

INK SLINGS.

Lindbergh has probably come to the point where he could argue from experience that one could be happier as a dead hero than a live lion.

By way of givin' the devil his dues it can't be said that the crime wave in Philadelphia has subsided any since they got rid of Smed. Butler.

When the government starts to make the paper money smaller the leather goods makers will produce smaller bill-folds and then the girls will have something new to give their boy friends next Christmas.

Capt. Charley Lindbergh has stalled on the pomp and circumstance of his marvelous feat which goes to prove that he is an unusual character. Imagine how certain people you know would have strutted under such adulation.

May Queens had to wear their woolen underwear to keep warm while sporting on the green. Let us hope that June brides get a chance to don the sleezy stuff they have been treasuring in their hope chests. Wouldn't a June bride with mittens and a canton flannel robe-de-nuit make a hit on a honey-moon.

Figures have not yet been announced but rumor has it that the hospital drive will probably not exceed three thousand dollars. To some this may be a disappointment. Not so to us. The fact that a list of three thousand people who are willing to give a dollar a year to the hospital has been secured is proof that it can be made grow into a list of five thousand and with five thousand dollars a year, in addition to its other sources of income, the institution ought to be run very satisfactorily for a long time.

The rumor factory is running again and one of its latest outputs is a story to the effect that the Hon. Tom Beaver has been made warden of the new western penitentiary. Another is to the effect that he has been made superintendent of farms of the institution. The Hon. Tom denied knowledge of any such appointments and also stated, on Tuesday, that he was not an applicant for either. Both of his statements were undoubtedly true, but that doesn't, necessarily, prove anything. A good friend of the powers that be shouldn't have to apply for a job and Santa Claus always hangs the presents on the tree while the good little boys are sleeping.

If you will dig up your file of the Watchman of last year and look at this column for the second week in November you will see that we then told you that there would be an immense surplus in the Federal treasury at the end of the next year. We also told you that those on the inside in Washington knew that it would be there, but were refusing to permit tax reduction so that they could show a big surplus on the eve of a presidential campaign. Senator Dave Reed has started already to work the surplus as argument for the re-election of himself and Coolidge. He puts it at six hundred million and suggests that there will be a three hundred million cut in taxes. Why shouldn't there be a six hundred million cut?

A homer by Ruth, that toppled the Athletics in the eleventh, drew a more conspicuous place on the front page of Philadelphia's ninety-one year old morning paper than the President's Memorial day speech at Arlington. Forty-thousand frenzied fans saw the Babe do it and probably not more than four thousand heard the head of the Nation say that "this day had its inception in the desire to do honor to those who had followed the flag." Except in the minds and hearts of a very few Memorial day is nothing more than a grand jamboree. More people were thinking of the flag that will be run up on some base-ball field next fall than of the graves on which tiny flags fluttered on Monday. It was news, however, and news makes money for the Curtis-Martin Newspapers Inc. and Memorial days make money for filling stations and base-ball magnates.

Lewis Faust died at Reading on Tuesday. Probably none of our readers knew or have ever heard of Lewis. Be that as it may, he was a gentleman of importance about any camp-fire because he could always tell his version of Lee's surrender at Appomattox. He saw it with his own eyes and there was no gainsaying Lewis' verbal picture of how Bob acted on that eventful day. Here's where Centre county links in with the passing of comrade Faust. While he was watching Lee hand over his sword to Grant our old friend Anthony Gatens was swiping a silver sugar bowl from the mess wagon of the defeated Confederate. That sugar bowl pilfering was Anthony's reminiscence at every Grand Army camp-fire. He exhibited it, too, and it looked enough a stranger in Anthony's possession to give color to his story. In his later years he had a habit of making "Indian gifts" of the bowl to his friends. We had it for a while and we often wondered who was lucky enough to have been in Athony's favor at the time he answered the last roll call. Whoever was is probably the present owner of Robert E. Lee's sugar bowl—if Anthony wasn't mixed in whose sugar bowl he got his hooks on at Appomattox.

Faults of the Highway Department.

The Highway Department of Pennsylvania has achieved splendid results, in construction and maintenance of highways, and it is only faint praise to say that in this respect it is beyond criticism. But these excellent results have been accomplished at an immense expense to the people of the State. From unofficial but dependable sources it is learned that from 1911 to 1923 the Highway Department disbursed \$180,000,000, and from 1923 to 1925 it spent \$68,078,864.16, making a total of nearly a quarter of a billion dollars within a period of 15 years. There is no published record of the expenditures of the Department between 1925 and the present time, but it may be assumed that the ratio has not materially diminished.

There is probably no just reason for complaint of the cost of the operations of the Department, however. The improvement of the highways of the State is fair recompense for the investment. It is claimed, and with reason, that at this time Pennsylvania has, as good, if not better, roads than any other State in the country. The advantages of this are various and palpable. The farmer, the merchant, and manufacturer and in fact every element of the people, have shared in the benefits of improved highways to the full measure of their share in the expense. Besides the reputation of the State for high ideals and correct business principles is greatly enhanced. It may be said, therefore, that the money was wisely spent.

But in some respects the Highway Department is not above criticism. Its methods of administration are, in some respects, far from commendable. In an address delivered before the Pennsylvania Motor Federation at Uniontown, the other day, State Treasurer Samuel S. Lewis, after referring to some delinquencies in the system, said: "Money is plentiful and the main business is to spend it. Hence salaries increase, positions increase, favoritism flourishes, organization becomes luxurious and rank, routine piles upon routine, jealousies are rampant and red tape intertwines and smashes everything. In general, the law of diminishing returns asserts itself and the only thing that saves the day is the fact that no accounting is required."

Good men are frequently "loved for the enemies they have made." When Prince Henry, of Germany, dodged a tribute to Von Hindenberg on Monday, he made hosts of admirers for the President of Germany.

Shop Worn Defense of Crime.

When the late and unlamented Boss Tweed's operations in looting the city of New York, half a century ago, were exposed, his only reaction to the charge of corruption was a sniveling complaint that denouncing his administration was damaging the reputation of the city. His imitators, in whatever section of the country they have been found, have been able to frame no better defense since, though progress has been made in every other direction. The Vore machine, in Philadelphia, professed to be greatly distressed when a somewhat famous sociological analyst pronounced that city "corrupt and contented." Such accusations against a community, true or false, they protested, would destroy business.

Recently an organization has been created in Pittsburgh called the Citizens' League, the purpose of which is to force a severance of what seems to be a secret compact between the municipal officials and criminals of the city. An investigation of the subject has convinced the League that vice is not only protected but encouraged by those in authority, and in pursuance of its moral obligations the fact has been publicly declared. The answer is that "the crusaders are giving the city a black eye." Following that line of reasoning condemning murder, or burglary or arson would damage the reputation of the community in which such crimes are perpetrated.

Commenting upon this declaration of the League and the response of the authorities the Pittsburgh Post says: "What injures the fair name of a city is toleration by the citizens of a betrayal by the public officers entrusted with law enforcement. Then such a city gets the name of being 'corrupt and contented.' The more the Citizens' League does to the vice-protecting public officers the better will the fair name of Pittsburgh be served." This summation of the case leaves little to add. No community will suffer in reputation or business that holds its administrators to the enforcement of the criminal laws, and no community will gain respect by protecting criminals and encouraging crime.

Abandon the Fruitless Efforts.

There appears to be a concerted effort on the part of the Republican leaders throughout the country to fasten on the public mind the impression that the industrial and commercial life of all sections are in a highly prosperous condition. The so-called experts in finance and the statisticians in business dwell fondly on this theme and invariably ascribe the happy situation to the masterly management of President Coolidge. Occasionally one of them will admit that the Federal Reserve banking system has helped some and that here and there may be found an unfortunate community which is not sharing in the harvest of prosperity. This, of course, is to persuade every neighborhood that all other communities are basking in the sunlight of plenty.

At the outset of this enterprise intended to "fool most of the people all the time" Judge Gary, of the Steel trust, Mr. Schwab, of the Bethlehem corporation, a few of the railroad presidents and a number of others, including Henry Ford, were induced to address the public in oral or written statements, giving assurance of present prosperity, auspicious conditions for the future and eulogizing the President and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon as the cause of these benevolent prospects. Then the experts were summoned into service to paint rosy pen pictures of abundance to come to everybody during the next few years. The condition is always asserted, however, that the present economic policies must be maintained at Washington.

Unhappily the facts fail to support these hopeful statements and predictions. It is true that some of the transportation corporations have been able to declare big dividends and engage to make extensive improvements, and that a few of the larger monopolies have been able to "cut juicy melons" within a few months. But the records show that the country at large is not in a prosperous condition and that in both industrial and commercial life the rewards of honest effort are below the average of recent years. Even in Pennsylvania, where industry flourishes, if anywhere, the Department of Labor and Industry shows a considerable falling off as compared with the record of last year. The effort to fool the public may as well be abandoned.

Millions of men and women of races other than his own will join in hope for the recovery of Nathan Straus, of New York, critically ill.

Wise Move to Secure Justice.

The Senatorial Slush Fund committee was wise in taking steps to prevent the destruction of ballots used in the Senatorial election last year in Allegheny, Delaware, Lackawanna, and Schuylkill counties. The attempt of the Senate committee to impound the ballot boxes in those counties has been so stubbornly resisted by the Republican organization of the State, and the removal of them to Washington so needlessly delayed by the courts, that their use as evidence in the contest of William B. Wilson against William S. Vare, is imperiled. Under the law they may be legally destroyed in November of this year unless prevented by a court order. That might cause a miscarriage of justice.

The Philadelphia ballot boxes used at that election are safely stored away in Washington, but the Republican leaders hope they will not reveal sufficient fraud to overcome the majority returned for Vare and the Slush Fund committee desires to reinforce the evidence they will disclose by proofs of frauds in the four other counties named. Apparently Mr. Vare's friends are afraid that such reinforcement will prove that Mr. Wilson had a clear majority of the votes honestly cast at the election in question and have exhausted every expedient to prevent a recount of the votes. The plan adopted by the Senate committee will guarantee the recount or expose the partisan bias of the courts.

As a precautionary measure it might be well to adopt some plan to safeguard the boxes which have been impounded but not yet removed into the custody of the Senate. There are some politicians in each of the counties concerned so adept in committing ballot frauds that they may find a way to alter the ballots so as to make it appear that the original returns were comparatively correct. Such crimes have been committed in all the voting districts under suspicion, and there never was greater reason, from a partisan standpoint, for such an outrage than now. The ousting of Vare and the seating of Wilson would change the political complexion of the Senate.

Captain Lindbergh is homesick or tired of being lionized.

Expensive Party Slogan.

Senator Dave Reed, of Pittsburgh, whose only achievement in public life was a successful filibuster to protect ballot frauds, after a conference with the President the other day, predicts an income tax cut of \$300,000,000 during the next session of Congress. The Senator is a trifle late with his prognostication. Every Democratic Senator and Representative in Congress, and every Democratic newspaper in the country, made the same prediction a year ago and more. The next session of Congress will be that preceding the next Presidential campaign and tax reduction is a highly effective medium of appeal to the credulous. In fact it is the only hope of the Republican party for next year.

While the consideration of the present income tax law was occupying the time of Congress the Democrats in both branches urged a much greater reduction in schedules than that finally agreed upon. They declared that a cut of half a million dollars might be safely made from the existing law. But the so-called "wizard of finance," Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, insisted such a decrease in the revenues would imperil the solvency of the treasury. Now Senator Reed, gifted with a wonderfully accurate "hind sight," announces that there will be a surplus of \$600,000,000 at the end of the present fiscal year. In other words, the tax payers have been looted to the extent of that vast sum in order to create a claim for continuing the Republican party in power.

The only moral or legal right Congress has for levying taxes on the people is to provide sufficient revenue to pay the expenses of the government, "economically administered." During the present fiscal year, therefore, the vast sum of \$600,000,000 has been wrongfully taken from the people, not to defray the legitimate expenses of the government but in order to create a bogus claim for public confidence in the Coolidge administration. That sum of money left in the hands of the people for use in industry and commerce would have saved many a pang of distress and disappointment within the past year. But the extortion was necessary to keep such "misfits" as Senator Reed in public life.

Gosh, what a miserable failure of a season this has been. We're just rarin' to get at the lawn grass and the garden and both are too wet; fishing ought to be good, but the water's high and muddy and there doesn't seem to be a good fight in all of the horde of candidates for office. There's not a cross word in an army of them, so this bids fair to be our summer of discontent.

It is rumored that merchant George Hazel is slated to fill the vacancy caused on the Bellefonte school board by the recent death of A. C. Mingle. His election would be good only for the current year as Mr. Mingle's term would have expired with this year.

If half what England is declared to have discovered, when she raided Soviet Russia's headquarters in London, is true it is time for Uncle Sam to start a search for the spawn of the Red germs in this country.

Even Mussolini may "bite off more than he can chew," and his prediction of another great war in which he will be a leading figure indicates that he is already "riding for a fall."

It is safe to say that the young Jerseyman who applied to the warden of Sing Sing prison to be electrocuted was joking. There are easier ways of making the "happy dispatch."

The observance of Memorial day this year was wider and more fervent than ever before, and the signs are that it will increase in favor as time passes.

If iodine is a certain cure for scarlet fever the Ambuzzi Mountains' doctor who made the discovery has performed a great service for humanity.

President Coolidge disappointed the pacifists in his Decoration day at Arlington on Monday. He declared in favor of preparedness.

Facism in New York may be a fungus growth but assassination is not the best remedy for such an evil.

Now if the Philadelphia Political gangsters would go to killing each other it wouldn't be so bad.

Bills, Little and Big.

Tales of the diminishing dollar interest many persons much more when they pertain to the literal size of the paper rather than to its purchasing power. At last the old bills which have been folding in threes ever since 1861—except a few independents who adopted a fourfold principle—are to be replaced by a smaller note. The Government is careful to announce in an admirably worded statement that, although the bills will be smaller, they are not to have any more of them for our money. But it will be pleasant indeed when the change is fully established and the neat little notes are passing from hip pocket to handbag, to counter, as accepted facts.

Until that time arrives there may be some dissatisfaction among those persons who have enough money to worry about. It is estimated that the Treasury will not have a sufficient supply even of the one-dollar bills, with which it proposes to begin, for at least a year. Then, if they start calling in the present ones and issuing the new ones, more time will be required before the transference is complete. When we consider that this is only the beginning and that the exchange of all other denominations will require a still greater period, things look rather mixed. There will be a haphazard lull when one's pockets will contain a few fives, old style, perhaps a ten or so, also old style, and three or four dollar bills of the new reduced size, and these will consort together uncomfortably in any respectable bank roll. Understand that this rash mention of such large sums is not to be taken personally.

We know little of the mechanics of producing and exchanging bills, but it would be a lot more convenient for people who have to use this currency if the entire change could be put through in just one period of unsettlement. Would it were possible for the Treasury to make new-size bills of all denominations and stack them up until enough were on hand to make the plunge, and then issue a recall for all the old stuff at one time! Then the mix-up would be restricted to one grand period of change, which, however, would come to an end much sooner than the indefinite year now in prospect with bills of two sizes in circulation.

Having read the entire Government pronouncement carefully, we miss one item which we hoped to find among its rounded cadences concerning that black sheep of our currency, the two-dollar bill. Here is a perfectly good chance to drop the unlucky fellow, to make an end of him and his duplicities. Only upon one condition should this bill be allowed to survive, and that is that it be printed in a distinctive color, which would change that deadly similarity to the one-dollar bill which has cost us quite a bit of money in a long life.

When Pennsylvania Opposed Third Term.

Elsewhere on this page will be found a communication dealing with the period in which Pennsylvania Republicans and Democrats alike fought the Presidential "third term" idea. The Pennsylvania Republican state convention in 1875 adopted a strong resolution against more than two terms, and this brought a letter from President Ulysses S. Grant in which he gave his idea on the subject. It was not, however, until 1880 that the "third term" issue, with Grant a candidate after an intervening term, was fought to a finish in the Republican National convention, Garfield, a "dark horse," receiving the nomination on the thirty-sixth ballot.

It may be pointed out that while Pennsylvania led in 1875 in opposition to a "third term," it was opposed in 1912 by Roosevelt, who had served practically two terms before, but the vote that year, on account of the Republican party split and three major tickets in the field, was scarcely a test of the point in the sentiment of the State. While Roosevelt carried Pennsylvania, the combined vote of the State against him was 327,948 in excess of his vote, and he failed in the popular vote of the country as Grant had in the convention.

Motoring Tests and Arrests.

Sane users of the highways of Pennsylvania will see much hope of improvement in motoring conditions in two reports issued from Harrisburg yesterday. One has to do with the high standard of proficiency demanded of drivers and shows that 31,683 persons who applied for operators' licenses in April, 5,445 were rejected, an average of one in every six, maintaining the rate of March, when only 19,796 applied. The increase in the number of new motorists draws attention to the fact that the season is climbing to its peak, with the need for extreme caution becoming greater with each day. The second report deals with arrests on the highways in April. The State's patrols held 1,415 persons for violations and these had to pay \$18,959 in fines.

These reports demonstrate that law enforcement for safety is gaining. Many who were refused licenses in April will be more fortunate later but their experience will lead them to esteem the privilege of using the roads of proper value.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYTSTONE.

State police have been notified of the robbery of the L. S. Sterns and Company store Williamsport, some time Saturday night, the thieves blowing the safe and escaping with \$4,000 in cash, and \$3,000 in checks. The robbery was discovered when the manager visited the store on Sunday morning.

Mrs. Caroline Smith, aged 72, who lives near Middleburg, was taken to the Geisinger hospital, at Danville on Sunday, for treatment and on her way there saw her first street car at Sunbury. She expressed surprise, and declared that she never had been in an automobile until she was taken to the institution.

After returning a roll of bills amounting to \$680, which he found along the tracks at NA tower near Denholm, where he is an operator, Frank Fasick, refused a reward for his honest act. The money was dropped from an eastbound passenger train by Thomas Kronovich, of Winton, Minn., who reported the loss and the money was forwarded to the loser.

Caught in a run of clay at a mine of the Mineral Products company near Dillsburg, Dauphin county, Luke R. Haar, 21, of Dillsburg, was rescued by a fellow-workman Thursday night after a struggle of nearly an hour and a half. The youth was praying when fellow workmen dug close enough to see his hand in the darkness. His body was covered by clay and water and only about two inches were left for breathing.

Caught in debris when the abandoned house in which he sought refuge was destroyed in a storm near Renovo, William Miller, 60, Sinnemahoning, is in a critical condition in the Renovo hospital. He is suffering from a fracture of the skull and lacerations and contusion of the face and body. Miller, an employee of the Gravel Powder company, was working outdoors when the storm broke. He entered the building a few minutes before it was wrecked.

William (Bud) Eriser, Washington, Pa. High school athlete, experienced one of the thrills that come to some people only once in a life time and never to others, when he held a perfect bridge hand of 13 hearts while sitting in a game at Kappa Sigma Fraternity house, Washington and Jefferson College. Noticing five hearts, Eriser bid "one heart" on the first round, then raised it to seven on the second. He then spread his cards on the table. Eriser had dealt.

For three days following an accident at the boilermaking plant of Sotter Brothers, Pottstown, Thomas Clark went about his home with a broken vertebra in his neck and it was not until Saturday that he was admitted to the Homeopathic hospital for surgical treatment. He was injured when struck by a shoe draft that was being moved in the shop where he was employed and when taken to the office of a physician an examination seemed to show that the injury was not serious.

New York police are searching for jewels valued at \$8000, which were lost by Mrs. Vance McCormick, wife of the newspaper publisher, of Harrisburg, Pa., between the Cunard Line pier and the Ambassador hotel. Mrs. McCormick returned from Paris on the Aquitania Friday night and, in the confusion of loading her baggage into two taxi-cabs, lost a small black leather case containing her jewels. She was met by her husband and they left on Saturday for their home.

Mrs. Maude Wakefield, 51, was killed and two of her sons were injured Friday by the accidental discharge of a shotgun in their home on Beam Run road, Jefferson township, Allegheny county. Mrs. Wakefield had been arguing with her husband, Milton, 55, who was holding the shotgun. A son, Elmer, 22, took the gun from his father and threw it on a table. As it fell, it was discharged. Mrs. Wakefield received fatal wounds of the back. One of Elmer's fingers was blown off while another son, William, 17, suffered flesh wounds.

Herman Ross, 31, 6 7218 Tioga street, Pittsburgh, a mechanic, dropped into a restaurant at 603 Homewood avenue early last Thursday for a light lunch. He is reported to have eaten 24 scrambled eggs, four pork chops, six slices of bread, two slices of ham, an apple pie, a quart of ice cream, and washed it down with seven cups of coffee and 10 glasses of water. He then told about 50 witnesses that he felt fine and had to go home and go to bed because he had to get up early for work. It took him an hour and 15 minutes to eat his "midnight snack."

After placing flowers on the grave of his twin brother at Fairview cemetery, Costeville, on Sunday, Martin Segner, 72, went to his home and in the presence of his wife, he shot and killed himself. He was dead before a physician arrived. Segner had mourned the passing of his twin brother since his death two years ago. While at the cemetery he told members of his family they would not have to wait long to place flowers on his grave. Then turning and addressing a grave digger he said, "You might as well get ready to dig my grave." One hour later he was dead.

While riding a boat which was wrecked in the Juniata river, near Lewistown, on Memorial day, Miss Bessie Cassidy, 28, of Pittsburgh, was drowned. Miss Cassidy was riding down the river to a cottage with a party of Altoona people when the boat struck an old foundation along the river and was wrecked. When recovered her body was taken to Dr. P. P. Steel, of McVeytown, who phoned to the Lewistown hospital for a pulmotor, but all efforts to revive the drowned girl were in vain and the body was taken to the Booth undertaking establishment at McVeytown. The spot where the Pittsburgh girl drowned is a very dangerous point as several other persons have lost their lives at the same place, it is said.

Colonel E. B. Cope, superintendent of the Gettysburg National Park and known to thousands of persons in all sections of the country, is dead. He was 92 and said to be the oldest United States Civil war employe in the country. Death, hastened by a fall last September, came on Saturday night. Funeral services were held Wednesday. Colonel Cope served through the Civil war and at its close made the first comprehensive survey of the battlefield and afterward served as a guide in laying out and marking the field. Two large relief maps, on the execution of which he spent several years, were exhibited at a number of world's fairs. The maps show every line of battle, every important point on the battle field.