson was driving at the time. Miss Thomas asks \$5000 for her injuries and her father seeks \$25,000 for injuries to his wife, \$500 for damages to the car, \$1500 for medical attention, \$5000 for the loss of the "assistance, aid, comfort and society" of his wife. He alleges she suffered paralysis of the arms as a result of the accident.

Peter Pannacci, a resident of Curwensville for many years, was killed at 7.15 Monday morning while at work near one of the derricks in use at the stone quarry near that place. Attached by an iron ring to a hook on the arm of the derrick which had been lowered, a heavy spawl box used to carry spawls away from the stones the cutters were working on, had been lifted several feet from the ground at the operator's signal. The heavy box slipped from the hook and struck Pannacci on the head in its descent, instantly killing him. The quarry was immediately shut down and the body of the workman removed to Linsinger's undertaking establishment for preparation for burial. Pannacci is survived by a widow and four children.

A suit for damages has been filed in the Clearfield county court by the widows of Amos and Eldon Read against Edward J. McCormick, owner of the Altoona Coal, Apron and Towel company, whose truck is alleged to have forced off the road the car driven by Amos and Eldon Read on July 4, on the Lakes to Sea highway between Gramplan and Luthersburg. The widows in their suits, are asking that the owner of the truck make reparation to cover the loss which they incurred. Mrs. Anna May Read, widow of Amos Read, asks for \$15,000, while Mrs. Hannah J. Read asks \$25,000 for the loss of a husband and father. Reckless driving of the one and one-half ton truck by David E. Eckerberger is the cause of the deaths, as charged in the suit filed. The truck was taking a load of household goods to Ocean, N. Y., when the accident occurred.