

INK SLINGS.

Each State is entitled to two Senators in Congress but it isn't necessary that one of them shall be a political hand.

The introduction of the new "fiver" was a howling success and sets a pace which it will be difficult for even Mr. Ford to maintain.

President Coolidge has increased the tariff tax on cherries from two to three cents a pound. This is probably a sop to the agricultural whale.

Either Mrs. Lillendahl and Willis Beach are innocent or the impressarios of the country have passed up the two best actors it has ever produced.

Instead of having the fire department clean off the Capitol building in November Washington might have set "the gold dust twins" to doing it in December.

Insanity is the favorite plea of the modern murderer. And when the fee is big enough there is always an alienist to reveal some new form of it in the slayer.

You ask how that porous plaster we put on last week helped. Well, it's drawing some, but not nearly so hard as we expected it to do. The trouble is that every time we appeal for funds those who don't owe us anything remit and put us further in debt while most of those who do either turn the other ear or are "lookin' out the window" when we hold what we think is the winning hand.

They are dragging skeletons out of the English royal closets now. It appears that the late King Edward lost two million at Monte Carlo one night and when his "I O U" didn't look good to the croupier a gentleman by name of Cassell made the King's sack good. Later the royal pride sayer was knighted and is now Sir Edward Cassell. Think of it! Two million to be knighted. For that pile of mazzuma we'd want to be morn'd, noon'd and even'd, too.

Mr. Haldeman-Julius, rich publisher of Girard, Kansas, seems to be another human the fool-killer has overlooked. In order to save his foster daughter the humiliation of learning of her humble origin he publicly declared that she was the daughter of his own wife—born out of wedlock. What a mental slant a man must have who tries to save a woman from something she has nothing to be ashamed of by impeaching the character of the wife he professes to love.

The "Y" drive is over, the High school booster drive is over, the Red Cross enrollment ended Saturday, we have paid for our Christmas seals and Salvation Army support for November and if we can dodge a few festival ticket sellers between now and Christmas we might manage well enough to buy the family a few Baby Ruths and some Alaska pies for the festive occasion. Near-East Relief is in the offing. That's a worthy cause, too, but right now near-Christmas relief is what we're praying for most.

Those of our friends who are in the woods hunting for the sole purpose of getting a mess of venison to send us certainly understand, because we have spoken of it often enough, that we don't care much for deer meat unless it is cooked in a sauce of currant jelly and sherry wine. A present of venison to us should be accompanied by the trimmings. Assuming that our friends know this we want to assure them that there will be no hard feelings if they fail in bringing down a buck. It will be all right with us if they just send the sherry.

The recount of the votes in the several precincts of the county in which it was thought errors had been made that might change the results for the offices of Judge and Prothonotary has made little change. The few errors found were for the most part clerical and such as might have occurred under circumstances far less trying than those under which election boards have to work. While the recount has probably kept Messrs. Fleming and Herr on a very anxious bench it has served a good purpose, since it has been revealed that Centre county election officers would not qualify for such positions in certain districts in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Honestly, Pennsylvania needs a commission on lunacy. It seems that no matter what crowd goes to Harrisburg things are so ridiculously rotten that the public is provoked to laughter rather than retribution when it discovers what has been done. In the new office building down there there is said to be a big hole in the plastering above every door. When a visitor inquires as to why it is there he is informed that it is an aperture designed for a clock. Should his curiosity prompt inquiry as to why the clock is not in place he would probably get this reply: Well, you see, after the architect fixed it all up by putting a clock niche above every door so the clock sub-contract would be a nice piece of public pie he forgot and put eleven doors in one room. That was too much. There were prospects of too many clocks to watch and the State employees threatened mutiny. The architect, the clock sub-contractor and those who approved the plans and specifications, of course, knew that the guileless public would swell with pride and start hollerin' that our State Capitol has more clocks than any other in the world.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 72. BELLEFONTE, PA., DECEMBER 9, 1927. NO. 48.

Absurd Demand of Philadelphia.

The Chamber of Commerce in Philadelphia is running "true to form" in instructing the Senate to admit William S. Vare to a stolen seat in that body. The National Chamber of Commerce had just previously been rebuked by the President for ordering Congress around on the question of tax legislation, but that made no difference to the self-appointed controllers of the universe in Philadelphia. The slush fund controversy pending in the Senate presented an opportunity and they have availed themselves of it. That the Chamber of Commerce of the borough of Bittercreek hasn't dictated opinions of the Supreme Court of the United States is an evidence of forbearance rather than an absence of authority.

The Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce informs the Senate that "the right of a Senator duly elected by one of the States of the Union to take his seat is a fundamental question." But the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania at the time of the election at which Mr. Vare was a candidate refused to certify that Vare was "duly" elected as required by law, and declared that his alleged majority was "partly bought and partly stolen." This certificate left the matter in doubt. Article 1, Section 5, of the constitution of the United States, declares that "each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members." That is quite as "fundamental" as that "the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State."

The claim of Mr. Vare is based on the hypothesis that his rejection will deprive Pennsylvania of equal and constitutional representation in the Senate. But that is a matter of little, if any, concern to the Senate. If Pennsylvania elects a man less than thirty years of age, or one who has been a citizen of the United States less than nine years, or not an inhabitant of the State when elected, he is unable to qualify and the representation is unequal. If a man is elected by fraud he is disqualified and inequality in representation is the result. But that is the fault of the people of the State, and unequal representation is a just penalty for the failure of the voters to elect fit men to represent them.

The Republican caucus turned down the pastor of President Coolidge's church who was a candidate for chaplain of the Senate. It seems to be a habit with Republicans in Congress to turn down the President's friends.

Waste in the Highway Department.

The information made public a week ago that by slovenly management during a period of four years the State Highway department has wasted \$1,500,000 of public money surprised some people and shocked others. It may be only a coincidence that the mismanagement occurred during the Pinchot administration and the revelation at a time when the former Governor is actively engaged in an exposure of the iniquities of the "Mellon-Vare partnership." But analytical minds may put one and the other of these facts together and build up a plausible suspicion. Considerable time has elapsed since the former Governor relinquished control of the department and the new administration assumed charge.

During most of the four year period covered by the expert audit, Mr. Paul D. Wright, of Erie, Pennsylvania, was Secretary of Highways. Mr. Wright is a business man of high standing and unquestioned integrity. He resigned the office a few months before the Pinchot administration ended because of a disagreement with the Governor on the subject of routing an improvement. Mr. W. H. Connell, of Philadelphia, was deputy secretary and engineering executive of the department, and neither his capability nor his integrity has ever been disputed. Upon the accession of the new administration he was dismissed, not for inefficiency, but to make room for a friend of chairman Mellon.

It may be that the waste complained of has been made and that the exposure of it was a civic and patriotic duty. It will be recalled that nearly a year ago, in a public speech delivered at Uniontown, State Treasurer Samuel S. Lewis sharply criticized the methods of management of the Highway department. Having served four years in the office of the Auditor General Mr. Lewis had abundant opportunities of gathering the facts and knowing the truth. But his criticism elicited no response from the present administration. On the contrary every effort was made to discredit or at least quiet him. But now that Mr. Pinchot is taking an active part in the fight against Vare it is timely stuff.

Hard Lines for Mr. Beck.

If Congress should accept the interpretation of the Pennsylvania election law recently handed down by Judge Howard O. Davis, of Philadelphia, with respect to residence qualifications for voters, it will make hard lines for Mr. James M. Beck, corporation lawyer and political shifter. Mr. Beck has hitherto been able to make his party activities very profitable. He began as a Democrat and continued to preach the doctrine of that party as long as the late Mr. Harry cut him fat jobs for him. Then he switched to the Republican party and began feasting on the fat spread on the tables of the party leaders and corporate monopolies. His latest services have been in behalf of William S. Vare.

Every voter in Pennsylvania must be a citizen of the United States at least one month, a resident in the State one year, "or having previously been a qualified elector or a native-born citizen of the State shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months." The constitution of the United States declares that no person shall be a Representative "who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of the State in which he shall be chosen." Judge Davis, in an opinion recently handed down, defined residence of voter as where his family lives. Mr. Beck and his family live in New Jersey in summer time and in Washington during the winter season. Recently, in compliance with an agreement, he rented a room in Philadelphia in order that Vare might appoint him Congressman.

There was no vacancy in the Pennsylvania delegation at the time this agreement was made but Mr. Vare's brother-in-law, James M. Hazlett, held title to one of the seats. Hazlett was promptly ordered to resign and Mr. Vare named Mr. Beck as his successor. Meantime Mr. Beck has been fulfilling his part of the agreement by rendering important legal service to Mr. Vare. Some months ago he prepared and published an argument asserting the constitutional right of Mr. Vare to the seat which had been "partly bought and partly stolen," according to the certificate filed by the Governor. The other day he prepared for Vare's signature an elaborate statement on the subject. If he fails of his recompense he will be in hard luck.

Paris fashion formers are preparing "dolls for men." Well, why not? Infringement of rights ought not to be entirely one-sided.

The President's Message.

President Coolidge persists in the belief or delusion that the country is in a high state of industrial prosperity. Railroad earnings are diminishing, banking operations decreasing, the steel industry languishing in all directions according to the best information attainable. Yet in his annual message to Congress the President states that "it is gratifying to report that for the fourth consecutive year the state of the Union in general is good. The country as a whole," he continues, "has had a prosperity never exceeded. Wages are at their highest range, employment is plentiful."

The President is not too modest to appropriate to himself a considerable share of praise for this condition, real or imaginary. "Without constructive economy in government expenditures," he writes, "we should not now be enjoying these results or these prospects." It will be noticed that he fixes the beginning of the prosperity coincident with his elevation to the office of President. But he neglects to say that the expenditures of the government have increased each year since that, to him, important event. He has boasted freely of economy but the records show that insofar as the executive department is concerned there has been no saving.

The message on the whole is an interesting and well constructed public document. It treats in graceful periods most matters of current public interest. He favors the Mellon plan of tax reduction, throws a few bouquets to the farmers without greatly encouraging the hope of giving them what they want. He pays tribute to the merits of tariff taxation and is so enamored of good roads that he wants operations in that direction to cover the entire western hemisphere, and he is unqualifiedly in favor of prohibition law enforcement. Taking one consideration with another the message will offend nobody.

If Dave Reed and Bill Vare should both be candidates for Senator next year there would be a slush-fund deluge in Pennsylvania.

The President has Congress on his hands now and indications point to a troublesome period.

Pinchot's Just but Futile Complaint.

In an open letter addressed to Senator William M. Butler, of Massachusetts, chairman of the Republican National committee, former Governor Pinchot implores that committee, soon to assemble, to consider "whether the Republican party in the United States Senate will seat William S. Vare and thus condone and encourage corruption of the ballot or whether it will condemn or rebuke it." This is a timely and pertinent inquiry. If Mr. Vare's bogus claim is ratified by the Republican majority of the Senate men of the type of Vare and Smith, "the slush fund twins," will soon be in control of the legislation in Congress. Senate seats will become commodities for bargain and sale.

The Steel trust has its attorney on the floor and the Oil trust, the Beef trust, the Sugar trust, and last but not least, the Electric trust, want their interests equally well protected and they have both the money and inclination to buy, at whatever price is demanded, the influence which will serve their purpose. Mr. Smith, of Illinois, was elected Senator by votes bought with money of the public service corporations and it is widely believed that most of the funds used in buying votes for Mr. Vare was collected from the bootleggers, dive keepers and other criminals in Philadelphia and other cities of Pennsylvania. If the Republican Senators ratify these transactions they are equally culpable.

Gifford Pinchot, for some inexplicable reason, affiliates with the Republican party though he knows of its iniquities. He is personally honest and sufficiently independent and courageous to denounce the frauds and crimes that his party leaders perpetrate and encourage. But he seems to lack that essential element of the crusader which would lead him to cut loose from the evil association and attack from an angle that would be effective. Writing to chairman Butler will have no better result than complaining to Max Leslie or Tom Cunningham. If he would subdue his absurd prejudices and join the Democratic party thousands of others who believe in him would follow such a wholesome example.

If "Big Tom" Cunningham had told the truth to the Slush Fund committee Vare would have nothing on Smith, of Illinois, as to the source of his campaign fund.

Important Dietary Problem.

The relative food value of home-cooked and canned vegetables has finally become the subject of newspaper discussion. For many years the fifty-seven varieties of one establishment and the products of many other concerns dedicated to the same industry have formed the subject of conversation among people far and wide. The can-opener as a culinary implement has had supporters and detractors in every community and the question whether the can-opener has been more destructive of human life than the frying pan has been debated in millions of kitchens. It has not been definitely settled but common consent ascribes to both considerable responsibility for the prevalence of indigestion in various forms.

A correspondent of the New York Times has recently undertaken to prove that canned are superior to home-cooked vegetables, measured as a nutritive agent. He says that "a number of foods have been critically studied at Columbia University under the direction of Professor Walter H. Eddy, of Teachers' college, and it was found that the canned foods are actually richer in vitamin than similar foods purchased in the market in New York and cooked in the home economics department of Teachers' college according to the modern method." This is not altogether convincing in the absence of a description of the modern methods in the home economics department of the college.

But even if it be true it is more or less confusing for the reason that in the average mind there may be confusion as to the value of vitamin C in the processes of nutrition. If one only knew what vitamin C does to a fellow and how much of it he needs in his system, the greater supply in canned goods might be worth considering. The writer in question may or may not be able to qualify as an expert, and as he writes from Washington he may be only one of the vast army of swivel-chair oracles who draw large salaries for preparing essays on one subject or another to confuse the public mind, in which event his opinion on the relative value of canned or cooked cabbage would be worthless.

Speculation is rife as to who Governor Fisher will appoint Senator to fill the vacancy caused by the ousting of Vare.

No Election Contest in Centre County.

There will not be any election contests in Centre county, according to the decision arrived at on Wednesday morning by W. Harrison Walker and prothonotary Roy Wilkinson, after a recount of the vote in six election precincts failed to show any evidence of fraud or sufficient change from the official count made after the election to warrant any further effort. A few minor changes were found but not enough to effect the result either way.

The count of the votes in the Second and Third wards of Philipsburg did not show evidence of wilful or intentional fraud, although there were clerical errors found in both wards. The count started at 9:30 o'clock on Friday morning, J. Randall Miller, of Millheim, having been substituted on the computing board appointed by the court for Eben Bower, of Bellefonte, who had made a prior engagement. It took until 1:30 o'clock Saturday morning to complete the count which showed a gain of three votes for Mr. Walker and four less for Mr. Fleming, or a net change of seven votes. Roy Wilkinson gained five votes in the count against S. Claude Herr.

The votes in the Third ward were counted on Saturday, when Mr. Walker gained one vote and Mr. Fleming's vote was the same as returned by the election board. Mr. Wilkinson gained four votes, which with the five in the Second ward cut S. Claude Herr's majority down to sixteen. The slight increase in Mr. Walker's vote cut Fleming's majority down to forty-nine.

On Monday Mr. Wilkinson filed petitions for a recount of the votes cast in the South and West wards of Bellefonte and the East precinct of Liberty, following it up on Tuesday by another petition for a recount in Patton township. The affidavits to the petition for a recount in the South ward were made by Henry Kline, Jacob Marks and Frank Smith, and those for the West ward by Thomas Fleming, James H. Rine and Harry Jones.

To count the vote cast in the South ward the court appointed Harry N. Meyer, John J. Bower, Esq., Harris Hartranft, H. Laird Curtin and Fred J. Healy. For the West ward, Rev. Homer C. Knox, Harry Murtorff, Carl Detrick, Gideon Payne and Daniel Clemson, and for East Liberty, Leo Toner, E. E. Arbery, Mrs. Eben Bower, Mrs. Violet Morris and Miss Verna Chambers. All the above boards went to work on Tuesday morning before the Patton township box was brought in.

In the West ward of Bellefonte Wilkinson gained one vote and Herr two, while Fleming gained one. In Patton township Wilkinson made a gain of two over Herr, while the count in East Liberty came out exactly with that returned by the election board.

One or two minor changes were found in the South ward, of Bellefonte, but they were not sufficient to make any material change in the status of the candidates. The recount has shown two things, at least. One is that no human being is infallible, and that slight clerical errors are liable to creep into any computation of figures, but the most satisfactory thing was the entire absence of intentional fraud on the part of Centre county election boards.

National Guard Officers Favor Larger Camping Grounds.

At a meeting of high ranking officers of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, held in Scranton last Friday, a resolution was adopted unanimously calling upon Governor Fisher to appoint a committee to act on the question of making Mount Gretna of sufficient size to accommodate the entire guard at one time. In the event that sufficient land cannot be obtained to do so, the committee was urged to purchase the site offered the State at or near Benore, in Centre county. The latter site, by the way, has been under consideration for some time and would be large enough for all purposes.

"Less government regulation of business" is an announced policy of the administration. Tariff tax reduction would be an excellent method of putting that policy into practice.

Senator Dave Reed's first filibuster resulted in the defeat of much meritorious legislation. His second venture of that kind ended in a fluke.

Probably Mr. Insell had visions of electrical legislation in mind when he contributed so liberally to Frank Smith's campaign fund.

There are a million motorists in Pennsylvania who failed to apply for license tags for next year.

The Watchman gives all the news while it is news.

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

Thieves entered the ladies' and gents' furnishing store of William Cohen, Lehighton, early on Monday, and took fur coats and silk dresses to the value of \$5,000.

Another meanest man has been discovered in the person of Lewis E. Newcomer, of Williamsport, for whom a warrant has been issued charging him with stealing \$150 his stepfather had saved to buy a marker for the grave of the young man's mother.

Taking offense at remarks of President Judge Fuller, of Luzerne county, about "squealers," H. F. Boyle, former member of Hanover school board, says he will refuse to testify in future trials of the former directors, who have already been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for graft.

Surprised while robbing the residence of Mrs. L. N. D. Schurch, adjoining the Plymouth country club, in Montgomery county, a burglar dropped a fur coat, valued at \$600, as he was going over the fence in his haste to escape. A man's coat, valued at \$45, and a silk scarf were the only articles taken.

When John Conlon, janitor of Sacred Heart Catholic church, Pittsburgh, died, he left \$200 to the poor of the parish. The Rev. Thomas F. Conkey, pastor of the church, has announced that Conlon's name will be carved in a memorial to be constructed for the sanctuary. Conlon was the church janitor for forty-four years.

Thomas J. Cassidy, of Aspinwall, engineer of a westbound freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad, was fatally scalded Sunday morning by escaping steam after his locomotive was derailed near Summerhill. Death occurred the same afternoon at Cambria hospital, in Johnstown. J. W. Brewster, Aspinwall, fireman, and E. L. Bower, Homewood, brakeman, sustained minor injuries.

John R. Genser died the other day leaving an enduring monument in good deeds. He was a banker and manufacturer of Kutztown, not interested in establishing a social autocracy or any superficial leadership, but content to do good. His estate, conservatively estimated at \$700,000, goes to foster children, churches, charitable homes and other institutions. Again a lesson for the stewards of wealth.

Three masked bandits visited the Rosedale Inn, at Youngsport, Dauphin county, about 9:30 o'clock Sunday night, held up the proprietor and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coltricht, and escaped with \$80 in cash. Mr. and Mrs. Coltricht were the only inmates in the building at the time the three men arrived. While one stood guard on the outside the other pair, with guns drawn, entered the building and rifled the cash drawer.

Struck by an excursion train and knocked from the Bald Eagle Valley railroad tracks, about a mile southeast of Lock Haven, Sunday, Mrs. Harry Perri, of that city, miraculously escaped with bruises and lacerations. Mrs. Perri had become bewildered on her way home from church, and wandered up the railroad tracks. The train was going about twenty miles an hour, but the locomotive struck the woman before it could be stopped.

Another well-known Harrisburger who will go traveling in the west, shortly is Fred Rasmussen, former Secretary of Agriculture, now president of the National Ice Cream Manufacturers' association, with headquarters in Harrisburg. Mr. Rasmussen will address conventions of ice cream men in many cities all the way to Los Angeles. The ice cream business is growing by leaps and bounds, and Mr. Rasmussen looks for a still further development, as the business is placed on a scientific basis.

Mrs. R. C. Chronister, of York, Pa., although only 38 years old, has been married seven times within twenty years. Four of her husbands met tragic deaths, only one being divorced. Her first met his end being two rollers, a headway accident proved fatal to the second, number 3 met his fate on railroad tracks and the fourth was burned to death. The fifth died a natural death and the sixth marriage ended in divorce. Her present venture is proving one of the happiest of the lot, she said recently.

Twenty-five members of the Clinton county Fish and Game association and other sportsmen of the county, distributed \$400 brook trout sent there from the State fish hatchery at Corry, Friday. Some of the distributors did not complete the work until after midnight, due to the heavy snow and the high mountain streams. Seventeen cans were placed in McElhattan Run; twenty-five in Chatham Run; ten in Lick Run; fifteen in Scootac creek; five in Felney Run; five in Long Run; thirty-three in Fishing creek and ten in Queens Run.

The Rev. J. Miles Pheasant and Mrs. Pheasant enjoyed rather a strenuous ten days which included a motor trip from Macon, Ga., which proved a race with the stork. The Rev. Pheasant, a former member of the Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist church, was called to Grove Memorial church of Lewistown to succeed the Rev. Ralph R. Miller. The Rev. and Mrs. Pheasant left Macon November 23 and reached Mill Creek, the home of Mrs. Pheasant's mother, a few hours before the stork presented them with a fine boy.

Letters continue to pour in on Mary Luzuske, of Frackville, the pretty nineteen-year-old daughter of a Frackville miner, who recently offered to sell herself to any man who would liquidate her father's debts, amounting to \$9,000. The girl received forty-three letters on Friday and almost as many on Saturday, but she has announced that her offer was made in fun, although she admitted soliciting the aid of a New York newspaper to help in finding her a \$9,000 husband. She says she has burned all the letters received, but when asked, "Did you read them first?" she refused to answer.

James Jackson, a Creek Indian, charged with attempting to pass \$1 bills raised to \$20 notes, was well supplied with the bogus currency when arrested at Reading, on Saturday. In his possession were found \$445 worth of raised notes as well as \$51 in good money. He will be turned over to Federal authorities. Jackson, 55 years old, hails from Muskogee, Okla., and came to grief late Saturday night when he tried to pass one of the bills on John Orth, a Reading merchant. Orth called police, who found a revolver hidden under the prisoner's armpit. Examination of his cash this morning disclosed the spurious bills, which defied detection except under close scrutiny.