

INK SLINGS.

When your feet grow large and your shoes seem small And the robins begin to sing And the grass crops up with a lawn mower call Oh joy! Be gosh, its Spring.

—Its dying. Only once this week have we seen the word jazz on the front page of any of the metropolitan journals that come to our desk.

—After all, the onion's is not such an unhappy lot. It gets stuck only one or two months in the year. All of the twelve are open season for human suckers.

—The nine year old lad who called Chief Justice Taft from his duties in court in order to shake hands with him has the nerve that will get him somewhere, though it may be the jail.

—The Senate Committee on Elections has reported out the Governor's ballot bills but that doesn't guarantee their passage through both chambers. There are only a few big city Senators on that committee.

—While Soviet Russia is celebrating the deliverance of China from "foreign domination" it might explain to the world how its interference in China's affairs escapes classification as "foreign domination."

—Of course we don't wish Judge Furst any bad luck, but if he is superstitious at all he had better cross his fingers. The history of the judiciary of Centre county shows no case where an appointed Judge has succeeded in succeeding himself by election.

—Some time ago a lot of pigs were stolen from the penitentiary at Rockview. A few nights ago somebody undertook to "blow" the safe in the business office there. Don't be surprised if some morning you are informed that the electric chair has been toted out of the death house.

—In his eminently commendable decision in the Browning—"Peaches" Heenan separation suit Justice Seeger of the New York Supreme court, has taken much of the gold out of "gold diggers." It will be a wholesome lesson to girls who trade on figure and face to gain fine clothes and lazy, luxurious indolence. The city is that there was no punishment that might have cringed some admonition to the Brownings, as well.

—Governor Fisher returned from his over Sunday visit to the Mellon club house at Rolling Rock very uncertain as to what would become of his election reform bills now before the Legislature. The Governor's admission is discouraging. Even though we opposed his election we thought John Fisher a strong enough man, especially when backed by the power of the patronage at his command, to be a real Governor of Pennsylvania.

—The new Secretary of Health for Pennsylvania has announced a cure for "spring fever." He prescribes "exercise and plenty of fresh air, with plenty of work, a goodly dash of play, eight hours of sleep and the consumption of more fruit and vegetables." One wouldn't have to hold his nose to down such a tonic, but how much more enticing it would have been had the solicitous Secretary advised the public to follow it with a chaser of antique Appel juice.

—Talking about gardening. We always listen with suspicion to the stories of the early gardeners who tell us of having "just dug up a little patch for lettuce and onions." We don't believe them. If they dug up a little patch it was with the hope of finding a few angle worms to be canned against the fifteenth of April.

—It is rumored that the Keystone Power is to put another rate reduction schedule into effect about May 1. Speaking as one of a number of consumers who found that the last "reduction" actually raised our rate nearly thirty per cent. we are not going to celebrate because of this rumor until we discover what we are to celebrate for. The proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof, so we shall wait until the bill comes in on May 1st before we believe that the good news is anything else than a snare and a delusion.

—Aaron Sapiro's attempt to pry a million dollars out of Henry Ford by exploiting the Jewish race has failed. Judge Hammond, of the Michigan courts, has ruled that alleged malice of Ford toward Jews, as a whole, cannot be brought into Sapiro's libel suit against Ford's paper, The Dearborn Independent. We might be wrong, as we very often are, but we see little else to this litigation than an attempt to get money from a person whom every man or woman who could possibly be called to jury duty knows could well afford to be separated from a million or so.

—Charles P. Long, of Spring Mills, has announced that he would like to be the Republican nominee for County Treasurer. Former Sheriff W. E. Hurley will probably make an announcement, ere long, that he, also, aspires to that honor and opportunity. As County Commissioner, H. E. Holzworth, is already in the field for the nomination another very pretty fight is in the offing. All three are sagacious, crafty politicians and so potential in their individual strength that we imagine that the Scott and Dorworth factions will be very wary about slating either one of them for fear of consequences.

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Progress of Ballot Legislation.

A line seems to have been clearly drawn between Governor Fisher and the Republican machine on the question of ballot reform legislation, if the Governor adheres to his expressed purpose. The machine is opposed to any legislation on that subject which will impair the opportunities of the leaders to create any majorities in the big cities that are necessary to elect their candidates. The Governor, on the other hand, professes to favor such measures as will guarantee a fair vote and just return of the election. The Senate Committee on Elections, after waiting for a word from State chairman W. L. Mellon, reported out ten ballot bills, six of which are machine made measures introduced by Homsher, of Lancaster. The bills sponsored by the Governor were not included.

The whole purpose of the Homsher bills is to prevent independent political action. One of them would require twice as many signatures to a petition as the present law. Another forbids a candidate who has been defeated for nomination by one party to run as the candidate of another. Still another forbids a candidate to run on two tickets. The others are kindred measures intended to stifle independence in politics and more firmly entrench the bosses in their strongholds. If these measures have the approval of the Republican organization, as presumably they have, the prospect of political rejuvenation as the result of the work of the Legislature is poor indeed. Mr. Mellon at first seemed to favor the action of the committee but later protested sympathy with the Governor's purposes.

The ballot reformers in the Legislature will not accept defeat, however, without a struggle. Miss Martha Thomas, of Crawford county, chairman of the Pennsylvania League of Woman Voters, promptly issued an address in which she declared the "situation in the State Legislature is rapidly drifting to a point where a dominating feature of the session is the play and interplay of selfish, mercenary and machine politics. An instance of this is the reporting out of committee of the Homsher bill to cripple and kill political independence. Unless there shall be at once an uprising of public sentiment, a State-wide insurrection of sound public opinion, this session will end without an enactment of stronger election laws." That this call to battle had its effect may be inferred, for chairman Mellon, who approved the action of the committee on Monday, repudiated it on Saturday.

The Governor has also indicated a purpose to fight for the measure he regards as just. "I have made my move," he said to the correspondents on hearing of the action of the committee. "The next move," he continued, "must be made by the Legislature. After the Legislature has acted I'll have my say." That sounds like the promise of a veto. In such a course the Governor would have the approval of nine-tenths of the voters. But a veto will afford no relief from the ballot crooks and all the power of the State machine will be invoked to influence him to change of mind. He spent last week-end as the guest of chairman Mellon, at a millionaire club in Western Pennsylvania, and though no information has been given out on the subject it is certain there was no violent disagreements in that atmosphere of corrupt politics.

Chairman Mellon appears to have an uncertain mind on ballot reform. At the opening of the session he favored effective legislation and cordially approved of the purpose of the Governor to sponsor suitable bills. When the Senate committee reported out the Homsher bills Mr. Mellon seemed highly pleased and indicated that Governor's bills were impractical and needed modification. Then he went away from Harrisburg for a brief period and upon his return declared the Governor's bills are all right and will have his support. What happened at Ligonier is a sealed book as yet. Possibly the Governor's enthusiasm for ballot reform has abated and may be the chairman has changed his mind again. In any event it may be assumed that the Governor's bills will be reported in due time, and the machine and the reformers will have a fight on the floor.

Justice has to give way to politics when the Vare machine is in control. The Dave Reed filibuster in behalf of Vare is closing up most of the Federal courts of the country.

—Now if Daddy Browning will make application for permanent residence in some asylum for feeble minded we will try to forget how many kinds of an idiot he has been.

—We'll soon know how far Mr. Vare's control of the Pennsylvania Republican machine goes.

Defending Pennsylvania's Ballot Frauds.

At a meeting of the Slush Fund committee of the Senate in Washington, on Saturday, it was unanimously agreed to continue the work interrupted by the final adjournment of the sixty-ninth Congress. The Sergeant-at-Arms was directed to proceed with the impounding of ballot boxes in Delaware, Lackawanna, Luzerne and Schuylkill counties. Senator Keyes, of New Hampshire, chairman of the committee on Contingent Expenses, having previously refused to approve expense warrants for the service, chairman Reed volunteered to advance the money. Sergeant-at-Arms Barry, Republican, refused to perform the duty and the committee designated Jere South, now counsel for the committee, as a substitute.

Thus the evidence that the Republican managers know that William S. Vare was defeated for election to the Senate multiples. When earlier in the proceedings Mr. Vare assured the Slush Fund committee that he was entirely willing to have the ballot boxes of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh impounded an impression was made that whatever the facts, Mr. Vare believed he had an honest majority of the votes. His subsequent resort to every device, technically and trick to prevent the opening of the ballot boxes now in custody of the committee or to get possession of others in suspected neighborhoods has dispelled this favorable opinion and forced a vast majority of the people to believe that William B. Wilson won.

It is understood that the efforts of the Slush Fund committee are to complete the investigation it has so well begun. Senator Dave Reed, of Pittsburgh, declares he will invoke legal methods in restraint. He doesn't indicate how he will proceed but it may be assumed that the plan is to get some subordinate court to issue an injunction against the Slush Fund committee on the ground that it died with the Congress that created it. But the best legal minds, not only of the Senate but the country at large, have anticipated this and arranged to refute it. Besides there are three or four very able lawyers on the committee. "Jim" Reed can take care of himself in law matters.

—The Supreme court has refused to intervene in behalf of Earl Carroll, the theatrical manager who staged a bath tub scene in a New York theatre some time ago. The law refuses to be a cloak for indecency.

Tax Manipulation for Politics.

An intimation comes from the White House that the next Congress will make a substantial cut in the income tax. The next Congress will sit for its long session during the winter and spring before the next Presidential election. The surprisingly large surplus in the treasury at this time is given by the official spokesman as the reason for the contemplated action. The real reason is, as frequently stated by Democrats during the discussion of the subject in the last session, that a considerable tax cut immediately preceding the Presidential election will be of great help to the Republican candidate who is more than likely to be Calvin Coolidge.

At the opening of the last session of Congress Mr. Garrett, ranking Democrat on the House Committee on Ways and Means, publicly declared that at the close of the March collection of income tax there would be a surplus of half a billion dollars, and that it would be an outrage to continue drawing from the pockets of the people money that was not needed by the government and couldn't even be wisely used. He introduced a bill to cut the income tax that amount, and, sustained by his party in Congress, urged its passage. Of course it would not have cut the present surplus but it would have prevented a repetition of it and save the taxpayers that useless burden for next year.

The truth of the matter is that taxation, as well as every other function of government, is being perverted to partisan uses. If the Democratic plan of tax reduction had been adopted when the present law was enacted the surplus which gave so much concern a year ago, and the greater surplus now reported, would have been left with the people to be used in their business affairs. That plan provided for a tax reduction of half a billion dollars, just the amount of the present surplus as reported by the White House. Half a billion dollars in the hands of an industrious, intelligent and thrifty public would have contributed materially to public prosperity and comfort.

—A headline reads: "Motor Industry Due for a Shock." Judging by complaints in the recent past the shock is considerably over due.

Cunningham Will Get Plenty.

The decision of the United States Supreme court in the Sinclair case removes all doubt as to what will happen to Tom Cunningham, of Philadelphia, when he appears before that tribunal in December. Harry Sinclair was the head of a group of oil operators who enticed Secretary of the Interior Fall to lease to them certain government reserves on terms that greatly wronged the government. An investigation, conducted by Senator Walsh, of Montana, followed, during which Mr. Sinclair refused to answer certain pertinent questions. Senator Walsh reported to the district attorney of Washington and asked for an indictment for contempt of the Senate. Sinclair was convicted and appealed. The Supreme court affirmed the judgment.

Pending the investigation of the Slush Fund expenditures in the Republican primaries, in Pennsylvania last May, Tom Cunningham testified that he had contributed, in currency, to the Vare campaign the sum of \$50,000. Cunningham had been earning \$8000 a year and the contribution seemed rather large to Senator Reed, who suspected that its source was illegal. Therefore he asked the witness where he got the money. There were various rumors afloat on the subject, among them being that it came in part from bootleggers and in part by a levy on the Philadelphia municipal officers. A State law forbids levying on municipal officials and the idea of taking funds from bootleggers is abhorrent.

Chairman Reed, of the committee, was exceedingly lenient with this contumacious witness. He gave him every opportunity to purge himself of contempt. But Mr. Cunningham appears to imagine himself above the law and persisted in his obduracy. He probably imagined that Vare could shield him. But when Harry Sinclair's millions were unable to shield him from a prison sentence there is not much chance for a man of Vare's means to turn the trick. The people of Pennsylvania will be glad to see him get a severe punishment. Such men create contempt for law and the sooner they are brought to punishment the better. Cunningham's sentence will have a restraining influence on others of his kind.

—Baseball enthusiasts in Bellefonte have so far not been able to put much punch in the movement to reorganize the Susquehanna league for the season of 1927. The dropping out of one of the Williamsport clubs, as well as the Renovo club, leaves only four teams of last year's league, and this number is hardly sufficient to make up a good and interesting schedule. Lewistown would like to come into the league but another club will be needed to fill it out. Tentative overtures were made to Phillipsburg fans but the Centre-Clearfield league has been reorganized and that cuts out Phillipsburg. Now if Tyrone just had a team how nice it would be to get it in the league, as that would complete a good circuit and also locate the teams close enough to create enthusiasm in the game.

—Motoring in from Snow Shoe through the heavy fog, on Monday morning, Harold Zimmerman, clerk in Mott's drug store, ran head on into a large doe which jumped out into the road right in front of his machine. The car was not seriously damaged but the doe was killed. Mr. Zimmerman reported the incident to game protector Thomas A. Mosier, who went out on the mountain and got the carcass. Finding the meat unfit for use the carcass was turned over to Smith's animal plant. Last Thursday a small doe was killed by the train on the railroad near Julian.

—Spring began officially at ten o'clock on Monday morning and was ushered in with a steady downpour of rain which began on Saturday and continued throughout Sunday and Sunday night. Fortunately the temperature remained above the freezing point, so that we got very little of the western cold wave.

—We have a very useful Auto-Strop Safety razor all done up in a neat little velvet lined metallic case, to give to everyone who sends or brings a new subscription to the Watchman.

—Many nice strings of suckers are being caught in Bald Eagle creek during the high water. Catches range as high as ten fish measuring from a foot to eighteen inches in length.

—Maybe the Governor of South Carolina had good reason for vetoing a bill liberalizing the Sunday laws. The Governor of North Carolina hasn't said anything for some time.

Modern Diagnosis at the Centre County Hospital.

One of the great advantages to the public in having access to a modernly equipped hospital, such as we have in Bellefonte, is that the physician has there the most improved facilities and appliances for diagnosis not otherwise available to the average physician.

To know the exact cause and location of a disease is half the cure, and the science of medicine is doubly effective today because of such appliances as Basil-metabolism apparatus, blood testing, X-ray equipment, etc., which are too elaborate and expensive to be operated and maintained in the laboratories of ordinary practicing physicians, but in an up-to-date, general laboratory such as there is in the Centre County hospital, any doctor can take his cases there and determine scientifically the nature and malignancy of the disease he is combatting.

Of course the most modern equipment does not avail in all cases, but science has made great strides in that direction since that not distant day in 1902 when the hospital was established.

In the private library is a very exhaustive cyclopedia, comprising 12,000 pages, published in 1895, which at that time was regarded as the most complete compendium of scientific information that had ever been published. It was compiled by thirty-six learned editors, assisted by the most eminent scholars of every profession and University in the world, and the compilation was directed by the president of one of the best Universities in America; yet this splendid treatise does not contain one word about the marvelous X-ray and its possibilities in diagnosis. This defect is explained by the fact that the X-ray was not discovered until in 1895 (the same year the cyclopedia was published) by professor W. K. Roentgen, of Wurzburg, Germany, and all the development and medical utility of these invisible rays have been made in the brief span of thirty-two years which has intervened since that day. In those early days physicians were often compelled to probe for hours to locate a bullet lodged somewhere in the anatomy of a person who had been shot, and often their labors were in vain. Today an X-ray-ograph reveals the exact location of the missile, greatly simplifying the labor of the surgeon and lessening the suffering of the patient, sometimes saving a life. In those days a fracture of a bone was much more likely to be attended with complications and future inconvenience to the patient because surgeons were compelled to set a bone blindly, guided only by the sense of touch and seldom with the assurance that it was in perfect articulation. Today the X-ray reveals the exact location of any chance slivers or pieces of shattered bone, and after it has been set, it shows whether the broken ends of the bone articulate perfectly, which greatly enhances the possibility of the member functioning properly after the bone has knit together.

The skilled X-ray technician at the hospital and the physicians tell of many interesting cases coming to their attention at the Centre County institution which could not have been treated successfully without the aid of the X-ray apparatus. One interesting case was that of a man who sustained a fractured skull in an automobile accident and was taken to the hospital for treatment. The X-ray pictures enabled the specialist who had been called on the case to issue instructions for treatment within a few minutes after the development of the plates, which resulted in the recovery of the patient. They relate the incident of an injury to the fore arm of a young man resulting from a fall from a horse. The searching eye of the X-ray revealed a double fracture of the ulna and radius. By careful manipulation the surgeon was able to adjust and set the two ends of the larger bone, but it was impossible to secure proper adjustment of the broken ends of the smaller bone—the X-ray revealing the defect. The young man was placed under an anesthetic, an incision was made in the arm, giving access to the fractured ends; the jagged ends of the bone were trimmed off, small holes were drilled through each and the ends were laced together with kangaroo tendon. The incision was then carefully closed, and an immediate X-ray made, showing a most satisfactory alignment and adjustment of the fracture, thus rendering the arm as straight as it was before the accident.

The X-ray is of inestimable value in the diagnosis of incipient tuberculosis, enabling the physician to see conditions in the lungs to which he would be blind. Many cases of tuberculosis, while in the first stages, have been ordered to the State sanitoriums for

—Counterfeit \$20 bills are being passed in many parts of the Pittsburgh district, according to a warning issued by bankers on Monday.

—Agreeing to forego dancing, jazz, petting parties, cigarettes, drink, and all other such things, more than 100 young men and women of Sayre, Pa., have organized a "slow club."

—The stockholders of the Millfin county fair association have decided to hold the annual fair this year one week earlier, from August 16 to 20, inclusive, on account of the National Meononite Conference, which Millfin county will entertain the week of August 22.

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—The Susquehanna Silk Mill company at Lewistown will close down from Friday evening, April 8, until Monday, April 18. The mills at Sunbury, Jersey Shore, Lock Haven and Milton and at Marion, O. will close the same period. The cause given is "no market for the goods."

—John Bokitus, 11 years old, of North Center street, Freeland, was richly rewarded for his honesty last Saturday when he returned a wallet lost by an insurance agent. The wallet contained more than \$500 and valuable papers, and the owner generously gave the boy a 25-cent reward.

—A man who said he was Dr. C. P. Whitman, of Swarthmore, was arrested in Philadelphia, on Monday, and charged with practicing medicine without a license. He is 81 years old. When arraigned, he almost burst into tears as he pleaded with the magistrate not to notify his parents. "My mother is 101 and father is 104 years old," he asserted.

—John Faux, engineer of the "Annex," a Pennsylvania passenger train used to carry employes between Sunbury and Northumberland yards, dropped dead in the cab of his engine on Saturday morning. Raising his hand to the throttle after receiving the conductor's signal to go ahead, the engineer reeled and fell to the floor of his cab. He was due to retire in one year.

—Homer W. Klinger, aged twenty-two, is dead at his home at Sheridan, in the west end of Schuylkill county, from loss of blood caused by nose bleeding. Klinger was a miner. His nose began to bleed several days ago. His continuance left him in a weakened condition and physicians found it impossible to permanently stop the flow, owing to the thin condition of the man's blood.

—There is much excitement in the village of Rehrsburg, Berks county, over a report that Mrs. Isaac Merkey found \$8000 in gold in the cellar of her home, believed to have been the fortune of three brothers who owned farms in that section. Mrs. Merkey is the widow of one of the brothers. All were reputed to be wealthy, but little of their wealth was found after their death. Mrs. Merkey denies the discovery of the money, but villagers declare that it was found.

—A March thunderstorm on Monday played an accompaniment to a bolt of lightning which destroyed the radio set of Thomas English, of Oil City, who was seated near the set when it burst and scattered in pieces. No sound was heard by the owner who found upon investigation that lightning had struck the aerial. The electrical energy followed the wire into the house through a window without harming the window. The ground wire melted off in the water to which it was fastened in the cellar.

—Accused of having shot Mrs. Hazel Troxell and robbed the general store belonging to her husband at Barrett, two and one-half miles southeast of Clearfield, on Monday, Alfred Miller 24, of Pittsburgh, is a prisoner in the Clearfield county jail. Miller admits implication in the robbery, but declares another youth, whom he calls Bright Kantner, also of Pittsburgh, did the shooting. Mrs. Troxell, with a bullet wound in the head, and two more in the chest, is in a critical condition in the Clearfield hospital.

—Claiming that she has been permanently disfigured by scars on her face and knees as the result of injuries which she received in an automobile collision, Miss Dora E. Cumens, of Dewarstown, has brought suit for \$10,000 damages against the Peoples' Transportation company, of West Chester. Her husband, Alfred W. Cumens, also sued for \$1000 for medical expenses. He was required to pay for his wife's injuries. On January 14, Mrs. Cumens was riding in her brother's car when it was struck by a bus operated by an employe of the defendant concern.

—"Well, I still have my wagon," were the first words Michael Mignon, ten years old, of Jeannette, said when he was found alive after having passed through a half-mile sewer which runs under the town. Michael was delivering papers with his coaster wagon and took the vehicle to Bull Run to wash off a wheel. A strong current came up, carried the wagon from his grasp, and Michael jumped in after it, being carried into the sewer. A boy chum, who saw the incident, gave an alarm and a squad of rescuers arrived just in time to see the smiling youth emerge from the underground passage, his wagon firmly in his grasp.

—A mother bear and two tiny cubs, in a natural cave on a wooded hillside near Bordell, 38 miles northeast of Kane, are attracting many visitors, who are able to see the animals in their native surroundings, thanks to the ingenuity of Game Protector Benson, who has erected a strong wire screen at the entrance to the cave. The mother bear is enjoying her beauty sleep after an all-winter snooze. When the game protector was informed of the find he visited the scene, and fearing that marauding dogs might kill the cubs, he erected the screen. Visitors can watch the cubs at play and can also dimly see the form of the mother bear in the rear of the cave.

—The road from the hospital to the jail was traveled by Bertha M. Saeger, 35-year-old bookkeeper, of Allentown, charged with forgery. Four years ago Miss Saeger was arrested in Ardmore for masquerading as a man. At that time, William Miller, a furniture dealer and a neighbor, gave her employment. Last October he swore out warrants accusing her of embezzling \$1771 through forged checks and payroll juggling.

To an officer who went to her house to arrest her she begged leave to go upstairs to feed her canary and she attempted to escape by jumping 20 feet off a porch roof, breaking her left leg. On Saturday she was well enough to be discharged from the hospital but was unable to furnish \$2000 bail because a sister and brother-in-law, who had signed a bond, unfortunately for her, had died in the meantime.

State Library
June 1, 1927