

INK SLINGS.

In a panic of despair last week we turned to rambling, pointless comment on "hexing" in order to get this column filled up. When we read the stuff in the proof it seemed so inept that we were minded to delete it all, but since there was nothing to take its place it had to "ride." As is often the case paragraphs with the least punch seem to command the most reader interest.

From many persons, locally and abroad, we have heard so much about it that we infer that there are more readers with a well developed curiosity about the subject than we had any idea of.

Why is it? Just why should anyone be interested in fortune telling, looking in the Almanac to see the right sign to do gardening, knocking on wood when they want to ward off ill luck, or thousands of the other little hocus pocuses we all indulge in superstition and only the illiterate and ignorant are superstitious.

Call it what you may there's a bit of it in the nature of every human being, rich or poor, high or low, intellectual or moron.

It dates back so far that we shall not attempt to find its genesis. That would be of little interest anyway. However, civilization-which is enlightenment-has advanced by leaps and bounds since they burned witches at the stake up in New England, yet witchcraft, or belief in it, is still inwas proven beyond question at the trial of the "hex" murderers down in York county only last week. And we call them "poor benighted souls" when as a matter of fact they suffer violently from what affects us only mildly. In other words there are few of us who don't have a sneaking belief of some sort that is pretty nearly a half brother to hexing. If we don't-

Why did the boys of our generation wear a string of red woolen yarn around the neck to prevent nose bleed?

Why did so may men tie a piece of eel skin arund their wrist to keep their muscles from becoming strained?

Why couldn't a hotel keeper, once well known in Bellefonte, sleep if someone accidentally kicked his shoes off a certain spot at the side of his bed where he always placed them befor retiring?

with goose grease and pointed it in



Vare's Evasion Coming to an End. Logical Successor to Fall and Work.

addressed to William S. Vare, Sena- of Virginia, to the office of Secretary sweeping over the State that the potor Reed, of Missouri, briefly sum- of the Interior, now under consider- litical machine intends to defeat the tion of the Senatorial election in restoration of the Republican party the recently adopted constitutional Vare ten days in which to prepare Washington, in 1921, that depart- use of voting machines. That amendand present his defense. The Slush ment has been an unfailing fountain ment was adopted by an overwhelmfund committee found, according to of competition and graft. Albert B. ing majority and under adverse con- If Mr. Rockefeller succeeds he will this summary, that in less than half Fall established a trading post for the ditions. That is to say, the centralof the election divisions 21,572 tax disposal of oil leases, not exactly to ization of interest in the presidential occasionally. They say it's a sign of receipts had been illegally issued; the highest bidders, but to favorite contest diverted the minds of many in 167 divisions the names of 2018 campaign contributors and he was registrations had been made in 1111 who continued to dispense favors amendment neglected to vote for its divisions; that the vote was correct- along the same lines. Upon his vol- adoption. Besides some of those oply counted in only 181 of the 1500 untary retirement Roy West was in- posd to it, but afraid to declare the divisions; that in 141 divisions "in- stalled in the office. He was expect- fact, reasoned that it could be de- trial. tentional fraudulent returns" were re- ed to take care of the interests of the feated by failure to enact the enavealed and that in every ward people power trust and other utility corpor- bling legislation. not registered voted.

These facts are sufficient to nullify the returns of all the divisions in cessor to this trio of emissaries of necessary legislation with apparent which the frauds occurred. But they greed and graft. For more than a sincerity. But it may be recalled that do not complete the case against Mr. quarter of a century he has been an at the beginning of the session of 136 divisions individuals voted two cept during the period of the Wilson form legislation with equal earnest- shabby deal. He swore that he knew "more than 2000 votes were return- instrument between the administra- measures which, if enacted into law, ed as cast in excess of the number tion and the southern office seekers. would have gone a long way toward of voters listed and in 527 divisions Long continued service in this work securing honest elections. But be-4064 more were returned as cast than gave him vast influence in the selecwere checked in the registers." That tion of delegates to the National conin 395 divisions the number of ballots ventions of his party and correspond- permitted them to be emasculated to cast exceeded the number of voters ing power with the administrations he such an extent as to rob them of all listed and in 699 divisions ballots cast thus helped to create. So far as exceeded the number of votes checked; available records show the only elecin 38 divisions large groups of names tive office he ever held was that of posed legislation with respect to the in the voters' lists were erased and largely negroes. altered.

In more than 100 boxes ballots were

we know grease a wagon tongue evade the just consequences of crimes office of secretary to the President. portunity to accomplish this result perpetrated in his behalf and under ever. A time limit has been set and the southern delegates were herded will be sent to join Smith of Illinois. Fall, Work and West.

In a letter, dated January 14, and The appointment of Bascom Slemp, marizes the results of the investiga- ation, would be logical. Since the legislation necessary to give force to Pennsylvania in 1926 and gives Mr. to control of the government at amendment providing for the optional voters were forged; that fraudulent succeeded in office by Hubert Work, reform, and many who favored the ations.

were recored as voting in alphabet- Representative in Congress for his voting machines will be made. ical order and more than 5000 names home district, his constituency being

found which had never been folded ers of his party by appointing Bas- chines will cost immensely and put a vast sum to which he admitted he and in 36 divisions "groups of five com Slemp secretary, which office he onerous burdens upon taxpayers in or more ballots were found where it held for some time. During the early communities where election frauds owners, his stockholders, for six Mrs. Rodgers of near Monongahela. was apparent that the lawful mark stages of the investigation of the are never attempted and could not of the voter had been erased and an- Fall-Sinclair oil scandal it was re- succeed. Such communities need not other mark inserted" and that "in vealed that Mr. Slemp had acted as adopt the machine method of voting why he had given false testimony un- prominent leader in the Grange. eight divisions the ballot boxes con- "go-between" in the negotiation be- and consequently will not be burden- der oath as to his connection with the tained no valid ballots whatever." tween Fall and McLean. Whether ed with the expense. But in the com- odious affair. In the face of these and other proofs this association was repugnant to munities which habitually debauch the of fraud the Committee of the Senate has been allowing William S Vare to ward Slemp resigned the important correcting this great evil and the op-manded that Stewart resign a posi-Why did a certain young farmer has been allowing William S Vare to ward Slemp resigned the important correcting this great evil and the op-

Important Legislation in Danger. There is a current of suspicion

voters from the importance of ballot

In his message to the General As-Bascom Slemp would be a fit suc- sembly Governor Fisher urges the fore his bills had progressed far, under pressure of the party bosses, he potency. The signs indicate that an steal, the peculations of trusted officeffort to similarly hamstring the pro- ers of great industrial corporations,

The first step in this sinister enterprise will be directed toward the he had not used any of the dirty mon-When Mr. Coolidge became Presi- alienation of the rural Legislators. ey. But he arrogantly refused to exdent he surprised most of the lead- They will be told that the voting maould not be wasted on any account.

## Rockefeller, Stewart and the Ethics of Big Business.

From the Philadelphia Record. The effort of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., to dislodge Robert W. Stewart as chairman of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana signifies much more than an encounter between two individuals.

As such it is not of great moment. gain neither in wealth nor power; if Stewart holds his place the company will continue to prosper. Yet the contest is of far-reaching significance and importance, because the fundamental issue is the honor of the oil industry, of big business, of the investment system. It is not Stewart, but these institutions, that are on

The record makes this plain. It shows that Stewart was one of four corporation executives who secretly divided \$3,000,000 of illicit profits on the sale of oil to their own companies. Called as a witness in the Senherent in the human mind. That fact or more times." That in 341 divisions administration, he was the recognized ness and had prepared a number of nothing about the division, had rereived no share, had never made a dollar out of the transaction.

Forced to take the witness stand again, after the truth had been established, he admitted that in fact he had collected \$759,500 in bonds out of what Senator Walsh called "the ill-gotten gains of a contemptible private pilfering from their own stockhold-

He exhibited no contrition and little embarrassment. He insisted that plain why he had furtively accepted had no honest title; why he had conhis possession of it had been exposed;

It was upon these facts that Mr. tion in which he had gravely impaired the repute of the oil industry and of the "whole structure of business." berland county court. On June 17, the wife asserted, the two young men came to Stewart contemptuously refused to the Pitcoskie homestead and engaged in quit. And last March he was reelected.

## SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

-A hog which dressed 1109½ pounds was butchered by James Loughner, a farmer of near Jeannette, last week. The live weight of the animal was 1225 pounds. -A warrant was served Monday night on Mayor Joseph Cauffiel, of Johnstown, charging him with extortion, failure to file election expense accounts and perjury, Bail was fixed at \$8000.

-A jury in common pleas court at Pittsburgh, awarded \$150,000 damages to Michael Papson. Homestead, who sued the American Bridge company for injuries suffered while working on a consruction job. A steel window sash he averred, fell on him afte having been loosened by bridge company workmen employed on the same project.

-A few minutes after R. T. Dunnard and his family had left their home at Harrisburg Run, near Bradford, on Tuesday night, to visit neighbors, the house was wrecked by an explosion. Gas was believed to have accumulated from a broken pipe. The house, a frame structure, and the furniture were blown to pieces. Loss was estimated at between \$3000 and \$4000.

-F. W. Gowland, of Burnham, is the owner of a \$4 bill of Continential currency, printed by Holt and Seller's July 22, 1776, authorized by a resolution of Congress and calling for four Spanish milled dollars, either gold or silevr. It is of the size of the ordinary "shinplaster" currency, but different as it is printed on paper in which flaked silver has been impressed instead of the usual water lines of silk threads of the present currency.

-James Robertson, aged 89, an employee of the New York Central railroad shops at Avis, ended his life at his home in Lock Haven on Friday by means of gas. He attached a crock to the wall of his room, placed a hose attached to a gas ate investigation of the Fall-Sinclair jet in the crock, then thrust his head do not complete the case against Mr. quarter of a century he has been an at the beginning of the session of oil lease scandal he denied, under into the crock and turned on the gas. Vare. The evidence shows that "in office broker in Washington and ex- 1927 he demanded adequate ballot re- oath, that he had participated in this His body was found by his daughter inlaw, who noticed a diminution of the gas pressure and made an investigation.

> -John Honus Wagner, famous baseball player of two decades ago, has been named an assistant sergeant at arms in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg. The great Pittsburgh shortstop, now a resident of Canegie, will help keep order on the floor of the house in the 1929 session at a salary of \$7 per day. Wagner for years held the National league batting championship in addition to being rated as the best shortstop in the league.

-Announcement has been made at Washington, Pa., of the raising of the sum of \$1,000 for the equipping of a memorial room in the new women's dormitory at Pennsylvania State College. The funds were raised by the Pennsylvania Grange. as a testimonial to the late Mrs. Louise years; why he had clung to it until the campaign to raise money for the dormitory now being built and was a

-As restitution for a beating suffered at the hands of two young Kulpmont men, Walter Polack and Alek Demansk, \$1001 has been awarded Sofia and John Pitcoskie, husband and wife, by the Northuman argumnt with her husband. Finally, they began to beat him and, when she tred to interfere, even though she was ill the visitors beat her, too. The wife was awarded \$700, while the husband was given \$301. -The Treverton Times prints a story of a family in Northumberland county theless, has performed a courageous subsisting on acorns during last summer and up to the present time. The father has been out of work and had been idle because of the shutting down of the North money, pouched in an illegitimate town. He worked only eighteen days of last year. The name of the amily was In these days of wide investment, not given. The acorns were cooked and also eaten raw. The children would go ed and snowed yesterday there is no indication of enough of it to improve ownership, it is vital that the public to the hills to gather them and bring them home in large baskets. them home in large baskets. -With the arrival of 125 machines and a corps of experts to install them, Shamokin's new shirt factory, over which Superintendent I. Bernstein will preside. is preparing to begin operations within the next ten days. Over 150 persons have been employed by the company to engage in the process of shirt-making. The product, after being run through a complete laundry and pressing outfit, will be loaded onto trucks and delivered at New York city. An enlargement of the plant and an increase in the number of employees are anticipated within six months. -In the home of J. F. Fagan, Juniata county game protector, is drying one of the most valuable furs to be found in Pennsylvania, at least in a wild State, a beaver pelt. The animal was killed by Brooks L. Kennedy, Port Royal, while driving near Woodward, Mifflin county, where there is a large colony of the animals a short distance from the public road. He picked the beaver up as soon as he was able to stop his car and turned it over at once to the local game protector. When put on the scales the much protected beaver weighed 18% pounds.

the direction of a neighbor's barn so that the rats that were eating up everything in his grainary would go to board with his more opulent neighbor for a while ?- they did do it, too.

We could keep on whying clear down to the end of the column but what's the need. If you are honest with yourself-and we don't care who you are-you'll admit that in some form or other you have some pet superstition. If you won't we'd like to be in a room with you at the time some person start to hoist an umbrella.

To this point we have treated the subject as the offspring of supersti- April. President-elect Hoover has tion. In the degree in which it is mystification.

of a "professor" just far enough to the others act. becomes the most comfortable spot of tariff taxation. on your epidermis.

what is your idea of it all?

say that you laugh only to conceal your own little superstitions.

puzzles us.

someday be revealed.

-Coolidge's breakfasts appear to have lost in appealing power. Senator Bingham enjoyed the meal but refused to change his mind.

Extra Session of Congress Certain.

There will be an extra session of Congress next spring, probably in reluctantly agreed to this, not as the the Kellogg peace pact much too serbelieved in we are inclined to think farm bloc imagine to enact a relief jously. But Missourians are proverbit is, yet there are so many collateral measure, but to satisfy the demands ially curious. They always want to sides to it that we own to a certain of the tariff mongers. The promise see everything and in this instance was given to Senator McNary, late there is nothing to see. Senator Reed We talk about the devil and one sponsor of the McNary-Haugen bill, likens the Kellogg treaty to a Trojan of his imps appear. We sit in the because yielding to the farmers looks horse. That is an impossible interrear of a large audience and concen- better than surrendering to the tariff pretation. The celebrated Trojan trate on some one sitting in front of mongers. But the purpose of the horse had something inside of it, and us. Invariably he or she will turn and President-elect is to serve the inter- this treaty is empty. Mr. Kellogg look back in a very short time. That ests of those who contributed most and Senator Borah have both admitis mental telepathy, you say. Per- liberally to the campaign fund. They ted that fact. That being true it haps it is. If it is, what is "hexing?" are less credulous and more urgent. made little if any difference wheth-Hypnotism is accepted by science as The farmers may be more vociferous er the treaty was ratified with resera reality. We know its not a fake in their demands but they are less vations or without. Most of the signabecause once we submitted to the will dangerous. They only threaten while tories made reservations. But Borah

discover that in another moment he The revised McNary-Haugen bill fact that may be truly said of the might have had us doing all sorts of could have been passed easily dur- treaty itself. fool things had we not snapped out ing the present session. Mr. Hoover We take it that Senator Reed is of it. And what, if you please, is the had agreed to approve it with the equally wide of the mark in his statedifference between the hypnotic sug- "fee" provision eliminated. The farm ment that the ratification of the gestion and the "hex" suggestion? If bloc Senators had practically agreed Kellogg pact may ultimately lead us we're ready to swallow hypnotism to cut out the objectionable feature into the League of Nations. The why strain at "hexing?" Hypotism and the new bill had already been original purpose of the enterprise was or "hexing" isn't in it for results with placed upon the calendar. But the to keep us out of the League of Napow-wowing or fire blowing. Hpy- tariff mongers realized that the pas- tions. It was intended as a nostrum notism only makes you believe that sage of the bill would remove the which might fool the world into the the big wart on your nose isn't there. only valid reason for calling an extra blief that it is "something just as An honest to goodness pow wower session and that they would be oblig- good" for purposes for which will give that old wart such a dose ed to wait nearly a year for any Con- the League was created. Pubof marasmus that it will fade com- gressional action for their benefit. lic sentiment was rapidly flowpletely in two weeks. Hypnotism on- Under the circumstances McNary ing in the direction of m e mly makes you believe that the burn obligingly agreed to postpone farm bership in the League and some of the on your skin isn't painful, but a "fire relief until the next Congress could "bitter-enders" set their minds to the blower" will make two passes and be assembled. It may postone farm task of checking this trend. The three puffs at the sore and at once it relief but it will hasten the increase multilateral treaty is the product of er in the organization of the Legis-

President-elect Hoover has had lit- ed. The League is prospering. Knowing all we have said to be the experience with practical politics In view of the facts opposing the true-which you probably do not- but he is learning "the tricks of the ratification of the treaty was a willful Laugh your head off at "hexing" if that money is the potent influence in it was ratified or not and whether resyou want to, but if you won't move on organizing victories and that those ervations are made or not prepara-Friday because "a Friday flit is a who supply the sinews of war must tions for war alike in this and other eerie when a black cat runs across the There are various interests to be tak- pact will go forward. The same Senroad ahead of you we're right here to en care of. The chemical manufac- ate that ratifie it will direct the turers are first in the field and their construction of fifteen 10,000 ton demands are not what might be called cruisers so as to be ready to meet

the way down the line. Paid law- wasting not only his own time but We think there isn't, but we are yers and high-priced specialists have that of Congress, which is expensive. session is for them.

In the campaign for delegates to the his sanction for more than two years. Kansas City convention Slemp was an The expense should not be considered But such things cannot continue for- enthusiastic supporter of Hoover and for it is a false pretense. on Thursday next Mr Vare will have as usual. Taking one consideration opportunity to plead and after that he with another he is a fit successor to county is one of extreme seriousness approaching annual meeting he will

> -There may be fifty or a hundred people outside of the Philadelphia Municipal court interested in the Presidency of that body, but no more.

#### Senator Reed Wasted Time.

Senator Reed, of Missouri, takes declares they don't mean a thing. In

their efforts and it has already fail- lature.

trade" rapidly. He already realizes and useless waste of time. Whether multilateral treaty. Mellon has a short sit" or if you feel just a little be recognized in dispensing the spoils. countries which have adhered to the opposition to the repeal of the anof the highly educated person is what ed to "go the limit." And so on all Senator Reed meant well but he was of particulars in each case. need it.

-The water situation in Centre at the present time. Not only are win again. There are reports, inmany wells and cisterns throughout the county absolutely dry but the supply of water for many of the villages in the county is lower than ever public service in seeking proxies to before. The Milesburg water supply is frozen dry, and the same condi- six years held three-quarters of a tion prevails at Clarence. Other million dollars of the stockholders' Franklin mines, the only industry in the towns that depend on small mountains streams are either dry or have a very limited supply. While it rained and snowed yesterday there is no the water supply.

chairman if the committee on mines and mining State Senator Harry B. Scott drew a place on the following committees: Appropriations, education, finance forestry, game and fisheries, insurance, municipal affairs, public grounds and buildings, public merely because of involvement in a health and sanitation, public roads and highways, and railroads. Representative J. Laird Holmes' committee appointments includes appropriations, federal relations, fisheries, judiciary local, law and order and military.

-John Pierpont Morgan is increasing his sphere of operations. As member of the German reparations Commission he will be able to control the finance of two or three other From the Clearfield Republican. countries.

has been suitably dedicated but the underground means of communication between Wall street and Washington beats it by a couple of hundred miles.

-After all the Mellons are not the "whole cheese" in Pittsburgh. Max Leslie put a crimp in their pow- League. That organization has been

-The fight against Mellon is as futile as was the fight against the "cinch" on the treasury portfolio.

-Joe Grundy having declared thracite coal tax the advocates of that improvement may as well quit.

-The Senate seems to believe We've all got a bit of it and the modest. The textile fellows are on any war which any of the other sign- that refund payments of large sums month, isn't apt to amount to much. fact that it sticks at all in the mind the waiting list and they are prepar- ers of the pact may choose to start. may be all right but insists on a bill

-The Mayor of Philadelphia apnot going to say that there is not specious arguments ready to present Let Coolidge and Kellogg get all the pears to be trying to show how many what the men were saying this sumsomething back of it that might and it may be added that the extra glory they can out of it. They may kinds of a fool he can make of himself.

It is entirely possible that at the deed, that he already holds pledges representing more than 50 per cent. of the stock. Mr. Rockfeller, neverbe voted against an executive who for deal.

when corporations strive to encourbe assured of good faith and probity in corporation management. Yet -In addition to being named Stewart's conduct has been condoned, his continuance in office privately indorsed, by business men, by financiers and by many of the stockholders he wronged.

Their reason is that his management had been shrewd and efficientthat he is too useful to be dismissed scheme of business graft.

What Mr. Rockefeller seeks to discover, and what the public will be interested to learn, is this: How many of these investors and industrial leaders support the curious doctrine that if an executive earns good dividends for his company he may safely intercept a modest percentage of its earnings?

## Not Welcome News.

During the week word comes from Washington that Mr. Hoover and Sec--The longest tunnel in the world retary of the Treasury Mellon were in conference for more than two hours at the Hoover headquarters in the Mayflower hotel. The natural inference among Washington scribes is that tinue at his present post under the new administration. This will not be welcome news to the Anti-Saloon after Mellon for several years. They have tried their dirtiest to get his influences so powerful in Hoover's behalf during the late campaign will not be as close to the throne as some people were prone to believe after the returns were all in.

# When Learning Counts.

From E. W. Howe's Monthly.

What you learn today, or this It is what happened last year, ten years ago, a century ago, that counts, because it has been tried out. I predicted the result of the last election exactly months in advance, not by mer, but by what men had done years before in election.

-Robert Michael a former State highway motor patrolman, was convicted by a jury in court at York, Pa., for possession and sale of liquor. His arrest fol-Mr. Mellon has been asked to con- lowed the expulson of three students by the Hanover High school authorities because they drank moonshine from pocket flasks at a social function. The jury recommended leniency in Michael's case. Judge Niles made the statement from the bench that the court was impressed that scalp time and again, only to meet with failure every time. Already whole case, but on Monday he sentenced whole case, but on Monday he sentenced there are signs that the dominating Michael to pay a fine of \$500 and two years in jail.

> -Every county treasurer in the Commonwealth now has been furnished with both the resident and non-resident fisherman's license for the year 1929. The cost of the resident license will remain the same as in 1928-\$1.50, plus 10 cents for for the county treasurer's fee. The nonresident license is reciprocal, but in no instance is the fee to be less than \$2.50. The board urges all fishermen to secure their licenses at as early a date as possible, so that the board will have sufficient funds available for continuing its construction work at the sites for the two new hatcheries, at Tionesta and Reynoldsdale. The total receipts from the sale of licenses for the year 1927 amounted to \$293,397, and for the year 1928, \$382,914.

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