

Democratic Matchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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INK SLINGS.

Jack Dempsey has asked for a chance to regain his title, but he never will. The reason that so few do a full day's work these times is that so few know what a full day's work is. Gene Tunney isn't the only "fighting marine" who has made Philadelphia his battle ground. There was Smedley Butler, you know. Look out, Hon. Holmes! This has been a bad year for champions. And you are certainly the champion political palaverer of the county. Senator William I. Betts has served the district well in the State Senate and should be sent back to Harrisburg for another term. We don't know how many county fairs have been held in the country this fall but we do know that everyone of them has been "the greatest." France is sticking an olive branch out toward Germany, but Germany is not to be permitted to touch it until she admits she started the war. Over in New York the Republicans have adopted a dry plank for their platform. Here in Pennsylvania some of them have adopted Vare. Here's hoping that Centre county's vote next month will be a complete repudiation of Vare and all those who are sticking to him for purely political reasons. The football season has started, and getting a turkey to celebrate its close is the least of our troubles. Our table hasn't seen a Thanksgiving bird for so long that we rarely think about it, much less, look for it. Just by way of setting the "Afro-American" pastor of the local flock right we want to admit that we would make as damnable a mess of weather making as we said his brethren would. And we have never made any statement to the contrary. Election day is only a little over four weeks off and the time is growing short for those of our Republican friends who are halting between love of party and duty to conscience to make up their minds as to what they are going to do about Vare. We congratulate the writer on one of our local papers who was "frisked" of fifty dollars last Saturday night. A country newspaper man who has fifty smackers in his jeans at one time is certainly one to be envied by his professional brethren. Governor Pothier, of Rhode Island, suggests that each person throughout the country who listened to the big fight by radio give ten cents toward the Florida relief fund. He estimates it would yield \$5,000,000 and it is certainly an appealing proposition. The death of T. Larry Eyre removes a conspicuous figure from the political arena in Pennsylvania. The Senator was a politician only and played the game for the gratification he got out of leadership. Whatever question may be raised about his other standing in the Republican councils of the State there will be none to challenge our statement that he was ever their sartorial dandy. Dempsey made more friends in a few seconds in Philadelphia, last Thursday night, than he had made in all his ring career. With the crown knocked off his head, battered and bleeding, he congratulated his conqueror in a manner that left no doubt as to his sincerity. We hadn't expected that from the "Manassa Mauler" and it struck the first spark of admiration we have ever had for him. The Republican nominee for Governor said, before the primary, that the only platform the Republican nominee for United States Senator has is "a beer mug." This same Republican nominee for Governor is now urging you to vote for his "beer mugged" platform colleague. Vare is bad enough, but it seems to us that Fisher is worse, since for the sole purpose of getting himself elected he will smilingly swallow in November what he gagged at in May. If you are a Republican and you can't stomach Vare and feel that party regularity urges you to hold your nose, close your eyes and vote for him, think of this. In 1911, when your regular party organization was trying to elect George H. Earle Mayor of Philadelphia Vare felt no obligation on the ground of regularity to his party. Because he had been defeated for the nomination by Earle he bolted the ticket and fought him to the finish. This is not mere conjecture. It is a fact, because Vare, himself, testified before the Senate investigating committee that he was not regular in 1911. Because we have heard mutterings that indicate that the students of our local schools must be absorbing Bolshevik ideas from some source and are considering walking out on their teachers we want to invite the parents of the recalcitrants into a new society we think ought to be organized. We will call it the Association of Parental Paddlers of Bellefonte. No initiation will be charged. The only eligibility requirements will be a strong right arm, a hickory paddle and a will to wield it. The first meeting of the Association should be held on the plaza in front of the school house at the time the kids stage their walk-out.

Danger Signal Posted.

"If ever a ticket needed the support of all Republicans in the State, it needs it now," E. E. Beidleman, of Harrisburg, declared in a speech delivered before a Republican mass meeting in Delaware county, the other day. This expresses exactly the state of alarm which pervades the state fund organization. There is no confidence of victory anywhere. The vast majority in past contests and the preponderant registration in the big cities give no assurance of the election of John S. Fisher and William S. Vare in November. And it is not certain that even Mr. Beidleman wants them elected. Dependable information from Harrisburg indicates that his friends will not support the ticket. Early returns of the primary vote shows that Mr. Beidleman had a considerable majority but that result was so repugnant to Joseph R. Grundy that ballot boxes in Pittsburgh were rifled, ballots thrown into sewers and between the closing of the books and the filing of returns enough ballots were altered or disposed of to give Mr. Fisher a majority and the certificate of nomination. Mr. Beidleman knew he was cheated and appealed to the courts for protection. But either because he despaired of justice or was reconciled to the crime by promises of future favors he withdrew his appeal to the courts. In his testimony before the Senate slushfund committee, however, he reiterated his charge of fraud. In holding up a danger signal before the voters of his party Mr. Beidleman may be rendering good service to the organization that robbed him of his most cherished hope. It is literally true that every vote of the party will be needed to consummate the corrupt bargain between Joe Grundy and the candidates which cost so much money that the people of every party in every section of the country were shocked. But thousands of Republicans will not respond to the call even though great sums of money will be wasted in efforts to entice them. These thousands are already declaring their purpose to vote for Eugene C. Bonniwell, for Governor, and William B. Wilson for Senator. The apple crop this year, according to official reports, will be equal to three a day for every man, woman and child. If an apple a day keeps the doctor away that ought to drive them clear out of the country.

The Daugherty Conspiracy.

The trial of Harry M. Daugherty, Attorney General in the Harding administration and Thomas W. Miller, then Alien Property Custodian, on the charge of conspiracy, has not only developed some startling facts, but has exposed to the lay mind many of the difficulties and some of the intricacies of criminal court proceedings. Accused with Daugherty and Miller were a German agent named Merton, a man named King and Jesse Smith an intimate of Daugherty. Smith committed suicide before any exposure had been made and King died soon after his indictment. Yet the details of the transaction had to be traced through them to Daugherty and Miller to establish a case. Merton, under promise of immunity, testified that he had paid King in currency and Liberty bonds a large sum of money to procure favors from the government bureaus controlled by Daugherty and Miller. To connect the payment to King with the accused it was necessary to trace the Liberty bonds through broker's banks of exchange and deposit in New York, Washington, Cincinnati and Washington Court House, Ohio, where Mr. Daugherty's brother was head of a bank through which some of the money and bonds passed. By this serpentine route a chain of evidence leading to Miller was established. Proof that evidence was destroyed in the Daugherty bank at Washington Court House was also brought out. Though Merton was a government witness under agreement his sympathies were plainly with the defendants. He acknowledged that he paid King the price asked for services but protested the claim was just and the transaction legitimate. He was anxious for speed and willing to pay the exorbitant fee, to save time, which could not have been more than four or five months, if the claim had really been just. The trial has been dragging along for four or five weeks and at every turn has shown wonderful painstaking preparation. If it fails of its purpose it will be because the defense has been as zealous and persevering as the prosecution and that is saying a good deal. An economy expert says that a thirst for knowledge costs less in the long run than a thirst for beer.

Coolidge Opposes Tax Reduction

The President is very much opposed to discussing the question of tax reduction at this time. He can see no political advantage in such a movement two years in advance of a Presidential campaign. The last cut was not made according to the specifications drawn up by Secretary Mellon under the supervision of Mr. Coolidge and it caused considerable uneasiness for a time. But adverse conditions have been adjusted and the President wants to "let well enough alone." But some of the Democrats in Congress and out take a different view of the subject. They think that whenever it is possible to save money for the people it is the right thing to do it. The most helpful influence in a Presidential campaign is a cut in taxation by the party in power. Two years ago the Coolidge administration laid the foundation of their successful campaign by declaring for a three hundred million dollar tax reduction. The plan was to make that cut in 1924 and another but smaller one this year for the Congressional election. The Democrats had no partisan interest in the matter but discerned that half a billion cut might safely be made and offered a bill to that effect. Thereupon Coolidge and Mellon had something like a conniption fit and declared that any cut over \$300,000,000 would jeopardize the solvency of the government. A \$400,000,000 cut was made and at the end of the fiscal year there was a surplus of over \$200,000,000. The administration plan now is to make no cut this year and thus create a big surplus which would enable Mr. Coolidge to recommend a big cut during the session of the next Congress. There may be voters who can be fooled in that way. There are a few left who believe that tariff taxation protects labor, and such credulity is liable to work any result. But the President will not be permitted to have his own way in this instance. The Democrats in Congress will introduce a tax reduction bill and press its passage with such force and persistency that even the administration may be compelled to yield. The people are entitled to tax reduction to the limit and Democrats in Congress will see they get it. The Odd Fellows propose to do better than most benevolent orders in the matter of education. They will create a fund to send any child of the order through college. Selfish Leadership. It is true that during the primary campaign W. L. Mellon, now chairman of the Republican State Committee, held William S. Vare up to ridicule and declared that he was unfit for Senator. It is equally certain that Senator David Reed declared that the election of Vare would serve as a setback to the industries of the State. All the leading Republican newspapers of the State expressed the same opinion in the event of Vare's nomination. In fact in view of the unanimity among decent Republicans on the subject it seems almost incredible that Vare was nominated at all. Only the vast slush fund and the rally of the bootleggers made it possible. But the Republican newspapers and the Republican statesmen who so freely denounced Vare before the primary have changed their views on the subject. They are now of the opinion that William S. Vare is a very worthy man who deserves the hearty support of all his party associates. He has acquired influence by corrupt use of the ballot and wealth by favoritism in contracts. It is charged that he has been for years a protector of criminals. But as the candidate of his party all his iniquities must be overlooked in order to keep the organization intact to protect the graft of the bigger fellows. In any event Vare is precisely like the others of the machine. There is not a particle of difference between William S. Vare and William L. Mellon. Vare operates in "the neck" in Philadelphia and Mellon in "the strip" in Pittsburgh and they are equally guilty of crimes against the ballot. Mellon hasn't been in the game quite as long but he has certainly cut ice since his uncle was let into the secret of using public means for achieving ends. Mellon is in the present campaign to buy votes for his party because it means profit to himself. A more selfish leadership was never revealed in Pennsylvania. The horrible accident which attended the attempt to fly from New York to Paris is made more shocking by a charge that it was the result of incompetence. The campaign is now on and every Democrat in Centre county must do his full share of work.

Expert's Opinion of Tariff.

For more than six months a labor strike has been in progress in the woolen mills at Passaic, New Jersey. The strikers have shown that the labor cost per yard of material for a \$40 suit is less than a dollar, and have asked an increase of ten per cent in wages. The tariff tax on the fabric is seventy-three cents a yard, and immediately following the President's approval of the Fordney-McCumber tariff law the price of the cloth to consumers was increased twenty per cent. Thus it is shown that while tariff taxation affords no advantage to labor it vastly increases the profits of the manufacturer and correspondingly adds to the expenses of the consumer. Mr. W. J. Lauck, a widely known economist, recently made an investigation of the effect of high protective tariff taxation on labor and wages, the conflict in Passaic, New Jersey, being the basis. As a result of his inquiry Mr. Lauck draws four definite conclusions: "That the 73 per cent woolen and worsted tariff does not add to the well being of the workers and is a positive detriment to the consumer through increased prices; that labor and the consumers are robbed through the manufacturers absorbing the benefit of special tariff law privileges in high profits; that wages are not responsible for the increase in the price of fabrics and that increase of wages need not result in higher prices." Thus the false pretense that tariff taxation aids wage earners is refuted by an expert who supports his statements by scientifically proved facts. It never has served any purpose in this country except to rob the poor to benefit the rich and provide excessive profits to favored manufacturers that they may be the better able to buy nominations for servile tools. As the Locomotive Engineer's Journal declares: "Lauck's analysis is a crushing reply to the Republican full dinner pail orators who insist that high tariffs aid workers as well as manufacturers. Passaic stands as a classic example that absurdly high tariff walls inclose miserable labor conditions which should not be tolerated." Following last week's unusually warm weather Centre county got the tail end of a western storm on Saturday evening with the result that the thermometer dropped more than forty degrees and by Monday morning was down to thirty-eight above zero. Fortunately it was quite cloudy and no frost resulted. Last year's first frost of any consequence occurred on October 8th. Talking About Dahlias. It would seem that the embargo on importation of dahlia bulbs into this country need not be looked upon with dread by local fanciers of the popular garden flower. Several weeks ago we attempted a description of the dahlia beds of Miss Sara Love, of Reynolds avenue. Her hundred and eighty plants comprised a bewildering variety of color and size. Later W. Harrison Walker Esq. brought to this office a dahlia of his own cultivation that was so unusual in size and shade as to attract the attention of scores of people passing the window in which it was placed. P. B. Hartman, of Willowbank street, was one of those to admire it, but his interest was more than mere admiration of a beautiful flower. He is a fancier, also, and to prove it, presented us with several white specimens that were really wonderful in size and formation. We presume that there are many others interested in the cultivation of dahlias, but even if there were not the three mentioned will probably have enough bulbs to keep the flower from becoming extinct in this community, if the embargo on the imported ones is maintained for some time to come. Regular court sessions in Bellefonte these days do not mean as much for the hotels as they did years ago. Before the advent of the automobile jurors and witnesses came here on Monday and remained until court adjourned. Now the majority of them motor to Bellefonte in the morning, park their car near the court house and as soon as court adjourns for the day motor home for the night. Their only expense in Bellefonte is for a lunch at noontime. Some fellow has assured chairman Mellon that if Vare is elected he will be seated. It must have been the same fellow who assured Dempsey he would win the fight. It is said that the roar of the ringside crowd in Philadelphia was heard in London. The radio may be especially sensitive to the lamentations of losers.

Vare's Hammering of Republicans.

From the Pittsburgh Post. The fight between the Vare and Anti-Vare Republicans of the State is increasing in fury. Now the Vare campaign committee has reached the point where it not only is hammering the present Republican tariff law, accusing it of lending itself to conspiracy against the industries of Pennsylvania through letting in a flood of imports, but also recalls the horrors of the panic of 1893 that came at the beginning of the second Cleveland administration under the McKinley Republican tariff law that remained in force until August 27, 1894. Next the Vare committee probably will "tear into" the Dingley Republican tariff law under which came the panic of 1907 under the Roosevelt administration, with the business of the country left in a state of depression for years. It probably will go on until it emphasizes that every financial panic and practically every depression in this country for more than fifty years came under Republican tariff laws. The Republican brethren may be left to settle this wrangle over their own tariff laws among themselves. Meanwhile the Democrats, after pointing out that this country has had a protective tariff law for 137 years, regardless of what party was in power, recognizes that the tariff is not everything. They point out that panics have come at times from an inadequate or wornout financial system, wild speculation or development beyond demand. It was a Democratic administration that put an end to the financial panics that had been troubling the country under Republican administrations or legislation. The Federal Reserve system enacted by a Democratic administration has proved to be one of the most important boons to business. Then the Democrats also allow that in the matter of prosperity some credit is due the natural resources of the country and the ingenuity and energy of the people. They would not be surprised to hear that the development of electric power and such new industries as that of the automobile and such principles as that of mass production have something to do with the promotion of prosperity. Nor would it entirely astonish them to hear that this country's coming into the position of creditor Nation of the world may bring some changes in its viewpoint. The main thing for the voters of the State to keep in mind is the warning given them by Senator David A. Reed that Vare knows nothing of the subjects of statesmanship and that the industries of the State would receive a setback if he were sent to Washington. The Vare attempt to picture the South and the West as in conspiracy against Pennsylvania industries is proof either of lack of understanding or intellectual dishonesty. The South and West also have industries and it is but common sense that they want to promote business instead of doing anything to restrict it. William B. Wilson, the Father of the Department of Labor, would be an ideal representative of this industrial State in the United States Senate. No one dares to say that he is incapable of dealing with the subjects of statesmanship. He would be a credit to his State and his Nation as a Senator. Should the prosperity of the State be threatened, Wilson would be an infinitely better man than Vare to have in the Senate. He would know what to do and how to do it. So let attempt to becloud the issue distract attention from the utter unfitness of Vare to go to the Senate with his nomination under the taint of an \$800,000 "slush fund." One Way to Fight Vare. From the Kansas City Star. There is no indication that William S. Vare and Colonel Frank B. Smith, beneficiaries of the vast campaign funds revealed in the Senate investigation, are disposed to get off the tickets to which they are nominated. They are said to have refused appeals from national Republican leaders to withdraw and permit new names to be put on the Senatorial tickets. They have been indifferent to threats that they will be rejected if they are elected and ask to be seated. The Democrats of Illinois and Pennsylvania like this attitude of Vare and Smith. Some of them even believe the Pennsylvania Democrats in particular are going to make a real fight. They are more encouraged than ever since Governor Pinchot indicated he would oppose Vare. The organized miners of the State have been consistent followers of Pinchot. It is believed the great majority of this following will support William B. Wilson, the Democratic nominee, who was President Wilson's Secretary of Labor and is in good standing in labor circles and in the State generally. At any rate, with such a man as Wilson as an alternative, the voters of Pennsylvania need not stay away from the polls to show their opposition to Vare. In spite of Pennsylvania's traditionally solid Republicanism, it may not relish sending a man like Vare to the Senate. It has broken away from the Republican party in electing Governors. It would be a startling turnover to elect a Democrat this year, in view of the long line of Republican victories, yet it might happen.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Returning from school last Friday evening, John Paul Jones, seven years old, attempted to climb on a heavy coal truck at Crescon and was instantly killed when he fell under the wheels. Victor Lou Pitchford, of Conemaugh, and Kenneth Eugene Berkey, of Johnstown, have been nominated for admission to West Point from the Twentieth Pennsylvania congressional district. Pitchford was named as principal and Berkey as first alternate. The members of the First Presbyterian church of Tyrone on Sunday morning raised through subscription, seventy-six thousand dollars toward their new church, now in course of construction. This amount came from less than half of the membership. "I thought he might do that," said Miss Anna Lutenberger, of Lancaster, when she learned that Carl Wilkin returned their marriage license a few hours before they were to have been wed. He got his money back, although there was no precedent directing the marriage license clerk to make the refund. Raw and finished silk to the value of \$25,000 was stolen from the mill of McBride Brothers, at Fullerton, near Allentown, last Friday morning. The watchman was handcuffed to a loom and four men removed the silk to a waiting automobile. They entered the mill by breaking a rear window and attacked the watchman on his rounds. A Lester Sheffer, general superintendent of the National Limestone company, located at Schrader, eleven miles northwest of Lewistown, fired a blast last Thursday night that contained five carloads of dynamite, 175 tons, and it is estimated that it loosened 250,000 tons of limestone rock so that it can be worked by the steam shovel. This quarry is now shipping 2,000 tons of broken stone daily. When Miss Anna Day, of Uniontown, a juror in the case of Richard Ronsinger, of Brownsville, charged with the sale of liquor, attacks on girls and operating a gambling house declared audibly "That's right" as the counsel for the defense was scoring the testimony given by girls against Ronsinger. Judge Henderson directed that the woman be dismissed from further jury duty and the case was decided by 11 jurors. Ronsinger was acquitted. Howard Macklin, one of the directors of the McVeystown National bank, says that "earnings" of the bank had induced an audit last January 1, which developed the fact that J. E. Rupert, the cashier, had been deducting the sum of \$200 a month from the earnings' profits from the sale of securities and from the interest accounts for the last seven months, or a total loss of \$1500. The money taken by the cashier will not affect the standing of the bank, as he is bonded for \$10,000. Russell Berger, of Elk avenue, Ridgeway, was the victim of a strange assault Thursday night, when he gave a man a ride in his car from Johnsonburg to Ridgeway. Berger was on his way home when a man at the roadside asked for a ride. Berger took the stranger into his car and the men conversed until the car was near Ridgeway, when the man said he would get out of the car. When the car stopped he slashed Berger across the face with a knife and ran across the Pennsylvania railroad tracks nearby. Rev. Park W. Huntingdon, of Jersey Shore, Pa., has accepted a call to the pastorate of St. Stephen's church, of Wilmington, Del. His first sermon will be delivered on November 7. Mr. Huntingdon is thirty years old and married and has had much success in building up the church in Jersey Shore. He is a former army chaplain and served in France during the war. He is a post commander of the American Legion in Jersey Shore and during the summer served as a chaplain in the reserve officers' corps at Camp Meade. So eager were many young men of the Third Presbyterian Sunday school of Uniontown to gain entrance to the church on Sunday for rally day exercises that they climbed through windows into the classrooms. The attendance was 2,000. When the late comers arrived at the church they found the church auditorium and Sunday school rooms so crowded with men, women and children that they were unable to gain an entrance in the usual way. They attracted attention of classmates who sat near the windows and helped them through. The drug firm of N. H. Shearer and company, Incorporated, is made the defendant in a suit for \$10,000 damages instituted in common pleas court in York county by Margaret A. Zaner, as the result of the death of Philip A. Altland, of Cincinnati, Ohio, father of the plaintiff, alleged to have caused by taking a dose of camphorated oil said to have been sold to Mr. Altland by an employee of the Shearer company as castor oil. Mrs. Zaner says she received from her father \$1,000 a year, of which she is now deprived caused by the mistake of the clerk. Two bolts of lightning struck the barn and house of John Fern, of Frosty Valley, near Bloomsburg, late Saturday night and burned them to the ground. The loss is estimated at several thousand dollars and there is little insurance. The cattle were in the field at the time and the horses were taken out of the barn. The buildings between the house and barn, 80 yards apart, were not damaged. The family had been at a wedding during the afternoon and Mr. Fern had returned home when he saw the storm coming. He just arrived as lightning struck the barn, and a few minutes later a second bolt struck the house. Indictments were returned by a Federal grand jury at Erie, last week, against twelve persons in and near Johnstown, in a "check kiting" scheme which is said to have involved numerous banks and run into several million dollars. Exposure of the alleged fraud by bank examiners is said to have caused banks a financial loss of \$100,000. Those indicted on two charges, violating the postal laws and a state banking law in misapplication of funds of the First National Bank of Hollisport are: Martha V. Jones, former assistant cashier of the First National Bank at Hollisport; C. F. Wilson, William Mooney, John R. Roemer and D. R. Simpson, all of Johnstown, Pa. Others indicted on charges of violating the postal laws are: Fred F. Sprengel, W. H. C. Sprengel, F. S. Shuman, Frank J. Gabriel, Harry Walters, Joseph Eisenberg and Sam Silverman. The case will be tried in Pittsburgh in November.