

INK SLINGS.

In nine cases out of ten borrowing money is borrowing trouble.

Reading of the tragedies, sorrow and distress in consequence of the Florida hurricane with memories of the horrors of the California earthquake disasters we are, more than ever, content with our abode in rugged old Centre county.

Sykesville, the town we had never heard of until it ran away with the pennant in the Clearfield and Centre baseball league last year, has repeated. DuBois, Clearfield and Phillipsburg could probably park all of Sykesville in their public squares, but they don't seem to be able to develop Hornsbys, Sislers and Ruths like they do up in the big little Jefferson county town.

The Hon. Holmes is long on shoulder slapping and palaver, but its going to take more than that to catch the voters of Centre county this fall. Two years ago every dry orator available was on the stump telling the world what he would do if sent to Harrisburg. And what did he do? The most notable thing we know of was his vote for Bluet for speaker of the House. And Bluet was Vare's candidate and wringing wet. The Hon. Holmes is going to have an awful time laughing that off.

Governor Pinchot said a mouthful when he told the Rev. Charles Scanlon, of Pittsburgh, that "the nations in which boys and men are in the habit of doing their fighting with their fists are precisely those in which they are not in the habit of using the knife or the bullet for that purpose." The Governor was explaining his refusal to attempt to stop the Dempsey-Tunney match at the Sesqui last night. He couldn't have stopped it if he had willed to do so, because it is legalized by the State and he is sworn to uphold the law, rather than circumvent it. There is less possibility of serious injury in a boxing match than there is in a foot-ball game and there are hundreds more killed or permanently crippled in the latter exemplification of the co-ordination of brain and brawn than there are in the former. Aside from that, the good Lord didn't make it possible for man to shake his hand into a fist merely to shape it under his adversary's nose. It is our belief it was intended to be planted square there if the necessity so to do presented.

This is not an advertisement of or for the manufacturers of whipper cars. It is merely an expression of gratitude on the part of an humble tax payer to the designer of the new motor vehicle. Last Monday night the State's highway department representatives appeared before the local council and partially lifted the veil that obscures its program for the future. The idea is in the minds of the vast army of road builders that we are paying taxes to maintain that the time is approaching when Bellefonte streets and those of all other municipalities of the State—will have to be widened to take care of the growing motor traffic. Incidentally, that will attach to the State's payroll another army of surveyors, appraisers, adjudicators and "grease" men. The advent of the whipper car may forestall this. For it is designed to carry just as many passengers, go further on the same gas and get there just as quickly as the vehicle that takes up twice as much room on the streets and highways mean more taxes. Inducing the fellow who thinks his importance is measured by the size of the car he rolls about in to realize that his vanity is only being paraded at the cost and inconvenience of others and that he might help by using a smaller car would relieve the congestion a lot and save millions in prospective new tax burdens.

When the Hon. Holmes was sent to Harrisburg to represent us two years ago it was largely because the borough of State College and vicinity was obsessed with the idea of having a friend at Court. It was thought that with him there the institutional manna tree under which they all feed would get appropriations beyond expectations. What happened? The members from other counties of the State were primed by their resident alumni and knowledge of the usefulness of The Pennsylvania State College to do anything for it possible. The Hon. Holmes had nothing to do with that. He knew, as all the rest of the people who keep tab on things do, that Governor Pinchot was "off" The Pennsylvania State College. In consequence his game was to play the Governor. We have always thought it an entirely unconstitutional prerogative but in recent years Governors have, unchallenged, assumed the right to pare appropriations. In the face of this condition the Hon. Holmes voted to make Bluet Speaker of the House. Bluet was the last Member the Governor wanted in that position, and Bluet was the last Member the Hon. Holmes' constituency thought he would vote for. He did, however, and the good Lord only knows how much The Pennsylvania State College suffered in consequence when Governor Pinchot came to paring the appropriation bills that were passed by Members who tried to give State all she needed.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Plans of Campaign Outlined.

The Democratic candidates for State offices met with the executive committee of the State organization, in Philadelphia, last week, for the purpose of outlining a campaign itinerary and considering plans and methods of conducting the campaign. It was tentatively agreed that the State candidates will speak in certain cities all together and between those meetings the candidates will travel separately in order to cover more territory and deliver the message of the party to a greater number of voters. The first meeting, a splendid success, was held in Philadelphia on Monday evening under the auspices of the City committee. A meeting will be held in Pittsburgh October 1 and in Allentown on October 28.

This is a splendid beginning of a campaign to rescue the government of Pennsylvania from the political pirates who have recently bought control of the Republican organization for sinister purposes. It will afford opportunity for all or some of the candidates to come into contact with the voters in every section of the Commonwealth. It will enable speakers of the Democratic party, candidates and others, to hold the mirror of Republican partisan corruption before the eyes of every man, woman and child within the limits of the State. It ought and will make a strong impression on the minds of the voters. It should and may result in the triumphant election of the entire Democratic ticket in November.

This auspicious opening of the campaign should inspire the rank and file of the Democratic party throughout the State to increased activity. In the last analysis the burden of the battle is on the voters who march in the ranks. However worthy the candidates and however earnest and capable the managers the fight will be lost unless the voters of the faith do their part. We know that thousands of honest Republicans will help us in this vital contest. We know that the slush fund has disgraced a majority of the people of Pennsylvania. But there is an old adage that "the Lord helps those who help themselves" and unless we Democrats do our full duty we have no right to expect others to help us.

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Secretary of State Kellogg demands that the bandits who killed Mr. Rosenthal be captured. But suppose they can't be found. General Pershing tried to capture a bunch of Mexican bandits once and failed.

Where Tariff Benefits Go.

During last year, according to statistics recently made public, industrial corporations in this country earned \$4,000,000,000. In commenting upon this fact the Wall Street Journal states that "a flock of fifteen companies presented their happy owners with a clear billion." Curiously enough the Aluminum trust is not included in the published list of corporate money makers. Being composed of a group of smaller corporations may account for this omission, and the fact it is owned largely and controlled entirely by the Mellon family, of Pittsburgh, may have had something to do with it. These Mellons are modest folk and not inclined to boasting of their prosperity.

Based upon the returns of last year and observation of present industrial activities the same statisticians estimate that the corporate earnings this year will reach the vast total of \$4,400,000,000, and presumably the ratio of gains will run about as they did last year, when seventy per cent of the earnings went to one per cent of the population. In other words, the owners of these industrial enterprises put into their pockets seventy dollars for every dollar paid in wages to the workers, who certainly contributed more than that proportion toward the creation of the fund. It is stated that the profits of these concerns ranged from fifty to a hundred per cent of invested capital.

Party Disintegration in Process.

Since Governor Pinchot flatly declared that William S. Vare, who recently purchased the Republican nomination for Senator in Congress, "represents all that is worst in politics" and that "fraud and the protection of criminals are the strength of the Vare organization," shafts have been hurled at the candidate with increasing frequency. Last week while the party candidates were in Pittsburgh, the local party officials were summoned to meet them. In response one of the township Chairmen declined to appear in a letter declaring that he can't stomach Vare and that he and all his friends intend to work and vote for William B. Wilson, the Democratic nominee for Senator.

In Adams county, the other day, the Vice Chairman of the Republican county committee resigned her office giving the reason that she couldn't reconcile her conscience to vote for Vare. Since that incident the party managers offered to hold the initial meeting of the campaign in Scranton, an honor greatly desired by local party managers, but the Scranton leaders declined the offer. During the trip through the western section of the State, Grundy's man in Johnstown arranged to give Vare a complimentary dinner at a Country club near that city. It was an elaborate affair but about half those invited declined to accept or failed to go and the party is hopelessly split on account of it.

All this is interesting because it clearly reflects the reaction of the better element of the party to the slush fund purchase of a party favor by this "representative of the worst in politics." But why the discrimination between Vare and Fisher in measuring the iniquities of boodle campaigning? Fisher's nomination cost the corporation a million dollars more than Vare's cost the bootleggers and protected criminals and besides was acquired by the manipulation of ballots and the falsification of returns after the polls had closed. If one of these men is a greater menace to just government and honest elections than the other it is Mr. Fisher. He knows better.

A graduate of Illinois University laments that young women in co-educational colleges "drink and smoke and misbehave generally." Maybe some of them do. But the evil is not limited to co-educational colleges.

Another Important Opponent.

Senator Lynn J. Frazier, Republican, of North Dakota, is the latest important recruit to the rapidly increasing army of opponents to boodle politics. He declares that "he is thoroughly disgusted with the efforts of rich men to buy their way into the United States Senate." The three million dollar slush fund disbursed for the nomination of Mr. Vare, of Pennsylvania, has disgusted a good many others. But Senator Frazier adds that "he and other independent Republicans in the Senate will line up with the Democrats in opposition to the seating of Representative William S. Vare, of Pennsylvania, and Colonel Frank S. Smith, of Illinois, should they be elected to the Senate in November."

This is encouraging information to those of the voters throughout the country who believe in honest elections and favor clean and just government. It indicates that the canker of party bigotry is not so deeply laid or so firmly set as the machine politicians believe. The experience of Newberry ought to have taught them this lesson, but it appears to have failed of this result. If Vare and Smith are refused the seats they have thus purchased it is not likely that money will be wasted in that way in the future. Even easily acquired wealth will not be thrown away in the face of a certainty that it is a futile investment. "That is a consummation devoutly to be wished."

But it is not the sanest or safest way to resent the outrage upon the people of Pennsylvania perpetrated by William S. Vare or in his behalf. It might retard the machine managers of Pennsylvania from an impulse to buy seats in the Senate, but it will not restrain them from buying nominations for Governor or other offices they or their servile tools may aspire to hold. To get the best results of an effort to rebuke the corrupt machine the candidates whose nominations were purchased at so vast a price must be defeated at the polls in November. Such a result will strike at the seat of the disease and put an end to it forever. Elect William B. Wilson and Eugene C. Bonniwell.

Unless the signs are misleading Congressman Vare's vote in November will be disappointing to him.

Right Purpose but Dubious Plan.

The State Chamber of Commerce is organizing a movement to secure, by legislation, a decrease in local taxes, according to information which comes from Harrisburg. It is a laudable purpose if it can be accomplished without impairment of local municipal progress. "For every dollar saved in Washington since 1921," one of the leaders in the movement is reported to have said, "State and local taxes have increased two dollars." The saving in Washington has been a natural and necessary process. The ending of the world war cut out the vast expenses incident to the prosecution of such a conflict and diminution of expenses are measured by that circumstance.

If local taxation may be reduced by a similar process it would be a splendid achievement. Alike in the State, most of the cities and some of the boroughs and townships, there is a redundancy of officials whose salaries eat up a good part of the revenues. Cutting out all the paid sinecurists in these municipal divisions would put expenses on a much lower level and justify a proportionate reduction in taxes. But it is not certain that the State Chamber of Commerce contemplates such a plan of achievement. The tone of its propaganda points in another direction. It conveys the impression that the State, the cities, the boroughs and townships are wasting money on development projects.

The people of Pennsylvania have no objection to paying taxes necessary for good schools, good sanitation, good roads and streets and good government economically administered. If the present rate of local taxation is necessary to guarantee those beneficiaries the people are content to pay them. But they object to paying taxes levied, not for public purposes, but to distribute unearned largesses among certain favorites, those who contribute liberally to the party slush fund. This is the purpose and effect of the protective tariff tax which is a prime favorite of most of those who compose the State Chamber of Commerce. That is the tax that ought to be cut out first of all.

A dahlia flower on exhibition in the Watchman office window during the past week has attracted considerable attention because of its unusual size and beauty. It is six inches in diameter and in color a blend of pinkish red and orange. The flower is from a plant at the home of W. Harrison Walker, Esq., on East Linn street, and is known as the "Judge Mary Ann." The flower grows as large as eight inches in diameter and is very prolific. Mr. Walker secured the bulb last spring and so far this season he has cut twenty-two fully developed flowers from the stalk and it still contains sixty-eight partially opened flowers and buds.

The Watchman has nothing to say in its news columns about Mantell's appearance here Monday night, simply because Mantell's art needs no praise from us. We are proud of Bellefonte, however, and want to say so. The gratifyingly large and intelligently appreciative audience that greeted the eminent tragedian assures us that the culture of our beloved town is something more than mere tradition.

With St. Louis almost certain of winning the National league pennant it would have made the base ball season perfect for us if Cleveland could have nosed the Yanks out in the American race. We're not against the eastern teams. Only we don't believe it is good for the game to have them "hog" it.

The Susquehanna baseball league season came to a premature end after only one game had been played to decide the league championship between Jersey Shore and Bellefonte.

Secretary Mellon is home from Europe and protests that he didn't talk politics or debts while abroad. Those wicked reporters who said he did ought to be "drawn and quartered."

The Governor declares he is still in the fight and supports his statement by appointing his supporters to office whenever he can.

Billy Tilden held the tennis championship for a long time and his defeat the other day should admonish Dempsey to "watch his step."

The Daugherty trial is making slow progress but shows that the industry of stealing evidence has been unusually active lately.

The Sesqui was wide open on Sunday, notwithstanding the injunction of the Dauphin county court.

A Woman Speaks Her Mind.

An Open Letter from Mrs. Lillie D. Berkeley, Philadelphia, to the Democratic Watchman.

At no time since their enfranchisement has a greater responsibility of citizenship confronted the women of Pennsylvania than now, in this campaign, when the determination rests largely with them whether or not a mockery of the ballot—the bulwark of our free institutions—shall be made by the wholesome purchase and sale of votes and the filling of our executive and representative offices with men staggering under heavy obligations to promoters of legislation for predatory interests.

It is the imperative duty of women, irrespective of party affiliations, to fight honestly and courageously for the preservation of faith in our representative form of government and the purity of the ballot, because it cannot be denied that recent primary and general elections have been conducted in such high-handed manner by corrupt machine politicians that the confidence of thousands and tens of thousands has been shaken in the efficacy of our elective system to such an extent that they are thoroughly convinced it is absolutely useless to go to the polls on election days.

It has been long a well-known fact that comparatively few people work for the Republican party in campaigns without being paid for their services. From careful observation of the methods employed in the Republican primaries last May it is quite evident the same mercenary spirit is prevalent among a very large proportion of Republicans relative to voting. Why, it is reliably reported, many in the city of Philadelphia are even demanding a price to register. What a fine commentary upon the political conditions prevailing in this year of the Sesqui-Centennial celebration of American independence!

Every effort made by Governor Pinchot toward revision of the election laws of Pennsylvania to insure honest primary and general elections was thwarted and defeated in the late extra session of the Legislature by the same Republican influences responsible for the nominations of William S. Vare for Senator and John S. Fisher for Governor.

What shall be the stand taken on the situation today by the women of Pennsylvania? Are they going to stultify their professions of clean politics by supporting these candidates? We have in corruption of State and national elections an issue in this campaign which transcends in importance all other economic problems coming up for solution before the voters in November. And we have candidates free from even a suspicion of control by the exploiting agencies of a ravenous plutocracy.

The excellence of the entire personnel of the Democratic State ticket has never been surpassed in campaigns of the past, and no man or woman in this great Commonwealth who honestly believes that the honor of Pennsylvania should be redeemed from the stigma placed upon her fair name by the scandalous use of a \$3,000,000 slush fund to corrupt the electorate and buy special interests can conscientiously refuse to vote for Wilson, Bonniwell, Hackett and Murphy. No Democrat should be delinquent in his or her duty in this respect.

The clean personal characters and honorable public careers of these candidates commend them to the support of every self-respecting Pennsylvanian.

Wild West in the East.

The Wild West has moved East. In Cheyenne, where bad men used to shoot up the town, the speed cop now distributes tags for wrong parking. The pop-pop-pop that once notified that bandits were shooting it out with the stage coach guards, now means that a motorist passing through town with his muffler open will have a chance to tell it to the Judge in the morning. And where Black Bart staged his melo-dramatic hold-ups the most desperate offenders nowadays are the motorists who stop by the roadside to swipe a hatful of fruit from an orchard.

But the seeker for thrills need not go without them. It is only necessary to look elsewhere. Chicago puts on a shooting fest at more or less regular intervals, and it is a poor match that does not bag a prosecutor or a few policemen. And in New York one day's record shows a detective shot dead by a prisoner, a storekeeper probably fatally wounded by a robber, who in turn was killed by the policeman. The only thing lacking to make it a typical success was the lack of a couple of innocent bystanders as victims.

The Wild West in its palmyest days could not outdo the present performances. The only difference is that the bad men are found no longer in the great open stretches, but now back in the bright light of the Great White Ways.

The registration in Philadelphia was larger on the second than on the first day but is still considerably short of other years.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

William Ritter, aged 38, a farmer near Loysville, committed suicide by hanging in a barn.

The Lewistown & Reedsville Electric Railway entertained 3000 children at Kishacoquillas Park.

McClure's twenty-fifth annual bean soup and home coming celebration will be held September 24 and 25.

While attempting to pass another automobile, George Shellenberger, 22, of Richfield, Juniata county, was thrown from his motorcycle when it collided with an automobile approaching from the opposite direction near Liverpool, on Sunday, and was almost instantly killed.

To a lapse of memory Frank White, of Mount Carmel, believes he owes his life. He forgot to set his alarm clock and as a result he was not called in time for work. On that day there was an explosion in the shaft of the mine where he worked and three men were killed, all fellow employees.

E. L. Grubb, aged 25, of Danville, has been held in default of \$10,000 bail following a hearing on Friday night, on a charge of padding the payroll of the American Swedo Iron company. Officials of the company, which employed Grubb as a clerk, said \$9200 had been misappropriated in the last three years.

Robert Simons and Joseph O'Brien, Patton youths, were convicted of second degree murder, in court at Ebensburg, on charges growing out of the death of Elizabeth Bogan, also of Patton. Frank Coutercaux, a companion, had previously been convicted of manslaughter in connection with the girl's death.

Roy Miner, former treasurer of the B. N. Thayer carriage works, at Erie, on Tuesday pleaded guilty to the embezzlement of about \$14,000 of the firm's funds and was sentenced to from one and one-half years to three years in the Western penitentiary. Miner disappeared about a year ago and recently was arrested at the Canadian border and taken back to Erie for trial.

And now comes the lowly crab apple as an assistant for new honours, Mrs. Margaret Myers, of Lock Haven, has a tree of this variety which is producing fruit more than three inches in diameter. The average crab apple is small and usually finds its way into jelly, but the fruit on the Myers tree is declared to be juicy and tender. This year the tree produced its first crop.

Enraged when a jury imposed the costs on him in a case in which he was the prosecutor, John Stossel, of Spangler, buried two pocketbooks at the bench in the Ebensburg court house, on Saturday, nearly striking Judge S. L. Emmon Reed. Stossel was promptly arraigned before Judge Reed and sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and serve 10 days in jail as a result of his conduct.

Declaring that a defendant's constitutional rights are violated when he is compelled to submit to a doctor's examination after arrest on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, Judges U. E. Rossiter and W. E. Hirt, acting jointly, at Erie last Thursday ruled that in the future the court will not hear testimony from the doctor that he had been forcing drivers to undergo such an examination and then putting the doctors on the stand is but another way of making a man testify against himself.

The 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Boone, of Tylersville, died of tetanus at her parents' home on Sunday, the result of infection which developed within the past ten days. The child was playing in the barn at their home, and bruised her scalp on the prong of a pitchfork. The wound healed rapidly, and it was not thought necessary to call a physician until several days ago, when the child became ill, and when a doctor was summoned tetanus in an advanced stage was found to have developed.

Taking advantage of the noise made by passing freight trains, burglars on Friday night broke into the Hotel Lairy at Lairy's station, near Allentown, and stole the 400-pound safe of Landlord Cassie Snyder. The hotel is a popular roadhouse doing a large business. By auto the thieves transported the safe to Clear Springs Dam, a lonely spot two miles away, where they cracked it with sledge stonem from a tool house. It is estimated they found about \$300. The hotel's telephone wires were cut and the tires of the automobiles belonging to the landlord and boarders deflated.

At a meeting of the directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad company at Philadelphia, Wednesday, the Mann's Narrows improvement project, costing \$180,000 and eliminating two railway crossings at grade, two reverse curves and other objectionable features was decided upon. The overhead crossing of the main line of the railroad east of the Lewistown passenger station, another very dangerous spot, especially since the Viscose company has built its model village on the opposite side of the railroad from Lewistown will be eliminated at a cost of \$180,000. Both improvements will be started within the next two weeks.

Dynamite, placed against a door of Frank P. Marino's plumbing and hardware store, in Hazleton early on Sunday, blew in the doors, broke the big show windows, damaged plumbing and hardware fixtures inside and smashed a number of windows in nearby stores. The Marino family live in apartments above the store. No one was injured but several residents of the vicinity were thrown from their beds. Marino is a member of the Hazleton city school board. The police were unable to learn any reason for the dynamiting and Marino has refrained from talking of the occurrence. It was reported, however, that he had recently received threatening letters.

Computation of earning power in a compensation claim has been officially declared difficult when the claimant is a prisoner by an opinion of the State Compensation Commission. The finding was made in adjudicating the claim of James Hancock, of Pittsburgh, who received compensation for an injury some time ago, but made claim of still feeling effects after returning to work. The referee held Hancock was still partially disabled but that his present earning power could not be very well estimated, as since execution of the agreement to pay compensation Hancock had been sent to the Western Penitentiary on a sentence of from nine to eighteen years and is now earning only ten cents a day by waiting on tables.