

INK SLINGS.

Old Senator Moses, the eastern pilot of the Republican ark, evidently doesn't view Massachusetts as a land of promise.

We'll never believe that the blight killed all the chestnuts in Pennsylvania until the publicity department of the Pennsylvania State College stops sending out stories of the rattlesnake dinners that forestry students and nature study clubs of that institution indulge in.

We note that Dr. Wm. R. Ham is in Evanston, Ill., this week for the opening of the second annual session of the American Chemical Society.

We like the way George W. Norris, governor of the federal reserve bank in Philadelphia and comptroller of the currency under President Wilson, put it.

The East Manchester, N. H., tennis club held a lawn fete last week and instead of advertising ice cream and cake as the usual inducement placarded the town with announcements that root beer would be on sale.

On Tuesday an eminently good woman called our attention to an incident that we noted at the time but attached no significance to.

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As a matter of fact the present tariff law has afforded protection to the "great American pay-roll" in recent years but at the expense of the great American pay-envelope.

The Democratic platform pledges the incoming Democratic administration to favor a tariff law that "will permit effective competition, insure against monopoly and at the same time produce a fair revenue for the support of the government."

There is some comfort in the thought that Herbert Hoover's pussy-footing days are drawing to a close.

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Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Pennsylvania a Doubtful State.

When Mayor Mackey warned the Republicans, of Philadelphia, that in the event that Governor Smith, of New York, were nominated for President by the Democratic party Pennsylvania would be a doubtful State, he was not drawing upon his imagination.

The new chairman of the Democratic State committee, John R. Collins, of Potter county, has already begun to lay lines for an effective and efficient Democratic organization.

There will be no "usual" Republican majority in Philadelphia this year and Pittsburgh will not stuff ballot boxes and expand returns after the old "strip district" fashion.

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Tariff Tax Under a New Name.

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An Unsolvable Problem.

It is not easy to reason out why even prohibition fanatics should prefer the attitude in which his party has placed Herbert Hoover to that which Governor Smith has assumed on the question of prohibition enforcement.

On the other hand Governor Smith gives positive assurance that he will support the Eighteenth amendment, in the event of his election, and enforce the Volstead law so long as it remains a law.

As a matter of fact it may be said that opposing Governor Smith on account of his attitude on prohibition enforcement is a false pretense advanced to conceal a more detestable sin, religious bigotry.

George Bernard Shaw has decided to visit this country notwithstanding his repeated declarations that he never would do so.

The Kellogg Peace Movement.

Practically all the governments invited to subscribe to Secretary Kellogg's proposition to "renounce war," have accepted.

We have previously expressed the opinion that the main purpose of the present administration's activity in the direction of the Kellogg treaty was to embarrass the operations of the League of Nations.

With the acceptance of practically all governments invited the Kellogg enterprise may be regarded as accomplished.

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Mr. McSparran's Absurd Suggestion.

Mr. John A. McSparran, of Lancaster county, who was one of five out of seventy-six and one of about 100 out of a total of 1100 delegates in the Houston convention who voted against the nomination of Governor Smith, for President, has availed himself of the first opportunity to advise the chairman of the Democratic National committee on the conduct of the campaign.

Every member of the Houston convention knew in advance of the balking Governor Smith's attitude on the Volstead law.

When the five gentleman of council who voted to permit a filling station at the corner of Allegheny and Howard streets can convince the home owners in that section that they would have voted to grant such a permit in front of their own homes they will probably redeem themselves in the minds of those for whom they seem to have had little consideration.

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A Delegate of 23 Years Ago.

He would never have heard of the radio, or the movie, or the airplane, or the disk phonograph, or the tractor, or the Federal Reserve system, or insulin, or 606, or relativity, or electrons, or the Volstead act, or the Nineteenth amendment, or bobbed hair.

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Profitable Swindles In and Out of Politics.

From the Philadelphia Record.

When we read in the newspapers that an American has received a letter from a Spanish prison inmate who has secretly buried a treasure which he will divide with his correspondent in the United States if the latter will finance his recovery, and that our fellow-citizen has swallowed the bait and lost his money, we marvel that any one could believe the Spanish prisoner's preposterous tale.

When we hear that two men, finding a pocketbook filled with a large sum of money, have accosted a third and offered to divide their find with him, and have proposed to leave the whole of it in his keeping temporarily if he will put up a few hundred dollars as security, and that, having put up the security, the holder of the pocketbook discovers it to be filled not with the money he saw there, but with waste paper, we smile.

When we learn that the inventor of a machine which will convert plain, white paper into \$20 bills has demonstrated its operation to a prospective purchaser and sold it to him at a high price we wonder how the dupe, who must be utterly devoid of brains, ever managed to accumulate the sum of which he has been deprived by a particularly transparent bit of humbug.

After all, there is no great difference between the victims of the Spanish prisoner, pocketbook, money-making machine and other oft-exposed swindles and the estimable but too-confiding citizens who allow themselves to be persuaded every four years that the installation of a Democratic President in the White House would be ruinous to business.

We believe that Republican calamity howling will not be as successful this year as in former Presidential years, even though the crop of victims of other swindles shows no signs of decrease.

Belleville can make up its mind that the streets that are now being dug up by the Central Pennsylvania Gas Co. will not be back to their regular, normal surface in less than three years.

Before Mexico, blood-drenched and ravaged, can hope for material better conditions the whole viewpoint of the public must be changed.

When Roosevelt was running for the Presidency after having been elevated to the White House by the death of McKinley, a friend of the writer and an ardent admirer of the Rough Rider was engaged in mining work in Mexico.

A lot of water has run down the Rio Grande since then, but the Mexican has not yet got a true vision of popular government.

The assassination of Obregon probably has set Mexico back five or more years in its program of progress.

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SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE

"This safe is open. Don't crack it." Burglars found this message posted on the safe when they broke into the office of the Texas Oil company, in Lancaster.

James Thompson, 55, sat on the porch roof of his home at Lost Creek, near Pottsville, on Sunday, watching a baseball game across the road.

William Albright and J. P. Lynch, tinmiths in the Pennsylvania railroad shops, at Renovo, have been presented with fifty-year buttons by H. H. Russell, division superintendent.

Four hours and 25 minutes was required to convert standing wheat into chocolate cake in the so-called Lancaster county pastry derby.

Police are investigating the recent hold-up of a truck laden with silk from the Schwarzenbach-Huber silk mills, at Columbia, Pa.

A lone masked bandit, flourishing an automatic pistol, held up a crew and passengers of a Nanticoke trolley car early on Sunday, at a lonely point in Hanover township, Luzerne county.

Honor is its own reward, according to Motorcycle Policeman Carter, of Philadelphia, who found a bag containing \$5,000 in cash.

Although most persons have submitted to vaccination and the situation is described as well in hand, the danger from the spread of the smaltop epidemic affixed in the vicinity of the State Line in Franklin county is not past.

John Wert, 22 years old, of Lewis town, is recovering from an attempt at suicide in the Mifflin county jail when he punctured his right lower abdomen with a table knife.

Farm labor in Pennsylvania on July 1 was being paid the lowest wage with board since 1923.

Jesse Hassinger, of Milroy, one of the trappers for the State Game Commission, went to Lewis town after capturing the last of the three beavers which were responsible for the flooding of 1000 acres of forest lands.

Clinton Fritz, of Pottstown, is believed, the snake he saw while helping to make hay on the farm of Frank Davidheiser, at Glasgow, is the largest that has ever been seen in those parts, and is similar in size only to those seen in the Philadelphia Zoo.

Persons acquainted with snake lore say that they usually travel in pairs, so according to that there must be two of that size. Farmers in that vicinity are keeping close watch on their young shoots.