

INK SLINGS.

—"Dep" Dunlap is going to be our next Sheriff or we miss our guess. He deserves to be because he is fit for the office, he served us in time of war and his opponent has already had a good share from the public pie counter.

—If there were no other reason we should think Doc Parrish should be elected County Commissioner because he had sense enough to get out of the printin' business when he was young enough to get into something that has some money in it.

—There is a "Talk With the Editor" on page 3 of this edition that we think you will enjoy reading. If you don't, do some talking yourself. We would like to make that column a feature in the Watchman and it can't be done unless you help do it.

—In the light of what happened in Philadelphia Saturday we are bobbing around between three conclusions: Either Bucknell is very strong, or Penn is very weak or State wasn't doing what she is capable of when the Bisons defeated her on the previous Saturday.

—Remember this! What Centre county does by way of choosing county officials next month will have no effect on who is to be the next President of the United States. Whatever else you don't let anybody talk you out of voting for the local officials you favor with such "bunk" as that.

—It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. The rain during the early part of the week not only filled up the cisterns and springs for the farmers, but confined them to their homes and barns where the candidates were able to find them without having to hike out into the back fields to show themselves.

—There are two county offices to be filled next month for which business men are peculiarly qualified. One of them is that of Auditor. Certainly men accustomed to checking up on things are needed as Auditors. For that reason, especially, we advise you to vote for H. E. Garbrick and O. J. Stover, both of whom are business men.

—If it is true, as we have been told, that Mr. Wilkinson actually thinks no one else is capable of running the Prothonotary's office we shudder to think of what a hopeless condition Centre county would have been in if he hadn't decided to quit running things in Philadelphia and move up here and save us from the possibility of prothonotarial chaos.

—Just when we thought we had gotten across to our two hopefuls a very graphic resume of Dean Watts' recent interesting delinquency of what the Pennsylvania State College has done for the agriculture of the State through its development of "Pennsylvania 44" wheat, one of them remarked: "Yes, the farmers are buying La Salles and the College is still starving."

—Let us elect Lyman L. Smith Treasurer of the county and avoid all possibility of a question as to his eligibility. There is uncertainty as to whether Mr. Holtzworth could lawfully fill the office, even were he elected. He is thoroughly capable of doing it but it is a debatable question as to whether anyone can step from the office of County Commissioner into that of County Treasurer. Why take a chance on such an uncertainty when Mr. Smith would make just as satisfactory an official as Mr. Holtzworth could.

—Of course we are sometimes misinformed, but we have been told that Prothonotary Wilkinson actually thinks there is nobody else in Centre county who could handle his office as capably as he does. If the prothonotarial mind is so exaggeratedly egged it means that he thinks that he was the only "good fish in the sea" and all the rest are suckers. If you are one of the suckers whom Roy expects to grab at that bait let us tell you that it was Dave Foreman who showed Roy the ropes of his office and, fortunately, Dave is still living.

—It is a pity that Frank Boal, candidate for Register, hasn't been able to get out over the county like a man who can afford to lose time from his work is able to do. Just a look and a few words with him would convince any voter that he is worthy of mighty serious consideration when he or she goes to vote for a man to fill the Register's office. Of course they didn't think of that when he was baptised but Frank was certainly the name that suited him. He is a gentleman, all over, sensible and capable of being a courteous and competent public official.

—The English Bishop who is trying to make the world believe that the book of Genesis is only folk-lore will find his preachments as futile as were those of that other modernist—what was his name—who tried to destroy the Garden of Eden story because science claims that apples couldn't have grown where the Garden is supposed to have been located. The latter iconoclast might have gotten somewhere had he not contended that if the fundamentalist idea is correct the banana and not the apple must have been the forbidden fruit. What flapdoodle! Can't you picture a piece of banana sticking in the gullet of Eve's man long enough to turn into an Adam's apple?

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Vare Bluff Promptly Called.

Senator Reed, of Missouri, chairman of the Slush Fund committee, has promptly called the bluff that the Senate, on reassembling, will admit Vare of Pennsylvania and Smith of Illinois to seats in that body. The story originated in a Washington newspaper and implied that Senator King, of Utah, a Democratic member of the Slush Fund committee, had conceded the right of the "Slush Fund Twins" to the seats. Senator Reed promptly telegraphed from his Kansas City home that he has not altered his position on the subject. His attitude is that both Vare and Smith should be barred because of the excessive use of money, improperly obtained, in their primary campaigns.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, head of the Senate independent contingent, is decisively of the same mind. "When the Senate by a vote declined to permit Frank L. Smith, of Illinois, to be sworn when he presented himself during the last session with an appointment from the Governor it took a definite stand on this question," declared the Nebraskan. "I do not see how any Senator who voted against seating Smith in the last session," he continued, "can vote to seat Smith or Vare in the coming session." It wasn't a question of fraudulent votes or hand made majorities that was considered. It was a matter of the corrupt use of money in the campaign and the source of the supply.

Mr. Smith obtained his vast slush fund from officials of public service corporations, presumably in consideration of favors, previously bestowed by him as chairman of the Public Service Commission. For this reason his demand to be sworn in as Senator was refused, though there was no doubt of the right of the Governor of the State to fill a vacancy. Mr. Vare is believed to have acquired his slush fund from an even more objectionable source. The gamblers, bootleggers and dive keepers of Philadelphia are alleged to have contributed the \$50,000 handed to the Vare committee by Thomas Cunningham, an eight thousand dollar a year official. Because of this belief neither Vare nor Smith will be seated.

The corruption in Philadelphia has been ascribed to venality and cupidity. Recent developments suggest that stupidity is a strong element in the equation.

An Apt Scholar in Graft.

Colonel Eric Fisher Wood, secretary of the Republican Executive committee of Pennsylvania, has certainly proved an apt pupil in the school of politics and graft. Within two years from the time of his entrance into the game he acquired contracts for work as architect, by favoritism, amounting to nearly \$4,000,000, upon which his fees will amount to upward of half a million dollars. Except two jobs for Pittsburgh and Allegheny county, all this fat patronage has been obtained from the State administration, and including the two, all were forced from the authorities by alleged implied threats of reprisals in the event his applications for the work were refused.

Among the jobs thus acquired by Colonel Wood were the Warren State hospital, the Ashland State hospital, the Locust Mountain State hospital, the Pennsylvania Training School, Morgantown; the Colony for Epileptics, Selinsgrove; the Mayview city home and hospital, Pittsburgh, and the Seventh Street bridge, Pittsburgh. The contract for the Mayview home was awarded by city authorities of Pittsburgh and that for the bridge by the commissioners of Allegheny county. The other contracts were let by the boards of trustees of the several institutions who were influenced by an intimation that appropriations to them would be generous or otherwise according to who was favored with the awards.

Colonel Wood is a capable architect and if his bids had been considered "on the level" in competition with those of other equally competent bidders, his success would have given no just cause of complaint. But he carried into the competition an atmosphere of politics and as executive chairman of the party and confidential friend of the Mellons he simply terrorized the charity agencies. He tried to compel the Department of Property and Supplies to dismiss the architect of the public buildings at Harrisburg and substitute himself, but Governor Fisher refused to acquiesce. For a new beginner in political graft Colonel Eric Fisher Wood seems to be a "cooco."

A Spokane, Washington, gold fish bowl set a house on fire which proves there's nothing impossible under the sun either.

Teapot Dome Oil Lease Revoked.

The decision of the Supreme court of the United States, handed down by Justice Butler last week, declaring the lease of the Teapot Dome naval oil reserve, to Harry F. Sinclair, invalid, indicates that justice, though tardy is still potent. This transaction so palpably conceived in fraud has been under investigation for six years in various tribunals. It was exposed by committee of the United States Senate in 1922 in a report recommending civil and criminal action.

The late Senator LaFollette had previously called public attention to the iniquity and began an investigation but found it so completely entrenched in an environment of Big Business that he despaired of success. In the succeeding Congress Senator Walsh, of Montana, renewed the effort with such energy and legal skill that the courts were compelled to take notice.

The result of the decision handed down by Justice Butler not only restores that property and another of even greater value, the Elk Hills reserve of California, to their rightful owner, the government of the United States, but compels the fraudulent claimants to refund more than \$100,000,000 which they had acquired as profits of the operations during the period since the lease was made. The history of the corrupt transaction and subsequent investigation is interesting but shameful. After the adoption of oil as fuel for ships Congress enacted a law providing for the reservation of oil lands at Teapot Dome, Wyoming, and Elk Hills, California, to provide fuel for the Navy in the future. The act designated the Secretary of the Navy as administrator of the property. These conditions were complied with during the administrations of Presidents Taft and Wilson.

When President Harding succeeded Wilson in the White House Albert B. Fall was made Secretary of the Interior and Edwin Denby Secretary of the Navy. Soon afterward Edward Doheney and Harry Sinclair proposed to Fall that these oil reserves be leased to them on terms which Doheney, after the leases were signed, said would yield him a profit of \$100,000,000. Denby, a stupid fellow, was reluctant to make the deal and Fall applied to President Harding to issue an order transferring the custody of the property to him as Secretary of the Interior. There was no legal authority for such an order but it was issued and the leases signed. The investigation followed and though the administration interposed every barrier available and courts and public officials have been corrupted, it has been completed to the full satisfaction of justice and the public.

Trying to Fool Them Again.

We are told that an attempt is being made to lead the voters of Howard township into the Fleming camp through the Romola section.

There is no doubt but that they need a good road, but promising one and getting it for them are very different things.

Roads have been held out as a lure to voters in the lower end of Bald Eagle valley on numerous occasions, when the fat of certain candidates has been in the fire. They know, better than we can tell them, how often they have listened to the siren voiced politicians only to be disappointed.

Mr. Fleming's workers are apparently very glib at promising things. They bait their hooks with the insinuation that Senator Scott will see that it is done.

Just now Senator Scott is rather a weak reed to lean on when favors are sought at Harrisburg. Governor Fisher's friends are in the saddle there and will be as long as Senator Scott's present term continues. Since he made it a personal matter to see that the candidate for Judge whom the Governor had appointed was defeated for nomination at the primary it isn't at all likely that the Governor will be passing out roads to help along Senator Scott's pet scheme.

If the people of Howard or any other township need roads and are entitled to them under the State's plans for building or aiding in the building of them it is the duty of our Senator and of our Representative to get behind the project, without any conditions at all, and help in whatever they can. We are certain that both Senator Scott and the Hon. Holmes would do that very thing, so why are these workers permitted to play on the credulity of a community and make promises that they are not at all certain they can keep, merely to entice voters into the camp of their favorite.

The Watchman gives all the news while it is news.

A Judge Should Have a Human Side. Mr. Walker Has It.

W. Harrison Walker, candidate for the important office of Judge in Centre county, is 53 years of age, and has practiced at the Centre county bar for about thirty-two years, or twice as long as his opponent. He is a man of quiet and domestic habits. Happily married, he is the father of two children. He has never held a salaried office; and yet he is one of the most widely known personages, not only in his own neighborhood, but also in the State of Pennsylvania. The question naturally arises, what is the cause?

Devoted as he is to his family, active and earnest as he is in the practice of his chosen profession, he has found the time to respond to innumerable calls from his neighbors and the public, to interest himself with intense zeal in the social, urban and patriotic activities of the State and county.

Born upon a farm and taught from infancy to labor with his hands, and from his early youth to labor with his mind, endowed with unusual energy, supplemented with a kindly and generous spirit and an open mind naturally disposed to respond to merited appeal, he has during his whole natural life not only been personally identified with every eleemosynary, patriotic and beneficial movement, but by reason of the aforesaid qualifications has become inevitably a leader.

Three times the citizens of Bellefonte have called upon him to be their Chief Burgess, which office at the best is a thankless one, imposing upon the official many annoying and unpleasant duties, which he has cheerfully, courteously and efficiently solved. He has never refused an invitation to help dedicate a monument, or raise a flag, or speak at a religious gathering, or address departing or homecoming soldiers, or commemorate the heroic actions of heroes of the Republic; though these claims have been so frequent during his busy life as to have made a serious breach in his home and professional life. He was first appointed a Notary Public by Governor Hastings and has held that little office ever since. In all these passing years his services as Notary have been free to every old soldier and veteran of any of the wars of the Republic, to all applicants for pensions, and to all citizens required to make questionnaires.

In special war work Mr. Walker has been pre-eminent. For practically two years he gave up his extensive practice and devoted himself almost exclusively to special war work after the United States had entered the great World War. In this work, which meant so much of sacrifice of time and earning power, he obtained an eminence and distinction that became State wide, certainly not equaled by anyone in the county or the central part of the Commonwealth. As an illustration, he travelled over the central portion of Pennsylvania, devoting his whole time to the sale of Liberty Bonds, the aggregate of which sale ran into the millions of dollars.

The answer is therefore an easy one. It has been these personal and unselfish activities and accomplishments that have made his individuality so well known throughout the State of Pennsylvania. These same qualifications and that experience are now offered to voters of Centre county. The electorate that has for so many years called upon Mr. Walker to render so much of his time and strength to public work without compensation, now has an opportunity to reward him by elevating him to the Bench; and that, too, at the time when his mental powers are most matured and ripened by hard work, study, and experience. He is fitted for every duty of the Judicial office.

As a devoted father and husband, he will give most sympathetic attention to the juvenile and kindred work of the county; as a lawyer he will be open minded to the legal arguments of his professional brethren and will decide the questions at issue with fairness and conscientious study and impartiality. But added to these qualifications there is back of these activities and this professional experience, a real, live, red-blooded human being who has an affection and sympathetic heart and will always consider the equities and human side of the cases before him.

All those persons who think that because Roy Wilkinson has been a courteous obliging official in the Prothonotary's office nobody else should have a chance to show how courteous and obliging they could be at seven thousand a year will likely vote to give him twenty-eight thousand more to add to the fifty-six thousand, or thereabouts, he has already gotten. Those who think that enough's enough will vote to give Claude Herr a chance.

Ruth Elder Failed in Flight, but Escaped with Her Life.

Ruth Elder failed by a scant 800 miles of accomplishing the feat of being the first woman to cross the Atlantic by airplane.

She and her co-pilot, Captain George Haldeman, were forced down on the waters of the Atlantic on Thursday by a broken oil pipe and were taken aboard the Dutch tanker Barendrecht. Their plane, the "American Girl," was estimated to have traveled 3,000 miles along its 3,800 mile journey.

The plane was destroyed by fire as the tanker was attempting to salvage it.

Miss Elder and her co-pilot were landed on the Azores, on Saturday, with nothing but the clothing they wore, the girl's lipstick and a lot of enthusiasm.

Very little news of the flight has leaked out from the little island in the Atlantic, but that little indicates that the girl had her courage tested in full measure before coming down in the sea alongside the rescue steamer.

Because of heavy sleet that froze as it fell on the airplane, it was necessary to throw some of the gasoline overboard. This was done in turn by the girl and her pilot, George Haldeman, and on one occasion it became necessary for Ruth to crawl out on the tail of the plane to effect a balance. This she did without a sign of wavering and came back in safety.

Added to the danger from the lowered oil pressure because of a broken oil pipe, was the menace of the sleet which until the plane was lightened threatened to force it down.

Owing to the fact that everything Miss Elder and Capt. Haldeman had taken with them was lost in the destruction of their plane it was necessary for the American consul in the Azores to cable their backers and friends in the United States for funds to enable them to continue their journey to France.

The two left the island on Monday going to Lisbon, Spain, on the Portuguese liner Lima, expecting to continue their journey from Lisbon to Paris.

Royal Taste for American Cooking.

Queen Marie of Rumania must really mean to visit this country; she has done little but talk about it since her return to her own.

The latest story is that she will bring little King Michael and his mother, the Princess Helen, with her on her next trip. She is credited with the theory that there will be something educative for a young sovereign in a view of the American scene. How much one of his years would gain from it must remain a matter of speculation. He would be a remarkable child if he obtained anything but a vague impression of what he was permitted to see.

It is interesting to note that the Queen is a devotee of American culinary art. She now has at Bucharest a chef who can prepare chicken Maryland, waffles and baked beans. This is not a very comprehensive selection from the American menu. The little King likes, we are told, various American breakfast foods, jam and maple syrup. Its a safe guess that the last named cannot be obtained in its genuine state anywhere in Europe.

Still, it is not to be concluded that the Rumanian royal family designs to eat its way into American affection. This expressed preference for our food may be genuine enough; but presumably it is mainly intended to be a gracious compliment. Queen Marie is an eminently diplomatic person.

Good Luck, That's All.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

Ruth Elder and her pilot chanced to alight in mid-ocean on a disabled plane alongside a steamship. They were lucky, that's all. Therein lay the difference between their fate and the fate of those who went to watery graves when their machines came down with no ship in sight.

This latest failure to fly the Atlantic justifies what Byrd and Lindbergh have written concerning the difficulties that lie between the present stage of air navigation and transoceanic flights on a commercial basis.

Ruth Elder's attempt was a reckless bid for international notoriety. If she had succeeded she would have posed as the first woman to cross the ocean by air, but credit for the trip would have gone to her pilot, who made the flight possible.

Her failure shows up the weakness of even the best and most dependable present-day planes and the perils passengers must face who put the machines to exceptionally long periods of excessive strain. To be sure, each failure teaches a lesson in construction, provided the participants in the accident live to tell the tale, but more might be accomplished by long-distance flights over land, where the chances for alighting safely in case the development of mechanical defects are at least fifty-fifty.

Senator Reed of Missouri doesn't seem to have fallen precipitately for the scheme of Senator Reed of Pittsburgh to put the evidence of fraud into the hands of a partisan committee.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYTSONE

A common pleas court jury at Pittsburgh, has awarded Miss Francis M. Stewart \$12,000 damages against the Pennsylvania railroad for the loss of a leg in a railroad accident two years ago. Her mother was awarded \$3,000 by the same jury.

Injuries suffered when he fell beneath a truck have resulted in the death at the Indiana hospital of Richard B. Smith, 18 year old coal miner, of Hancock, Cambria county. Smith was riding in the truck when he lost his balance and fell to the highway, the rear wheels of the machine passing over his body.

Plans and specifications for the first units of the new fish hatcheries at Tionesta and Reynoldsdale were submitted to Arthur Townsend, budget officer, by the State Fish Commission at its meeting in Harrisburg, last week. Work will be started on the hatcheries as soon as the plans are approved by the budget officer. The

B. A. Scially, 22, of Darby, Tenn., had his right ear almost severed from his head when a bolt from machinery with which he was working flew up, striking him back of the ear with such force that the member was torn away. The young man is in the employ of the Bethel Construction company at work on the State highway between Renovo and Keating.

Joseph Huntingdon, who has been in the Clinton county jail at Lock Haven awaiting trial at the October term of criminal court for the murder of Herman Klobe, of Sugar Valley, is seeking funds for his trial, and the case may be carried over until the January term of court to permit him more time to secure the services of an attorney and save the county the attorney's fees.

first unit of the Tionesta plans will cost approximately \$100,000 and will be devoted to the propagation of all species of fish which are used to stock Pennsylvania streams, with the exception of trout. The Reynoldsdale hatchery will be devoted exclusively to the hatching of trout. Increases next year will cost \$150, an increase of 50 cents which will be used largely for the propagation of fish and restocking of streams.

An irate farmer is being held in Lancaster on charges of aggravated assault and battery with intent to kill after shooting two boys, 13 and 10 years of age, while the latter were in his orchard near Millersville on Sunday. The farmer, Henry C. Meyers, declares that the boys were picking up apples and that he shot into a gulley in an effort to scare them. The boys, William Zahm, Jr., and Donald Hengel, both are in St. Joseph's hospital, each with several perforations from gunshot.

Officials of the Pennsylvania railroad inspected the tracks and equipment in Lock Haven recently, and conferred on matters relating to the construction of new tracks there for the Bald Eagle Valley trains, in the lower railroad yards. It is said they also discussed the advisability of again making Lock Haven a terminal point for freight trains running from Ralston and Northumberland to Altoona. That point was abandoned as a terminal last spring, removing fully twenty families from the city.

A ring supposedly lost in the Juniata river near an old dam west of Huntingdon forty-six years ago has been recovered from the gullet of a thirteen-pound carp caught near the dam by George Ballantyne, local fisherman. Forty-six years ago a dozen Huntingdon youths held a picnic on the bank of the Juniata river. Several of the young men displayed their prowess in rowing a boat, the one youth accidentally dropping an amethyst ring. The old dam was replaced by a large hydro-power dam, and when the fisherman recently caught the thirteen-pound carp near the dam, cleaned it for use as food, he found the ring.

A sentence of 15 to 30 years in the eastern penitentiary was pronounced on A. S. Banniller, of Harrisburg, on Monday, former assistant treasurer of the Commonwealth Trust company, as the penalty for his part in the embezzlement of nearly three quarters of a million dollars from the bank. In addition he was fined \$500 and costs. Banniller was the first of seven, charged with wrongdoing in connection with the shortage, to be arrested and he has been in jail since his arrest in March. He is the only one who declined to enter any defense and since the prosecution started was regarded as the principal defendant.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has arranged to enlarge both the classification and shop yards at Lewistown Junction. Seven tracks that will accommodate fifty cars to the track will be installed in the classification yards in the space between the chute and thoroughfare tracks. Nine tracks of nine to twelve cars each will be added to the shop car yards. These will be buggy tracks with space enough between tracks to truck material and insure the safety of the men. The Penn Central Light & Power company will install flood and arc lights that will light the yard from Granville bridge to the main station, one and a half miles.

Two juries placed a valuation of \$15,000 upon a lost leg in separate personal damage suits heard in common pleas court at Pittsburgh, on Monday. Mrs. Francis Stewart and her mother were awarded that amount in a case against the Pennsylvania Railroad company, and Richey Bonach, 11, and his father received a similar verdict against the City of Pittsburgh. Miss Stewart lost a leg in a railroad mishap, while the Bonach boy's leg was amputated after being struck by a piece of steel thrown by an explosion of an automobile gasoline tank as the machine was being wrecked in the street by a junkman. The city was held negligent for permitting wreckers to work in the street.

Ten sisters and two brothers held their first reunion in twelve years at the home of one of the sisters, Mrs. Charles B. Greib, at Lamar, near Lock Haven, recently. All are married and the ten sisters, whose ages range from 42 to 65 years, have forty-nine sons and daughters and fifty-three grandchildren, while the two brothers have twelve sons and daughters. The brothers are William and Harry Fisher, both of Mill Hall, and the sisters are Mrs. N. M. Kunes, of Altoona; Mrs. James Moore, of Flemington; Mrs. Ida Batchelder Berry, Mrs. Netta Pennington, Mrs. M. C. Reeder and Mrs. Lulu Burnell, of Lock Haven; Mrs. George Moore and Mrs. Daniel Markel, of Mill Hall; Mrs. Herbert Nighart of Castanea, and Mrs. Charles Greib, of Lamar.