

INK SLINGS.

—It is reported that hogs are decreasing on Pennsylvania farms. That might account for the increasing number of them one meets on the highways.

—At the recent county inter-scholastic track meet at State College the Class B boys made new records in every one of the running events. Who said the kids are not getting faster and faster?

—With two of Bellefonte's most popular young people's resorts out of business a lot of the boys and girls of the town will probably be bored stiff because there is no place to go but home.

—The United States Senate has passed the McNary farm-relief bill by a vote of fifty-four to thirty-three. It will probably die in the House, however, so that the President will be saved the embarrassment of vetoing it—which he surely will do, if it passes.

—An item in our "Fifty Years Ago in Centre County" furnishes food for reflection. It would appear that folks of 1879 were about the same as the people of 1929. They did go natchinatin' with the devil and renouvozin with sin despite the pious professions of a lot of them.

—Dr. Georges Claude, French scientist, says the Dead Sea is an ocean of gold from which fifty billion dollars can be extracted in fifteen years. He can't understand why the French government doesn't go after it. Probably the French government can't understand who's holding Dr. Georges.

—It appears that the seventy-fifth anniversary of the birth of the Republican party is due for celebration. But just where and when it was born has given rise to rather acrimonious controversy among their leaders. We don't propose to help them a bit in the matter of where and when it was born. All we're concerned about is where and when it is going to be buried.

—The Chicago Medical Society has initiated a movement that seems to us is the most humane and charitable undertaking we have heard of in a decade. It has started to reduce the cost of getting well, so that even poor people have a chance to have the same surgical and medical treatment, the same hospitalization, that only those with the money to pay can have now.

—President Hoover's commission to study economic changes and their probable effect on the country has one far enough with its survey to report that we have merely "touched the fringe" of the prosperity we're to enjoy ultimately. Isn't that lovely. There'd be hope in that, people, if we were sure that Mr. Hoover won't apply that "pat" phrasing of is to the declaration and say: Fringe and more fringe.

—We should think the alley parking regulations would be a little easier to motorists who leave their cars in the alleys of Bellefonte if the authority that posted the cards were to hang a compass on each one. How many people, especially strangers, now which is the "north" or which the "west" side of any one of our alleys? Unless they can see the sun the north star some of them are going to be in a devil of a fix. Couldn't it have been much simpler to have had the notices simply read: Park on this side of the alley, only.

—Those of our readers in distant parts who own Centre county as one will be interested in the drive that is on for maintenance for the hospital here. Of course we understand that many of them have called this nature from institutions in the homes of their adoption, but those who have been fortunate enough to hope all have—to arrive at the point on the highway of success here a little financial tie back home uses no serious inconvenience to find much pleasure in enrolling to have a hospital that no one need apologize for and while we hope none of you will need its services, it's here you should you fall sick or be injured while visiting in the county in which you were born. It's here for our early day friends, some of whom, perhaps, are unable to carry their share of its maintenance.

—A mutual friend has informed us at Ham. Wilson, of Altoona, is a peevish because we gave his present address as Heaven in this column several weeks ago. We can't see that at's anything to get sore about, especially after we'd been charitable enough to send good old Ham to a place that there might be some question as to his reaching if left entirely to his own resources. We don't know how we got it into our head that was one of the band of friends who've gone on the great adventure. Perhaps a little story that we often told to the amusement of our lamented father will explain our mental erration in regard to Mr. Wilson: Years ago, on one of our first trips Fishing creek, we met Jonathan Rebersburg, who had moved to Sugar Valley from Rebersburg. Upon being told our name, he said "Meek—Meek, new a man by the name of P. Gray took one time, but I guess he must be dead now because I haven't heard him for so long."

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Mr. Vare's Bad Luck.

In spite of anything we can do in restraint our sympathies are aroused in favor of Bill Vare. Every time he shows signs of substantial recuperation of health something bobs up that not only prostrates him but plunges his lawyers and physicians into paroxysms of distress. Last summer and early fall he was making gratifying progress toward complete recovery when Senator Jim Reed, of Missouri, suggested that it was about time for him to fulfill his promise to appear before the Senate Slush Fund committee and present his defense against the charge that he had violated the law in his campaign for the Republican nomination for Senator in 1926. His "artful dodging" had created weariness in Washington.

That was an unexpected as well as a terrible blow to Mr. Vare and his lawyers and doctors. It caused him a relapse and compelled his lawyers and doctors to bundle him up, wrap him in blankets, put him in a wheel chair and send him off to Florida in pursuit of health and happiness. Then the lawyers and doctors appeared before the Senate committee and tearfully exhibited a mental picture of an enfeebled patriot engaged in a desperate but barely hopeful struggle with the "grim reaper." Jim Reed's big heart melted before the sad spectacle and another indefinite postponement of the hearing was allowed. The strategem scored in Washington and signs of returning health in Florida, renewed the hope of ultimately donning the toga.

Some weeks ago Mr. Vare returned from Florida, not in perfect but much improved health. No word from the Slush Fund committee came to disturb his serenity or retard his progress toward recovery. He soon resumed his activity in politics and his Sunday sessions at the sea-side began to crowd out events off the front pages of the Monday newspapers. Meantime Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, who succeeded Senator Reed as chairman of the Slush Fund committee, began "taking notes." The other day he called the committee to consider the case and the Philadelphia politicians and Mr. Vare's lawyers and doctors were thrown into a panic. It remains to be seen whether or not Robinson is as easy as Reed.

—It must be admitted that Charlie Snyder, Pottsville's perennial office holder, is cutting a fine figure as a reformer. He has the G. O. P. bosses of Schuylkill county in a panic.

Juggling the Constitution.

Representatives Garner, of Texas, pointed out a grave fault in the tariff bill, now under consideration in the House of Representatives in Washington, when he referred to the provision which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to determine finally the question of valuations. This provision is a long step in the direction of lodging in the executive department of the government the legislative power, which under the constitution belongs to Congress. The trend in this direction has been noticeable for many years. The most direct expression of it previous to this is contained in the present law which empowers the President, by proclamation, to increase or diminish tariff rates.

That is clearly legislation whether interpreted literally or according to custom. From the beginning of the government until the time the present law was enacted Congress invariably not only cited the articles to be taxed but fixed the rates of taxation. Article 1, section 1 of the constitution declares "all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." The only power that is given to the President in connection with legislation is "to recommend to the Congress for consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient," and he may veto any legislation that does not meet his approval.

Section 8 of article 1 of the constitution says "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes." Webster's dictionary defines lay when used in such connection as "to assess as a tax," and according to the same authority assess means "to fix or determine the rate or amount of" the tax levied. In abdicating this power and bestowing it upon an individual, whether he be President, Secretary of the Treasury or a messenger in one of the departments of the government, the fundamental law of the country is violated. This would be bad enough if it were done for a good purpose but when done to defraud it is simply atrocious. In this case it is intended to legalize larceny.

Wise Change of Party Policy.

There is a substantial basis for confidence in the action of the Democratic National committee in setting up permanent party headquarters in Washington. Heretofore it has been the practice of the Democratic party to organize four or five months before each Presidential election and conduct a hectic campaign covering the brief period intervening until the election, then relapsing into a state of dormancy until the approach of the next national campaign. The result has been that the party is always unprepared for efficient service and the time that ought to be employed in real campaign work is necessarily spent in getting ready. The present movement indicates a wise change of policy.

The new national headquarters of the Democratic party will be in charge of Jewett Spouse, a political manager of much experience and marked ability. His home is in Kansas City, and he has served in the Missouri State Senate, the Congress of the United States and as assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in charge of the bureau of Internal Revenue, during Woodrow Wilson's second term in office. While in Congress he contributed much to the perfection of legislation establishing the Farm Loan law and the Federal Reserve act. "Organization, publicity and research" work will receive his especial attention in the immediate future and his reputation for industry and assiduity is a guarantee of efficiency.

Mr. Spouse will not undertake to boss the party. On assuming the office, the other day, he said, "I don't propose to recognize any factional differences. I want this office to be a place where all Democrats may meet in fellowship. My attitude is 'let's forget everything unpleasant that happened in the past and look to the future.'" That is the frame of mind which should guide every Democratic leader and voter in the country. The party is stronger today than it has ever been in the past, and with wise leadership and militant rank and file behind them there are abundant reasons for confidence in the future. But the entire burden must not be placed on the national headquarters. Every voter must do a part.

—President Hoover entertained Senator Borah at lunch, last Sunday, and corridor gossip is speculating on the result. Senators have been changed from crusading opponents to servile followers by a White House invitation.

Real Truth About Parity.

During the discussion of the question to strike from the farm relief bill the debenture provision Senator Johnson, of California, Republican, declared that "this proposition is the only one in the farm bill which would do that which was promised in the last campaign, put agriculture on a parity with industry." The Kansas City convention was equivocal in its language as to how this result might be achieved and Mr. Hoover's speeches were equally ambiguous. But there was no uncertainty in the language of the pledge of parity. Mr. Hoover dwelt on that point frequently and emphasized it as essential to justice and fairness to agriculture. Senator Borah and Senator Brookhart guaranteed it.

Under the provisions of the present tariff legislation, and even to a greater extent under the provisions of the bill now under consideration in Washington, the manufacturers are assured of prices for their products to the full extent of the difference in cost of production, and the bonus is in the form of a levy on the consumers. Mr. Hoover says that the debenture feature of the farm bill would cost the tax payers of the country \$200,000,000 a year. The tariff bill bonus to the manufacturer of the country costs the consumers \$4,000,000,000 a year, and as the consumers are the tax payers even a magnifying glass of the highest power will fail to reveal any difference.

The farmers of the country ought not to have permitted themselves to be fooled as they were last fall by specious promises of crafty politicians. Mr. Hoover never intended to favor legislation that would "put agriculture on a parity with industry." His entire life had been spent in the service of corporations and syndicates engaged in enterprises that ran in an opposite direction. He was the candidate of monopolists and though professing sympathy for the people could not conceal his predilection toward corporation interests. If the farmers of the corn belt fail to get relief legislation from the present Congress it will be their own fault. They betrayed themselves.

Mrs. Willebrandt's Hard Fight.

Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, assistant Attorney General in charge of prohibition enforcement, has taken on a fight which will tax her influence as well as her ingenuity to the limit. We have no brief to support this enterprising politician in her ambitions but are not willing to withhold sympathy with her in her present undertaking. She has set out to defeat Senator Dave Reed, of Pittsburgh, and the Vare machine in the matter of selecting a federal district attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, and as President Hoover is under some obligation to Mr. Vare she is likely to have "a hard road to travel," though her cause is worthy of success.

The present district attorney for the district resigned some time ago, presumably to avoid an investigation for malfeasance in office, and the Vare machine, with the help of Senator Reed, presented for the vacancy Mr. Vare's personal attorney. The prohibitionists of Philadelphia roared so vigorously against such a perversion of the appointing power that Mr. Vare consented to the substitution of Howard M. Long, who is almost equally objectionable to the dry element, and Mrs. Willebrandt has undertaken to sponsor their opposition. She has the support of Dr. Dorman, the prohibition commissioner, and Colonel Wynne, prohibition director for the district, but political exigencies may force the President to turn her down.

It seems that when Senator Reed and the Vare machine consented to the withdrawal of the name of Vare's attorney they were promised that Mr. Vare could fill the vacancy provided he would select a man "who would be satisfactory to the friends of prohibition enforcement." Mr. Long does not measure up to this standard and it is believed both in Philadelphia and Washington that no lawyer willing to accept an appointment at the hands of Vare will meet the conditions so long as Mrs. Willebrandt remains the arbitrator. And the President owes something to Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt. She influenced a good many votes in the campaign by her appeal to religious prejudices.

—The Centre County hospital drive is now in full swing and, while not sufficient returns have been made to justify giving definite figures, the people of Bellefonte and Centre county are responding to the call for aid and at this time it looks as if the drive will be more successful than that of last year. Should any one be overlooked by the committee in making its canvas contributions can be mailed direct to the hospital and due credit will be given.

—Based on adequate food menus, complete separation of men and women prisoners, increase in industrial activities and betterment of sanitary conditions the State Welfare Department has given the Centre County jail a grade of 370. 1000 is a perfect score and the Allegheny workhouse came nearest that mark with a grade of 875.

—The special session of Congress has gotten under way far enough to indicate that the President will be wary about calling another during his administration. A burn't child dreads the fire.

—It has been discovered that sugar made from cotton seed husks will keep women slim. But Senator Reed Smoot will probably find a way to tariff tax it out of the market.

—Publicity is a potent force. It has compelled the officials of the Washington jail to treat Harry Sinclair nearly the same way it treats other prisoners.

—It may be said that Senator Copeland is already disliked by some leaders in his church, and if he isn't careful he may be expelled from membership.

—Prohibition enforcement cost the country \$936,000,000 last year, which might have been little enough if there had been any real enforcement.

—Mexico is offering inducements to American tourists, but possibly with the purpose of passing them over to bandits after they get there.

—Washington has at last taken the real measurement of Ed. McLean, the whilom chum of Harding, Daugherty and Albert Fall.

—Eric Fisher Wood is again in the lime light. His name has been brought into the Schuylkill county scandals.

The "Los Angeles" Made Flight Over Bellefonte.

The United States Navy's big dirigible, the "Los Angeles," sailed gracefully and majestically over Bellefonte, about 11:35 o'clock last Friday morning, and most everybody in town got a splendid sight of it, as it was in view at least twenty minutes. While it was apparently flying low and at a low rate of speed, it was really higher than it looked to be and was also traveling faster than it appeared, as it reached Sunbury at 12:10 o'clock.

The Los Angeles, with Lieut. Com. H. V. Wiley in charge, was returning from a twenty-four hour flight to Cleveland, merely a 1000 mile jaunt to keep it's machinery in good working condition. On the return trip from Cleveland to Erie the generator operating the radio sending apparatus got out of order and while the operator could receive messages he was unable to send any. Consequently at Erie a message was dropped in a parachute, addressed to the commandant in charge at Lakehurst, notifying him of the disabled apparatus and also stating that the big ship would be back by sundown.

The Los Angeles circled over the Bellefonte field and dropped a message asking for weather conditions east to Lakehurst but the message fell in the grass and could not be found until long after it had passed out of sight.

Built in Germany the Los Angeles was flown across the Atlantic ocean five years ago and since that time it has cruised the American skies to the Pacific coast and return, south to Cuba and various trips to the middle west and south without a single mishap. This is ample evidence that it is constructed on scientific and trustworthy lines, and new ships now being built for the Navy, while bigger and more modern, will be patterned along the lines of the Los Angeles. The normal crew of the latter ship is about forty officers and men.

—Among the interesting fish stories of the week is that of the landing of a 19 inch trout, on Wednesday night, by Geo. S. Denithorne, owner and operator of the Moore steel fabricating plant here. After telling you that Mr. Denithorne broke his "pole then pulled the fish in, hand over hand, on the line" we need say nothing more to convince you that he is a novice. Be that as it may, he got the fish whereas some of the rest of us so-called experts would have fooled around until all we'd have had for the evening would have been the usual story of the whale that got away. A railroad man fishing above the Lewisburg railroad trestle, the same evening, caught five trout and an eel that measured 37 inches.

Transcontinental Busses.

From the Pittsburgh Post-Dispatch. Reports from Denver that two great railroads, the Pennsylvania and the Great Northern, have purchased substantial interests in the company resulting from the merger of three large transcontinental bus lines probably means a new era for this growing branch of transportation. In the Pittsburgh territory, the Pennsylvania is preparing to enter the bus field, so that the interest in the coast-to-coast route is in line with its policy. Operation of the busses under railroad supervision will find the Pennsylvania on the eve of combining aviation, also, with its lines. The new company has a capital of \$12,000,000, which carries with it conviction of reliability. It all shows the extent to which the bus business has grown in comparatively few years. The source was probably in the neighborhood jitney, which picked up passengers as it traversed a specified route. The trade has reached proportions now which entitle it to consideration in the strongholds of finance.

Buying

From the Harrisburg Telegraph. We wonder, and perhaps smile, when we read that a Wisconsin woman, who was left a lot of money, spent thousands of dollars filling her house with wholesale lots of clothes, furniture, bric-a-brac, clocks and mirrors.

It was filled from garret to cellar so that there was barely room to walk around. She had fifty house dresses, thirty pairs of shoes, and hundreds of pictures for which there was no room on the walls. Her estate was turned into a gift shop. But perhaps there was as much sense in her buying habits as in those of many of the rest of us. We all buy things we do not need just to gratify the sense of possession or to feed our vanity.

—It is said that Pennsylvania imported several thousand car loads of apples last year from other States. Doctors must have had a dull year if "an apple a day keeps the doctor away."

SPAULS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—Theft of \$246 from the home of Simon Patterson was reported to Pittsburgh police on Saturday. The burglar, apparently by design, left jewelry valued at \$15,000. A jewel case containing diamonds valued at \$15,000 was found unopened near the house, where it was believed the burglar had left it.

—After spending fifty-two consecutive years in the service of the public schools in and near Hanover, Thomas Jefferson Bankert, secretary, trustee officer and business manager of the Hanover school district, will retire on June 30, in accordance with legal requirements because he has passed the retirement age of 70 years. Although he will be 71 years old his next birthday, he is reluctant to sever his connection with the schools.

—Charles Gates, Cambridge Springs musician, has brought suit for \$25,000 damages against the Potter Title & Trust company, of Pittsburgh, executor of the estate of Eugene C. Gates, as the result of an automobile accident near Johnstown in which Eugene Gates was killed and Charles Gates claims he suffered injuries which interfere with his work. Eugene Gates was the driver, the papers in the suit said, while Charles Gates was a passenger in the machine.

—An Exeter, Luzerne county, woman, widow of a World War veteran, collapsed in the First National bank, Wilkes-Barre, when she was told that a war insurance check which she presented to be cashed was for the sum of \$5600 instead of \$56, which she believed to be the value of the check. Not being able to read, the woman had been told by her young children that the check was for the latter amount. Bank officials revived the woman and convinced her that Uncle Sam hadn't made a mistake.

—While in her sleep Miss Florence Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Taylor, of Glenville, York county, walked from her bed to the window of her room on the third floor, opened it and leaped to the ground. Her parents, who were in the kitchen at the time, heard the noise but they did not pay much attention to it until the girl walked into the house. The girl seemed as though she was still asleep and somewhat dazed. Dr. R. R. Stoner was called but he could find no injuries except some slight bruises.

—All one-way bridges in Pennsylvania which are located on State highways will be replaced by new concrete structures as soon as detailed surveys are made and plans drawn. State Secretary of Highways James L. Stuart declared Friday. There are 2127 county bridges on State roads, of which 245 are constructed of timber, 896 of steel, and 986 of stone and concrete. The timber spans will be replaced within the next five years, the Secretary said. All the bridges must be taken over by July 1, 1930, under the terms of the Gellert bill recently signed by the Governor.

—Clayton S. Gates, of Tyrone, has been appointed as a cadet to West Point and will report July 1. To win a West Point appointment is no little honor and the Tyrone youth is to be congratulated. Just what this achievement means may be gleaned from the fact that he was placed fourth in a group of 38 who took the first examination last March and in April he with 140 other members of the National Guard from all over the United States were given final examination in Washington, D. C. His appointment was the result of being among the first 40. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel C. Gates, Tyrone, and is a member of the senior class of the Tyrone High school.

—Lawrence Freeze, 14 years old, of Mill Hall, charged with sending threatening letters through the mail to parents of Mill Hall girls, had a hearing on Saturday before Alderman Faye R. Gustin, who held him in \$1500 bail for the June term of Clinton county court. Freeze, in his missives, demanded \$50 from parents of girls whom he knew in Mill Hall and intimated bodily harm to their daughters if they did not comply. He told newspapermen the Hickman case inspired him to do it. Police believe a confederate operated with Freeze. Whether the government will prefer charges against the boy is uncertain, though his department was a violation of postal regulations, postal inspectors say.

—That a gas stove is no safe place in which to keep valuables, W. H. Snyder, of York, Pa., now knows to his regret. Snyder last Friday night received a fat bank roll in a business transaction, and as it was after banking hours, he hid it in a gas stove which had not been in use. During the evening a clergyman called at the Snyder home. As the night was cool and the room in which the clergyman was being entertained was not comfortable, somebody in the household connected the gas stove and lighted it to warm the room. Later smoke and odor filled the room, and Snyder bethought himself of his money. He disconnected the stove and found his money in ashes. His loss is said to have been \$1100.

—Yeggs forced entry into the Leinbach and Company department store, at Lancaster, some time Saturday night, cracked two safes in the establishment and escaped with approximately \$1400 in currency. The store is less than a half block from police headquarters. The robbery was discovered early on Sunday by an employee of the firm. The robbers gained entrance by removing the lock at one of the main entrances, then went to the main office on one floor, drilled open one safe and blew open another larger and stronger one. The robbers used merchandise found in the other departments of the store to muffle the sound of the explosion. About thirty-five coats and a large number of rugs were draped about the safe to drown the noise.

—A sharp breaking curve from the southpaw delivery of a pitcher in a boys' baseball game almost changed the facial contour of deputy sheriff William H. Eisenhart as he was coming out the front door of his home in York. The official had barely stepped onto his front porch and was lighting a cigar when the horsehide pellet struck him squarely on the mouth. The terrific impact extinguished the match, then struck the cigar and almost pushed it down his throat. It was several seconds before Mr. Eisenhart realized what happened. He was so frightened by the suddenness of the accident that he could hardly speak. It is believed that the ball would have knocked out several of his teeth had the cigar not broken its speed. Eisenhart sustained a cut lip and the loss of a good cigar.